

2.5.2.4 RIDEABILITY

Approach Slabs

Application

Approach slabs shall be used when the roadway approaches are concrete pavement or with integral abutments as specified in Article 11.6.1.3. When the approaches are asphalt pavement and the abutment is not an integral type, the designer shall determine the need for an approach slab with the concurrence of the Group Leader. If the approach slab is not constructed when the bridge is built then it will probably never be required. For this reason, do not provide a paving notch in the abutment or the dowel bars for an approach slab if one is not required for the original design.

Design Notes

The 12" thickness assumes a 10' unsupported span. This meets the requirements of AASHTO Article 2.5.2.6.3 for simple spans.

Dead loads include the weight of the approach slab, concrete parapets, and 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ " future wearing surface.

The design is based upon Strength 1 and Service 1.

Standard Drawing Notes

The Standard Drawing shall be modified to meet the details for each specific project. Only the details that apply should be shown. If any of the design parameters are exceeded, the design should be checked.

Designer Notes

Place the abutment joint detail shown on the Approach Slab Details – Sheet 3 on the abutment details sheet. This will show the approach slab dowel bars that need to be placed in the abutment.

Geosynthetic Reinforced Abutment Backfill (GRAB) is not required if an approach slab is used. Consult with your Group Leader if both GRAB and an approach slab are requested by the District or Geotechnical Engineer.

GRAB shall not be used on buried structures unless approved by the ITD Group Leader.

Revisions:

Sep 2020	Added reference to Article 11.6.1.3 for integral abutments that requires approach slabs when the total thermal movement is greater than $\frac{3}{4}$ ".
Oct 2023	Added Designer Notes for showing approach slab joint detail on the abutment sheet. Added note for use of GRAB with an approach slab and not used on buried structures.