**Administrative Resolution AR-5-16**

**Title: Establish a Technical Service Program for the Development and**

**Maintenance of Transportation Design Technical Publications**

**WHEREAS**, The AASHTO Highways Subcommittee on Design (SCOD) aspires to be the national voice and leading resource of design innovation and technical guidance for transportation design projects, programs, and publications; and

**WHEREAS,** SCOD and its technical committees have been charged with developing and keeping current guidelines, standards, and specifications pertaining to all aspects of transportation design, including but not limited to geometry, roadside safety, bicycle & pedestrian facilities, public transportation facilities, hydrology & hydraulics, environmental considerations, project management, cost estimating, pavements, and roadway lighting; and

**WHEREAS**, Design titles outsold all other categories of AASHTO publications in 2015, making up 36% of AASHTO’s total publication sales and exceeding sales for both the bridge/structure publications as well as the materials publications; and

**WHEREAS**, The AASHTO “Green Book,” Roadside Design Guide, Bicycle Guide, Pedestrian Guide, and Very-Low-Volume Roads Guide are five of the top 10 sellers among over 250 titles produced by AASHTO; and

**WHEREAS**, The need to create, review, and revise these design guidelines, standards, and specifications in a robust and timely manner is essential, as they are relied upon by the transportation community nationally and abroad, and

**WHEREAS**, Collectively, AASHTO member departments provide the knowledge and expertise to produce the technical documents that benefit the members at all levels; and

**WHEREAS**, Attendance at SCOD and technical committee meetings, which is critical to the development and oversight of AASHTO’s design guidance, continues to decline due to state budget restrictions; and

**WHEREAS**, There are fewer member department technical staff available to provide the time and manpower needed to develop and updates these guidelines, standards, and specifications; and

**WHEREAS**, It is essential for SCOD members to be actively involved in the technical committees and their products; and

**WHEREAS**, The erosion of the ability of SCOD and its technical committees to produce and maintain guidelines, standards, and specifications has resulted in longer periods of time between updates; and

**WHEREAS**, The inability to update and maintain guidelines, standards, and specifications in a timely manner can result in outdated guidance to states and the transportation industry; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** That the SCOD annual meeting format be revised to include technical committee meetings, and further be it

**RESOLVED**, That the AASHTO Highways Subcommittee on Design recommends to the Standing Committee on Highways and the AASHTO Board of Directors the establishment of a voluntary AASHTO Technical Service Program for the Development and Maintenance of Design Technical Publications with the purpose of regularly updating the critical design guidance provided by SCOD, creating new guidance on emerging design issues, and ensuring a cohesive philosophy across all AASHTO design guidelines, standards, and specifications; and further be it

**RESOLVED**, That AASHTO Member Departments will be asked to sponsor this Technical Service Program by contributing a voluntary assessment of $15,000 per member department annually to fund the establishment and ongoing technical activities of the program.