

Flagging for both begin and end stations and elevations shall be shown for all connection grades, ramps grades, etc.

Splined (not mathematically computed) grades are to be used only where computed grades are not practical and are to be noted "Spline Grade" with elevations shown, to the nearest five hundredths of a foot (meter) (or more accurately, if available), from beginning to end at 25 feet (10 meter) intervals. Approximate percent of gradient is to be shown on each tangent line and approximate vertical sight distances are to be shown for each crest vertical curve. Approximate design speeds are to be shown in accordance with the information in [Appendix A, Section A-1](#). For splined grades, these values are to be clearly marked "approximate".

DESIGN WAIVERS

This Design Waiver Policy is applicable to VDOT owned and maintained roadways only.

Design Waivers are required when deviations from VDOT's design criteria occur. When design criteria meet or exceed AASHTO minimal design but fall short of VDOT's minimal design, a Design Waiver shall be required. Design Waivers will be applicable to all projects regardless of functional classification and funding and shall be documented and approved in accordance with the Design Waiver Request [Form LD-448](#). Please refer to [IIM-LD-227](#) for specific guidelines on obtaining a design waiver.

DESIGN EXCEPTIONS

When plans are being prepared where, for any reason, one or more locations do not meet the AASHTO minimum design criteria (for example design speed), the location(s) and reason for difference(s) are to be noted on the title sheet. In order to alert everyone concerned, it will be necessary to identify these locations from the earliest stages of plan development. If changes are made during plan development that would alter the situation, then the title sheet must be corrected to reflect the new design. Design exceptions shall have the approval of the State Location and Design Engineer ([Form LD-440](#)) on both State and Federally funded projects. Please refer to [IIM-LD-227](#) for specific guideline on obtaining design exceptions.

The following methods will be used to show these exceptions:

- a. Plans with Functional Classification block: