



# MEMO

January 12, 2026

**To:** Directors of Transportation Planning and Development

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**Subject:** Revised Retaining Wall Standard Drawings (LRFD)

Revised retaining wall standard drawings, with issue date of January 2026, are posted on the TxDOT web site and available for immediate use.

The revised standards include:

- RW(MSE)DD – Mechanically Stabilized Earth Retaining Walls
- RW(CD)DD – Concrete Block Retaining Walls
- RW(TEW)DD – Temporary Earth Retaining Walls

The above sheets have been updated to clarify the retained soils allowance. Localized fill material (e.g. a limited wedge) of higher friction angle soil placed within the retained soil zone behind the select backfill (reinforced volume) will not be allowed to improve/replace the friction angle of the bulk retained soil.

These revised standard drawings apply to construction projects beginning with the June 2026 letting. Use of these revised standards prior to June 2026 is at the discretion of each District. Use of these standards will require already designed wall to be redesigned to LRFD. Therefore, if a wall is already designed to ASD the use of these updated standards for the RW(MSE), RW(MSE)DD, RW(CD), and RW(CD)DD is not required.

These and other bridge standard drawings are available in MicroStation® "dgn" and Adobe® Acrobat® "pdf" formats on the Bridge Standards web page (<https://www.dot.state.tx.us/insdtdot/orgchart/cmd/cserve/standard/bridge-e.htm>).

For questions or comments concerning these standard drawings, please contact Worku Mergia, PE at 361/434-4139 or Taya A. Retterer, P.E. at 512/993-0330.

**CC:** Federal Highway Administration      District Bridge Engineers  
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