# **NEWSLETTER**

# Fall 2021



The next TF13 meeting will be TBD as we will be reaching out to the MwRSF Pooled Fund Study to see if we can coordinate times to hold these meetings "together" in the Spring of 2022. Once finalized, the TF13 team will reach out with location and registration information.

#### 1. Fall Meeting

We want to send out a huge thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the Fall TF13 virtual meeting. The Board put together a great program that consisted of TF13 updates over a period of two days September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The agenda was packed with updates and discussions from industry leaders and provided an overview of the latest activities from each of the subcommittees, current ongoing research, and an update on our newly designed website. If you missed anything from the meeting, check out the meeting notes on LinkedIn.

### 2. Calling All Volunteers

TF13 needs volunteers for subcommittee co-chairs as leadership for these subcommittees are essential. Working on a subcommittee can be a source of personal and professional growth. As a non-profit organization, we depend on the commitment of its members to keep our organization strong. The work of each committee is developed each meeting through your work in the industry. The co-chairs facilitate a forum for information and discussion of issues impacting the profession for members within subcommittee meetings either before or during TF13 meetings. TF13 subcommittees are typically chaired with a DOT member and an industry member but that is not a requirement. The following are the current vacancies:

- Subcommittee #3 Bridge Railings
- Subcommittee #11 Delineation

If you are interested, please reach out directly to John Durkos at <a href="mailto:jdurkos@roadsystems.com">jdurkos@roadsystems.com</a>.

#### In this issue:

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- Calling all volunteers
- Hardware Guide Updates
- Website Update
- MASH Scoping Study update
- AASHTO Q&As
- Recent Retirees
- In Memoriam

Join our LinkedIn group at LinkedIn.

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### 3. Hardware Guide Updates

The TF13 Guide to Standardized Roadside Hardware website address is now located at: <a href="https://tf13guides.org/Guides/">https://tf13guides.org/Guides/</a>. Links to the Guide are also available on the main TF13 website located at: <a href="https://www.tf13.org/">https://www.tf13.org/</a>.

So far in 2021, <u>14</u> new Systems & Components have been added to the TF13 Roadside Hardware Guide. Below is a breakdown of these by device category, and links to category homepages that show a full listing of recently added Systems:

Bridge Railings (2) <a href="https://tf13guides.org/Guides/bridgeRailGuide/index.php">https://tf13guides.org/Guides/bridgeRailGuide/index.php</a>
Crash Cushions (3) <a href="https://tf13guides.org/Guides/crashcushionGuide/index.php">https://tf13guides.org/Guides/crashcushionGuide/index.php</a>
End Treatments/Terminals (2) <a href="https://tf13guides.org/Guides/endterminalGuide/index.php">https://tf13guides.org/Guides/endterminalGuide/index.php</a>
Longitudinal Barriers (3) <a href="https://tf13guides.org/Guides/hardwareGuide/index.php">https://tf13guides.org/Guides/hardwareGuide/index.php</a>
Transitions (0) <a href="https://tf13guides.org/Guides/transitionGuide/index.php">https://tf13guides.org/Guides/hardwareGuide/index.php</a>

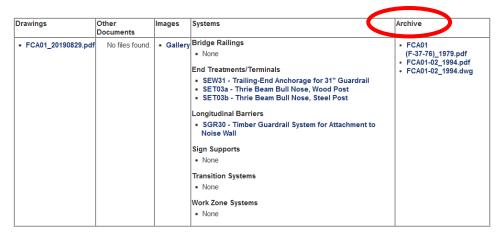
Work Zone Barriers & TMAs (1) https://tf13guides.org/Guides/workzoneGuide/index.php

Sign Supports (1) <a href="https://tf13guides.org/Guides/signGuide/index.php">https://tf13guides.org/Guides/signGuide/index.php</a>

Luminaire Supports (0) <a href="https://tf13guides.org/Guides/luminaireGuide/index.php">https://tf13guides.org/Guides/luminaireGuide/index.php</a>
Components (2) <a href="https://tf13guides.org/Guides/componentGuide/index.php">https://tf13guides.org/Guides/componentGuide/index.php</a>

As a reminder, 1979 and/or 1995 TF13 Guide Drawings are available in an Archive on each designator page. These are useful to help identify physical modifications that have been implemented, provide a cross-reference to previous designator ID system, and clarify U.S./Metric dimensions.

### Example:



### 4. Website Update

We have been updating the non-guide portion of the website to give it a fresh new look. The refreshed website is easier to navigate, has updated graphics, includes an updated TF-13 history, and more. The new website is LIVE and ready for viewing so go visit our new website at <a href="https://tf13.org/">https://tf13.org/</a>.

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### 5. MASH Conversion Scoping Study

During the Spring TF13 meeting, Jim McDonald with AASHTO provided our group a brief recap of a scoping study they took on last year to see if the MASH standard could be converted a specification. Roger Bligh and the TTI team recently completed the 6-month analysis to determine the steps necessary, time involved and cost to convert MASH to a performance specification if the decision is made by AASHTO to proceed. The initial report was complete and at a high level TTI recommended to reorganize MASH content by type of device, rework language to be more concise or direct, and rearrange extraneous information like history and rationale into an appendix. At AASHTO's 2021 Annual Meeting in October the Council on Highways and Streets unanimously supported a resolution to convert MASH into a specification. We will be following this issue closely as the resolution moves forward within AASHTO.

#### 6. AASHTO Q&As

Since our last Newsletter, AASHTO has been working to respond to the latest inquires as it relates to MASH and provide further information and guidance through the release of Q&As. Since 2019, AASHTO has release 8 new clarifications on implementing the AASHTO MASH, 2016 with the latest Q&As being released on January 29, 2021. These Q&As can be found on <u>AASHTO website</u>. Additionally, on <u>AASHTO's Committee on Design webpage</u>, they have reference Task Force 13 Reference Guides for Roadside Hardware. This is an accomplishment of many in the TF13 organization and we thank you for all your hard work and dedication to TF13.

#### 7. Recent Retirees

At this time, we would like to look back and thank all of those that have contributed to TF13 over the years by recognizing a few of the recent retirees from the industry.

- Bernie Clocksin South Dakota DOT
- Tom Close Gregory Industries, Inc.
- Mike Dreznes International Road Federation (IRF)
- Gregg Fredrick Wyoming DOT
- Paul Gentry Florida DOT
- Greg Schertz Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Jeff Smith Hill and Smith, Inc.
- Roger Wentz American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA)

Thank you to those that helped lay the foundation for the industry and we greatly appreciate your contribution.

#### 8. In Memoriam

In January of 2021, we lost one of our colleagues, Hampton Clay Gabler III. Dr. Gabler was the Samuel Herrick Professor at Virginia Tech, where he enjoyed a long, illustrious career and was a contributor to TF13. He will be missed by the TF13 community. A copy of his memoriam can be found at the following <u>website</u>.