



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

*Driving Indiana's Economic Growth*

## Design Memorandum No. 17-27 Technical Advisory

December 4, 2017

**TO:** All Design, Operations, and District Personnel, and Consultants

**FROM:** /s/ Elizabeth W. Phillips  
Elizabeth W. Phillips  
Manager, Office of Standards and Policy  
Bridges Division

**SUBJECT:** Bridge-Length Culverts

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

A culvert or structure under fill is classified as a bridge if its span, measured along the roadway centerline, is greater than 20 feet. Although classified as bridge, the Level One criteria for bridge clear roadway width and bridge railing safety performance criteria do not apply to bridge-length culverts.

The applicable travel lane, shoulder, and guardrail offset criteria for the approach roadway apply to the cross section over a structure under fill, regardless of the structure span.

A roadside barrier used on an INDOT-maintained route should be at minimum TL-3. A TL-4 or TL-5 barrier should be considered in accordance with *Indiana Design Manual* Section 49-5.01, Roadside Barrier Types.

The Level One Controlling Criteria checklist criteria for Bridge Clear Roadway Width and Bridge Railing Safety Performance Criteria should be marked "Not Applicable". It is not necessary to revise previously submitted Level One checklists. Revisions may be incorporated with the next project milestone submission.