

## **Low-Maintenance Impact Attenuators – Acceptance Criteria**

The WSDOT Headquarters Design Office maintains a list of low-maintenance impact attenuator devices that's used by our designers in the preparation of project plans and specifications (see WSDOT Design Manual 1620.03). In order to be classified as a low-maintenance device and included on the list, cost data collected by WSDOT must confirm that the median or average repair cost for the unit is \$1000 or less. The low-maintenance attenuators list is reviewed periodically by the Design Office using data from WSDOT repair records to make sure that the listed devices still qualify under the repair cost threshold, and consider whether new devices should be added.

Approved attenuator systems that have little or no performance history with WSDOT may also be considered for inclusion on the low-maintenance attenuators list, with concurrence from the HQ Design Office. Interested vendors or distributors are responsible for obtaining the concurrence. In order to be considered for acceptance as a low-maintenance device, the following requirements must be met:

- The attenuator system must be listed on the WSDOT Qualified Products List (QPL)
- The attenuator system must have been in service for a minimum of two years
- A two-year "In-Service Evaluation Report" must be provided. The report can be based on the usage in Washington and/or other states that represents at least 25 impacts as a basis for the repair history. The impacts provided must include both side and leading end impacts. At a minimum, the "In-Service Evaluation Report" must include:
  - A list of individual impact occurrences
  - The following information about each occurrence must also be provided:
    - Incident type such as side hit, frontal hit, unknown, etc (if available)
    - Repair date
    - Parts names and/or designations that were needed for repair (itemized list)
    - Cost of parts needed for the repair
    - Repair time needed to complete the repair (hours)
    - Man hours needed to complete the repair (hours)
    - Repair personnel contact information (if available)

The WSDOT HQ Design Office is responsible for maintaining the low-maintenance attenuators list, and reserves the right to interpret information about device performance, developed either in-house or provided by other parties, in evaluating data and drawing conclusions about low-maintenance performance.

Interested parties should contact:

### **Roadside Safety Contact**

[Tim Moeckel, PE](#)

Roadside Safety Engineer

Phone: 360-704-6377

Fax: 360-705-6815