



# Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION**: Design and  
Construction of Mechanically Stabilized  
Earth Walls and Reinforced Soil Slopes –  
Volume I and II

Date: March 17, 2010

*/s/ Original Signed by*  
From: M. Myint Lwin, P.E., S.E.  
Director, Office of Bridge Technology

In Reply Refer To:  
HIBT-20

To: Associate Administrator for RD&T  
Associate Administrator for Federal Lands  
Highway Program  
Directors of Field Service  
Director of Technical Services  
Division Administrators

Distributed with this memorandum is the publication entitled “Design and Construction of Mechanically Stabilized Earth Walls and Reinforced Soil Slopes – Volumes I and II” (FHWA-NHI-10-024 and FHWA-NHI-10-025). This two volume manual set is the reference text used for the National Highway Institute (NHI) Courses Numbered 132042 and 132043 on Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) Walls and Reinforced Soil Slopes (RSS). The publications will become the 11<sup>th</sup> in the series of geotechnical engineering guidelines called “Geotechnical Engineering Circulars.”

In addition to the reference text, a companion publication entitled “Corrosion/Degradation of Soil Reinforcements for Mechanically Stabilized Earth Walls and Reinforced Soil Slopes” (FHWA-NHI-09-087) will be distributed.

Geotechnical Engineering Circular (GEC) No. 11 is prepared as an update to “Mechanically Stabilized Earth Walls and Reinforced Soil Slopes, Design and Construction Guidelines” (FHWA NHI-00-043), and reflects the standard of practice for the design, construction and inspection of these features. The guidance is developed following Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) procedures and will enable engineers to identify and evaluate technical feasibility and potential applications. The text is developed with a sufficiently broad scope to be of value to a wide range of transportation specialists responsible for assisting with selection, design, development of materials specifications, construction monitoring, and contracting methods for MSE walls and RSS.

With this memorandum, we are distributing two copies for each Resource Center location, seven copies for each Division Office (including five copies for State DOT), two copies for the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center, and five copies for each Federal Lands Office. Hard copies of the publications are available to the public for purchase from the National Highway Institute at [www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov](http://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov). In addition, the report will soon be available for downloading at the Office of Bridge Technology Website, [www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge). Questions regarding these publications may be directed to Mr. Silas Nichols at 202 366-1554 or [silas.nichols@dot.gov](mailto:silas.nichols@dot.gov).

Attachments