



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0348

INSTRUCTIONAL BULLETIN 06-03

**REGARDING ADVANCE GUIDE SIGNS AND EXIT DIRECTIONAL SIGNS ON
TRAFFIC CONTROL PLANS**

Effective immediately, the designer shall include advance guide signs and exit directional signs (green and white signs) on all phases of the traffic control plan for projects on access controlled highways including interchange cross streets. Advance guide signs and exit directional signs should also be shown on the traffic control plan on access controlled resurfacing projects when the traffic control phasing requires the placement of temporary pavement markings which conflict with directional signs or requires directional signs to be relocated or adjusted. It will be the designer's responsibility to prepare any required traffic control base sheets for all phases showing the layout and location of all directional and guide signs. Supplemental signing is not required to be shown.

Existing signs should be used as part of the traffic control plan for as long as possible throughout the different construction phases provided signs are located in accordance with MUTCD and does not provide inaccurate information. The most common conflict of existing signing with new construction occurs when overhead guide signs with down arrows or diagrammatic signs displaying lane lines are over lanes that are closed during certain construction phases. Once existing signs cannot be used at the original location, the designer should attempt to relocate the existing sign or place the permanent sign. If relocation or placement of the permanent sign is not feasible, a new temporary advance guide sign or exit directional sign shall be shown on the traffic control plan for the affected construction phase and for any other construction phase the sign is needed. Sign location shall conform to the MUTCD. Sign size should be the same as the sign removed if feasible. There shall be at least one temporary advance directional and temporary exit directional for each exit on the project.

For signs located on overhead structures, the designer should contact the Signing Section of the Design Division Signal and Signing Office for additional guidance.

The following guidance should be used when it is necessary to install temporary exit directional signs or temporary advanced guide signs. The designer should contact the Signing Section of the Design Division Signal and Signing Office for any additional technical questions or guidance required.

1. In the event it is not feasible to replace an exit directional sign with the existing sign size, the new sign shall be 48" x 96", 0.100" sheet aluminum. The letters will be 8 inch "D" (all capital) letters and there will be a $\frac{3}{4}$ " border with a 2" radius. The color will be a reflective green background with a reflective white copy. The supports will be included in the sq. ft. of the sign face as it is with other construction signs.

2. The information on exit directional signs should be the same as the information on the existing signs that were removed. There shall be no more than four lines of copy on these signs. The layout of these signs should look as close to the existing as possible.
3. On advanced guide signs; the first line shall be the exit number for the interchange (i.e. EXIT 234), the second line will be the first destination (i.e. OLD HICKORY BLVD), the third line will be the second (i.e. MADISON), the fourth line will be NEXT RIGHT (Center all lines of copy). These signs should be located no closer than one half mile from the exit directional sign.
4. The exit directional sign shall have the same exit number and destinations as the advance guide but in lieu of NEXT RIGHT there will be a type "B" arrow at a 45 degree angle to the right. (Center all lines of copy.) These signs should be located at the beginning of the taper for the appropriate exit ramp.
5. If an interchange has a TN. (TN-6a -TN-6d) or U.S. (M1-4) route shield on the directional signing, then a shield and if needed a cardinal direction (M3-1 – M3-4) shield, will be show mounted to the left support under both the advance and exit directional signs.
6. If more lines of copy are needed, then the designer can add a 24" x 96" or another 48"x 96" sheet of aluminum to the bottom of the first sign but the size shall not be larger than a total of 96"x96".
7. Removal of existing signs shall be paid for under item number 713-15, Removal of Signs, Posts, and Footings, Lump Sum. New signs shall be paid for under item number 712-06.10, New Signs (Construction), per S.F. Design Managers should contact the construction office to have item numbers assigned when the traffic control plan involves relocating existing signs.

One set of traffic control plans shall be sent to the Signing Section of the Design Division Signal and Signing Office a minimum of twelve weeks prior to the construction field review for review when advance guide signs or exit directional signs are included in the traffic control plan. For resurfacing projects, plans should be sent as soon as possible. **No other traffic control plans shall be sent for review.**

Original signed by Jeff C. Jones
Jeff C. Jones, C. E. Director
Design Division

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