

Index 5210 Traffic Railing/Noise Wall (8'-0")

Design Criteria

NCHRP Report 350 TL-4; NCHRP Report 663; AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications; Structures Design Guidelines (SDG)

Design Assumptions and Limitations

The Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") is the basic non-proprietary crash tested traffic railing / noise wall combination for use on FDOT bridges and retaining walls. It can also be used for ground mounted applications within the clear zone when used in conjunction with the foundations presented in Indexes 5212, 5213 and 5214. This railing is first and foremost a traffic railing that also serves as a noise barrier. To preserve the crashworthiness of the design, this railing must be used in accordance with the requirements of **SDG** 6.7 for all applications.

The junction slab and footings within the Indexes 5211 thru 5215 were originally sized based on a 54 kip load applied at 49" above the riding surface and applied over the length of the wall between expansion joints (50'-0" minimum on Indexes 5211 and 5213 thru 5215), (30'-0" minimum on Index 5212). This was based on the recommendation by the crash test researchers at Texas Transportation Institute (TTI). Although the TL-4 load application height is a minimum 32", due to the taller face of the railing/wall the colliding vehicle body engages the structure at a greater height. Recent changes to **LRFD** (Section 15) have codified this increase in height to 6'-0" for application of the vehicle collision load for setbacks < 1'-0". However, recent research has also shown that for stability (overturning and sliding) the TL-4, 54 kip dynamic load is very conservative when applied as a static analysis. [Structures Design Bulletin C11-06](#) provides some insight into this for regular height traffic railings, but due the increased height of the noise wall, additional dynamic load is anticipated to be applied to the structure, so no reduced static load for stability is provided at this time, but no changes to the foundation sizes have been made pending review of the anticipated recommendations from [NCHRP Project 22-20\(02\)](#).

For bridge applications, design bridge decks supporting Traffic Railing / Noise Walls (8'-0") in accordance with the requirements of **SDG** 4.2. For bridge decks up to a maximum thickness of 9", the two Bars 5S1 placed in the bridge deck may substitute for the longitudinal deck steel located within the limits of Bars 5V, provided that the total area of longitudinal deck steel beneath the railing, as required by calculation, is not reduced.

The tabulated values in the SDG 4.2.5 are based on LRFD A13.3.1 yield-line theory and are intended to prevent local failure of the structural components and allow the load to be supported by the length of the wall between expansion joints for stability.

For retaining wall applications (Index 5212), resistance for overturning is calculated using a point of rotation located at the outside face of retaining wall. A special design may be required if bearing conditions between the junction slab and retaining wall warrant consideration for an alternate point of rotation. See NCHRP Report 663 for more information.

Form liners providing a textured finish are permitted on the outside face of the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") with the following provisions: (1) The maximum amplitude of the form liner on the lower 2'-8" section shall be limited to 1" depth; (2) Any form liner used above 2'-8", must provide a thickened concrete section to maintain 2" cover. Full details of this thickened section and the form liner shall be provided in the plans. Form liners complying with the requirements of **SDG 6.7** are allowed on the upper vertical portion of the inside face of the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall but are not recommended.

When the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") terminates on the bridge, the End Taper shall be located at an open joint. When the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") terminates on the Approach Slab, the End Taper shall terminate at Begin or End Approach Slab as shown.

Indexes 6011, 5212, 5213, 5214, 5215, 20900 and 20910 contain details for the use of Traffic Railing / Noise Walls (8'-0") on retaining walls, approach slabs and footings.

The details as shown for installing for 2" diameter conduits and associated Embedded Junction Boxes (EJBs) in traffic railings have been determined to be crashworthy in accordance with the requirements of **NCHRP Report 350, AASHTO Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH)** and the **AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications**. To preserve the crashworthiness of Traffic Railing / Noise Walls, no more than two 2" diameter conduits and associated EJBs, as shown on **Design Standards Index 21210**, may be installed within the traffic railing portion (only) of the Traffic Railing / Noise Walls.

Project specific details are required for the use of 10'-0" and 12'-0" tall Traffic Railing / Noise Walls on footings. Base these details on Indexes 5210 and 5211.

For treatment of Traffic Railing / Noise Walls (8'-0") on skewed bridges see [Index 420](#).

Details are available for increasing the crashworthiness of this Traffic Railing / Noise Wall to **NCHRP Report 350** Test Level 5. Contact the Structures Design Office for more information.

Plan Content Requirements

In the Structures Plans:

In the Materials Note on the General Notes Sheet, specify the concrete class in accordance with the superstructure environment classification. See **SDG 1.4**.

