



MEMO

July 17, 2013

To: District Engineers

From: Carol T. Rawson, P.E., Director
Traffic Operations Division

Subject: Traffic Control Plan Standard Sheets
TCP (3-1), (3-2), (3-3), (3-4) & (7-1)

The Traffic Operations Division has revised the Traffic Control Plan (TCP) standard sheets.

The standard sheets are revised to bring them into compliance with the 2011 Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD). The sheets will be applicable to all new construction projects beginning with the November 2013 letting.

Following is a summary of the changes to each standard sheet:

TCP(3) Series General

- Made minor editorial changes or corrections.
- Replaced the diamond shaped warning signs mounted on vehicles with approved rectangular designs to improve safety through increased legibility and to minimize obstruction of flashing arrow boards by the warning signs.
- Added notes that allow standard diamond shaped signs as an option to the new rectangular signs.
- Modified the spacing between vehicles for increased consistency with AASHTO Roadside Design Guide and FHWA Traffic Control Handbook for Mobile Operations at Night.
- Modified notes for flashing amber lights to allow blue lights to operate on the driver's side of the vehicle along with the amber to increase safety and consistency with the TxDOT equipment manual lighting section.
- Added the Alternating Diamond Caution Mode as an option for use on arrow boards.
- Added notes that allow spacing of vehicles to vary when necessary to provide sight distance to the operation under varying terrain or geometry.

- Modified sheeting recommendations for the back of truck mounted attenuators (TMAs) for consistency with new Departmental Material Specifications.
- Added the “TYPICAL USAGE” block to designate these standards for Mobile Operations for consistency with other TCP standards.
- Modified legends and text to use the term arrow board rather than arrow panel as per new TMUTCD language.
- Removed obsolete notes and “OPTIONAL” label relating to reflective striping on the back of TMAs.
- Removed sign fabrication details as they are shown in the Standard Highway Sign Designs for Texas (SHSD) manual.
- Updated sign nomenclature to meet revised TMUTCD and SHSD nomenclature.
- Added guidance on the use of the X VEHICLE CONVOY (CW21-10cT) sign as an option to the WORK CONVOY (CW21-10aT) sign.
- Modified the “RIGHT or LEFT Directional” designation under “ARROW BOARD DISPLAY” in the “LEGEND” to read “Double Arrow.”
- Removed redundant text call-outs for TMAs as they are shown in the legend and required in the general notes on each standard.
- Clarified when flashing arrow boards for WORK vehicles will be required and when they will be optional.

TCP(3-1) – 13

- Added a Lead Vehicle to the detail for an “Undivided Multilane Roadway” in response to district comments through a research implementation project.

TCP(3-2) – 13

- Modified the interior lane closure detail to close from the right or the left rather than splitting traffic for consistency with the FHWA “Traffic Control Handbook for Mobile Operations at Night.”
- Added a shadow vehicle in the previously closed lane on TCP(3-2b) to be required when workers are on foot in the work space to increase safety.
- Added the Advance Warning Vehicle to those vehicles requiring a TMA.
- Modified TCP(3-2a) to allow the Trail Vehicle to straddle the edgeline.
- Added a note that the Advance Warning Vehicle with a TMA may straddle the edgeline if shoulder width makes it necessary.

TCP(3-3) – 13

- Referred to TCP(3-2) for divided highways with three or four lanes in each direction.
- Added labels to the main plan views to be referred to as TCP(3-3a, b, c, or d).
- Added note for work and protection vehicles to let motorists pass periodically or use DO NOT PASS signing on the rear vehicle if passing will not be allowed.
- Clarified which arrow boards must be forward facing.
- Added Advance Warning Vehicle with a TMA for TCP(3-3c).
- Modified TCP(3-3c) to allow the Trail Vehicle to straddle the edgeline.
- Added guidance on the use of the X VEHICLE CONVOY (CW21-10cT) sign as an option to the WORK CONVOY (CW21-10aT) sign.

TCP(3-4) – 13

- This is a new standard for short line pavement marking installation or similar activities on undivided highways with speeds of 45 mph or less. It has been added in response to district comments through a research implementation project.

TCP(7-1) – 13

- Removed sign fabrication details since they are shown in the Standard Highway Sign Designs for Texas (SHSD).
- Changed the NO CENTER STRIPE (CW8-12) sign to NO CENTER LINE for consistency with the (TMUTCD).
- Provided a definition of center line pavement markings to clarify when the CW8-12 sign would be appropriate for use.
- Removed the check marks from under “SHORT DURATION” and “SHORT TERM STATIONARY” in the Typical Usage box.
- Modified the requirements for repeating LOOSE GRAVEL (CW8-7) and NO CENTER LINE (CW8-12) signs for consistency with the TMUTCD.
- Removed the NEXT XX MILES (CW21-16) plaques from warning signs as the signs will be required to be repeated every two miles.
- Removed the option of placing a tab at the beginning and end of solid no passing zone markings, making this practice a requirement.
- Made minor editorial changes.
- Added notes for coordinating sign spacing with other project limit signing for increased driver comprehension.

- Added notes requiring warning signs for resurfacing on divided facilities to be 48" x 48" and placed on both sides of the roadway.
- Changed the 500' sign spacing shown on the plan view to "X" and added a table to provide minimum sign spacing distances.
- Changed the word "should" to "shall" in the notes requiring the DO NOT PASS/PASS WITH CARE signing to meet TMUTCD requirements for identifying no-passing zones when standard pavement markings are not in place.
- Updated sign nomenclature to meet 2011 TMUTCD and 2012 SHSD.

The revised standard sheets are available in MicroStation and PDF formats at the following web address:

<http://www.txdot.gov/insdtdot/orgchart/cmd/cserve/standard/toc.htm>

If you have any questions, please contact Michael Chacon at (512) 416-3120 or me at (512) 416-3200.

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