









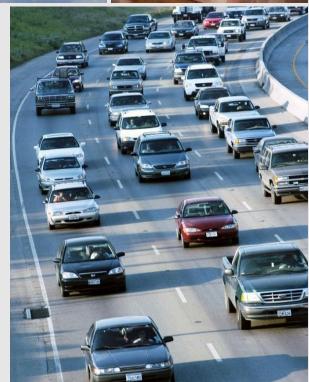






# TXDOT'S ROADWAY DESIGN MANUAL UPDATE

**Texas Pedestrian Safety Forum** August 22, 2019



## Roadway Design Manual (RDM) Update Purpose

- Recent ASSHTO Green Book Update (7<sup>th</sup> Edition)
- A backlog of needed updates to take care of
- Opportunity to look at some reorganization opportunities
- Improve guidance and direction for bicycle accommodation and pedestrian accommodation
- Include increased emphasis on safety considerations and analysis



### **RDM Update History**

#### **2004**

- RDM brought in line with (or references to) the Access Management Manual.
- "Significant changes" to the Urban Streets Speed Change Lanes section.
- Location of aux lanes relative to vertical curves.
- More "median opening" and "speed change lanes" criteria.
- Conversion of 2-way to 1-way frontage roads.

#### **2005**

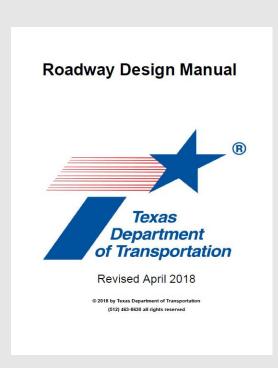
 Appendix C (driveway design) added, including pedestrian considerations and guidelines

#### **2006**

- Add Section 6 of Chapter 4 "Super 2 Highways"
- Add Chapter 8, "Mobility Corridor (5R) Design Criteria" (85 to 100mph speeds)

#### **2010**

- Design exceptions delegated to the Districts.
- Expanded guidance of Super 2 highways.
- Application of 2R guidelines for non-NHS roads w/ ADT < 2500 per lane.</li>



### **RDM Update History**

#### **2013**

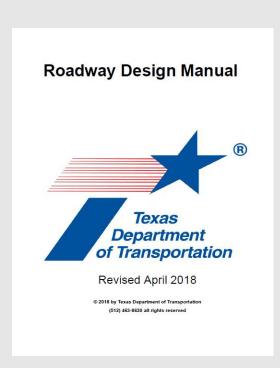
- Make "lateral offset" a design exception.
- Bring the RDM, Chapter 2 (Basic Criteria) in line with 2011 Green Book.
- Metric version "no longer shown but may be viewed in PDF format by accessing link".
- Sight distance clarifications (Chapter 2, various sections)
- Horizontal curves and superelevation updates.
- Minor vertical curve statements.
- "Cross-Sectional Elements" updated to ADA PROWAG and TAS standards.
- Included / clarified accommodations for bikes and sidewalks for cross sectional elements.
- Drainage Minor edits.

#### **2014**

 Appendices A & C revisions for 31" MBGF and median barrier guidance + minor edits

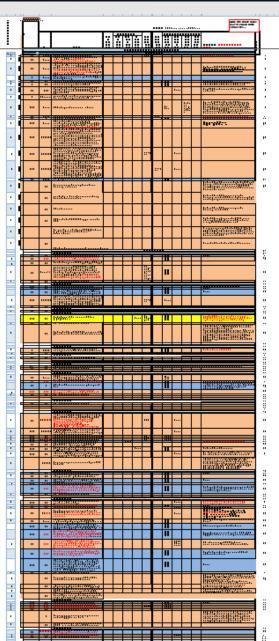
#### **2018**

Addition of THFN (Tx Hwy Freight Network) criteria.



# **RDM Update Process Initiation**

- Developed initial broad, but detailed list of needs for scope development
- Initiated coordination for consultant selection December 2018
- RFQ Posted March 2019
- Consultant selected May 2019
- Negotiations effectively complete August 2019
- Contract kick-off expected late September 2019



## **Manual Update Approach**

- Staggered approach covering multiple phases over a two-year period
- Scope focused on RDM, but also includes other manuals
  - Project Development Process Manual (PDP)
  - PS&E Processing Manual
  - Access Management Manual
  - Landscape and Aesthetics Design Manual
  - Traffic Operations and Safety Analysis (new)
- Phased Approach
  - Multiple Tiers of RDM Updates
  - Other Manual Updates
  - High Level Training Development on Updates

### **Specific to Pedestrian Elements**

## What guidance improvements are needed?

- Status for how to build various elements?
- Status of identifying what projects should address pedestrian elements?
- Status of understanding what to do when, across range of scenarios?
- Status of planning adequate solutions to support project scoping?
- Status of having the right message, delivered to the right people, at the right frequency?
- Discussing possible interim document (not just another memo)
  - Intended to drive the ultimate RDM update
  - Can make available sooner than later
  - Post for consistent availability and understanding
  - Support with informational webinars for improved awareness and understanding
  - Some information applicable to the RDM, with other applicable to the PDP

# **Avoiding the Ultimate Trade-off**



Not planning and providing adequately for pedestrians

## Thank you!

# Questions?

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