June 01, 2015

CONSTRUCTION MEMORANDUM
15-09

TO: District Deputy Commissioners
District Construction Directors
District Technical Services Directors
District Area Engineers
District Project Management Director
Project Management Director
District Traffic Engineers
District Testing Engineers
District LPA Coordinators
Project Engineers/Supervisors
Field Engineers
Office of Material Management

FROM: Mark A. Miller, Director
Division of Construction Management and District Support

SUBJECT: Documentation of Anchored Temporary Traffic Barrier Changes

It has recently been brought to my attention that Contractors do not want to make Department requested changes to where anchorage is required for temporary traffic barriers on projects because they feel that by making the changes they have added liability unless they have an official letter or a change order.

The Department recently made the decision that it would no longer require temporary traffic barrier to be anchored along tapered alignments separating the travelled way from the work zone. The Contractor in this situation will not be allowed to store equipment or material behind the tapered wall unless sufficient deflection distance is provided. The Department also decided that where anchored wall is specified elsewhere in the plans, a discussion should take place with the Designer on the need for the anchorage and to eliminate it unless there is good reason for it to remain.

When decisions are made by the Department to eliminate the use of anchored temporary traffic barriers on a project, where it is either called for in 801.10(c), or where it is shown on the plans, the changes should be documented on a daily report and as part of a change order. The change order will need to be prepared to cover the quantity changes and to explain why the changes are being made.

If you should have any questions on this issue please contact your Central Office Field Engineer.

MAM/ggp