



# CE 3372 WATER SYSTEMS DESIGN

LESSON 16: STORM SEWERS, INLETS, AND CONDUITS

FALL 2020

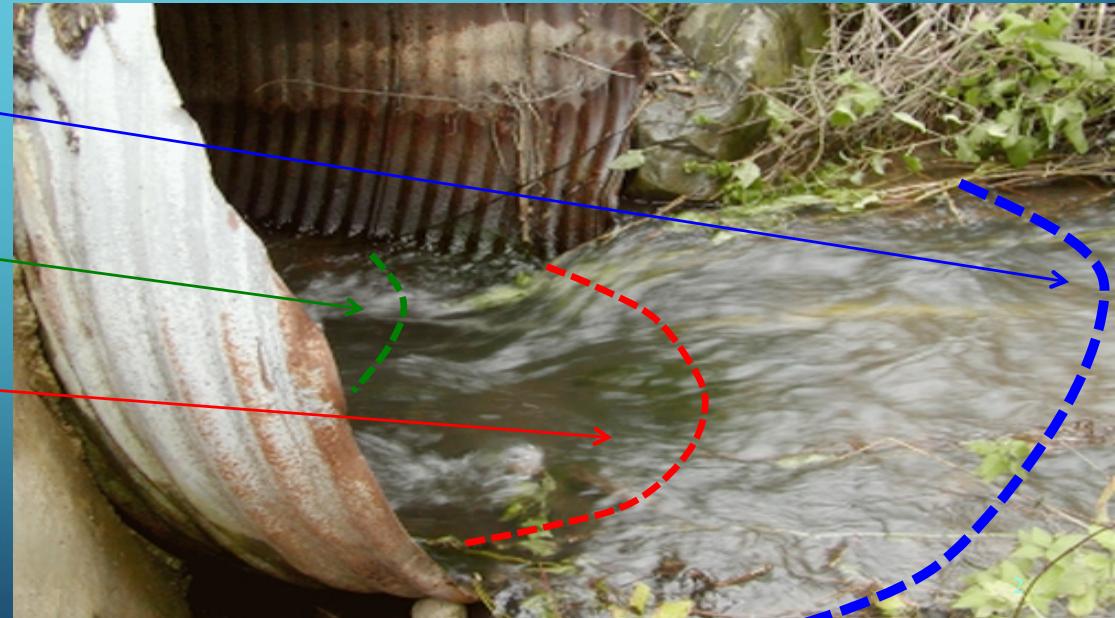
# REVIEW

\* Supercritical, Critical, or Subcritical

\* Location A ?

\* Location B ?

\* Location C ?



# OUTLINE

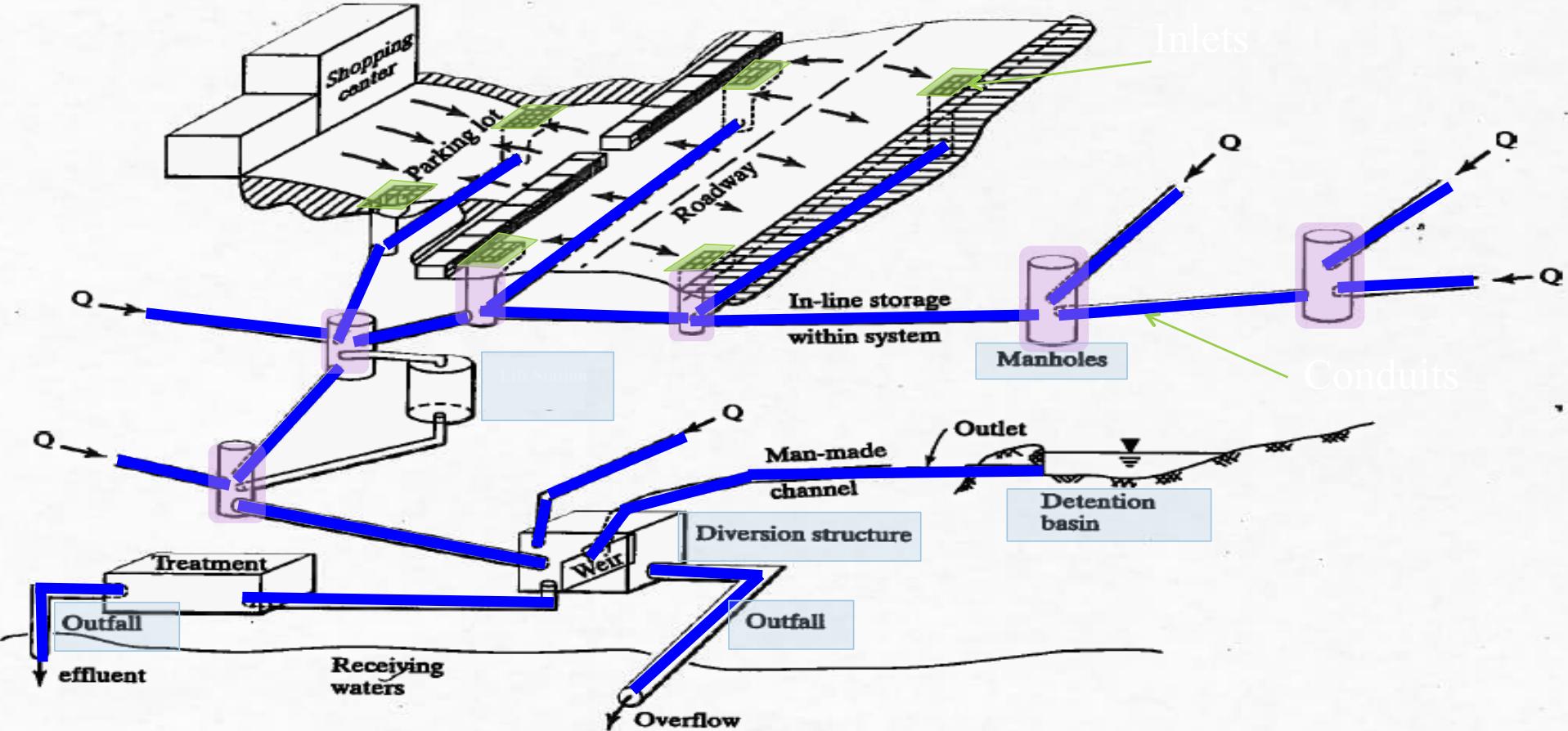
- Storm sewer overview
- Inlets
  - Design using FHWA methods  
(as specified in TxDOT Hydraulic Design Manual)
  - Representative of typical design computations involved, change to fit your jurisdiction

# STORM SEWERS

- Inlets to capture runoff
- Conduits to convey to outfall
  - Lift Stations if cannot gravity flow to outfall
  - Detention and diversions
- Outfall release back into environment



# STORM SEWER SYSTEMS



# STORM SEWER INLETS

- Spread width
- Combination Inlet
  - Curb+Grate
- Carryover
  - Flow that passes beyond the inlet (none in this picture - complete capture)



# STORM DRAINS

- A storm drain is a system of curbs and gutters, inlets, and pipe networks that receives runoff and conveys it to some point where it is discharged into a pond, channel, stream, or another pipe system.
- A storm drain may be comprised of a closed-conduit, an open conduit, or some combination of the two

## DESIGN CHALLENGES

- Drainage in urban areas is challenging because of:
  - Heavy traffic and subsequent higher risks
  - Wide roadway sections
  - Relatively flat grades, both longitudinal and transverse
  - Shallow water courses
  - Absence of side ditches
  - Concentrated flow

## DESIGN CHALLENGES

- Drainage in urban areas is challenging because of:
  - *Potential for costly property damage from water ponding or flow through built-up areas*
  - Roadway section must carry traffic and serve as a channel to carry water to a discharge point
  - Limited ROW to place drainage infrastructure
  - Outfalls not convenient
  - Infrastructure impacts multiple jurisdictions
  - Water quality

# STORM DRAIN DESIGN

- Establish design parameters and criteria
- Decide layout, component location, and orientation
- Use appropriate design tools
- Comprehensive documentation
- The process is iterative

# STREETS AND FLOW IN STREETS

- Curb-and-gutter sections

Inlet (Curb Opening + Grate)

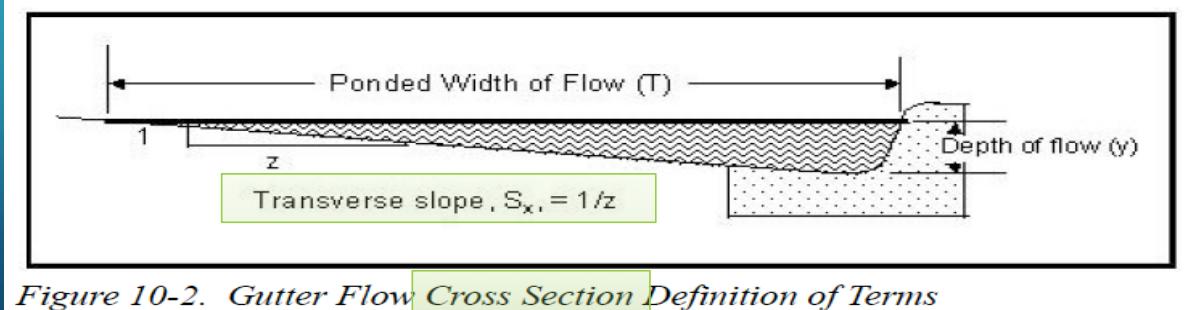
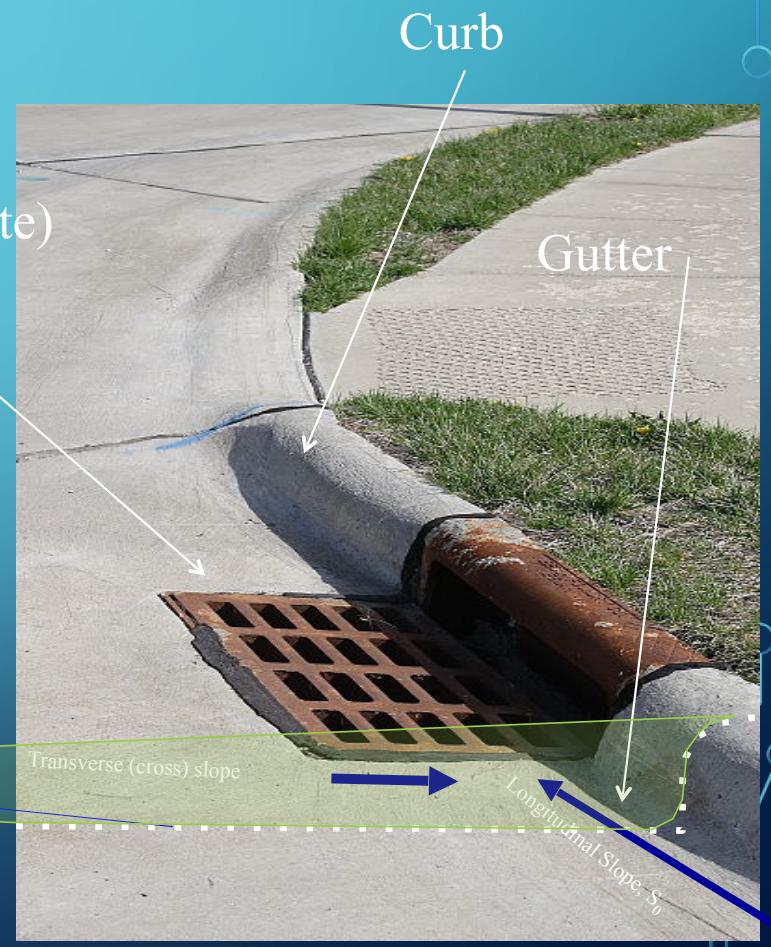
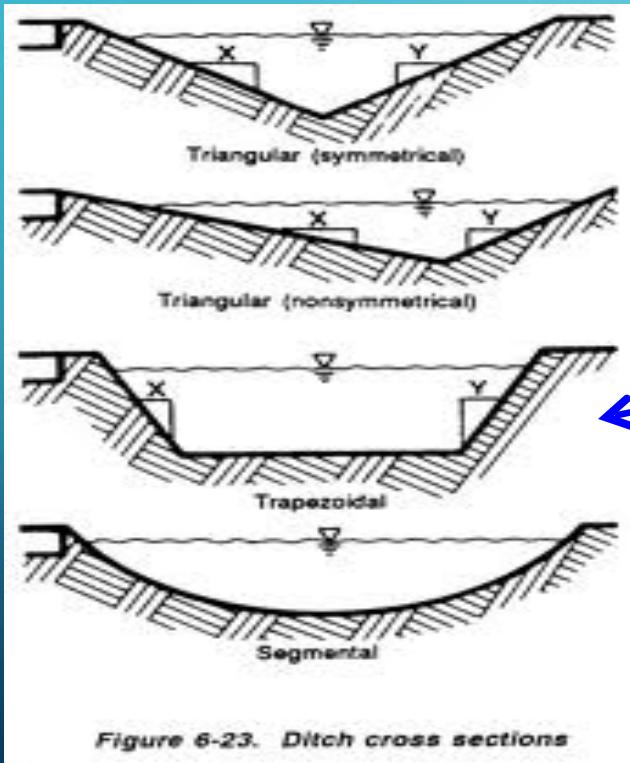


