

HIGHWAY STANDARDS BRANCH

PROVINCIAL ENGINEERING MEMORANDUM

Design and Contract Standards Office #2017-02, May 2, 2017

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**Geometric Design Standards for Ontario Highways – Implementation of TAC Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads (2017)**

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**Implementation**

This memorandum is effective as of the date of issue.

**Background**

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform design staff of upcoming changes to our policies, standards, and guidelines used for planning and geometric design of roadways located within provincial highway right-of-ways.

Since 1985 we have been using the Geometric Design Standards for Ontario Highways (GDSOH) for geometric design. The last major update of this manual was completed in 1994. Since that time a number of design memorandums and documents have also been issued to update various policies, standards, and guidelines related to the GDSOH.

The Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) has undertaken a project to update their 1999 Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads (GDG). MTO staff were involved in guiding this initiative. The TAC project is now complete and the new edition of the TAC Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads (TAC-GDG-2017) is in the process of being prepared for publication, with an expected release date during summer 2017.

A number of years ago MTO decided that the TAC GDG would be the foundation for MTO going forward. We are currently developing an MTO Geometric Design Supplement to the new TAC-GDG-2017. It is anticipated that the MTO Geometric Design Supplement will be ready for implementation in fall 2017 along with the TAC-GDG-2017. The MTO Geometric Design Supplement will also incorporate and/or reference updates from design memorandums and documents that have been issued with respect to the GDSOH since 1994.

**Policy**

Upon release of the MTO Geometric Design Supplement to the new Transportation Association of Canada Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads (2017), the Geometric Design Standards for Ontario Highways (1994) will be retired. The Transportation Association of Canada Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads (2017), in conjunction with the MTO Geometric Design supplement will be used for planning and geometric design of roadways within provincial highway right-of-ways.



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