



# Oregon

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May 25, 2012

All Holders of "Sign Policy and Guidelines for the State Highway System"

## RE: MAY 2012 REVISIONS TO SIGN POLICY & GUIDELINES FOR THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM

Enclosed with this cover letter are the most recent revisions to the "Sign Policy and Guidelines for the State Highway System."

Sign No.	Page No.	Legend/Section	Revision
-----	1-8	Standard Signing for Passing or Climbing Lanes	Deleted. This detail is duplicated in the Sign Design Manual.
-----	1-9	Standard Signing for Slow Moving Vehicle Turnouts	Deleted. This detail is duplicated in the Sign Design Manual.
-----	1-10	Standard Speed Zone Signing	Deleted. This detail is duplicated in the Sign Design Manual.
-----	3-1	Chapter 3: Speed Limit Sign (Section 2B.13)	Updated language to clarify usage of SPEED LIMIT XX sign versus SPEED XX sign.
OR7-8c	3-95	WHEELCHAIR USER ONLY	Eliminated "City Street" size as an option, in line with MUTCD guidelines.
OR17-5a, OR17-6a	3-135	RIGHT (LEFT) TURN YIELD TO PEDS & BIKES	Deleted. New symbol versions have been added to the manual as replacements (see pages 3-106 and 3-107). These new versions are complimentary to MUTCD sign R10-15.
-----	4-1	Chapter 4: Horizontal Alignment Warning Signs (Section 2C.06) and Advisory Speed Plaque (Section 2C.08)	New language has been inserted for Sec. 2C.06 related to use of Table 2C-5 for exit ramp curve application. New language has been added to Sec. 2C.08 related to ODOT's use of MUTCD criteria for ball-bank indication in determining safe speed on horizontal curves.
-----	4-2	Chapter 4: Reduced Speed Limit Ahead Signs (Section 2C.38)	Eliminated last two sentences of this section. This sign will no longer be restricted from use on the freeway.
-----	4-3	Chapter 4	Text previously on page 4-2 has been pushed back to page 4-3.
OW3-5	4-17	Speed Reduction Warning Sign	Eliminated last sentence from accompanying text. The sign will no longer be restricted from use on the freeway.
OW8-11	4-40	SUNKEN GRADE	Deleted. A decision was made to use federal sign W8-2 (DIP) instead.
OW8-13	4-42	GROOVED PAVEMENT w/symbol	Deleted. A decision was made to use federal sign W8-15 instead. Federal symbol plaque W8-15P may accompany this as a rider, if needed.
OW22-1	4-120	CHAIN-UP AREA AHEAD	Added a note of reference to new information contained in Chapter 5, Section 2I.07.

-----	5-5	Chapter 5: Chain-Up Area Signs (Section 2I.07)	New Section inserted which explains why Oregon will continue to use black-on-yellow color combination for these signs.
-----	5-6	Chapter 5	Text previously on page 5-5 has been pushed back to page 5-6.
CW11-1	6-50	Bicycles (symbol) ON ROADWAY	Design features (bike symbol, letter height) were enlarged, and supporting text was changed to indicate usage as either a rigid or roll-up installation.
-----	7-1 thru 7-3	Chapter 7: School Area Signs	This entire chapter has been rewritten and reorganized to both conform to Oregon law and be in substantial conformance to MUTCD guidelines.
-----	7-4 thru 7-16	School Zone Signing Details	These details have been updated to both satisfy current Oregon law and be in substantial conformance to MUTCD guidelines.

If you have any revisions, changes, or comments, please send them to:

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OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRAFFIC-ROADWAY SECTION  
Sign Policy and Guidelines

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## Chapter 3: Regulatory Signs

### 2B.13 Speed Limit Sign (R2-1)

The SPEED XX (OR2-1) sign is to be used for posting of all non-interstate speed zones that do not fall within city limits or designated school zones.

In keeping with legislative changes which establish speeds on interstate highways as speed limits (see ORS 810.180), all speed signs installed on Oregon interstates shall be SPEED LIMIT XX (R2-1) signs. This applies only to interstates (I-5, I-82, I-84, I-105, I-205 and I-405) and not to other state highways.

Per ORS 811.111, all speed signs installed at school zones shall be SPEED LIMIT 20 (R2-1) signs.

All speed zones that fall within city limits shall be posted with SPEED LIMIT XX (R2-1) signs.