Figure 10-2. Gutter Flow Cross Section Definition of Terms



# STREETS AND FLOW IN STREETS

- Ditch sections



# STREETS AND FLOW IN STREETS

- Flow in curb-and-gutter sections

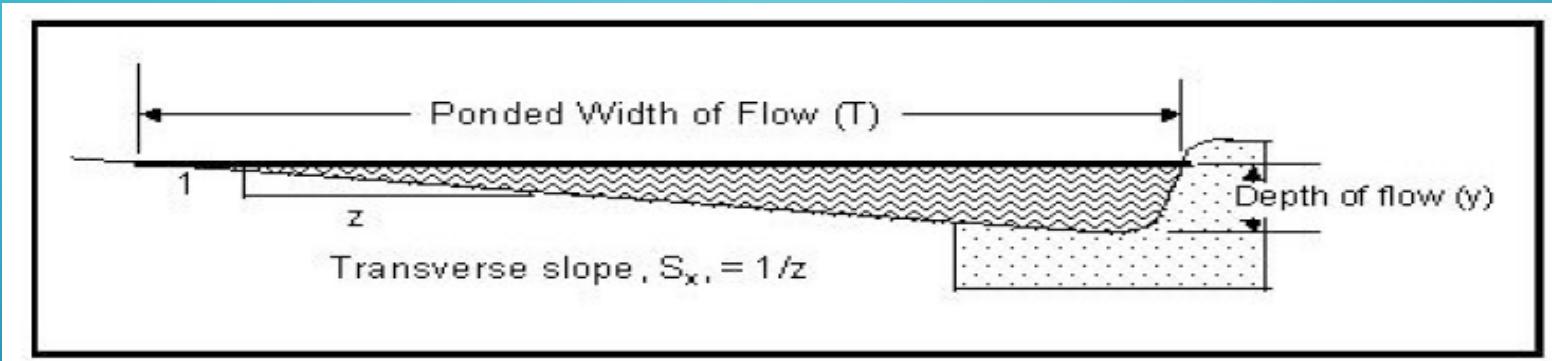


Figure 10-2. Gutter Flow Cross Section Definition of Terms

$$y = z \left( \frac{Q n S_x}{S^{1/2}} \right)^{3/8}$$

Equation 10-1.

$$T = 1.24 \left( \frac{Q n}{S_x^{5/3} S^{1/2}} \right)^{3/8}$$

Equation 10-4

## RATIONAL & MODIFIED RATIONAL

- The “Rational Equation” is an equation that is used in the vast majority of urban storm drain designs.
- The basic equation (HDM) is:

$$Q = \frac{CIA}{Z}$$

*Equation 4-20.*

- Z is a dimensions correction coefficient
- C is a “runoff coefficient”
- I is rainfall intensity for an appropriate duration and frequency
- A is contributing area, in acres.

## INTENSITY-DURATION-FREQUENCY

- Intensity is the ratio of an accumulated depth to some averaging time usually the time of concentration.
- Called “inlet time” for inlet design.

$$i_{avg} = \frac{D}{T_C}$$

# RUNOFF COEFFICIENTS

- Runoff coefficients are tabulated, and selected from a land use description.

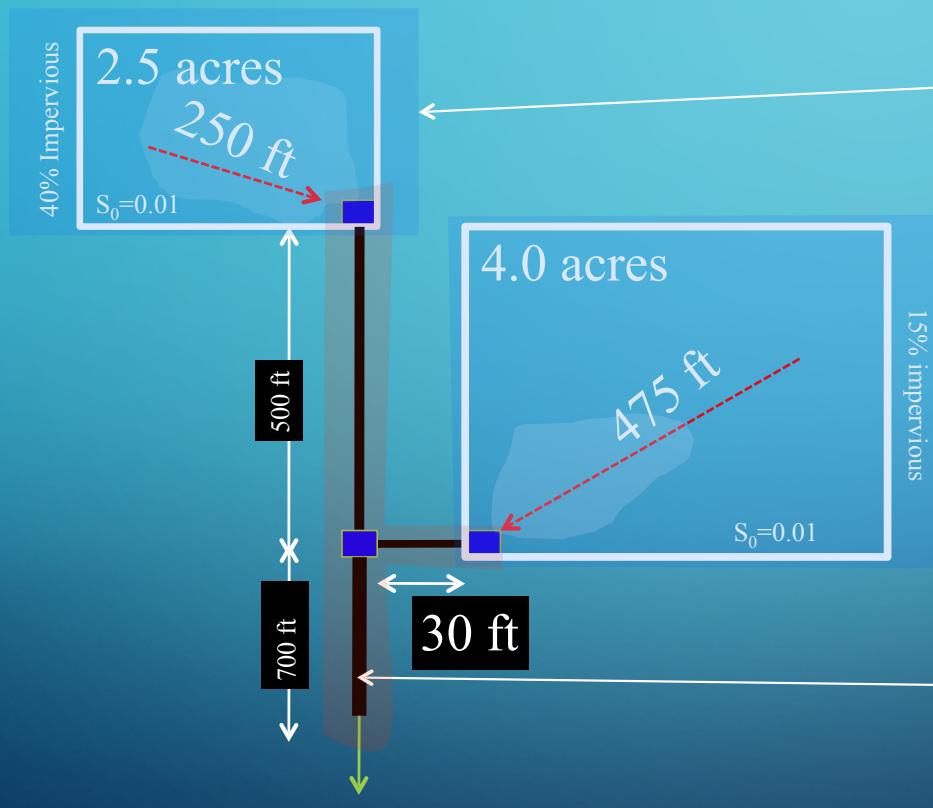
*Chapter 4 — Hydrology*

*Section 12 — Rational Method*

**Table 4-10: Runoff Coefficients for Urban Watersheds**

Type of drainage area	Runoff coefficient
<b>Business:</b>	
Downtown areas	0.70-0.95
Neighborhood areas	0.30-0.70
<b>Residential:</b>	
Single-family areas	0.30-0.50
Multi-units, detached	0.40-0.60
Multi-units, attached	0.60-0.75
Suburban	0.35-0.40
Apartment dwelling areas	0.30-0.70
<b>Industrial:</b>	
Light areas	0.30-0.80
Heavy areas	0.60-0.90
Power generation	0.10-0.25

## TC APPLIES WHERE?



Use NRCS or Kerby-Kirpich;  
channel flow only if appropriate

Travel time based on conduit  
hydraulics

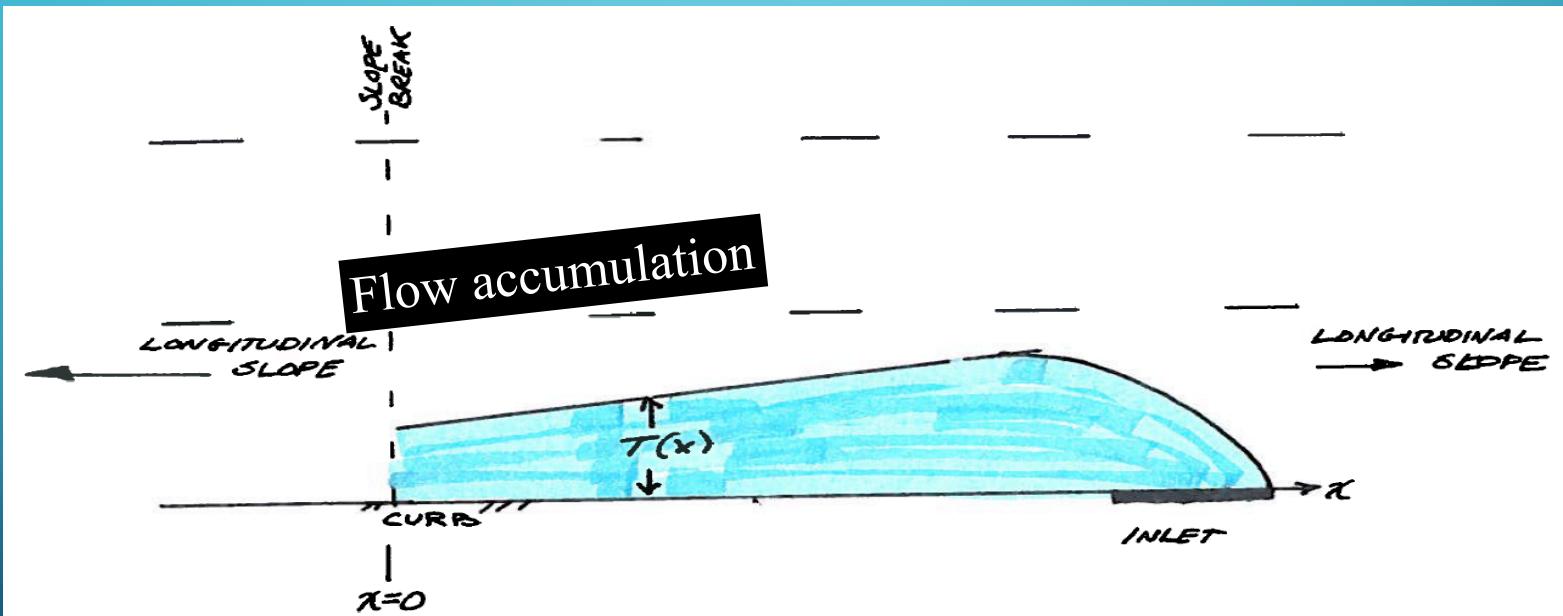
# CURBS

- Curbs are the usual roadway bounding feature in urban areas.
  - Vary in height from negligible to as much as 8 inches
- Curbs serve multiple purposes
  - Minor redirection for errant vehicles
  - Bounding feature for water running in the roadway as an open channel
- Curbs provide constraint that allows them to become a part of inlets.

# ROADWAY PONDING WIDTH

- The primary design criterion for urban storm drainage systems is usually “ponded width” in the roadway
  - Ponded width is the width of the roadway covered by ponded water
  - What remains is considered usable roadway
- The portion with water ponded is considered to be a traffic hazard
- In the design process, each side of the roadway must be considered separately with respect to ponding.

# INCREASE IN PONDED WIDTH

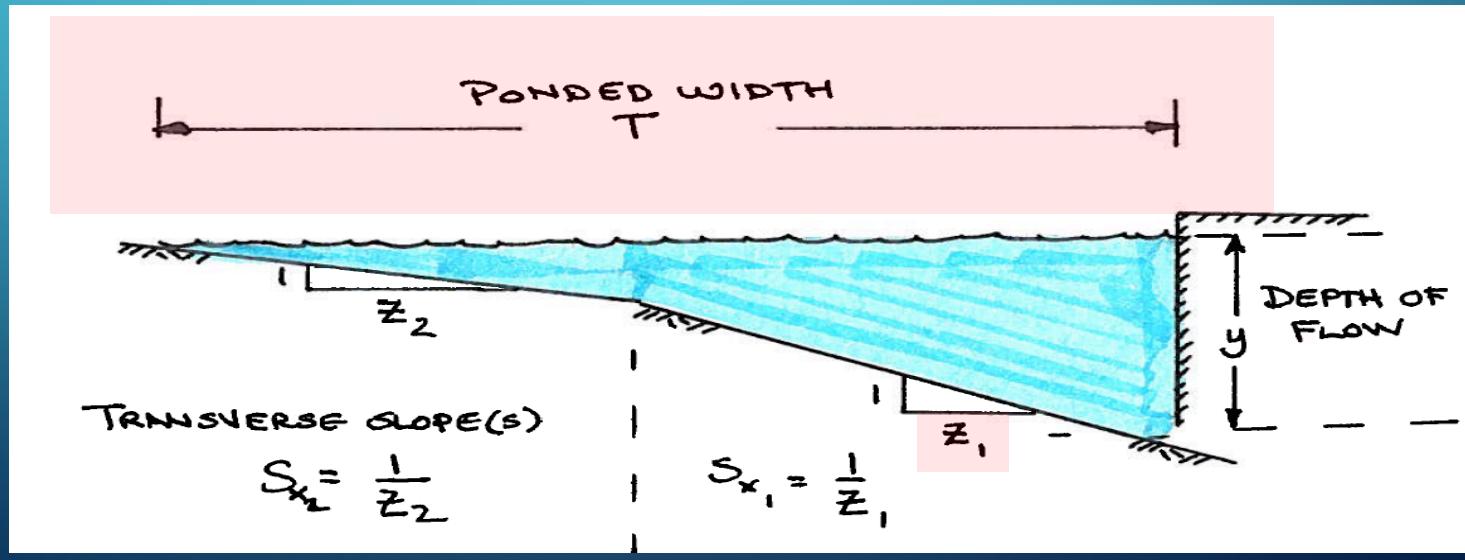


## VELOCITY AND TRAVEL TIME

- As average velocity of contribution increases, travel time for a given distance decreases
- All other things being equal, as travel time decreases, critical duration decreases, and the intensity associated with it increases

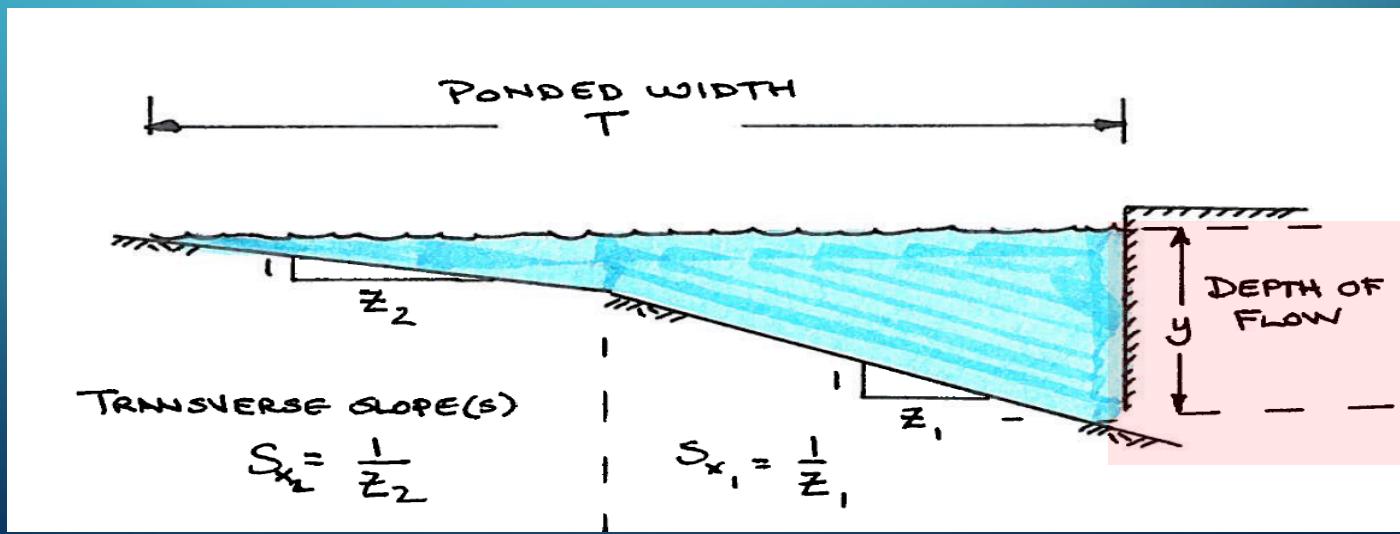
## PONDED WIDTH

- Ponded width computations will usually involve all “Z” values in the typical section.
- $Z_1$  is usually the slope closest to the curb and gutter.



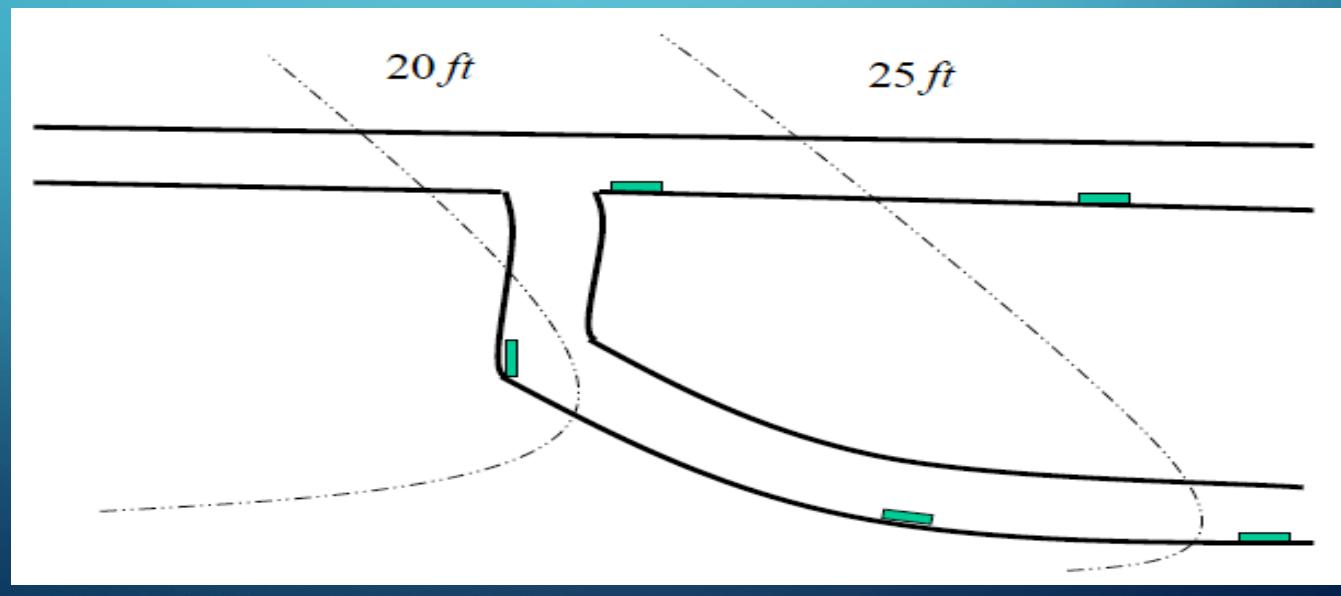
## PONDED DEPTH

- Ponded depth is the depth at the curb (or edge).
- If at an inlet, the depth would be measured from the lip of the inlet.



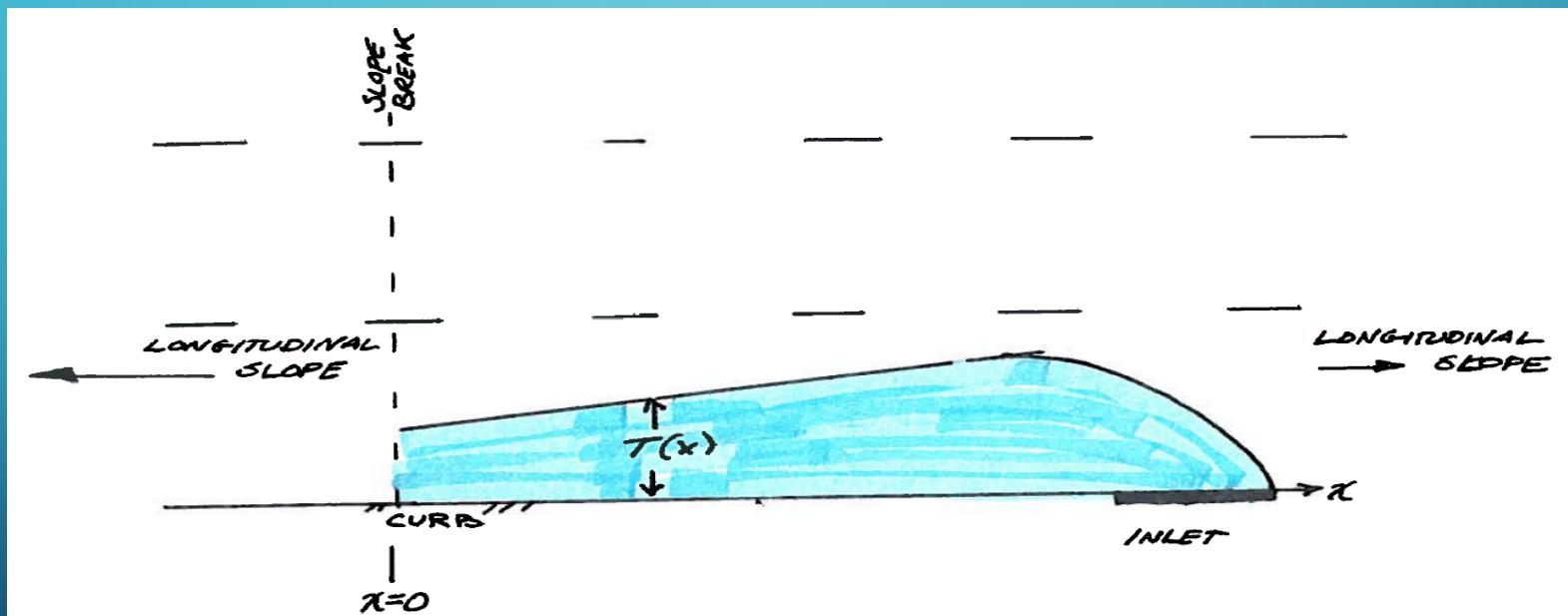
## INLET PLACEMENT TO REDUCE WIDTH

- Inlets are placed in low points
- Consider intersections
- Acceptable ponding widths



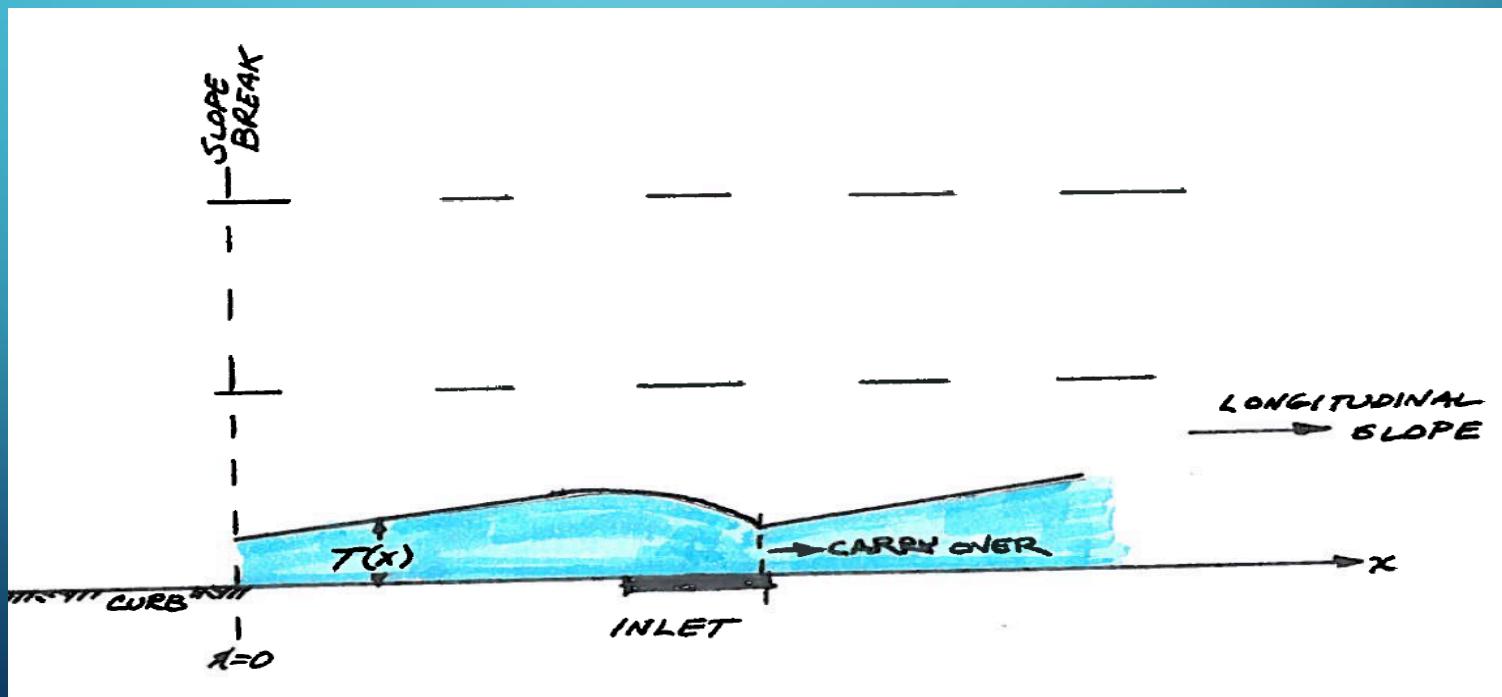
# INLET PLACEMENT TO REDUCE WIDTH

- Ponding width



## INLET PLACEMENT TO REDUCE WIDTH

- Partial capture with carryover



## INLET PLACEMENT

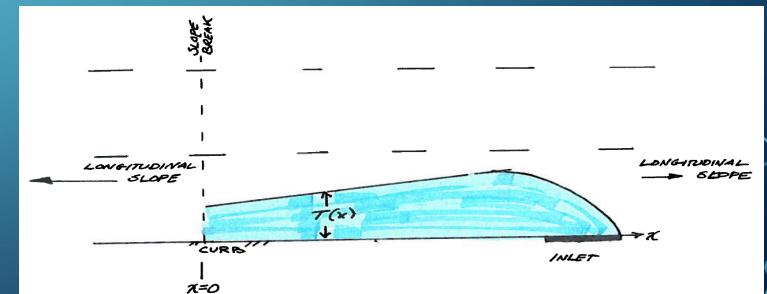
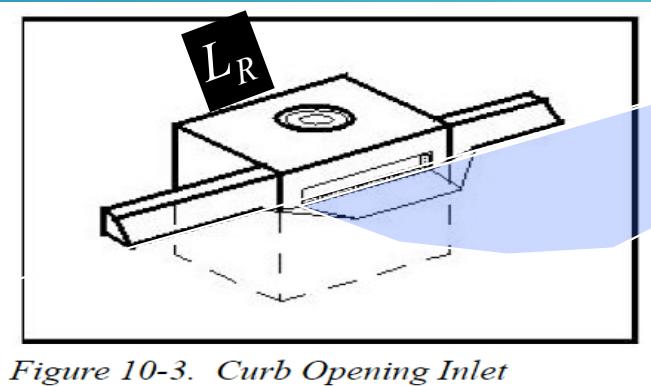
- Locations dictated by physical demands, hydraulics, or both
- Logical locations include:
  - Sag configurations
  - Near intersections
  - At gore islands
  - Super-elevation transitions
- Allowable ponded width guides location selection

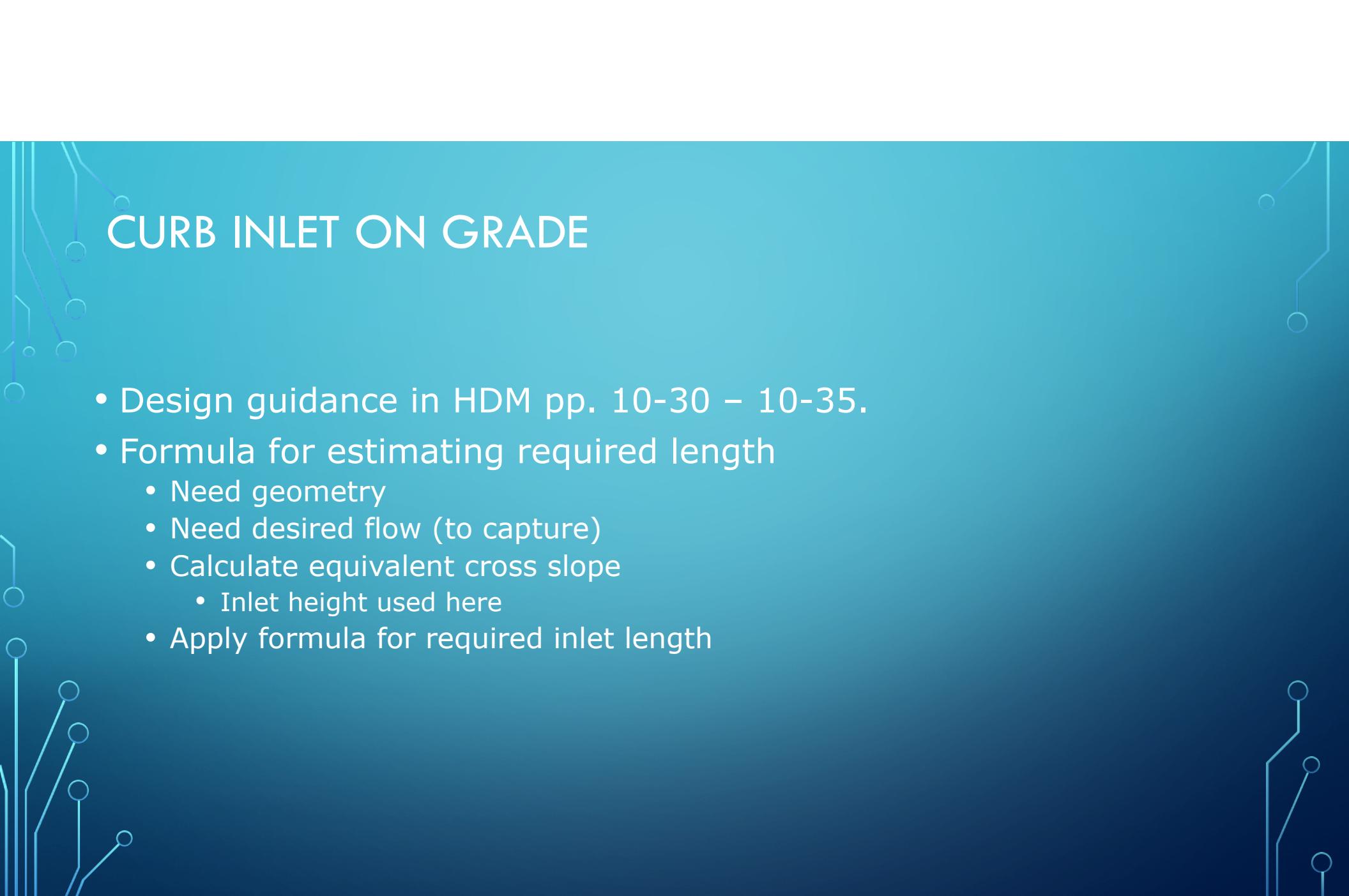
## ALLOWABLE PONDED WIDTH

- Typical Transportation Guidelines
  - Limit ponding to one-half the width of the outer lane for the main lanes of interstate and controlled access highways
  - Limit ponding to the width of the outer lane for major highways, which are highways with two or more lanes in each direction, and frontage roads
  - Limit ponding to a width and depth that will allow the safe passage of one lane of traffic for minor highways

## CURB INLET ON GRADE

- Compute length of inlet for total interception
- Subjective decision of actual length
- Estimate carryover





## CURB INLET ON GRADE

- Design guidance in HDM pp. 10-30 – 10-35.
- Formula for estimating required length
  - Need geometry
  - Need desired flow (to capture)
  - Calculate equivalent cross slope
    - Inlet height used here
  - Apply formula for required inlet length

## CURB INLET ON GRADE

- Value of carryover
  - Uses more of inlet open area – hence may be able to use shorter inlet (if there is compelling need)

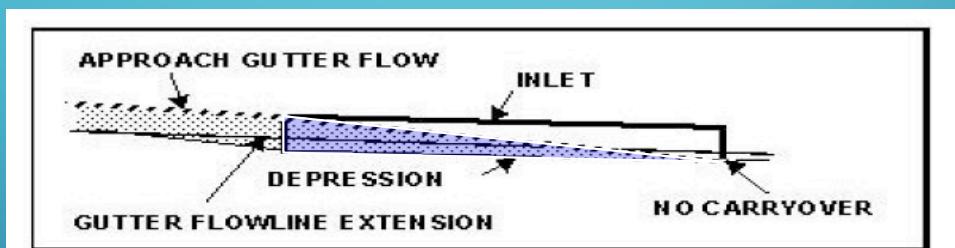


Figure 10-12. Inlet Designed with No Carryover

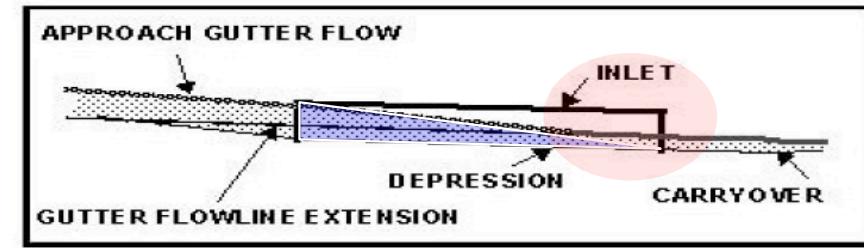


Figure 10-13. Inlet Designed with Carryover

## PROFILE GRADE VS. INLET LENGTH

- Inlet length is proportional to longitudinal slope
- As slope increases, required length increases

$$L_R \propto S^{0.3}$$

$$L_r = z Q^{0.42} S^{0.3} \left( \frac{1}{n S_e} \right)^{0.6}$$

*Equation 10-15.*

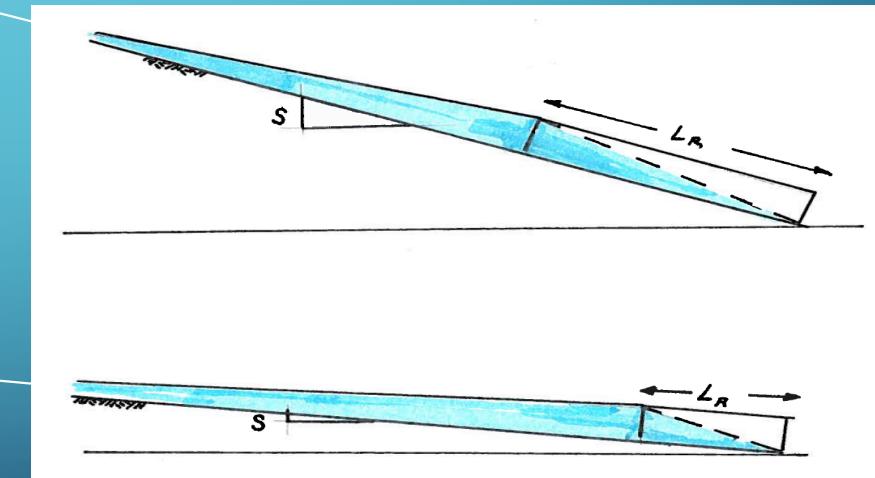
Length for complete capture

Longitudinal slope

## PROFILE GRADE VS. INLET LENGTH

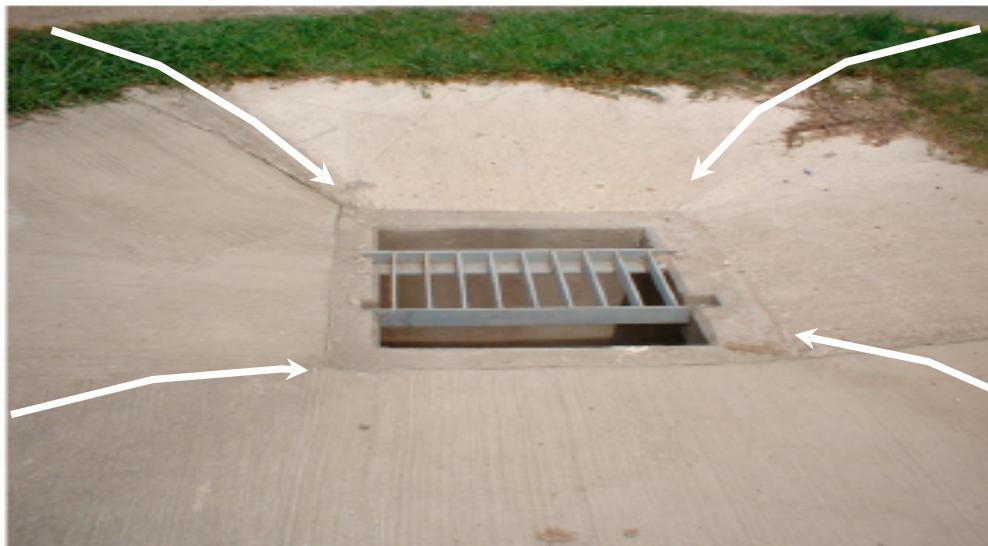
- Inlet length is proportional to longitudinal slope
- As slope increases, required length increases

$$L_R \propto S^{0.3}$$



## SAG INLETS

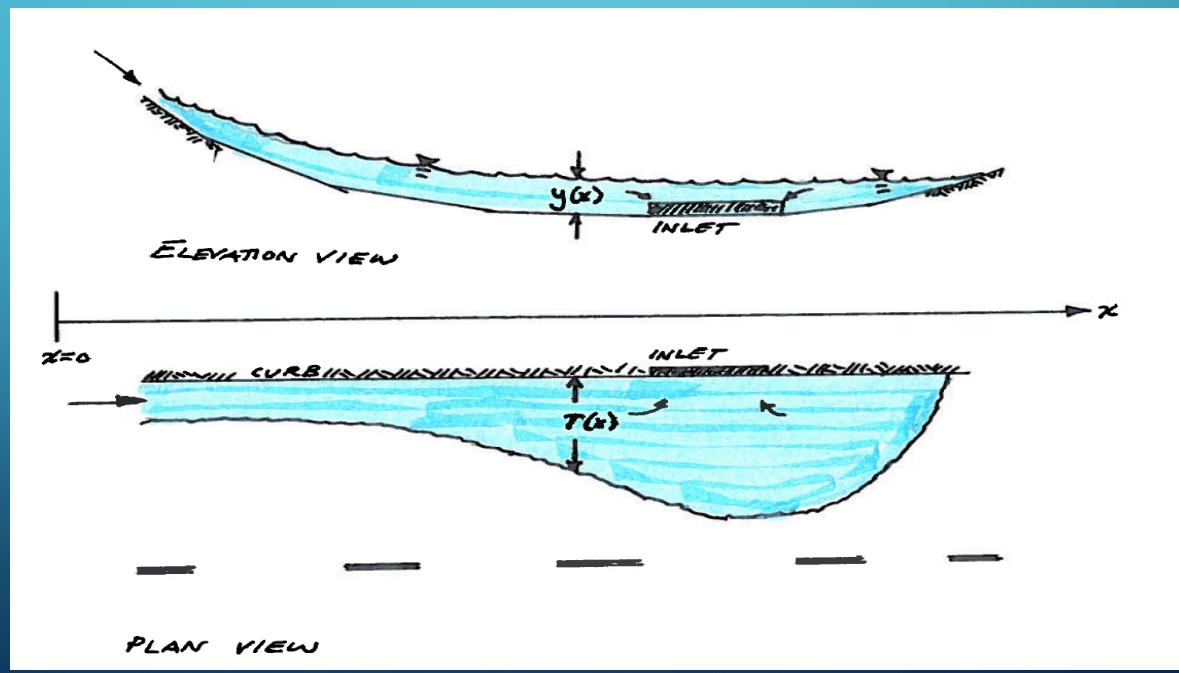
- Inlets placed at low point of a vertical curve.
- Various actual geometries, lowest point is the key feature.



Type-H (IL-H-G) In sag condition

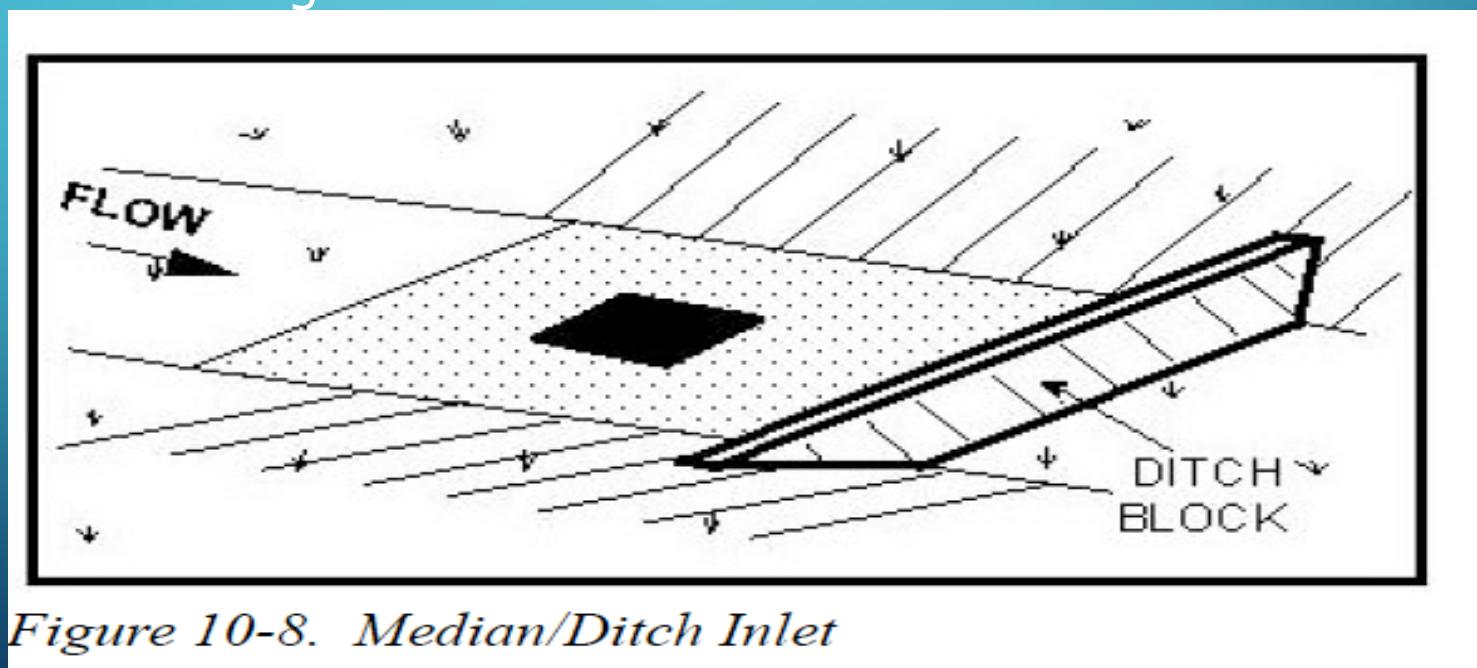
# PONDED WIDTH VS. VERTICAL CURVATURE

- As slope of vertical curve decreases, spread width increases



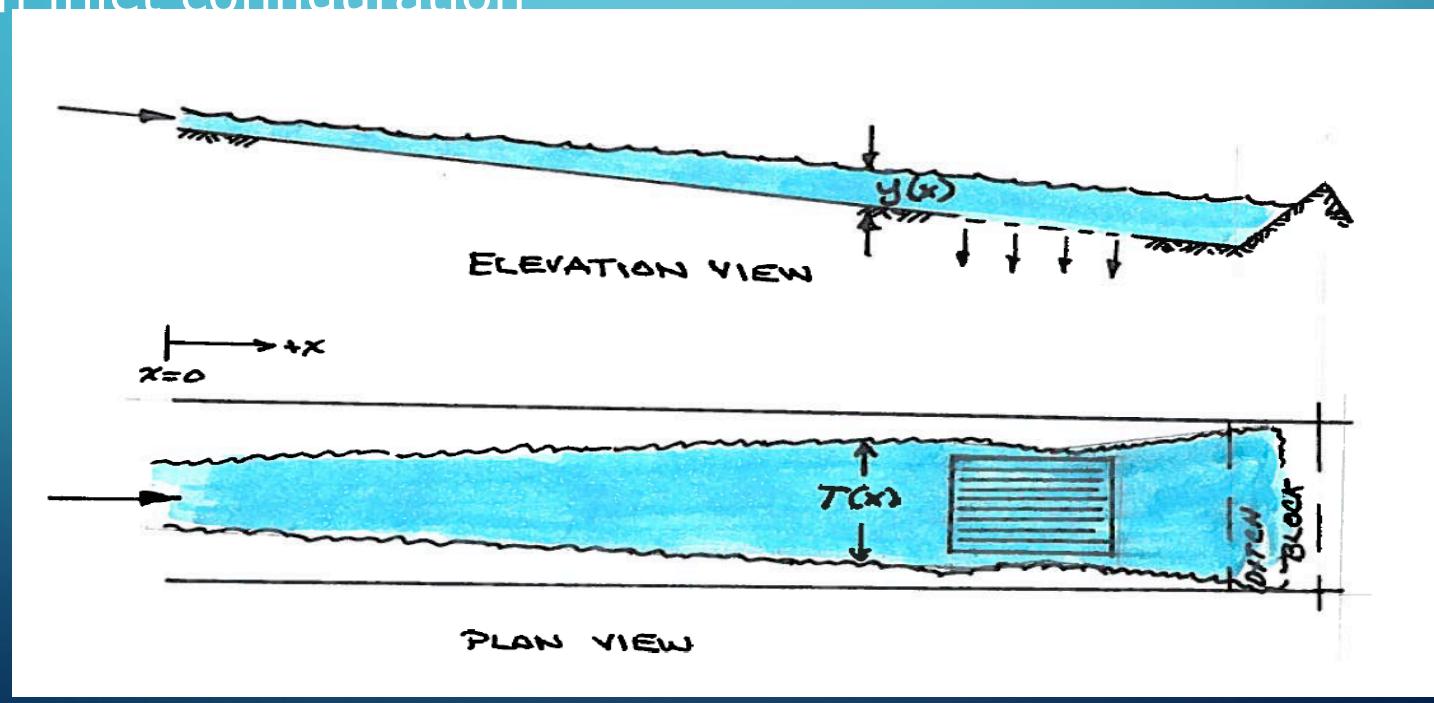
## PONDED WIDTH VS. VERTICAL CURVATURE

- Median inlet configuration



# PONDED WIDTH VS. VERTICAL CURVATURE

- Median inlet configuration



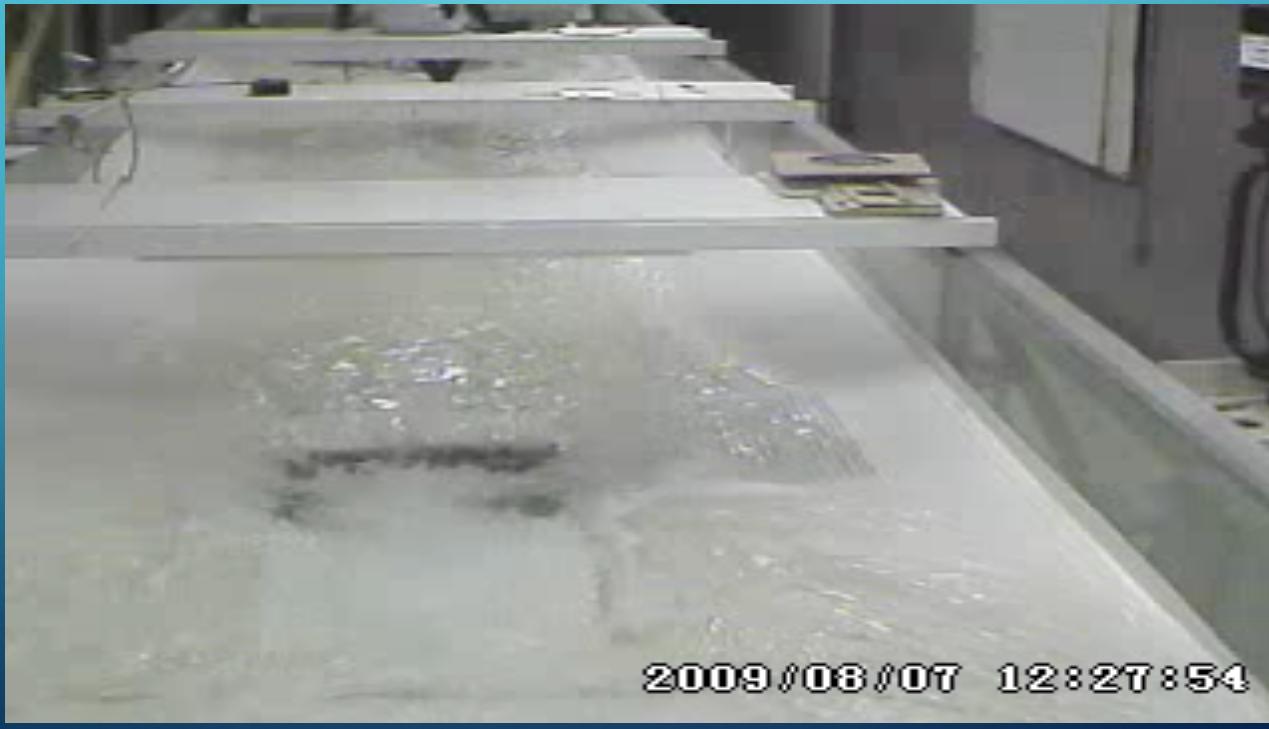
## INLETS AND INLET PERFORMANCE (VIDEOS)

- Grate On-Grade



## INLETS AND INLET PERFORMANCE (VIDEOS)

- Grate with Ditch Block (Sag Condition)



## INLETS AND INLET PERFORMANCE (VIDEOS)

- Tandem Grate Inlets On Grade



- Tandem Grate Inlets with Ditch Block (Sag Condition)



# DESIGN DISCHARGE

- The design discharge to the inlet is based on the desired risk (AEP), the surface area that drains to the inlet, and the time of concentration
- The time of concentration in this context is also called the inlet time

## DESIGN DISCHARGE (1 OF 2)

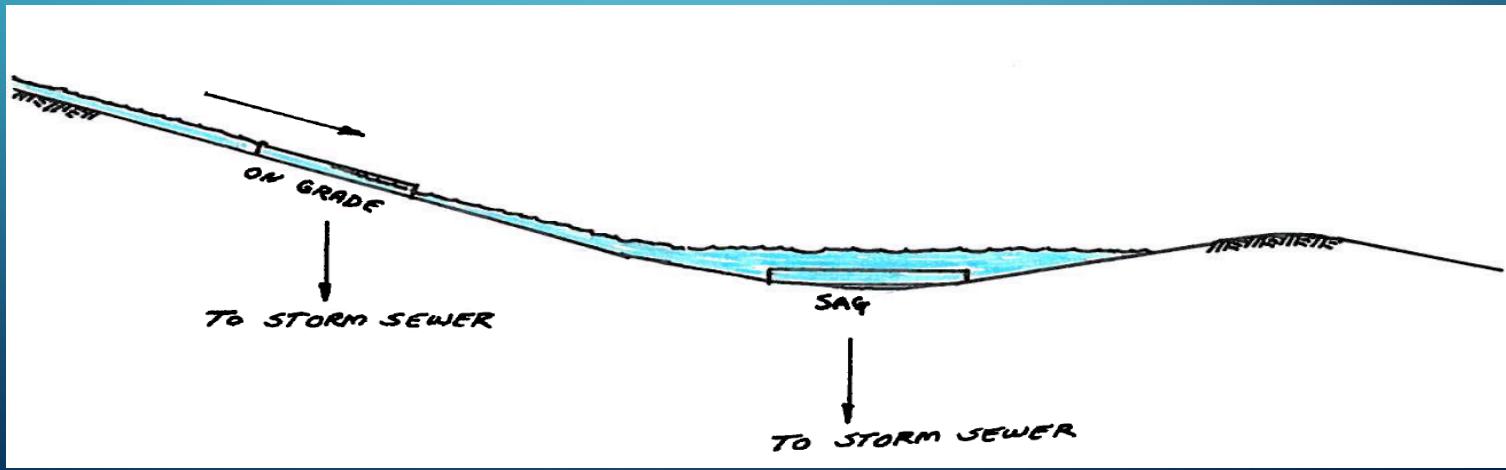
- The “steps” for the inlet are:
  - State the desired risk (typically 10-50% AEP)
  - Determine the area that drains to the inlet
  - Determine the  $T_c$  appropriate for the area
    - If  $T_c < 10$  min., then use 10 min as the averaging time.

## DESIGN DISCHARGE (2 OF 2)

- The “steps” for the inlet are:
  - Compute intensity from  $T_c$ .
  - EBDLKUP.xls, or equation in HDM – be sure to check time units with either tool!
- Estimate a reasonable runoff coefficient, C.
- Apply rational equation to estimate design discharge, Q

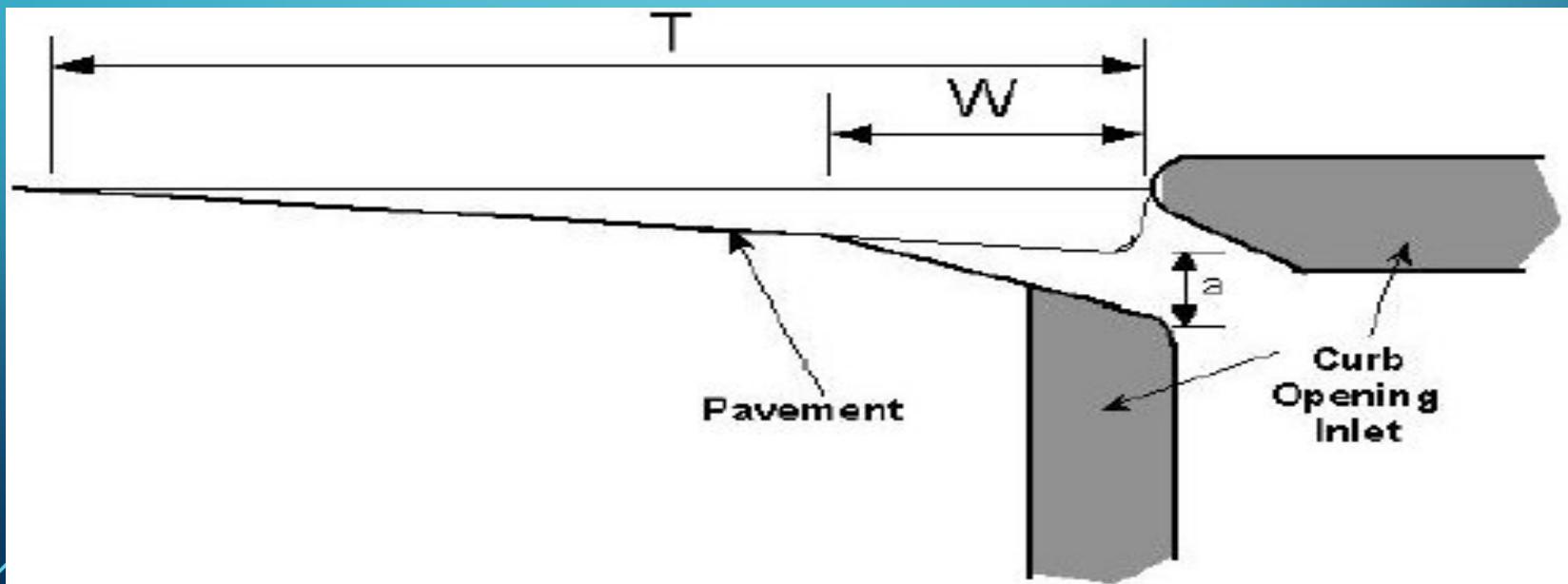
# CAPACITY COMPUTATIONS

- Based on the design flow, gutter geometry, longitudinal and cross slope, and inlet length and height.
- Computations for Inlet On-grade
- Computations for Inlet in Sag



# CURB OPENING INLET DESIGN VARIABLES

- Ponding width =  $T$
- Gutter depression =  $a$
- Gutter depression width =  $W$



## DETERMINING INLET LENGTH

- Use HDM Equations 10-8 through 10-16

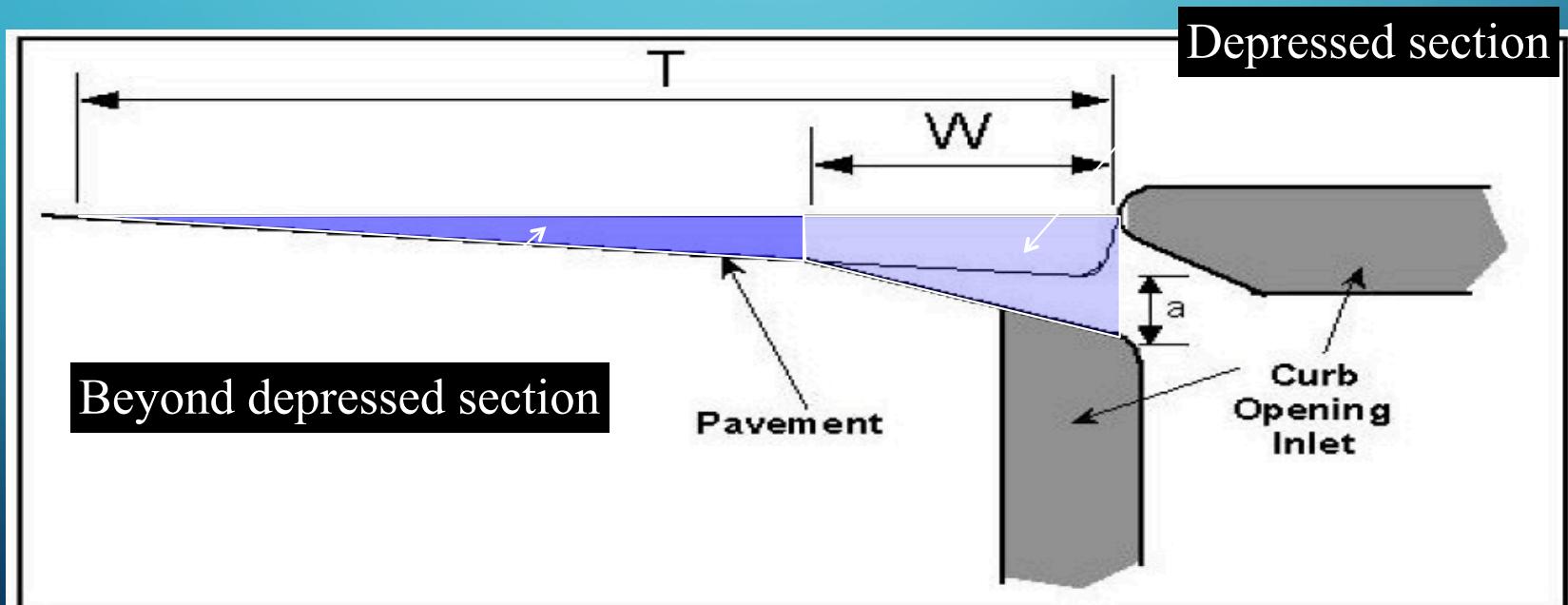


Figure 10-14. Gutter Cross-Section Diagram

## NORMAL DEPTH

- TxDOT HDM Eq 10-1

$$d = 1.24 \left( \frac{QnS_x}{S^{1/2}} \right)^{3/8}$$

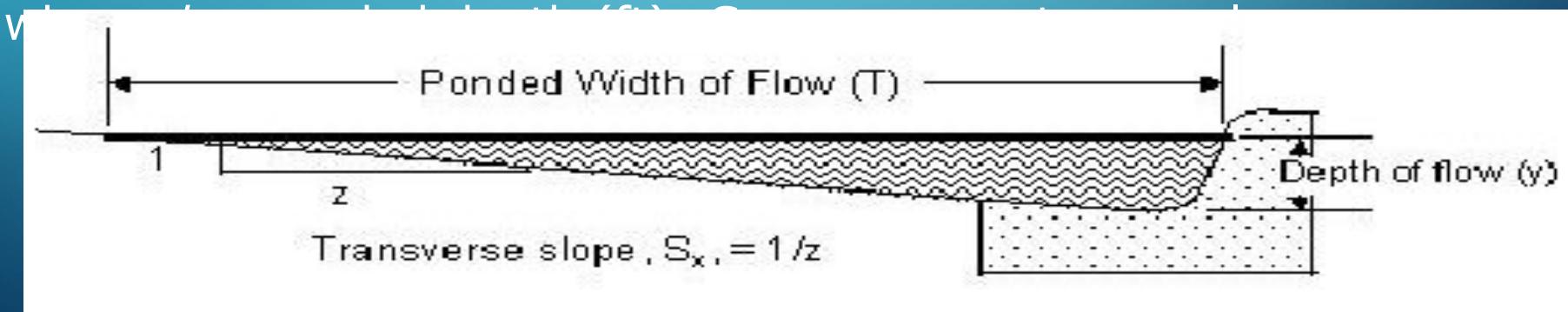
where

$Q$  = design flow (cfs);  
 $n$  = Manning's roughness coefficient;  
 $S_x$  = pavement cross slope;  
 $S$  = friction slope;  $d$  = ponded depth (ft).

## PONDED WIDTH

- TxDOT HDM Eq 10-2

$$T = \frac{d}{S_x}$$



## RATIO OF DEPRESSED SECTION FLOW TO TOTAL FLOW

- TxDOT HDM Eq 10-8

$$E_o = \frac{K_w}{K_w + K_o}$$

where

$K_w$  = conveyance in depressed section (cfs);

$K_o$  = conveyance beyond depressed section (cfs);

$E_o$  = ratio of depressed section flow to total flow.

# CONVEYANCE

- TxDOT HDM Eq 10-9

$$K = \frac{1.486A^{5/3}}{nP^{2/3}}$$

where

$A$  = cross section area (sq ft);

$n$  = Manning roughness coefficient;

$P$  = wetted perimeter (ft);

$K$  = conveyance.

## AREA OF THE DEPRESSED GUTTER SECTION

- TxDOT HDM Eq 10-10

$$A_w = WS_x \left( T - \frac{W}{2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} a W$$

where

$W$  = depression width (ft);

$S_x$  = pavement cross slope;

$T$  = ponded width (ft);

$a$  = curb opening depression (ft);

$A_w$  = area of depressed gutter section(sq.ft.).

## WETTED PERIMETER OF THE DEPRESSED GUTTER SECTION

- TxDOT HDM Eq 10-11

$$P_w = \sqrt{(WS_x + a)^2 + W^2}$$

where

$W$  = depression width (ft);

$S_x$  = pavement cross slope;

$a$  = curb opening depression (ft);

$P_w$  = wetted perimeter of depressed gutter section (ft).

# AREA OF CROSS SECTION BEYOND THE DEPRESSION

- TxDOT HDM Eq 10-12

where

$$A_{ope} = \frac{S_x}{2} (T - W)^2$$

$T$  = ponded width (ft);

$W$  = depression width (ft);

$A_o$  = area of cross section beyond depression.

## WETTED PERIMETER OF CROSS SECTION BEYOND THE DEPRESSION

- TxDOT HDM Eq 10-13

$$P_o = T - W$$

where

$T$  = ponded width (ft);

$W$  = depression width (ft);

$P_o$  = wetted perimeter of cross section beyond depression (ft).

## EQUIVALENT CROSS SLOPE

- TxDOT HDM Eq 10-14

$$S_e = S_x + \frac{a}{W} E_o$$

where

$S_x$  = pavement cross slope;

$a$  = curb opening depression (ft);

$W$  = depression width (ft);

$E_o$  = ratio of depression flow to total flow;

$S_e$  = equivalent cross slope.

## LENGTH OF CURB INLET REQUIRED

\* TxDOT HDM Eq 10-15

$$L_r = 0.6Q^{0.42}S^{0.3}\left(\frac{1}{nS_e}\right)^{0.6}$$

where

$Q$  = flow (cfs);

$S$  = longitudinal slope;

$n$  = Manning's roughness coefficient;

$S_e$  = equivalent cross slope;

$L_r$  = length of curb inlet required.

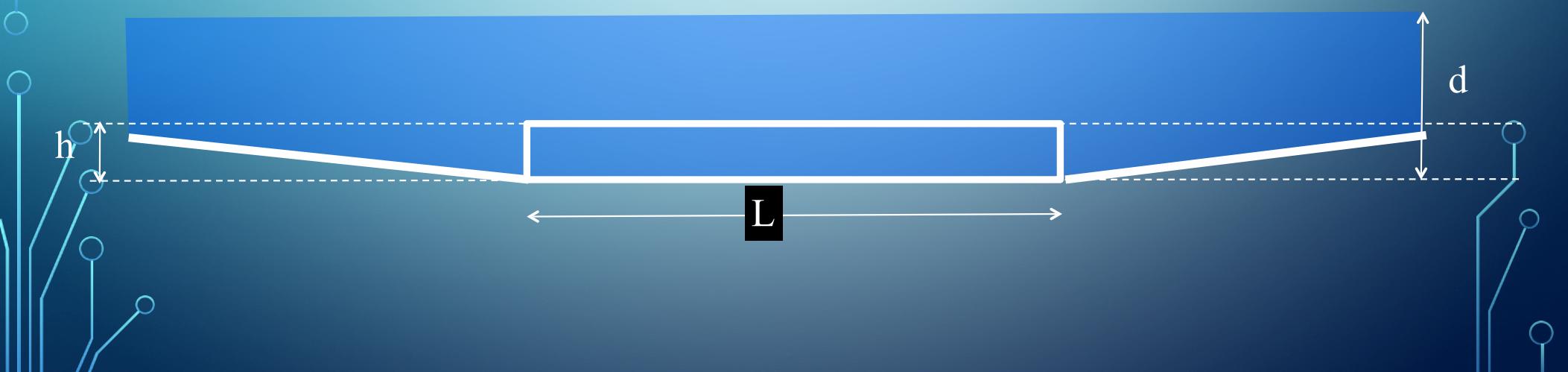
# USE SPREADSHEET TOOL

- Implements inlet computations
- Need to think about what trying to accomplish; the tool is not yet nbr ena

Inlet Intercept Capacity Calculations			
ID	ES13-Inlet		
Q	11	<-Discharge (cfs)	Carryover = 1
Sx	0.02	<-Transverse Slope	Total Q = 12 cfs
S	0.0035	<-Longitudinal Slope	
n	0.013	<-Manning's n	
y	0.40	<-Normal Depth (HDM 10-1)	
T	19.955639	<-Ponded Width (HDM 10-2)	
Depressed Section			
W	5	<-Depression Width	
a	0.35	<-Depression Depth	
A	2.6205639	<-Flow Area (HDM 10-10)	
P	5.0202092	<-Wetted Perimeter (HDM 10-11)	
K	194.20132	<-Conveyance (HDM 10-9)	
Beyond Depressed Section			
Ao	2.2367114	<-Flow Area (HDM 10-12)	
Po	14.955639	<-Wetted Perimeter (HDM 10-13)	
Ko	72.036961	<-Conveyance (HDM 10-9)	
Flow Ratio			
E	0.7294267	<-Flow ratio (HDM 10-8)	
Se	0.0710599	<-Equivalent Side Slope (HDM 10-14)	
Lr	19.925807	<-Required Length (HDM 10-15)	
Equations Above are from the 2011 Hydraulic Design Manual			

## CAPACITY IN SAG PLACEMENT

- Depends on water depth at opening and opening height
- Determine if orifice-only flow ( $d > 1.4h$ )
- If  $d < 1.4h$  compute using a weir flow equation and orifice flow equation for the depth condition, then choose the larger length



