



County:
Control:
Project #:
Highway/Limits:

**REQUEST FOR TEXAS HIGHWAY FREIGHT NETWORK
DESIGN DEVIATION**

Number _____

The following information is furnished for consideration in evaluating a Texas Highway Freight Network vertical clearance design deviation for the [PROJECT DESCRIPTION/SCOPE OF WORK].

Explain which parts of the project are on the Texas Highway Freight Network, and provide the current anticipated letting date. (Note: the Texas Highway Freight Network encompasses all of the Freight Network as specified in the Texas Freight Mobility Plan maintained by TP&P; this includes National and State.)

1. What are the policy requirements that cannot be attained?

The 18.5 feet vertical clearance cannot be met for the grade separation located at...

2. Is there a future programmed project (e.g., on the STIP) that would allow the 18.5' to be achieved in the project limits? If yes, describe in detail the plan to achieve the vertical clearance criteria in the future; then proceed to question 10. If No, proceed to question 3.

3. Why can't the new policy be attained on this project or future projects in the project limits? (Explain in full detail.)

Consider the following when responding to this question, keep in mind increased project cost is not a sufficient reason:

What % of the design has been completed?

What redesign is needed to obtain minimum values?

How does the redesign impact ROW, Drainage, Utilities, Environmental Clearance, Railroad Agreements. Etc.?

What is the age and condition of the existing bridge structure(s)?

4. What are the values that can be attained by the proposed design?

What is the proposed vertical clearance at the grade separation(s)?

5. Describe the alternatives considered on the primary route and the reasons for eliminating each alternative.

List and describe all alternatives considered. The reasons for eliminating each alternative should also address time delays and consequences of a non-approval of the design deviation request. Include as many alternatives as you have considered.

(Note: Questions 6 - 8 pertain to the selection of an Alternate Route. The selection of an alternate route is a last, not first option, in addressing Freight Network vertical clearances; the premise is that there is simply no viable alternative on this particular project, or in the foreseeable future, where the 18.5' vertical clearance values can be achieved. Any selection of an alternate route should be done with the intention of planning for and providing the needed vertical clearances on the alternate route. If approved, the alternate route would ultimately be incorporated as the primary route on the Freight Network.)

6. Alternate Route Selection.

The selection of an alternate route (must be On-system) is highly recommended if vertical clearance is not achievable on the primary route. If there is no possibility of an alternate route that would allow the vertical clearances to be met now or in the future, explain in detail why, then proceed to question 9. If an alternate route is available, proceed to question 7.

7. Is there a route (must be on-system) that is being proposed as an alternate route for the purpose of achieving 18.5' vertical clearance? Is the proposed alternate route adjacent (e.g., frontage road or collector distributor) or non-adjacent?

For non-adjacent alternate routes, what coordination will be required with the Local Governments, MPO, and other entities to determine the viability of designating the alternate route as part of the Texas Highway Freight Network?

Is the 18.5' vertical clearance currently met on the alternate route? (If yes, proceed to Question 8.)

What vertical clearance values are currently attained on the proposed Alternate Route?

(For Non-adjacent alternate routes only). What future improvements/programmed projects are proposed to attain the vertical clearance criteria on the proposed Alternate Route?

(For Adjacent alternate routes only). What improvements are proposed on the current or future projects to attain the vertical clearance criteria on the proposed Alternate Route?

8. Alternate Route Impacts and Proposed improvements

What impacts are projected on the alternate route (adjacent or non-adjacent). Traffic/Truck impacts, Pavement life-cycle impacts, LOS impacts, etc.?

What improvements (or future improvements) are being proposed to the alternate route to alleviate the anticipated impacts?

- 9. What is the percentage and total dollar difference between the proposed construction cost and the cost of construction necessary to achieve policy (For primary, and if applicable, alternate route)?**

Provide the total cost increase associated with accommodating the policy, as well as the percentage difference. Include any other appropriate cost measures if applicable.

- 10. Final complete narrative of why you think this policy deviation should be approved.**

This is the closing argument. Explain why the Design Deviation Request should be approved; include proposed alternate route if applicable. Narrative should include the overall plan as a whole to achieve vertical clearances in the Freight corridor.