### Slow Moving Traffic Lane Signs

The normal signing where an extra lane has been constructed to provide opportunities to pass is as follows:

1. PASSING LANE ONE MILE (OR4-10) may be installed to advise motorists of a passing lane approximately the designated distance ahead. It should not be used in advance of a slow moving vehicle turnout.  
Minimum Size 60" x 48"
2. 2B-28 DO NOT PASS (R4-1) should be installed approximately 1000 feet in advance of the taper that begins the passing lane.  
Minimum Size 36" x 48"
3. 2B-30 KEEP RIGHT EXCEPT TO PASS (R4-16) should be installed where the passing lane attains full width or at the beginning of the first skip stripe.  
Minimum Size 36" x 48"
4. 2B-29 PASS WITH CARE (R4-2) may be installed in the two-lane section approximately 1000 feet beyond the end of the taper (if sight distance is adequate to permit passing).  
Minimum Size 24" x 30"
5. YIELD CENTER LANE TO UPHILL TRAFFIC (OR4-11) may be installed facing downhill traffic at the point where the downhill no passing zone ends. A DO NOT PASS (R4-1) may be installed, on each side of the roadway if necessary, facing downhill traffic at the beginning of the next downhill no passing zone.  
Minimum Size 60" x 36"

Sign No. OR7-8c



BORDER  
Radius=1.5"  
Thickness=0.625"  
Inset=0.375"

Sign Background: White, Retroreflective sheeting

Sign Legend: Green, Retroreflective sheeting

SIGNSTDP.F11

The WHEELCHAIR USER ONLY sign shall only be used with the Disabled Person Parking Sign (R7-8) and the VAN ACCESSIBLE sign (R7-8P) to designate the wheelchair user only spaces as defined in ORS 447.233.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Approved By: S.T.E.

Date: 11/07

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## Chapter 4: Warning Signs

### 2C.03 Design of Warning Signs

Use Engineering Judgment in the selection and installation of different sizes of standard or special warning signs. Normally, all new installations of warning signs on the State Highway System will be 36" or larger.

### 2C.05 Placement of Warning Signs

Table 2C-4 in the MUTCD lists suggested sign placement distances for two conditions. This table is provided as an aid for determining warning sign locations.

The critical factor in warning sign placement is visibility, adequate warning to the driver so they can react to the situation, and use of the proper warning sign. Different situations will require warning sign placement that does not comply with the suggested placement distances set forth in Table 2C-4. The table was designed using 30" warning signs; if the road agency uses larger signs, the distance listed can be reduced. The use of high performance sheeting on signs also allows different sign placement distances.

Table 2C-4 was designed for a single warning placement. When the road authority uses two or more warning signs for the same condition in sequence, the table is no longer valid. Use of other warning devices plays an important role in relaying the warning to the driver; such as adding Chevrons to a curve.

### 2C.06 Horizontal Alignment Warning Signs

The approach speed, in the parallel deceleration lane as it approaches the exit ramp curve, should be used rather than the speed of the mainline freeway lanes, when applying Table 2C-5 in the MUTCD to exit ramps.

### 2C.07 Horizontal Alignment Signs (W1-1 through W1-5, W1-11, W1-15)

All Turn, Curve, Reverse Turn, and Reverse Curve signs shall have an Advisory Speed Plate when the comfortable safe speed on the curve is 10 mph or more below the posted speed.

### 2C.08 Advisory Speed Plaque (W13-1P)

Ball-bank indication is our adopted standard practice for determining appropriate posting of advisory speeds in the state of Oregon. Criteria and appropriate values for ball-bank indication are as spelled out in the MUTCD. Use of ball-bank indication for determining safe speed on curves is the responsibility of each Region's Traffic Engineering staff.

ODOT has developed a "Digital Ballbanker" spreadsheet for use with the RDS7-BB Digital Inclinometer, based on MUTCD criteria. This is a tool that can be used for engineering studies in determining recommended advisory speed for horizontal curves. The spreadsheet can be accessed at: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/TS/signing.shtml>.

### 2C.22 Divided Highway Sign (W6-1)

The Divided Highway Symbol sign (W6-1) should be used where there is a physical barrier or painted median separating opposing traffic. A DO NOT PASS (R4-1) should be placed approximately 250 feet downstream (depending on prevailing speed) from the Divided Highway symbol sign.

Minimum Size (W6-1) 36" x 36"

### 2C.23 Divided Highway Ends Sign (W6-2)

On two lane highways at the end of a painted island or traffic separation, a Two Way Traffic sign (W6-3) should be used.

### 2C.29 Speed Hump Sign (W17-1)

Speed hump signs or markings shall be placed on a public roadway to identify its location. When several speed humps are placed in a series along a roadway between intersections, a single SPEED HUMP sign with a rider indicating the series of humps ahead may be posted for the series.

### 2C.38 Reduced Speed Limit Ahead Signs (W3-5, W3-5a)

Where advance notice is needed for an approaching speed zone which is posted with a SPEED XX (OR2-1) sign, the Speed Reduction sign (OW3-5) shall be used in lieu of W3-5. The speed displayed on the sign shall be identical to that displayed on the subsequent SPEED XX sign.

