

Memorandum

*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

To: DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Date: November 12, 2019

From: STEVE TAKIGAWA
Deputy Director
Maintenance and Operations



CORY BINNS
Acting Deputy Director
Project Delivery



Subject: **MASH COMPLIANCE PLAN AND POLICY**

On December 23, 2016, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) established a timeline for implementation of roadside safety hardware and evaluation of new products under the Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH). The plan set specific dates when Caltrans will no longer allow the installation of non-MASH compliant safety devices.

If one or more Caltrans approved MASH compliant safety devices are available for a specific need, Caltrans must use the safety device(s) even if it may require a sole source contract. If a situation arises where a MASH compliant safety device is not available to address a specific need, Caltrans must use a National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 350 approved safety device. If a NCHRP Report 350 device is not available, Caltrans must use engineering judgement to address the specific need.

For cases when either a NCHRP Report 350 device or engineering judgement is used for traffic safety devices, the engineer must consult with the District Traffic Safety Devices Coordinator. The engineer must then document the decision in the project history file.

These requirements apply to all projects and work done on the State highway system.

The MASH compliant safety hardware approved by Caltrans can be found at:
<<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/mash>>

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For further questions regarding this process for traffic safety devices, please contact Duper Tong, Chief, Office of Traffic Engineering at (916) 654-5176 or by e-mail at <Duper.Tong@dot.ca.gov>. For bridge rails, transitions, sign supports and other breakaway hardware, contact Joel Magana, Chief, Office of Design and Technical Services at (916) 227-8018 or by e-mail at <Joel.Magana@dot.ca.gov>.

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