CEOMETRIC DESIGN

GEOMETRIC DESIGN	
Issue	Comment
A. Speed – (Design Speed; Speed Limit & Zoning; Sight Distance; Overtaking	
Are there speed-related issues along the corridor?	
Please consider the following elements:	
• Horizontal and vertical alignment;	
• Posted and advisory speeds	
• Driver compliance with speed limits	
• Approximate sight distance	
• Safe passing opportunities	
B. Road alignment and cross section	
With respect to the roadway alignment and cross-	
section please consider the appropriateness of the	
following elements:	
• Functional class (Urban Principal Arterial)	
 Delineation of alignment; 	
Widths (lanes, shoulders, medians);	
 Sight distance for access points; 	
 Cross-slopes 	
Curbs and gutters	
 Drainage features 	
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C. Intersections	
For intersections along the corridor please consider all	
potential safety issues. Some specific considerations	
should include the following:	
• Intersections fit alignment (i.e. curvature)	
• Traffic control devices alert motorists as	
necessary	
• Sight distance and sight lines seem appropriate	
 Vehicles can safely slow/stop for turns 	
 Conflict point management 	
 Adequate spacing for various vehicle types 	
Capacity problems that result in safety problems	
D. Auxiliary lanes	
• Do auxiliary lanes appear to be adequate?	
 Could the taper locations and alignments be 	
causing safety deficiencies?	

causing safety deficiencies?
Are shoulder widths at merges causing safety deficiencies?

E. Clear zones and crash barriers	
For the roadside the major considerations are clear	
zone issues and crash barriers. Consider the following:	
• Do there appear to be clear zones issues?	
— Are hazards located too close the road?	
— Are side slopes acceptable?	
• Are suitable crash barriers (i.e, guard rails,	
curbs, etc.) appropriate for minimizing crash	
severity?	
• Barrier features: end treatments, visibility, etc.	
F. Bridges and culverts – (if necessary)	
Are there specific issues related to bridges and culverts	
that may result in safety concerns?	
and may result in surely concerns.	
G. Pavement – (Defects, Skid Resistance, and Floodin	g)
• Is the pavement free of defects including	
excessive roughness or rutting, potholes, loose	
material, edge drop-offs, etc.) that could result	
in safety problems (for example, loss of	
steering control)?	
• Does the pavement appear to have adequate	
skid resistance, particularly on curves, steep	
grades and approaches to intersections?	
• Is the pavement free of areas where flooding or	
sheet flow of water could contribute to safety	
problems?	
• In general, is the pavement quality sufficient	
for safe travel of heavy and oversized vehicles?	
H. Lighting (Lighting and Glare)	
It is important to consider to the impacts of lighting.	
Some specifics include the following:	
• Is lighting required and, if so, has it been	
adequately provided?	
• Are there glare issues resulting from headlights	
during night time operations or from sunlight?	

TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES	
Issue	Comment
I. Signs	
Signage is a critical element in providing a safe	
roadway environment. Please consider the following:	
• Are all current signs visible (consider both	
night and day)? Are they conspicuous and	
clear? Are the correct signs used for each	
situation?	
• Does the retroreflectivity or illumination appear	
satisfactory?	
• Are there any concerns regarding sign	
supports?	
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J. Traffic signals	
• If present, do the traffic signals appear to be	
designed, installed, and operating correctly?	
• Is the signal processing the traffic efficiently?	
• Is the controller located in a safe position?	
(where it is unlikely to be hit, but maintenance access is safe)	
 Is there adequate sight distance to the ends of 	
 Is there adequate sight distance to the ends of possible vehicle queues? 	
possible venicle queues:	
K. Marking and delineation	1
• Is the line marking and delineation:	
— appropriate for the function of the road?	
— consistent along the route?	
— likely to be effective under all expected	
conditions? (day, night, wet, dry, fog, rising	
and setting sun, oncoming headlights, etc.)	
• Are centerlines, edgelines, and lane lines	
provided? If not, do drivers have adequate	
guidance?	

ROADWAY ACTIVITY

Issue	Comment
With respect to roadway activity please consider safety elements related to the following:	
Pedestrians	
• Bicycles	
Public transportation vehicles and riders	
Emergency vehicles	
Commercial vehicles	
Slow moving vehicles	

Issue	Comment
Weather & Animals	
 From an environmental perspective it is important to consider any potential impacts. Most notably is likely to be the impacts of weather or animals, including: Possible effects of rain, fog, snow, ice, wind on design features. Has snow fall accumulation been considered in the design (storage, sight distance around snowbanks, etc.)? Are there any known animal travel/migration routes in surrounding areas which could affect design? 	