Show and label, by name or Index number, the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") on the Plan and Elevation, Typical Section, Superstructure, Approach Slab and Finish Grade Elevations Cross Section sheets, Retaining Wall Control Drawings, and other sheets as required. Include cross references to **Design Standards Index 20900** or **20910** as appropriate.

When the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") ends on a bridge, provide an End Taper and terminate the low end of the End Taper at an open joint in the traffic railing, preferably at the end of a span. Continue the bridge mounted traffic railing along the remainder of the bridge.

When the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") ends on an Approach Slab, provide an End Taper and terminate the low end of the End Taper at Begin or End Approach Slab. Provide an Index 400 Detail J Guardrail Approach Transition, Index 410 Concrete Barrier Wall or crash cushion at the low end of the End Taper.

On the Superstructure section sheets, show the two Bars 5S1 placed in the bridge deck within the Bars 5V along with the rest of the deck steel.

All concrete and Bars 5P, 5R, 5S and 5V required to construct the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall are included in the Estimated Traffic Railing Quantities. Do not include Traffic Railing / Noise Wall concrete in the estimated concrete quantities, or Bars 5P, 5R, 5S and 5V in the reinforcing bar lists and estimated reinforcing steel quantities for supporting bridge decks, approach slabs or retaining walls.

In the Roadway or Structures Plans when the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") is used on retaining walls:

In the Materials Note on the General Notes Sheet, specify the concrete class in accordance with the retaining wall environment classification. See **SDG** 1.4.

Show and label, by name or Index number, the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") on the Retaining Wall Control Drawings, and other sheets as required. Include cross references to **Design Standards** Index 5212 and/or 6100 Series as appropriate.

For Index 5212, show and label the junction slab as either TYPE 1 or TYPE 2, based on the required width for stability. Determine the appropriate TYPE using Table 1 below. Project specific designs may be required for locations exceeding the listed design parameters.

When the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") ends on a retaining wall, provide an End Taper and terminate the low end of the End Taper at an open joint in the traffic railing. Continue the retaining wall mounted traffic railing along the remainder of the retaining wall.

Table 1 Junction Slab Selection

Wind Speed (mph)	Retaining Wall Height (ft)	Junction Slab Width (ft)
110	≤ 50	5 ft. (TYPE 1)
130	≤ 50	5 ft. (TYPE 1)
150	≤ 50	6 ft. (TYPE 2)

In the Roadway Plans when the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") is used for ground mounted applications:

In the Materials Note on the General Notes Sheet, specify the concrete class in accordance with the substructure or retaining wall environment classification. See **SDG** 1.4.

Show and label, by name or Index number, the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") on the Plan and Profile, Cross Section and other sheets as required. Include cross references to **Design Standards** Index 5213, 5214 and 5215 as appropriate.

When the approach end of the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") ends along the roadway within the clear zone, use one of the following treatments:

- Provide an End Taper and Index 400 Detail J Guardrail Approach Transition, Index 410 Concrete Barrier Wall or crash cushion at the low end of the End Taper.
- Flare the full height Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") out beyond the clear zone. Flare rates vary based on both design speed and highway application (i.e., Interstate, urban or rural installations). See **Design Standards** and **PPM** for applicable flare rates.
- Terminate the full height Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") within the clear zone and shield the end with a wide crash cushion. Ensure the traffic face of the wide crash cushion is offset at least 24-inches from vertical face of Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0").

When the trailing end of the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") ends along the roadway within the clear zone of adjacent traffic, and the trailing end is not within the clear zone of opposing traffic, the Traffic Railing / Noise Wall (8'-0") can remain full height all the way to the end or the End Taper can be used. Provide Index 400 Guardrail or Index 410 Concrete Barrier Wall as required to shield hazards beyond the end of the Traffic Railing/ Noise Wall.

Include project specific details for 10'-0" and 12'-0" tall Traffic Railing / Noise Walls.

Payment

Item number	Item description	Unit Measure
521-5-20	Concrete Traffic Railing-Bridge, F Shaped With Noise Wall 8' Height	LF
521-7-1	Concrete Traffic Railing Barrier Retaining Wall System, F Shape With Noise Wall, 8' Height	LF
521-72-20	Shoulder Concrete Barrier Wall, F Shaped, With 8' Noise Wall	LF
521-72-21	Shoulder Concrete Barrier Wall, F Shaped, With 10' Noise Wall	LF
521-72-22	Shoulder Concrete Barrier Wall, F Shaped, With 12' Noise Wall	LF
521-72-23	Shoulder Concrete Barrier Wall, F Shaped, With 14' Noise Wall	LF