

Memorandum

*Serious drought.
Help Save Water!*

To: STRUCTURE POLICY BOARD
DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEFS

Date: June 10, 2016

File:

From: THOMAS A. OSTROM
State Bridge Engineer
Deputy Division Chief
Structure Policy and Innovation
Division of Engineering Services

T.A.O.

Subject: **ADOPTION OF THE CALTRANS SEISMIC DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS FOR STEEL BRIDGES – 2ND EDITION**

Effective June 10, 2016, the *Caltrans Seismic Design Specifications for Steel Bridges – 2nd Edition (SDSSB)* constitutes the seismic specifications for Caltrans steel bridges.

For projects under development, adoption of the *SDSSB* is:

- Not applicable when the Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) have been submitted for advertising, or, the project is under construction.
- Optional if it would not impose a significant delay in the project schedule or a significant increase in the project engineering or construction costs. The project history notes and plans must indicate the design criteria used.
- Mandatory for all projects with scheduled “Ready-to-List” dates (as defined in FY15-16 Delivery Plan) after September 1, 2016.

The *SDSSB* is supplemental to the current *Caltrans Seismic Design Criteria Version 1.7*, and shall be applied in conjunction with the current *Caltrans adopted AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 2012 (Sixth Edition)* and the *California Amendments (AASHTO-CA BDS-6)*.

The State Bridge Engineer must approve any exception to adopting provisions in the *SDSSB* as stated above. This request must be made as early as possible.

For questions or concerns in application of the *SDSSB* on a specific project, consultants and local agencies should contact the Structure Liaison Engineer. Caltrans staff may contact the DES Structural Steel Committee Chair.

c: Michael D. Keever, Chief, Division of Engineering Services
Timothy Craggs, Chief, Division of Design
Ray Zhang, Chief, Division of Local Assistance
Dan Speer, Chief, Office of Structure Quality Management
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