U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Memorandum

6300 Georgetown Pike
McLean, VA 22101

Subject: **ACTION:** Distribution of the FHWA GRS-IBS Interim Implementation Guide, FHWA-HRT-11-026

Date: JAN 21 2011

From: Michael F. Trentacoste
Associate Administrator for Research, Development, and Technology

In Reply Refer To: HRDI-40

To: Associate Administrator for Infrastructure
Associate Administrator for Federal Lands
Directors of Field Services
Director of Office of Technical Services
Federal Lands Highway Division Engineers
Division Administrators

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Infrastructure R&D, in partnership with the Office of Bridge Technology and the Resource Center's Geotechnical and Hydraulics Technical Services Team, would like to announce the availability of the Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Integrated Bridge System (GRS-IBS) Interim Implementation Guide, FHWA-HRT-11-026 dated January 2011. This manual supports the FHWA's Every Day Counts (EDC) initiative, aimed at accelerating implementation of proven, market-ready technologies. Significant guidance is provided on:

- Site selection,
- Material specification,
- Design, including special requirements for hydraulic and seismic conditions,
- Performance monitoring,
- Construction,
- In-service inspection, maintenance, and repair, and
- Quality control and quality assurance.

The GRS-IBS Interim Implementation Guide may be downloaded from the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center website at www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/research/infrastructure/structures/11026/index.cfm. Please inform your appropriate State DOT representative of the availability of this manual. We also plan to disseminate a limited number of copies of the manual under a separate memorandum by early spring 2011.

RECOVERY.GOV

The GRS-IBS Interim Implementation Guide is the first in a two-part series that outlines the state-of-the-art and recommended practice for designing and constructing the GRS-IBS. The second document is a synthesis report that covers the background of the GRS-IBS and provides other supporting information to substantiate the design method. The synthesis report will be disseminated via a memorandum by February 2011.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Michael Adams at the Office of Infrastructure R&D at Mike.Adams@dot.gov, Dr. Jennifer Nicks at the Office of Infrastructure R&D at Jennifer.Nicks@dot.gov, or Mr. Daniel Alzamora at the Resource Center at Daniel.Alzamora@dot.gov.