



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Design Memo No. 25-05

February 13, 2025

TO: All Design Personnel and Consultants

FROM: /s/Stephanie Wagner
Stephanie Wagner
Bridge Engineering Director

SUBJECT: Reinforcing Bar Support Devices

REVISES: *Indiana Design Manual*/ Figures 405-3D and 405-3E, Section 406-12.03(03),
and Figure 406-12D [New]

EFFECTIVE: Lettings on or after September 1, 2025

The Standards Committee approved revisions to *Standard Specifications* Section 703, Reinforcing Bars, at the [July 2024](#) meeting, Old Business item 3. The revisions provide an upper limit on the spacing of support devices and explicitly allow bent reinforcing to be used as a support device. The cost of support devices is included in the cost of reinforcing bars.

These changes will be incorporated directly into the 2026 *Standard Specifications*. A recurring special provision will not be issued.

Changes in Design Practice

1. Discontinue detailing support bars (crankshaft bars) typically shown in reinforced concrete slab bridges. These bars should not be shown on the plans or quantified in the estimate.
2. Detail two fillet reinforcing bars (hat bars) instead of a single bar for I-beams and Bulb-Tee beams when the fillet depth prevents the U-shaped #4 bar from projecting into the bottom mat of deck reinforcing. The fillet reinforcing bars will also serve as support points, satisfying the maximum spacing requirement for support devices. As fillet reinforcing, these bars should be shown on the plans and quantified in the estimate.

IDM Revisions

The referenced sections and figures in [Chapter 405](#) and [Chapter 406](#) have been revised to reflect these changes. Editorial revisions to update the term “haunch” to “fillet” have been incorporated where appropriate.

For questions related to this design memo, please contact the Bridge Engineering Division at BridgeDesignOffice@indot.in.gov.