

Figures 3-5 through 3-22 provide warrants for left-turn storage lanes on two-lane highways based on 5 to 30 percent left-turn volumes and design speeds of 40, 50, and 60 MPH. Additional storage length is required for 10 to 50 percent truck volumes.

NOTE: There are circumstances where a turn lane may be needed even if the warrants are not met.

For example, intersections and entrances* with poor visibility and/or a bad accident record may require the Engineer to use engineering judgment when volume conditions alone do not warrant a storage lane.

Additionally, the functional classification of the highway shall be considered so that the impact of turning movements on highways intended to serve through traffic is minimized.

LANE/SHOULDER/PAVEMENT TRANSITIONS, MERGING TAPERS AND SPEED CHANGE LENGTHS

Lane/shoulder/pavement transitions typically occur where new or reconstructed roadways tie-in to existing roadways. This also applies to where roadways tie-in to bridges. Lane/shoulder/pavement transitions, merging tapers and speed change lengths shall meet the minimum length provided by the following equations:

Less than 45 mph

$$L = S^2W \div 60$$

45 mph and greater

$$L = W \times S$$

L = length of transition

S = Design Speed

W = Width of offset on each side

Source: 2009 MUTCD, Section 6.

For Permanent Shoulder and Shifting Tapers see 2009 MUTCD, Section 6, Table 6C-3 and 6C-4.

NOTE:

A pavement transition length of 1/2L (calculate L by using the applicable formula above) is to be used when establishing project termini for the majority of small bridge replacement and/or major bridge rehabilitation projects when "NO" horizontal or vertical geometric changes are required to tie into the existing approach alignment. For additional information see Volume 5, Part 2, of the Structure and Bridge Manual.

Pavement transition is separate from the length of need for guardrail. Length of need and shoulder prep for guardrail shall be in accordance with the VDOT RDM Appendix A and the Road & Bridge Standards.

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