

Overview

GO Transit is an inter-regional public transit system in Southern Ontario who primarily serves the GTHA, with operations extending to several communities in the Greater Golden Horseshoe. GO Transit operates commuter rail and coach bus services that connect with other regional transit providers such as VIA Rail Canada, the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), and local municipal bus services.

This GO Design Requirements Manual (DRM) is a document that outlines the Guiding Principles and technical details for the infrastructure requirements to design and build GO stations, terminals, and facilities.

This Manual balances and harmonizes corporate objectives, stakeholder requirements, and industry best practice by defining a performance-based set of technical requirements and guidelines used as detailed instructions for designers and users.

Ownership and Location

GO Transit owns this Manual, in both printed and/or digital form, and will keep a record of issuance, and forward amendments to all consultants, designers, and contractors registered with us as Manual Holders.

Manual Holders may reproduce the contents of this DRM for use as required during a project assignment from GO Transit, and is responsible to ensure that the most recent version, and all its requirements, is used at the time the assigned project.

How to use the DRM

The DRM is the starting point of infrastructure design for GO Stations, Terminals, and Facilities.

It is a combination of guidelines and requirements that are performance based and exceed industry regulations and codes.

The DRM does not absolve the designer of record from current regulations and codes or professional duty of care.

Information is in the order of design development, starting with identification of program elements, site planning, to architectural design and wayfinding, and then to technical details such as electrical, mechanical, communications, etc.

Design requirements are performance-based and expected to be used as the starting point for design development. The DRM is part of a suite of products that shall be used to inform the design.

The suite of products also includes:

- Standard Static Signage Catalogue
- Standard Drawings
- Standard Specifications & Guidelines
- [GO Transit Track Standards](#)

Codes and Regulations

It is required that consultants design in accordance with all applicable standards, regulations, and codes to the approval of all authorities having jurisdiction.

Where design alternatives will provide substantially equivalent or where conflicts exist between the requirements of this Manual and standards or legislation enacted by the federal or provincial governments, the most stringent requirements shall apply.

Consultants for specific projects shall define codes as applicable and list them in the contract tender documents.

Other codes and regulations, imperative to the business that must be adhered to include but not limited to:

- Ontarians with Disabilities Act
- Railway Safety Act (RSA)
- Transport Canada Grade Crossing Regulations
- Canadian Road/Railway Grade Crossing Detailed Safety Assessment Field Guide
- Transport Canada RTD-10 Technical Standards Manual; RTD-10 will govern requirements for active warning system
- AREMA (American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association) Communications and Signals Manual
- Existing Railway Corridors Standard and Specifications for Crossing Warning Systems
- Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada