



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

Design Memorandum No. 20-12

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TO: All Design, Operations, District Personnel, and Consultants

FROM: /s/ David Boruff
David Boruff
Manager, Office of Traffic Administration
Traffic Engineering Division

SUBJECT: Truck Mounted Attenuators

REVISES: *Indiana Design Manual (IDM) Section 503-3.05(04)*

EFFECTIVE: Lettings on or after December 1, 2020

IDM Section 503-3.05(04) has been revised to include information on Recurring Special Provision 801-T-227 and Recurring Plan Detail 801-T-227d regarding truck mounted attenuators. The revised section is included for reference below. A pay item has been created for truck mounted attenuators (pay item 801-12042) and the devices will be paid for by the number of days they are used.

Questions regarding project specific applications for truck mounted attenuators should be discussed with the appropriate district Traffic Engineer. Dave Boruff, Office of Traffic Administration Manager, dboruff@indot.in.gov, may be contacted with general questions.

IDM Revisions

503-3.05(04) Positive Protection Devices [Rev. Aug. 2020]

5. Truck- or Trailer-Mounted Attenuator (TMA). A TMA is an energy-absorbing device used to reduce impact severity. A TMA is typically utilized to shield workers from rear-end collisions during installation of other temporary traffic barriers, for protecting work areas that move frequently such as painting or pothole patching, and for shielding workers in short to intermediate-duration work operations such as bridge deck patching and thin deck overlays. TMAs should be specified for shadow vehicles that are used in a travel lane. Shadow vehicles are typically used for mobile operations with no stationary lane or shoulder closures for work activities such as pavement marking or RPM installation, pavement repair, or crack filling. The need for a TMA should be discussed at the field check(s). Additional information can be found in Recurring Special Provision (RSP) 801-T-227, Truck Mounted Attenuators and Recurring Plan Detail (RPD) 801-T-227d, Truck Mounted Attenuators (Plan Details), as well as the ATSSA [*Field Guide for the Use and Placement of Shadow Vehicles in Work Zones*](#).

TMA's are paid by the number of days they are used. To estimate the quantity when a TMA is needed, the designer should:

- determine the work activities that will require a TMA, and
- then determine the number of TMA's that will be needed at any one time, and
- finally determine the anticipated number of work days for each TMA on the project.

To determine the anticipated number of work days, the designer should coordinate with the district Area Engineer on the contract time set for the project. Average quantities for TMA's are 60 days for road and resurfacing contracts, 45 days for bridge contracts, and 10 days for traffic and maintenance contracts.