

# Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION:** Change to the June 30, 2018 Date: **JUN 28 2018**  
sunset date in the AASHTO/FHWA Joint  
Implementation Agreement for the AASHTO  
*Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware*, 2016  
Edition

From: Michael S. Griffith   
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In Reply Refer To:  
HSST-1

To: Division Administrators  
Directors of Field Services  
Federal Lands Highway Division Directors

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to announce exceptions to the June 30, 2018 sunset date for w-beam terminals relative to implementing the AASHTO Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH), 2016 Edition.

## INFORMATION

AASHTO and FHWA release the following change to the AASHTO/FHWA Joint Implementation Plan for implementing AASHTO MASH, 2016 Edition. The change extends the deadline date for certain w-beam guardrail terminals to December 31, 2019 as described below.

### **What is included in the June 30, 2018, sunset date in the AASHTO/FHWA Joint Implementation Agreement?**

The AASHTO/FHWA Joint Implementation Agreement states that for contracts on the National Highway System with a letting date after June 30, 2018, new permanent installations and full replacements of w-beam terminals must be MASH 2016-compliant. This sunset date now only covers tangent terminals. Other applications, such as double-sided or median terminals, flared terminals, and terminals installed on a flare, are included in the December 31, 2019, sunset date for "all other terminals." This change supplements the Q&A document dated May 9, 2018 entitled "Clarifications on Implementing the AASHTO *Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware*, 2016." This information, along with additional MASH implementation resources, may be accessed at: <https://design.transportation.org/mash-implementation/>.

**SUMMARY**

Please share this memorandum with your State DOT. AASHTO and FHWA will continue to monitor the implementation of AASHTO's MASH and will provide clarification and changes as needed on the above referenced website. If you need further information, please contact William P. Longstreet at 202-366-0087.