

SECTION I-3 BARRIER INSTALLATION CRITERIA

BARRIER WARRANTS

The determining warrants for Traffic Barriers on VDOT projects are (1) Embankment Heights (see below) and (2) Fixed and Hazardous Objects within the Clear Zone (see TABLE I-3-1).

SYSTEM CLASSIFICATION		TRAFFIC VOLUMES	FILLS OVER 7.5'	FILLS OVER 15'	AT OBVIOUS NEEDS SUCH AS BRIDGES, LARGE END WALLS, PARALLEL WATER HAZARDS, ETC., AND FILLS WHERE RECOMMENDED DURING FIELD INSPECTION
INTERSTATE - PRIMARY AND ARTERIAL	FILLS WITHOUT RECOVERABLE SLOPES	ALL	√		√
	FILLS WITH RECOVERABLE SLOPES				√
SECONDARY AND FRONTAGE ROADS		ADT OVER 1000	√		√
		ADT 1000 - 250		*√	√
		ADT LESS THAN 250			√
URBAN		ALL			√

* Exception - Bristol, Salem, and Staunton Districts. Traffic barriers are to be provided only at obvious needs such as bridges, large endwalls, parallel water hazards, etc., and fills where recommended at field inspection.

When fill slopes are 3:1 or flatter, a barrier is not required unless there are hazardous obstacles within the clear zone limits. This may include the clear runout area if the fill slope is between 3:1 and 4:1 (see Appendix A Figure A-2-4).

In some limited situations in which the embankment slopes significantly downward, a vehicle could encroach farther from the through traveled way and the clear zone might not be adequate. In these cases, guardrail should be considered.