

GUARDRAIL INSTALLATION ADJACENT TO CURB

Guardrail is not recommended where curb, or curb and gutter is used. Whenever it is necessary to provide guardrail along a curbed section (no sidewalk or sidewalk space) Standard GR-2 or GR-2A Strong Post Guardrail shall be used in conjunction with Standard CG-3 or CG-7 (4" mountable curb) and the face of the rail shall be aligned with the face of curb. For design speeds 45 mph or less, use Standard GR-2. For design speeds greater than 45 mph, use Standard GR-2A. This decreases the possibility of an errant vehicle striking the curb and vaulting the guardrail. Standard GR-8 Weak Post Guardrail shall not be used adjacent to any curb.

If the guardrail cannot be aligned with the face of the CG-3 or CG-7 curb, the guardrail shall be offset behind the face of curb in accordance with the following:

- For roadways with design speeds less than 45 mph and using CG-2 or CG-6 (6" curb) the guardrail shall be offset a minimum of 8' behind the face of curb.
- For roadways with design speeds 45 to 50 mph, the guardrail shall be offset a minimum of 13' behind the face of curb.
- For roadways with design speeds over 50 mph, guardrail shall be aligned with the face of curb and stiffened as noted previously.

For new construction or upgrading, where guardrail is aligned with the face of curb, use the typical curb layout as shown below or as approved by the engineer at the terminal location. The designer should adjust the typical cross section as necessary to account for the curb layout. When existing curb cannot be removed or relocated, contact the Central Office Standards and Special Design Section.