

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

DATE May 29, 2018



FROM: Brent A. Story, P.E., State Design Policy Engineer

TO: Divisions of Engineering, Construction, Permits/Operations, Program Delivery, P3, Local Grants and Field Districts, and the Offices of Engineering Services and TIA

SUBJECT: W-Beam Terminals (June 30, 2018 - MASH Implementation)

Due to the lack of available MASH compliant W-Beam “flared” terminals on the market at this time, all “new permanent installations” and “full replacements” of W-Beam terminals shall use MASH compliant Type 12A “tangent” terminals until further notice. Type 12A terminals are detailed on GDOT Construction Standard 4384. The pay-item for a Type 12A terminal is 641-5015. This applies to projects let to construction after June 30, 2018. Therefore, revisions to final construction plans may be necessary for projects that have already been submitted for the July 2018 letting or after.

When revising “flared” terminals to “tangent” terminals, designers are encouraged to use the 25:1 maximum taper of the “tangent” terminal to offset the head of terminal from the roadway as much as possible. The length-of-need in advance of the obstruction should also be re-assessed and adjusted if needed.

All references to “new permanent installations” involve the installation of a W-Beam guardrail terminal in a permanent application where none previously existed. All references to “full replacements” involve the replacement of an existing full-run of W-Beam guardrail including the terminal.

“Repairs” to damaged “flared” W-Beam terminals should use NCHRP 350 tested products until further notice. See GDOT Standard 4384 for details on Type 12B and 12C flared terminals.

This memo along with the April 10, 2018 letter titled *Roadside Safety Hardware (Implementation of MASH Testing Criteria)* is published on the Department’s Policy Announcements webpage at: <http://www.dot.ga.gov/PS/DesignManuals>.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Brent Story at (404) 631-1600, or Frank Flanders at (404) 631-1663, or Holly Cross at (404) 347-0578.

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