### 2C.42 Lane Ends Signs (W4-2, W9-1, W9-2)

The Pavement Width Transition sign (W4-2) shall be used in advance of a lane drop and the RIGHT (LEFT) LANE ENDS sign (W9-1) may be used in advance of the Pavement Width Transition sign. The LANE ENDS MERGE LEFT (RIGHT) sign (W9-2) should not normally be used.

### 2C.46 Intersection Warning Signs (W2-1 through W2-8)

The educational TRAFFIC CIRCLE plaque (W16-12p) shall not be used with the Circular Intersection symbol sign (W2-6).

The Circular Intersection symbol sign (W2-6) shall be used in advance of a roundabout intersection to inform motorists that they are approaching the roundabout. The sign is usually accompanied by an appropriate speed rider.

### 2C.50 Non-vehicular Warning Signs (W11-2, W11-3, W11-4, W11-6, W11-7, W11-9 and W11-16 through W11-22)

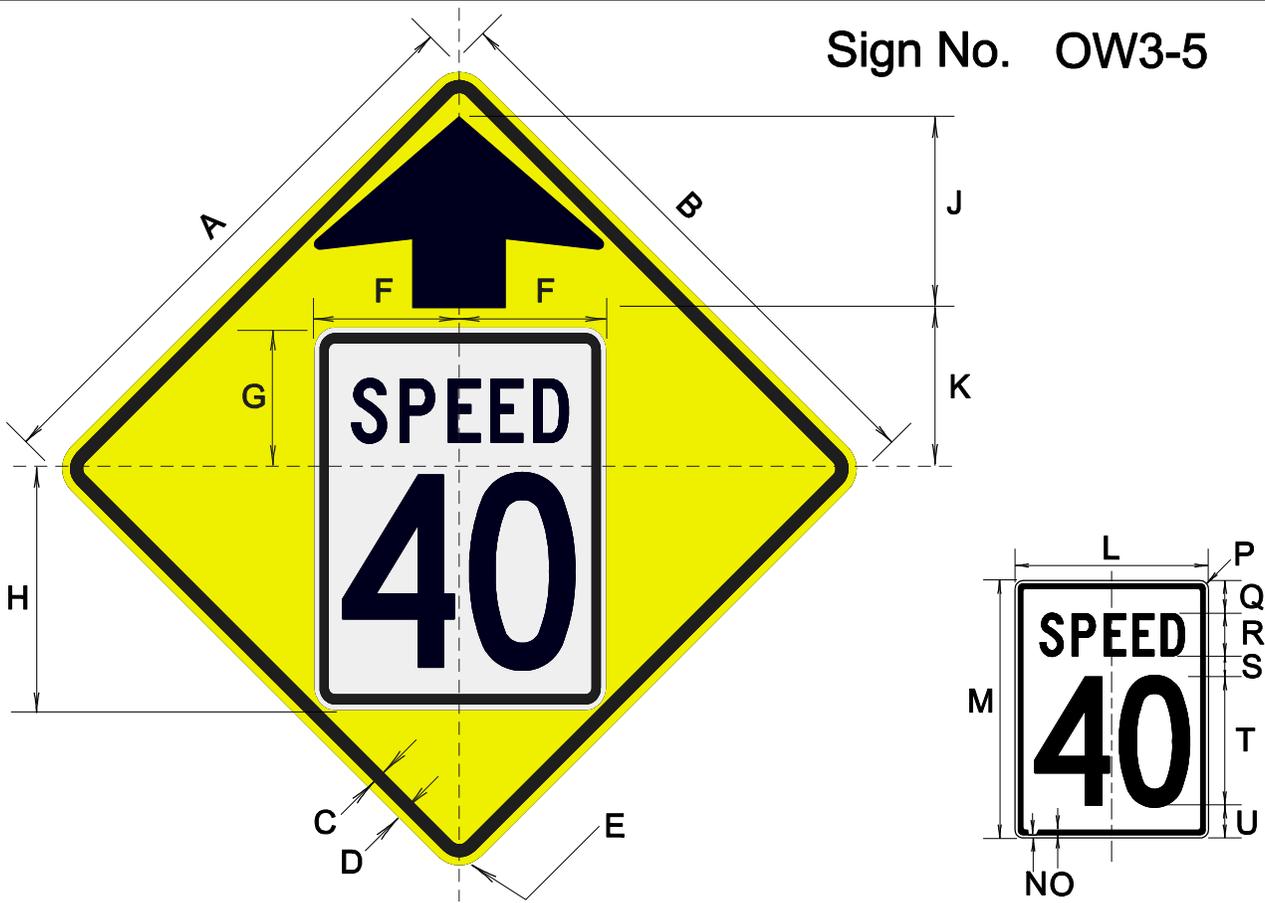
The Snowmobile Crossing sign (W11-6) may be installed on state highways under the following conditions:

1. The operator or owner of the snowmobile trail shall install STOP signs on the trail, outside the highway right-of-way.
2. The crossing shall be located, as nearly as possible, at 90 degrees to the highway.
3. The region traffic office will conduct a traffic investigation of the proposed crossing to insure the safety of the crossing.
4. The Oregon Department of Transportation shall make initial installation of snowmobile crossing signs.

