



Number: ECB-2026-10

Date: 6-11-2026

ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

- Subject:** Adoption of *AASHTO Guidelines for Geometric Design of Low-Volume Roads (2019)* (*AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)*)
- Purpose:** To inform employees and stakeholders that the Department is adopting the *AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)* as a formal supplement to our *LA DOTD Minimum Design Guidelines (2017)* to be applied to projects on existing roadways.
- Distribution:** The Chief Engineer has signed a memo approving the adoption of the *AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)*. This memo can be found on the DOTD [Engineering Policies and Guides](#)¹ page under “Engineering Policies and Guides”.

DOTD employees can view and download a copy of the [AASHTO Low-Volume Guide \(2019\)](#)² via the LTRC Library while on a DOTD-networked computer by creating an account using their DOTD email address.
- Implementation:** The effective date for the adoption of the *AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)* is March 31, 2026. Design teams working on current projects may continue using the *LA DOTD Minimum Design Guidelines (2017)* or use the *AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)* if applicable.

The *AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)* is tailored to new construction projects and to projects on existing roadways and outlines a context-sensitive, performance-based design approach for low-volume roadways. As of now, these guidelines will only be applied on existing roadways.
- Additional Notes:** Employees, consultants, and Local Public Agencies are encouraged to use DOTD’s [Functional System Interactive Map](#)³ and [ADT Point Locations](#)⁴ to identify their project roadway’s functional classification and average daily traffic counts to determine whether the *AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)* will be applied.

The Design Report Form has been updated to document the design criteria for projects that will utilize the *AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)*. The updated form includes a drop-down option entitled *2019 Low-Volume Roads Design Guidelines*. The updated form can be found on the DOTD Publications & Downloads [Forms](#)⁵ page.

Chapters 1, 2, and 9 of the [Road Design Manual](#)⁶ have been updated to provide design guidance when using the *AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)*.

¹ <https://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/about/office-of-project-delivery/engineering/publications-and-downloads/engineering-policies-and-guides/>

² <https://doclinkonline.com/65eb275f-422a-46b1-8a1b-8fe597fc9f3f>

³ <https://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/about/office-of-project-delivery/planning/data-collection-management-systems/highway-inventory/>

⁴ <https://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/about/office-of-project-delivery/planning/data-collection-management-systems/traffic-monitoring/>

⁵ <https://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/about/office-of-project-delivery/engineering/publications-and-downloads/forms/>

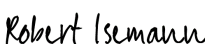
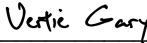
⁶ <https://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/about/office-of-project-delivery/engineering/road-design/road-design-manual-and-supporting-documents/>

DOTD Employees can access information related to existing safety performance via links to the **Safety Reference Map**, **Statewide Network Screening Lists**, including the **High Potential for Safety Improvement Lists for Segments** located on the Intranet's [LADOTD Project and Highway Information](#)⁷ page under "Highway Safety". A project-specific Level of Service Safety (LOSS) can also be determined using the Louisiana Crash Tool. Data access requests for Louisiana Crash Tool can be submitted through the "Request Crash Data" link also found at the intranet location above under "Highway Safety".

Contact:

For questions about the Department's adoption and implementation of the *AASHTO Low-Volume Guide (2019)*, contact DOTD's Road Design or Traffic Engineering sections.

For questions about project-specific safety information, consultants should contact their project's DOTD Project Manager.

Signed by:  7AC708C058804F3... Prepared by: Cassadi Arnold, Plan Quality & Publications Policy Planner	6/11/2026 4:59 PM CDT Date
DocuSigned by:  E93821F71B9E463... Requested by: Adriane McRae, P.E., Highway Safety Administrator	6/12/2026 7:49 AM CDT Date
Signed by:  C3E293A3C443434... Requested by: Robert Iseman, P.E., Road Design Engineer Administrator	6/12/2026 2:48 PM CDT Date
DocuSigned by:  184D7165CC0E427... Requested by: Ryan Hoyt, P.E., Traffic Engineering Division Administrator	6/18/2026 6:58 AM CDT Date
DocuSigned by:  86C1AF32AE1D439... Requested by: Mark Bucci, P.E., Bridge Design Engineer Administrator	6/22/2026 6:11 PM CDT Date
DocuSigned by:  D87CD37AAF19487... Recommended by: David Smith, P.E., Project Development Division Chief	6/23/2026 7:38 AM CDT Date
DocuSigned by:  4D2E186443AC4EF... Recommended by: Vertie Gary, P.E., Plan Quality & Publications Engineer Administrator	6/12/2026 9:30 AM CDT Date
DocuSigned by:  19FC221C0627451... Approved: Chad Winchester, P.E., Chief Engineer	6/23/2026 3:23 PM CDT Date

⁷ <http://engrapps/hwyinfo/home.aspx>