



South Carolina  
Department of Transportation

DM0704

May 26, 2004

**MEMORANDUM TO TEAM LEADERS AND CONSULTANTS**

**SUBJECT:** Concrete Bridge Barrier Parapet Width

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Effective with the November 2004 Letting, the concrete bridge barrier parapet width will be increased from 1'-5" to 1'-6". The reinforcing steel dimensions for the 1'-6" parapet shall be the same as the details that were previously used for the 1'-5" parapet. The concrete cover shall be detailed as 2 1/2" on the traffic face of the parapet and 2" minimum on the back face of the parapet. To accommodate slip forming operations, the slab overhang beyond the back of the parapet shall be detailed as 1 1/2" for cast-in-place decks and 1" for cored slab bridges.

For previously completed plans having the 1'-5" wide parapet details, the designer shall determine if the following note can be placed on the plans:

"The Contractor may elect, at no additional cost to the Department, to construct a 1'-6" wide barrier parapet in place of the 1'-5" wide parapet that is detailed in the plans. To accommodate the 1'-6" wide parapet, the slab overhang beyond the back of the parapet shall be reduced from 1 1/2" to 1" and the traffic face of the parapet shall be shifted 1/2" towards the centerline of the bridge. The parapet reinforcing steel dimensions and placement locations will remain as detailed."

For cases where designs cannot accommodate the above note, the designer shall consult with the appropriate Assistant State Bridge Design Engineer to determine the necessary course of action.

*DOUGLAS E. MCCLURE*

Douglas E. McClure, P.E.  
State Bridge Design Engineer

cc: Assistant State Bridge Design Engineers  
Bridge Construction Engineer  
Road Design Engineer  
FHWA  
CRM East  
CRM West

File: PC/BWB