### 2C.53 Use of Supplemental Warning Plaques

The Distance Ahead Plaques (W16-2 and W16-3 Series) or the AHEAD Plaque (W16-9p) may accompany any of the Vehicular Traffic Signs or Nonvehicular Signs (W11 Series) as secondary riders for installations used in advance of an actual crossing area, marked or unmarked. On the State Highway System, the AHEAD Plaque (W16-9p) is the preferred rider.

Sign No. OW3-5



**Sign Background:** Yellow, Retroreflective  
 White, Retroreflective (Speed sign symbol)

**Sign Legend:** Black, Non-reflective

SIGN	DIMENSIONS (INCHES)																			
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
STD.	36	36	7/8	5/8	2 1/4	9	9	15	12	10	18	24	3/8	5/8	1 1/2	3	4C	2	12C*	3
SPEC.	48	48	1 1/4	3/4	3	12	10 3/4	19 1/4	18	11 3/4	24	30	3/8	5/8	1 1/2	3 1/2	5C	3	15C*	3 1/2

\* Reduce spacing by 50%

A SPEED REDUCTION sign (W3-5) should be used to inform road users of a reduced speed zone when engineering judgment indicates the need for advance notice to comply with the posted speed limit ahead. (MUTCD Section 2C.30)  
 An OW3-5 sign shall be used if the reduced speed zone is signed with a SPEED XX sign (OR2-1).

The speed displayed on the SPEED REDUCTION sign shall be identical to the speed displayed on the subsequent SPEED XX sign. (MUTCD Section 2C.30)

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Approved By: S.T.E.

Date: 2/06

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Sign No. OW22-1



Sign Background: Yellow, Reflective sheeting

Sign Legend: Black, Non-reflective

**CHAIN-UP AREA SIGNS - OW22-1 to OW22-6**  
 (SEE PAGE 5-5, SEC. 2I.07 FOR RELATED INFORMATION)

The CHAIN-UP AREA signs are used to identify those areas adjacent to the highway that are maintained for the purpose of installing and removing tire chains or traction devices. The signs should be installed as follows: the CHAIN-UP AREA AHEAD sign (OW22-1) should be installed approximately 1600 feet in advance of the chain-up area; the SNOW ZONE sign (OW15-15) should be installed approximately 800 feet in advance of the chain-up area; the CHAIN-UP AREA sign (OW22-2 or OW22-3) should be installed at the beginning of the chain-up area; the CHAIN REMOVAL AREA AHEAD sign (OW22-4) should be installed approximately 800 feet in advance of the chain removal area; and the CHAIN REMOVAL AREA sign (OW22-5 or OW22-6) should be installed at the beginning of the chain removal area. The signs are rectangular in shape and are hinged in the middle so they may be closed when they are not needed.

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OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Date: 3/98

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## 2I.02 & 2I.03 General Service Signs (D9 Series)

State and City Police, Sheriff, DMV, and DEQ are considered motorist services and will be signed under this section with Blue background, white legend signs.

General motorist service signs may be appended to interchange guide signs.

The CHANNEL 9 MONITORED sign shall not be used on State Highways.

NEXT GASOLINE sign may be used on primary and secondary highways at some point leaving the last location where gasoline is available and the next available gasoline is at least 50 miles. This sign is generic but care should be taken in the placement to avoid its being construed as advertising.

Minimum Size 36" x 24"

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) - All requests for installation of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) symbol sign shall be submitted to the Health Division of the Oregon Department of Human Resources for certification that the requester satisfies the State's established criteria for facilities included in the EMS system. EMS signing will not normally be used in conjunction with Hospital signing.

Minimum Size (D9-13 symbol) 24" x 24"

Tourist Information Centers - Tourist Information Centers may be signed on freeways and primary and secondary highways. The Center must have easy permanent access with adequate parking where local tourist information is available. An attended facility is not required. See page 5-17.

## 2I.07 Chain-Up Area Signs (D5-15 and D5-16)

Due to the limited width of the chain-up areas and their close proximity to the traveled ways, the chain-up series of signs are to remain black legend on yellow background. The use of warning sign colors gives proper notice to the motorist of the unexpected activities in the area.

## 2H.02 General Information Signs (I Series)

Commercial Airports may be signed on freeways and primary and secondary highways if they offer commercial or charter airline service, plane rental, or flying lessons. Use of the horizontal plane symbol sign is preferred over the vertical plane symbol sign.

Minimum Size 24" x 24", Freeway 30" x 30"

The BUS STATION symbol sign (I - 6) shall be used on state highways to indicate the location of a bus stop on the state highway. When used the BUS STATION symbol sign should be accompanied by a supplemental plaque below the sign to identify the bus service that stops there. The BUS STATION symbol sign shall not be used on state highways as a guide sign to direct drivers to bus stations that are located off of the state highway.

Bus Station/Train Station symbol signs (I-6/I-7), may be used on freeways (symbol only) and primary and secondary highways (symbol with rider) at the appropriate exit or the closest access point. May also be used as trailblazers.

Minimum Size Symbol 24" x 24"  
Minimum Size Rider 24" x 6

### Rural Fire District Signing Guidelines

Rural fire district sign permits may be written using the following criteria:

1. No signs allowed on the interstate system.
2. Fire district must be rural in nature.
3. Signs will be furnished by the fire district.
4. Replacement signs will be furnished by the fire district upon request, or the remaining signs for the fire district will be removed.
5. Signs will be placed outside the normal operating right-of-way (far side of ditch).
6. Signs will be green background, white legend, reflectorized, in accordance with Section 2H.02 of the MUTCD.
7. No logos will be allowed, word message only.
8. 9-1-1 should not appear on the legend as the State of Oregon now has border to border use of this number.
9. Fire district boundary signs should not be required when the boundary is coincident with city or county boundaries.

### 2D.53 Signing of Named Highways

Memorial highways may be signed in rest areas, scenic turnouts, or similar places where the motorist can safely park their vehicle to read the marker or sign.

### General Information

All requests for signing resort areas, museums, and golf courses should be sent to Oregon Travel Experience, 1500 Liberty Street SE, Suite 150, Salem, Oregon, 97302  
Phone (503) 378-4508.

All requests for signing tour or scenic routes should be sent to the Oregon Scenic Byway Program, 555 13<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-3871  
Phone (503) 986-4261.

Community identification signs as allowed in ORS 377.510 are to be placed outside of highway right-of-way.

Sign No. CW11-1



**Sign Background:** Fluorescent Orange, Retroreflective Sheeting for either roll-up or rigid substrate  
**Sign Legend:** Black, Non-Reflective

SIGN	DIMENSIONS (INCHES)							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
MIN.	36	12	2.5	5C	2¼	7/8	5/8	15
STD.	48	16.5	3	6C	3	1¼	¾	19

The BICYCLES ON ROADWAY symbol sign may be used to warn motorists of the presence of bicycles in the traffic lane. The sign should be used when construction work, maintenance operations or other roadway activity prevents bicycles from using the shoulder or bike lane.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Date: 12/09

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SIGNSTDPG.F14

## Chapter 7 School Area Signs

### 7B.07 Sign Color for School Warning Signs

All new school-related warning signs shall be fluorescent yellow-green sheeting.

### 7B.09 School Zone Sign (S1-1) and Plaques (S4-3P, S4-7P) and End School Zone Sign (S5-2)

At each location that a jurisdiction wishes to establish a school zone a School Zone sign (S1-1) shall be installed. A school zone can be established with or without a reduced school speed limit. The following is the Oregon Revised Statute defining school zones:

#### **801.462 “School zone.”**

(1) “School zone” means both of the following:

- (a) A specific segment of highway that is adjacent to school grounds and that is marked by signs described in subsection (2) of this section.
- (b) A crosswalk that is not adjacent to school grounds and that is marked by signs described in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) Signs marking a school zone may include any words, symbols or combination of words and symbols that gives notice of the presence of the school zone. [2003 c.397 §2]

### 7B.10 Higher Fines Zone Signs

A BEGIN HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-10) sign or a FINES HIGHER (R2-6P) plaque may be posted in school zones where WHEN FLASHING or WHEN CHILDREN ARE PRESENT supplemental plaques are also used. Requests and funding for sign installations shall be through the school district.

Where a BEGIN HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-10) sign or a FINES HIGHER (R2-6P) plaque is posted an END SCHOOL ZONE sign shall be installed on the downstream end of the zone to notify users of the termination of the increased fines zone.

### 7B.11 School Advance Crossing Assembly

The School Advance Crossing Assembly signs may be omitted in advance of a school crossing.

### 7B.12 School Crossing Assembly

An Overhead Pedestrian Crossing Sign (R1-9a) may be used to remind road users of the state law to stop for pedestrians. The sign may be modified to replace the standard pedestrian symbol with the standard schoolchildren symbol and may be used at unsignalized school crossings.



