

# DESIGN MANUAL



**Mississippi State Highway Department**

**April 1988**

Manual No. \_\_\_\_\_

## PREFACE

Each year, Mississippi makes a major investment in highway construction. The effectiveness of this investment is determined largely by the method in which projects are planned and designed. This Design Manual has been developed to provide uniform design criteria and procedures for Roadway Design and other Department personnel for the detailed design of highways and for the preparation of contract plans.

Although the Manual is intended principally for personnel of the Mississippi State Highway Department, a large portion of the information presented is directly applicable for use by Mississippi's counties and municipalities. The Manual, in Chapter XIII, specifically discusses the variations in criteria and procedures adopted by the State Aid Division. Chapter XIV discusses the geometric design of urban streets. These two chapters will be especially beneficial to the local governments in the State.

The Manual presents most of the information normally required in the design of a highway project; however, design criteria often cannot be sufficiently explicit to ensure the best design. Therefore, designers must exercise good judgment on individual projects and, frequently, they must be innovative in their approach to highway design. This may require additional research into the highway literature. Above all other responsibilities, designers should ensure that safety is incorporated into the design of each project.

The project scope of work concept is an important factor in the use of the Mississippi Design Manual. Chapter II presents the basic definitions for various project scopes of work. Once this determination is made, the designer will use the applicable table of geometric design criteria for new construction/reconstruction or for 3R/4R projects. These tables are further classified according to urban/rural location and functional classification. This approach will provide the Department with the flexibility to make practical improvements to its highway system consistent with the funds available for construction.

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION, APRIL 12, 1988

WHEREAS, the Commission proposed to revise and update the Design Manual adopted on April 27, 1976, and recorded in Book 99, Page 97, of the Commission Minutes. This manual incorporates in one document safety criteria and design standards or reference to such standards recommended for use in highway design; and

WHEREAS, the revised Design Manual has been reviewed and recommended for approval by the Chief Engineer and approved by the Director; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has considered and determined and now confirms that the publication and adoption of the revised Design Manual is proper and necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, upon motion duly made and seconded, and Commissioners Sam W. Waggoner and Zack Stewart each voting yes, under the authority of the Commission, in conformity with and as spread on its minutes, the revised Design Manual is hereby adopted as an official document of the Commission and further that the design of highways shall conform to policies, procedures, and standards promulgated by said Design Manual.

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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY OF HINDS

I, W. Gaylon Tullos, Secretary, State Highway Commission, State of Mississippi, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Order of the State Highway Commission of record in Minute Book 106, Page 94, of the official Minutes of said Commission on file in its offices in the City of Jackson, Mississippi, duly adopted on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, A.D., 1988.

Witness my hand and official seal this the 15 day of April, A.D., 1988.

  
W. GAYLON TULLOS, SECRETARY  
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION  
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI