

# **1 Sight Distance (SD)**

## **1.1 Objectives**

1. describe various types of sight distance
2. determine sight distance requirements for stopping and passing maneuvers

## **1.2 key component of SD**

1. PRT: the perception-reaction time required to initiate a maneuver (pre-maneuver phase)
2. MT: the time required to safely complete a maneuver

driver's eye - 3.5ft high

Hazard - 2ft high

## **1.3 Sight Distance Types**

1. stopping sight distance (SSD)
2. decision sight distance (DSD)
3. passing sight distance (PSD)
4. intersection sight distance (ISD)

## **1.4 SSD - stopping sight distance**

SSD is a key input for geometric design, including horizontal and vertical alignment

PRT includes: recognize an object + decide a stop + react and prepare to apply the brake

Deceleration rate:  $11.2ft/sec^2$ , 10th percentile deceleration rate, by AASHTO

$$SSD = D_{p-r} + D_b$$

$D_{p-r}$ : in ft, perception-reaction distance

$D_b$ : in ft, braking distance

$$D_{p-r} = 1.47 \times 2.5s \times v = 3.675v$$

$D_{p-r}$ : in ft, perception-reaction distance

$v$ : in mi/h, design speed

$$D_b = \frac{(v_0)^2 - (v_f)^2}{30\left(\frac{a}{g} \pm G\right)}$$

$D_b$ : in ft, braking distance

$v_0$ : in mi/h, design speed

$v_f$ : in mi/h, final velocity

$a$ : 11.2 ft/sec<sup>2</sup>, deceleration rate, by AASHTO, in [10, 15]

$g$ : 32.2 ft/sec<sup>2</sup>

$f = a/g$ : 0.35 by ASSHTO, coefficient of friction, 0.7 for dry roads, 0.3-0.4 for wet roads

$G$ : grade, e.g. down grade: -0.06

## 1.5 SSD on vertical curve

crest curve:

- Driver eye height: 3.5ft
- Height of object in roadway: 2.0ft

sag curve:

- headlight height: 2ft
- headlight beam angle: 1 degree (departure from horizontal, suggest changing to 0.75 degree)

## 1.6 DSS - decision sight distance

## 1.7 Terms

## 1.8 Rules

## 1.9 Formulas

## 1.10 Reference