

INTENDED USE

The F-shape median barrier is similar to the more common New Jersey shape used throughout the United States. The breakpoint on the F shape is 80 mm lower than the New Jersey shape. The F-shape median barrier has been successfully crash tested according to NCHRP Report 230 and has performed well in the field.

Four 15-mm reinforcement bars are shown but other sizes, numbers and arrangements of reinforcement are commonly used with apparent success by the States. The upper longitudinal reinforcement does not provide flexural strength since they lie on the neutral axis. These bars are intended to prevent large pieces of the barrier breaking off and falling into the travelled way in a severe collision. Some states allow the use of 150x150 W18xW18 welded wire fabric in place of the longitudinal bars. Additional flexural reinforcement will increase the strength of the barrier in severe collisions. A 3-m long 250-mm deep reinforced anchor footing should be provided at both ends to properly secure the barrier. Other common methods of supporting this barrier include setting the barrier in a continuous keyed foundation or dowelling the barrier to a foundation. A top-width of 200 mm is adequate but several state use a width of 240 mm to accommodate sign and luminaire supports. This barrier may be cast-in-place, slip formed, or pre-cast. Open joints should be provided at least every 60 m although 6 m is more common.

COMPONENTS

Concrete shall develop a minimum 28-day strength of not less than 30 MPa as specified in AASHTO M85 (ASTM C150) for Type II concrete. Reinforcing steel shall be Grade 400 MPa and shall conform to either of the following:

- (a) Epoxy-coated deformed bars as specified in AASHTO M284M (ASTM D3963).
- (b) AASHTO M31M (ASTM A615-M) deformed and plain billet steel reinforcing bars for use with calcium nitrite corrosion inhibitor (30% calcium nitrite solution).

REFERENCES

M.E. Bronstad, L.R. Calcote, C.E. Kimball, Jr., Concrete Median Barrier Research, Federal Highway Administration, FHWA-RD-77-4, Washington, D.C., March, 1976.

C. E. Buth, W. L. Campise, L. I. Griffin, M. L. Love, and D. L. Sicking. <u>Performance Limits of Longitudinal Barriers</u>. Federal Highway Administration, Report No. FHWA-RD-86-153 (vol. 1), Washington, D.C., May 1986.

F-SHAPE MEDIAN BARRIER

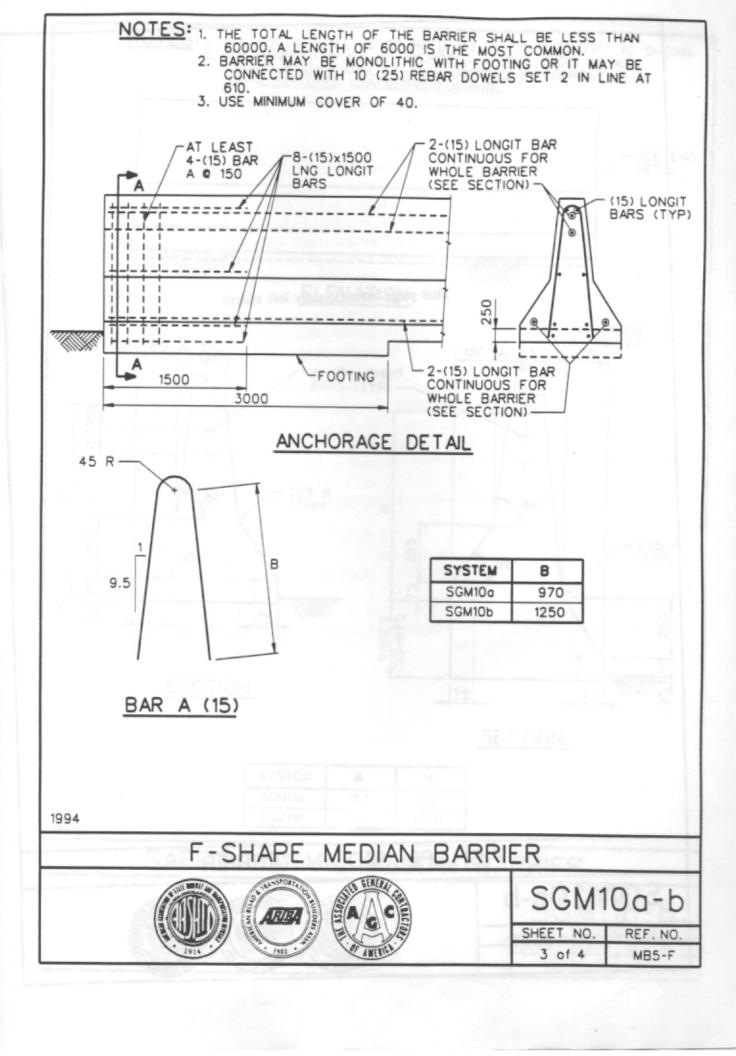
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F-SHAPE MEDIAN BARRIER

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