If the overhead signs are mounted in combination with flashing beacons, the flashing beacons shall not be continuously flashing (24 hr/day) in a school zone with flashing beacons operated periodically during the day to indicate when children are scheduled to arrive or leave school.

#### 7B.15 School Speed Limit Assembly (S4-1,S4-2,S4-3,S4-4,S4-6,S5-1)

When a 20-mph school speed zone is established in accordance with ORS 811.111, the School Speed Limit Assembly shall be used. **Oregon Revised Statutes specify two conditions under which different supplemental plaques may be used on the School Speed Limit Assembly as shown on the following page.**

A 36" School Speed Limit assembly shall be used on all 4-lane highways and rural highways. A 24" assembly may be used on urban 2-lane streets.

The beginning point of the reduced school speed limit should be at least 200 feet in advance of school grounds or a school crossing unless otherwise determined by engineering study.

#### 7B.16 Reduced Speed School Zone Ahead Sign (S4-5,S4-5a)

In areas where the posted speed is 40 mph or higher, a REDUCED SPEED SCHOOL ZONE AHEAD (S4-5) sign may be used. If used, this sign should be placed 150 to 250 feet prior to the School Zone (S1-1) sign.

#### General Information

For recommendations and guidance on the appropriate use and locations of signs in school zones, use the ODOT Traffic-Roadway Section publication "A Guide to School Area Safety" with the layouts provided on sheets 7-4 through 7-16.

**CONDITION "A"**

**SCHOOL**

**SPEED  
LIMIT  
20**

**WHEN  
FLASHING**

or

**SCHOOL DAYS  
7 AM - 5 PM**

**Adjacent to  
School Grounds**

**CONDITION "B"**

**SCHOOL**

**SPEED  
LIMIT  
20**

**WHEN  
FLASHING**

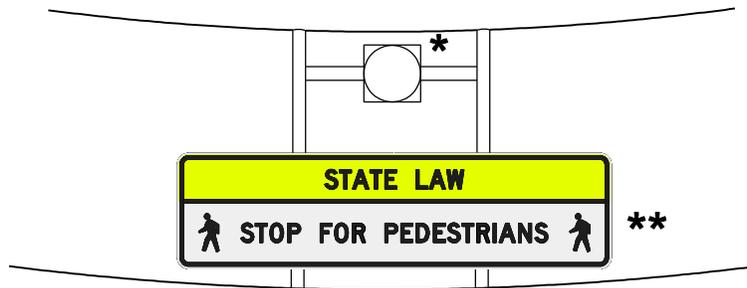
or

**WHEN  
CHILDREN  
ARE PRESENT**

**Crosswalk  
Non-adjacent to  
School Grounds**

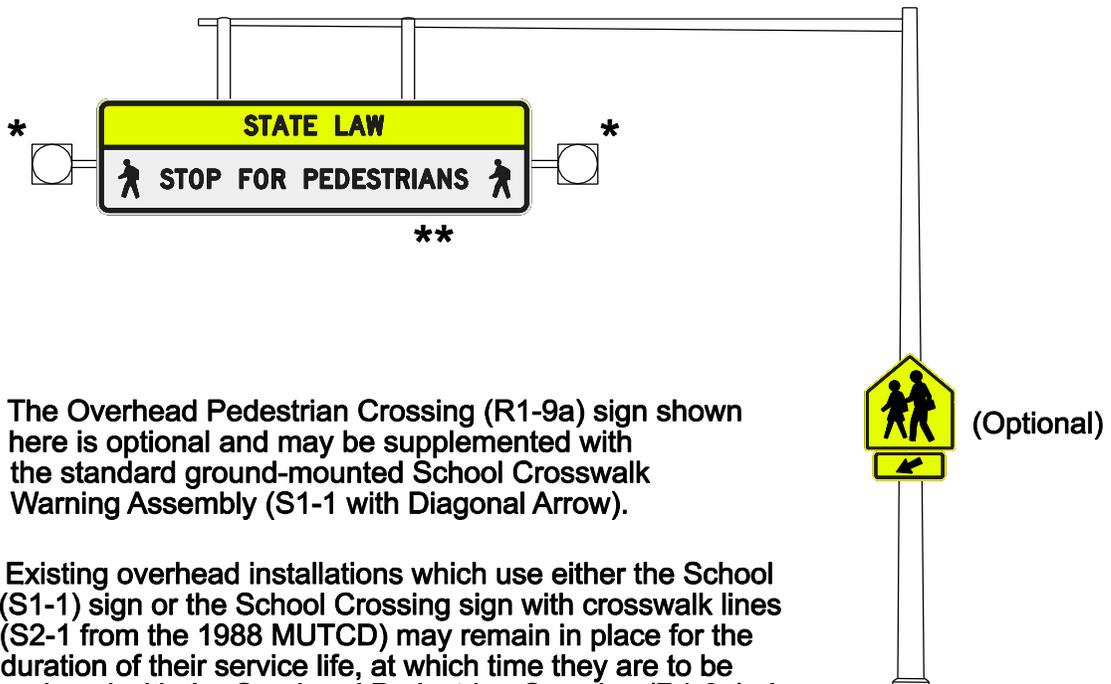
# SCHOOL SIGNING

## OVERHEAD SCHOOL CROSSING SIGN (Optional)



\* Continuously flashing (24 hrs/day) overhead beacons, as shown here, shall not be used in school zones with WHEN FLASHING sign assemblies.

