

Research Problem Statement

Project Title:	Testing Type III Barricades with Aluminum Panels and Mounted Signs
Project Synopsis:	There is a need to place Type III Barricades across or along publicly travelled roadways to protect road users from potential hazards created by road work. This need requires the availability of a non-propriety Type III Barricade with Aluminum Panels and Mounted Signs to be successfully crash tested to MASH compliance so that state Department of Transportations (DOTs) have an available design to provide to approved suppliers to produce a crashworthy Type III Barricade for deployment. MASH testing will be conducted to aide in the development of a crashworthy Type III Barricade with Aluminum Panel and Mounted Signs for road work (temporary) applications.
Project Goal(s):	Develop a design for a Type III Barricade with Aluminum Panels and Mounted Signs on top so that it can be placed across or along a publicly travelled roadway. Sign sizes needed to be mounted on top of the barricade range from 30" x 30" (6.25 square feet) to 48" x 48" (16 square feet).
Project Background:	The utilization and deployment of Type III Barricades is a widespread practice for most state DOTs across the country. Type III Barricades are required for a variety of Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) applications for work zones. Of these applications, the two most common scenarios are as follows: 1) Placing and extending the barricades entirely across the roadway due to a complete closure of the roadway. 2) Placing advance warning signs for TTC along the side of the roadway at times with a sign mounted to the top of a Type III Barricade for long-term operations (This is done for portability, elimination of "one calls" as the signs would not need to be anchored into the ground, and for better conspicuity during dark or inclement weather conditions). While many Type III Barricade designs had been previously accepted under the guidelines of NCHRP-350, an adequate number of Type III Barricades needed to accommodate the massive amount of road work currently underway and/or expected to begin nationwide. The proprietary designs also primarily use plastic panels and state DOTs are concerned with the long-term durability of these devices. With the December 31 st already passed, the availability of non-proprietary crashworthy Type III Barricades is of great concern to the state DOTs. Attachments (see below): Pennsylvania Department of Transportation standard drawing (NCHRP 350 Approved Type III Barricade)





Proposed Work Plan:	 Task 1: Engineering Review This task will review current standards regarding signs mounted on Type III barricades used by the Roadside Safety Pooled Fund. This task will also develop a critical design(s) that will be crash tested in Task 2. Task 2: MASH Crash Testing This task will crash test one or two critical designs of Type III barricades which include mounted signs.
Deliverables:	Compile summary report to document research effort, including literature review, CAD details, crash testing, and recommendations for further research in the event of the system failing testing criteria.

Urgency and Expected Benefit:	Successful MASH evaluation of a non-proprietary Type III Barricade with Aluminum Panels and Mounted Signs will improve safety in work zones. This will allow for state DOTs to continue a consistent work zone environment for road users as there will be familiarity to the road user with existing or similar Type III Barricades deployed within work zones. This will also provide for better availability of crashworthy Type III Barricades that will be non-propriety thus allowing for greater production by multiple approved suppliers.
Problem Funding and Research Period:	\$175,000 and 18 months.
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