State of California
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Business, Transportation and Housing Agency

Memorandum

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To: CHIEF ENGINEER
PROJECT DELIVERY DIVISION CHIEFS
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS DIVISION CHIEF
MAINTANENCE DIVISION CHIEF
DES DEPUTY DIVISION CHIEFS
DES MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS

Date: May 31, 2011

From: BARTON J. NEWTON
State Bridge Engineer
Structure Policy & Innovation
Division of Engineering Services

Subject: **Adoption of the *AASHTO Standard Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires, and Traffic Signals, Fifth Edition.***

Effective July 1, 2011, the *American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials* (AASHTO) *Standard Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires, and Traffic Signals, Fifth Edition* with *Interim Revision(s) (LTS-5)* constitutes the primary California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) design specifications for structural supports for sign structures. This memo is posted at http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/techpubs/.

The Department's *Standard Plans* and *Standard Specifications* are valid for use. If project conditions require a new structure with significant deviations from these standards, the design must meet the requirements of *LTS-5*. Refer to the *Highway Design Manual*, Topic 82.5 for implementation of revised design standards for on-going projects.

Exceptions granting the use of versions earlier than *LTS-5* within the State right-of-way must be requested through Structure Policy & Innovation in the Division of Engineering Services. Documentation supporting the justification for an exception shall be included and must be approved by the State Bridge Engineer.

LTS-5 can be ordered from the AASHTO website at https://bookstore.transportation.org/. Caltrans employees can download copies from IHS using the link on the DES intranet page http://pd.dot.ca.gov/des/.

Any questions regarding the adoption of *LTS-5* should be directed to Shannon Post, Chief, Office of Design and Technical Services at 916-227-8070.