## ORIFICE FLOW

- $d > 1.4h$
- Use equation 10-19

$$Q = C_o h L \sqrt{2 g d_o}$$

*Equation 10-19.*

$$L = \frac{Q}{C_o h \sqrt{2 g d_o}}$$

## WEIR FLOW

- $d < 1.4h$
- Use equation 10-18

$$L = \frac{Q}{C_w d^{1.5}} - 1.8W$$

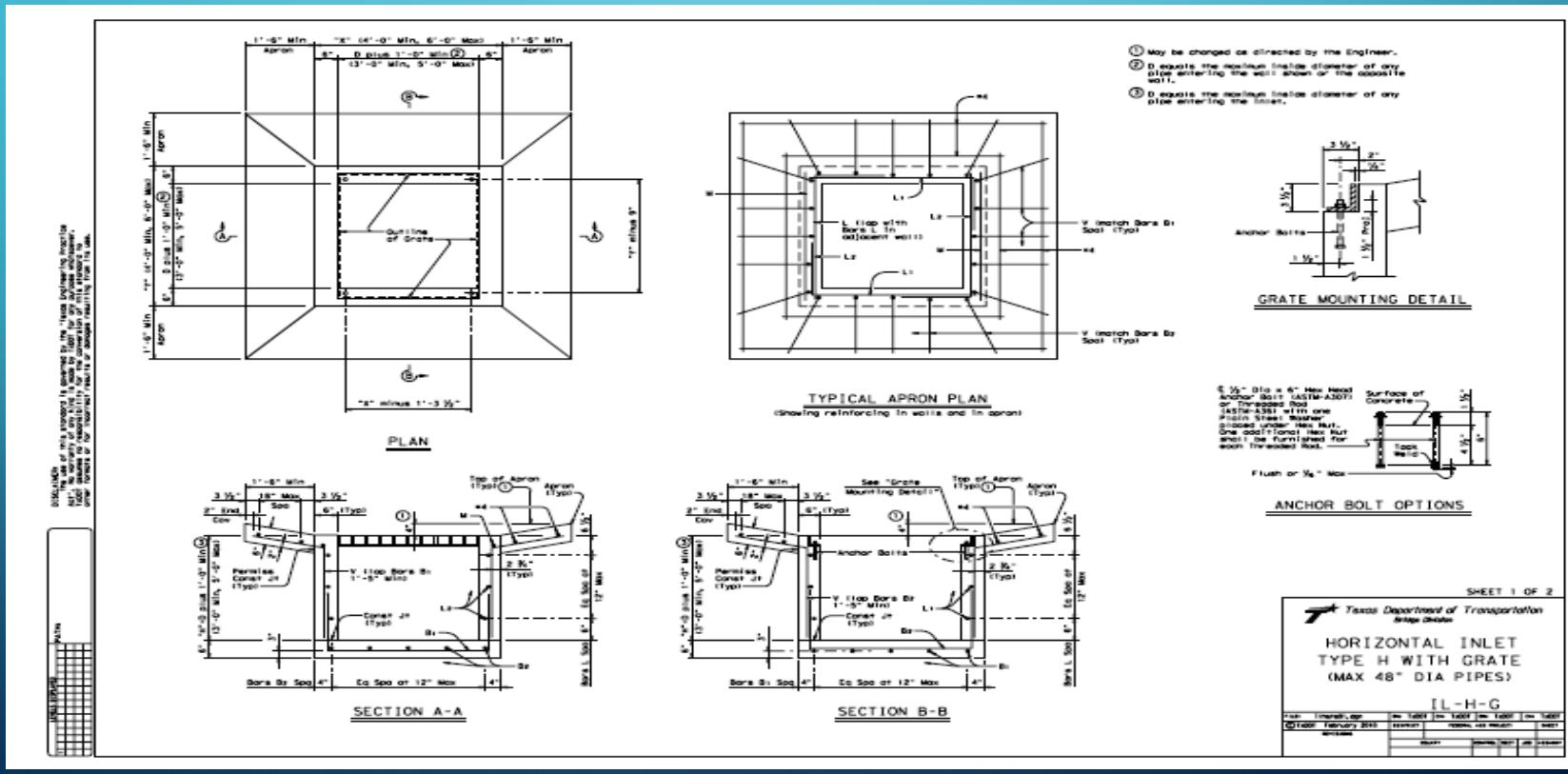
*Equation 10-18.*



# **DROP INLETS ON GRADE AND SAG**

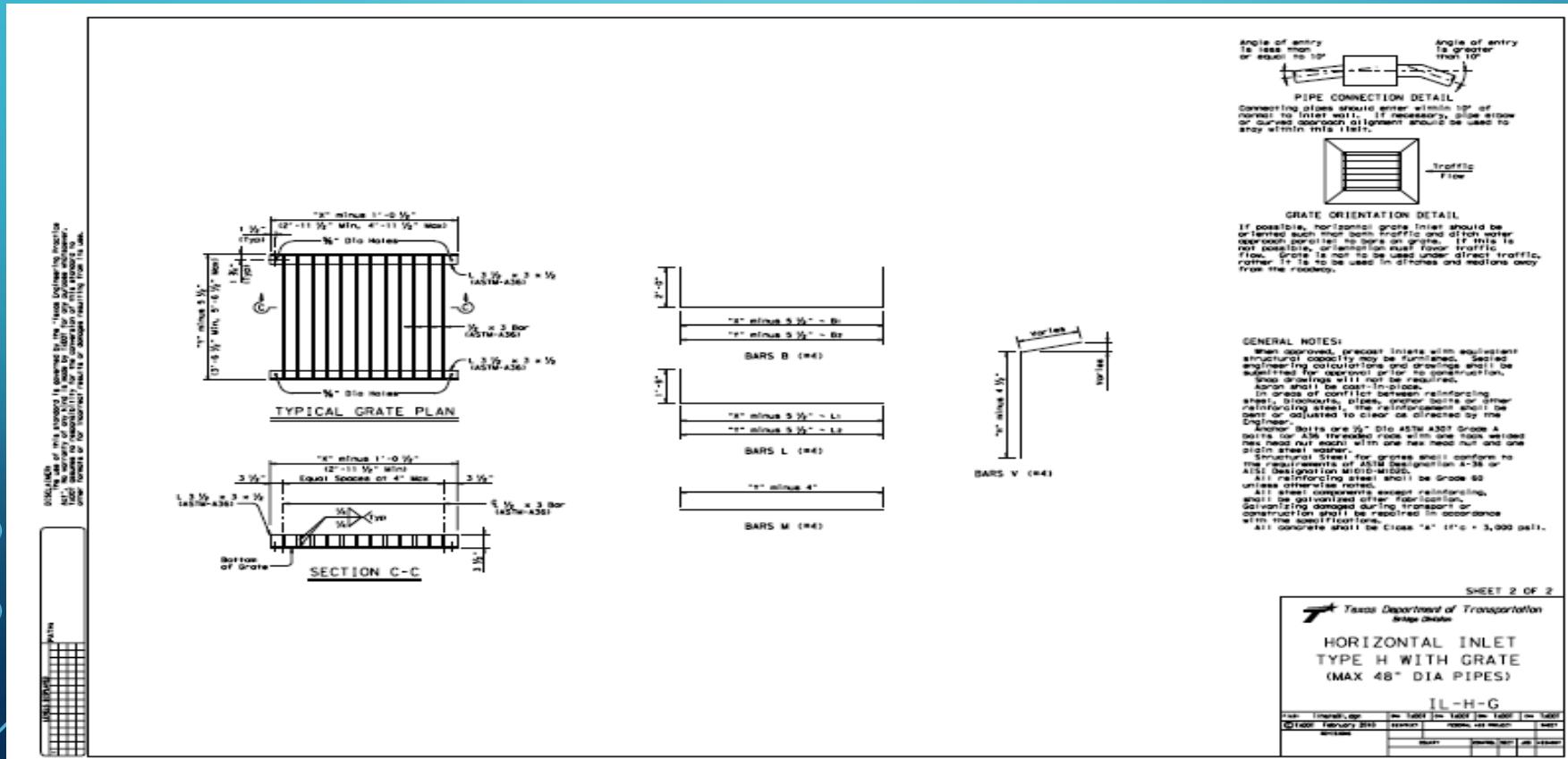
# INLETS AND INLET PERFORMANCE

- Choose grate of standard dimension (e.g. Type-H, etc. from standards and specifications server)



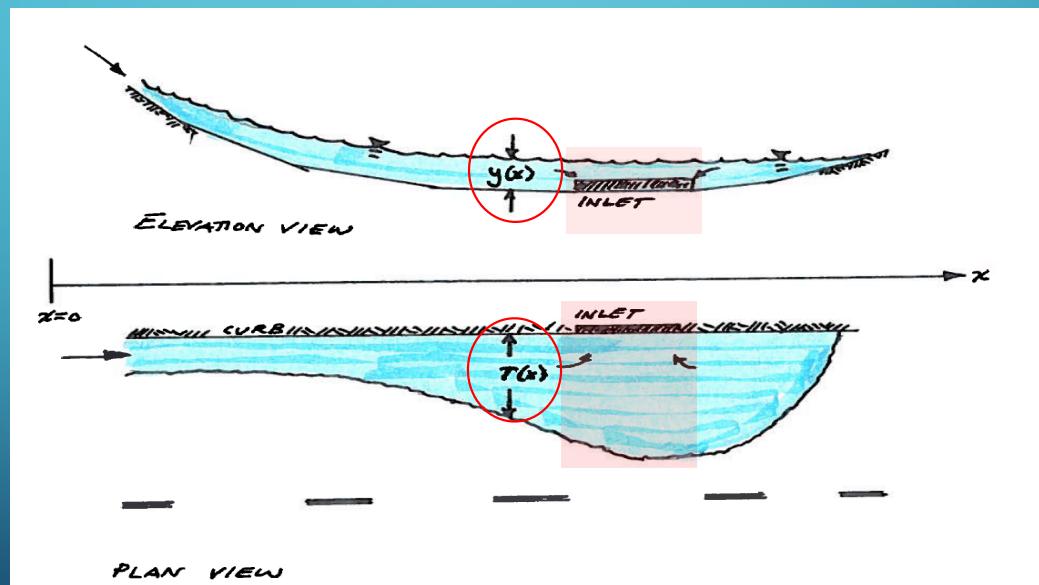
# INLETS AND INLET PERFORMANCE

- Choose grate of standard dimension (e.g. Type-H, etc. from standards and specifications server)



# INLETS AND INLET PERFORMANCE

- Determine allowable head (depth) for the inlet location. Lower of the curb height and depth associated with allowable pond width

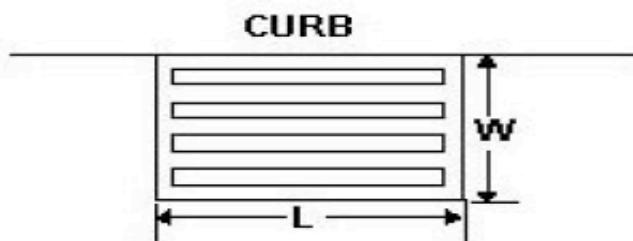


# INLETS AND INLET PERFORMANCE

- Determine the capacity of the grate inlet opening as a **weir**.
- Perimeter controls the capacity.

$$Q_w = C_w P^{1.5}$$

*Equation 10-32.*

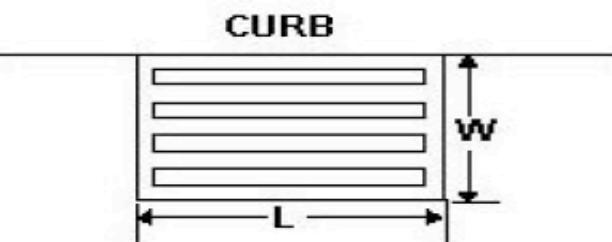


$$P=2(W - \text{width of bars}) + L \text{ (with curb)}$$
$$P=2(W+L - \text{bars}) \text{ (without curb)}$$
$$A=WL \text{ - area of bars}$$

*Figure 10-16. Perimeter Length for Grate Inlet in Sag Configuration*

# INLETS AND INLET PERFORMANCE

- Determine the capacity of the grate inlet opening as an orifice.
- Area controls the capacity.



$$P = 2(W - \text{width of bars}) + L \text{ (with curb)}$$
$$P = 2(W + L - \text{bars}) \text{ (without curb)}$$
$$A = WL \text{ - area of bars}$$

$$Q_o = C_o A \sqrt{2 g h}$$

*Equation 10-33.*

*Figure 10-16. Perimeter Length for Grate Inlet in Sag Configuration*

# INLETS AND INLET PERFORMANCE

- Compare the weir and orifice capacities, choose the lower value as the inlet design capacity.

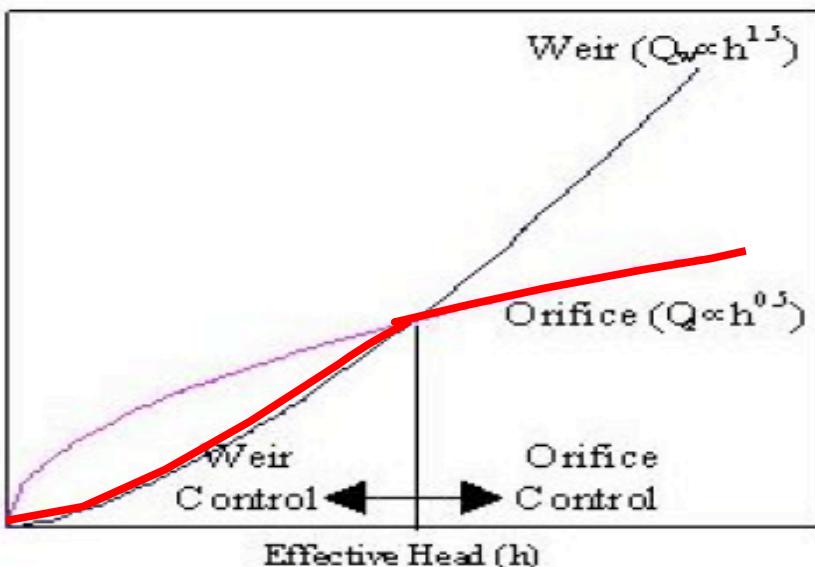


Figure 10-17. Relationship between Head and Capacity for Weir and Orifice Flow

# SPREADSHEET TOOLS

## NEXT TIME

- Conduit design
  - Rational method for storm sewer conduit sizing (by-hand)
  - Used to obtain initial estimates of required diameters, flowlines, and hydraulic grade lines.