State of California
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

California State Transportation Agency

# Memorandum

***Serious drought.***
***Help Save Water!***

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**Date:** July 31, 2015

**From:** SHANNON POST Shannon Post
Acting State Bridge Engineer
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**Subject:** **NEW *MEMO TO DESIGNERS 5-19* "EARTH RETAINING SYSTEMS COMMUNICATIONS'**

This new *Memo to Designers (MTD) 5-19* "Earth Retaining Systems Communications" documents the communications protocol between the geotechnical designer and the structure designer during the design of earth retaining systems (ERS.) It has been developed specifically to include design requirements for load and resistance factor design (LRFD) methodology consistent with AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications (6th edition, 2012) and the relevant California Amendments. The attachments to this memo consist of foundation tables to facilitate the communication exchange of data relevant to LRFD at various of project development.

Users are encouraged to begin to use *MTD 5-19* and its tables as soon as reasonable on current projects. However, it is not necessary to convert to this format or redo any work already underway on a project. Effective with release of *MTD 5-19*, *MTD 1-35* "Foundation Recommendation and Reports" is no longer applicable to ERS.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Earth Retaining Systems Committee (ERSC) Manager Sue Hida. For any inquiry regarding the interpretation of MTD 5-19, please Hernan Perez or Kathryn Griswell, of the ERSC.

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