



Charles D. Baker, Governor
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor
Stephanie Pollack, MassDOT Secretary & CEO
Steve Poflak, General Manager



DESIGN DIRECTIVE

To: Distribution

From: Erik Stoothoff, P.E. *ES*
Chief Engineer

Date: April 17, 2019

RE: General Design

Design Consultants shall design to standards as prescribed by Code. MBTA Standards shall apply only where Code does not address a topic or the MBTA requires a standard above and beyond Code. The more stringent shall always apply. All codes shall be considered applicable as the edition adopted and in effect at the date of construction advertisement.

Design consultants are never to design to a minimum standard. MBTA will not accept minimum standards without prior approval via waiver request that demonstrates the preferred standard is infeasible.

Common codes and standards include but are not limited to:

- 527 CMR – MA Fire Prevention Regulations
- NFPA 130 – Standard for Fixed Guideway Transit and Passenger Rail Systems
- 780 CMR – MA State Building Code
- 521 CMR – MA Architectural Access Board Regulations
- Americans with Disabilities Act & ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- US DOT 49 CFR Part 37- Transportation Services for Individuals with Disabilities
- US DOT 49 CFR Part 38 - Accessibility Specifications for Transportation Vehicles
- AREMA Manual for Railway Engineering
- ASCE 7 – Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and other structures
- ASCE 24 – Flood Resistant Design and Construction
- AREMA Communications and Signals Manual
- IEEE Power Transmission and Distribution Standards Collection
- 527 CMR MA Electrical Code
- 248 CMR MA Plumbing Code

In the event that conditions warrant deviation from this directive, a design waiver signed by the Chief Engineer and the department owning the scope of work will be required of the project.