

New Jersey Department of Transportation  
**QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY**

QUALITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

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QIA No. QIA019

Approved: B. Strizki

Date: 7/23/1999

**Process Affected:**

Scope  Design  Right of Way  Utilities  Environmental  Historic  Construction

**Bureaus Affected:** All CPM Units

**Procedure(s) Affected:** Design  
Scope Development

**Route & Section:** N/A

**County/Municipality:** N/A

**Project Summary:** N/A

**Nature of Problem(s):**

There have recently been projects which have not been adequately evaluated as to whether to correct a substandard design element or safety concern vs. pursuing a design exception. These have been transition projects which have not had the benefit of undergoing the complete scope development process outlined in the Procedures Manual, but rather have been advanced through the project delivery process prior to the reorganization. Changes in two of these transition projects have been presented to the Change Control Board for approval of additional funding. While the changes have generally been approved, they have resulted in significant cost increases.

**Recommendation(s):**

All projects which have not been advanced through the current scope development process should be investigated in order to ensure that the recommendations identified are the most feasible and prudent without jeopardizing safety. This should include determining if it is feasible to not address controlling substandard design elements which may have been previously identified as part of design exceptions (e.g. the feasibility of providing full width shoulders vs. obtaining a design exception for the lack of shoulders). The warrants for the selection of a lesser design value shall be evaluated with respect to social, economic and environmental impacts together with safe and overall efficient traffic operations.

If it is determined that it is beneficial to adjust the scope of work of a project to include additional elements, they should be identified as early in the design process as possible and approval requested from the Change Control Board if necessary. The earlier that changes are identified and implemented, the more that costs associated with rework will be lessened and delays minimized.

**Implementation:** *Immediately*

**Impact Assessment:**

Schedule  Quality  Cost  Scope

**Cost Impact:**



Superseded