

**ATC-6  
SEISMIC DESIGN GUIDELINES  
FOR  
HIGHWAY BRIDGES**

by  
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## PREFACE

This document, prepared by Applied Technology Council, contains guidelines for the seismic design of highway bridges. The guidelines are the recommendations of a team of nationally recognized experts, composed of consulting engineers, academicians, state highway engineers and federal agency representatives from throughout the United States.

The guidelines are comprehensive in nature and embody several new concepts which are significant departures from existing design provisions. An extensive commentary documenting the basis for the guidelines and an example illustrating their use are included. The third draft of the Guidelines was used for the seismic redesign of twenty-one bridges in order to assess the practicability and cost impact of the Guidelines. The redesigns were performed by four consulting firms and five state highway departments. A number of significant changes resulted from the redesigns. A discussion of the changes and a summary of the redesign results are included as an appendix to the Guidelines.

The document represents a consensus of the project participants. It will be submitted to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials in 1981 for possible adoption in their Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges.

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