Memorandum

To: CHIEF ENGINEER
   PROJECT DELIVERY DIVISION CHIEFS
   TRAFFIC OPERATIONS DIVISION CHIEF
   MAINTENANCE DIVISION CHIEF
   DES DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEFS
   DES MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS

From: BARTON J. NEWTON
   State Bridge Engineer
   Structure Policy & Innovation
   Division of Engineering Services

Date: May 31, 2011


Effective July 1, 2011, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Standard Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires, and Traffic Signals, Fifth Edition with Interim Revision(s) (LTS-5) constitutes the primary California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) design specifications for structural supports for sign structures. This memo is posted at http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/techpubs/.

The Department’s Standard Plans and Standard Specifications are valid for use. If project conditions require a new structure with significant deviations from these standards, the design must meet the requirements of LTS-5. Refer to the Highway Design Manual, Topic 82.5 for implementation of revised design standards for on-going projects.

Exceptions granting the use of versions earlier than LTS-5 within the State right-of-way must be requested through Structure Policy & Innovation in the Division of Engineering Services. Documentation supporting the justification for an exception shall be included and must be approved by the State Bridge Engineer.

LTS-5 can be ordered from the AASHTO website at https://bookstore.transportation.org/. Caltrans employees can download copies from IHS using the link on the DES intranet page http://pd.dot.ca.gov/des/.

Any questions regarding the adoption of LTS-5 should be directed to Shannon Post, Chief, Office of Design and Technical Services at 916-227-8070.