Memorandum

TO: All District Engineers

FROM: Carlos A. Lopez, P.E.

SUBJECT: Revised Barricade and Construction Standard Sheets (BC Sheets)

Date: November 4, 2002

The Traffic Operations Division has revised the Barricade and Construction (BC) Standard Sheets. We have addressed the comments that we received after the draft version was sent out in January 2002. These standards, approved for use on all projects beginning with the May 2003 Letting, are posted on the TxDOT Web Site and available for use. Please distribute this information to the appropriate district staff and area offices as well as any consulting engineers currently working on TxDOT projects for your district.

A decision was made to change the sheeting requirements for most of the signs used in advance of and throughout the work zone. We have begun phasing in orange fluorescent prismatic sheeting (Type E) as the standard for all construction signs with an orange background and black nonreflective legend and white high intensity sheeting (Type C) for all signs with a white background and black nonreflective legends. The phased-in schedule is located in Special Provision 502---027. The effective dates for using the new sheeting is shown below:

- July 2002 Letting-All work zones on IH roadways;
- January 2003 Letting-All work zones on US and State Highways;
- July 2003 Letting-All other work zones.

We have also used this opportunity to address the following:
- addressing field concerns and problems that the Traffic Control Review Team has encountered while reviewing traffic control on various projects around the state;
- implementation of some of the work zone research findings;
- defining the responsibilities of the Engineer/Inspector and the Contractor with regards to design, implementation and maintenance of the work zone;
- rearranging and completely reworking several of the existing sheets to make them easier to read and appear less crowded;
- removal of the construction details for building Type III barricades. These details and components can be found in the Compliant Work Zone Traffic Control Device List (CWZTCD).

The old BC sheets have been completely reorganized and revised. Due to the major changes, it is easier to explain what is on each new sheet, rather than give a summary of the changes from the old sheets. A summary of each new sheet is outlined below:
BC (1)-03

- Removed all drawings from this sheet.
- Added General Notes that defines the responsibilities and purpose of the BC Standard Sheets.

BC (2)-03

- Removed the Special Public Information sign from the details. This sign will no longer be required.
- Added details for work areas in various locations within project limits.
- Added the R20-3 sign to be used at the beginning and end of the project limit signing.
- Added a Begin Work Zone and End Work Zone sign that shall be used when advance signs are needed outside the construction limits of the project. This will allow the enforcement of the traffic fines to double law when work is being performed outside the construction limits.
- Revised the General Notes.

BC (3)-03

- New sheet that shows the typical application of work zone speed limit signs.

BC (4)-03

- New sheet that gives guidance for installing and maintaining temporary work zone signs.

BC (5)-03

- New sheet that shows examples of typical sign supports that are used in the field. This sheet also gives installation procedures or states where this information can be found.

BC (6)-03

- Added details and General Notes for changeable message signs, flashing arrow panels, warning lights, Type C delineation for traffic barriers and attenuators, and truck-mounted attenuators.

BC (7)-03

- Revised the General Notes for plastic drums.
- Added information for warning reflectors and warning lights mounted on plastic drums.
BC (8)-03

- Revised the General Notes for the different channelizing devices.
- Added a detail showing an example layout for using opposing lane dividers with vertical panels or tubular markers.

BC (9)-03

- Added details and General Notes for traffic cones.
- Added details and General Notes for edgeline channelizer.
- Added typical detail and application for Type III Barricades.
- Added typical detail for culvert widening within the project limits.

BC (10)-03

- Revised the General Notes for work zone pavement markings.

BC (11)-03

- This sheet shows the pavement marking patterns for work zone striping.

BC (12)-03

- Sheet was revised to show sheeting requirements for each color of sign and also shows a detail for the standard work zone signs not currently included in the *Standard Highway Sign Designs (SHSD) for Texas 1980* or the current Traffic Control Standard Sheets. All other sign details were deleted if they currently exist in the SHSD for Texas 1980.

The revised standards are available on the Traffic Operations Division Web Site, under the section "Traffic Engineering Standard Plan Sheets" (English and Metric). The web site address is: [http://www.dot.state.tx.us/insdtddot/orgchart/cmd/cserve/standard/toc.htm](http://www.dot.state.tx.us/insdtddot/orgchart/cmd/cserve/standard/toc.htm)

If you have any questions or comments concerning the new standards, please contact Greg Brinkmeyer at (512) 416-3120, Brian Stanford at (512) 416-2719 or me at (512) 416-3200.

Attachments

cc: Administration
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    Roger Welsch, P.E., Associated General Contractors
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