\*\* The Overhead Ped Crossing sign may be modified to replace the standard Pedestrian symbol with the standard School Children symbol (from S1-1).



Note: The Overhead Pedestrian Crossing (R1-9a) sign shown here is optional and may be supplemented with the standard ground-mounted School Crosswalk Warning Assembly (S1-1 with Diagonal Arrow).

Note: Existing overhead installations which use either the School (S1-1) sign or the School Crossing sign with crosswalk lines (S2-1 from the 1988 MUTCD) may remain in place for the duration of their service life, at which time they are to be replaced with the Overhead Pedestrian Crossing (R1-9a) sign.

SIGNSTD.P.F15

## OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Approved By: S.T.E.

Date: 5/04

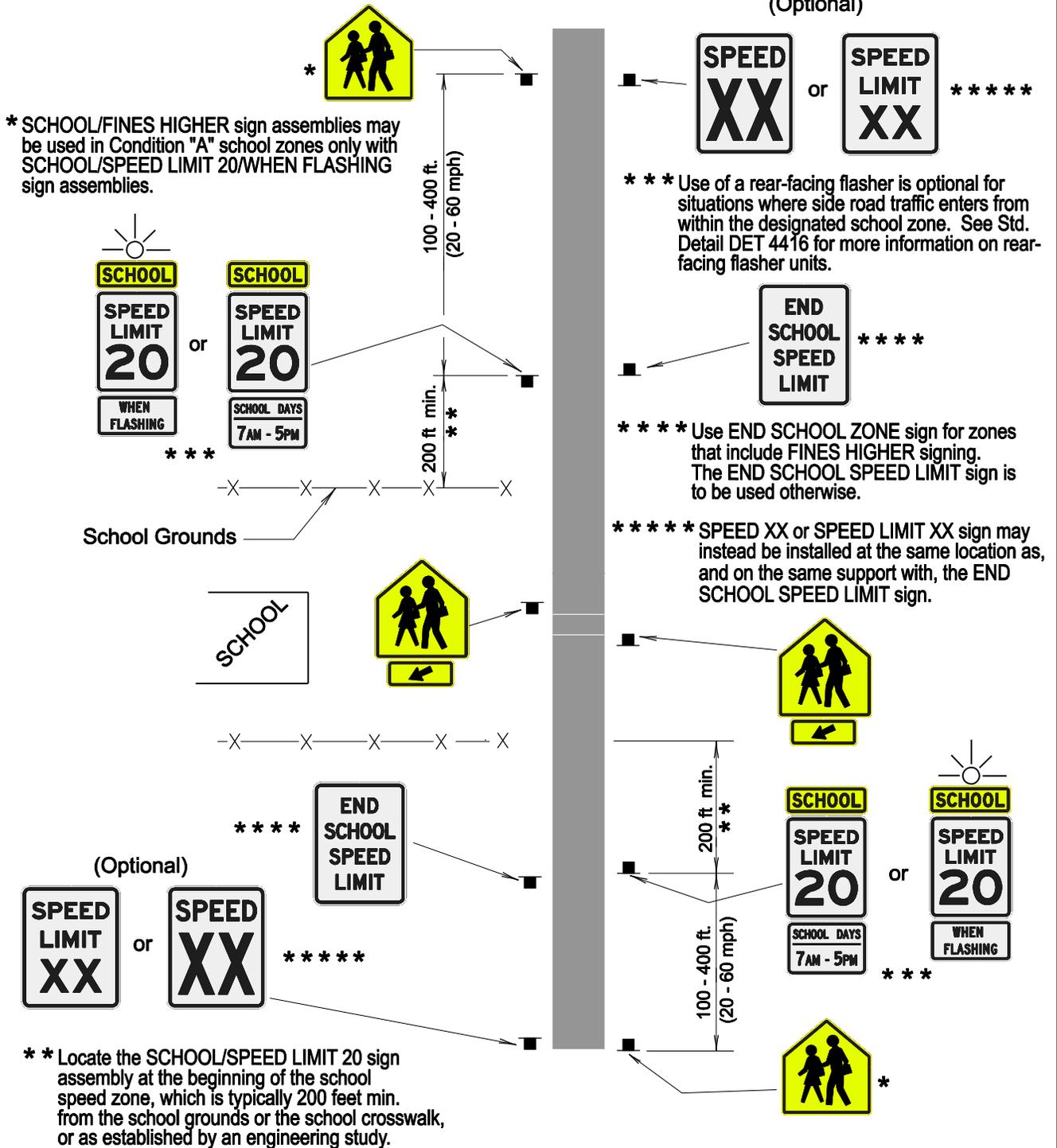
Publication Date: 5/12



# SCHOOL SIGNING

## Condition "A" with School Crosswalk

- Adjacent to School Grounds



SIGNSTD.P.F.15

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Approved By: S.T.E.

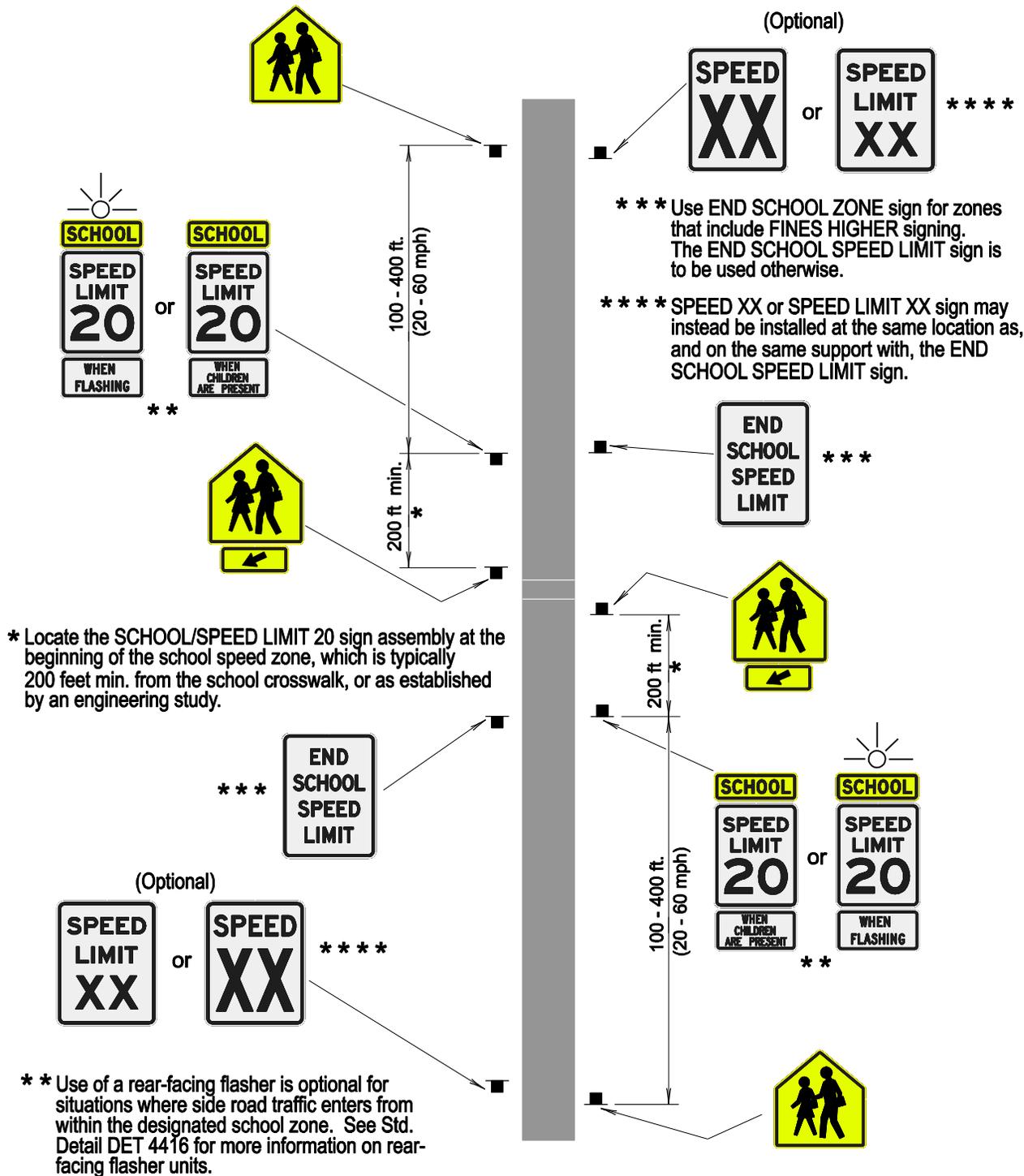
Date: 5/04

Publication Date: 5/12

# SCHOOL SIGNING

## Condition "B"

### School Crosswalk Not Adjacent To School Grounds



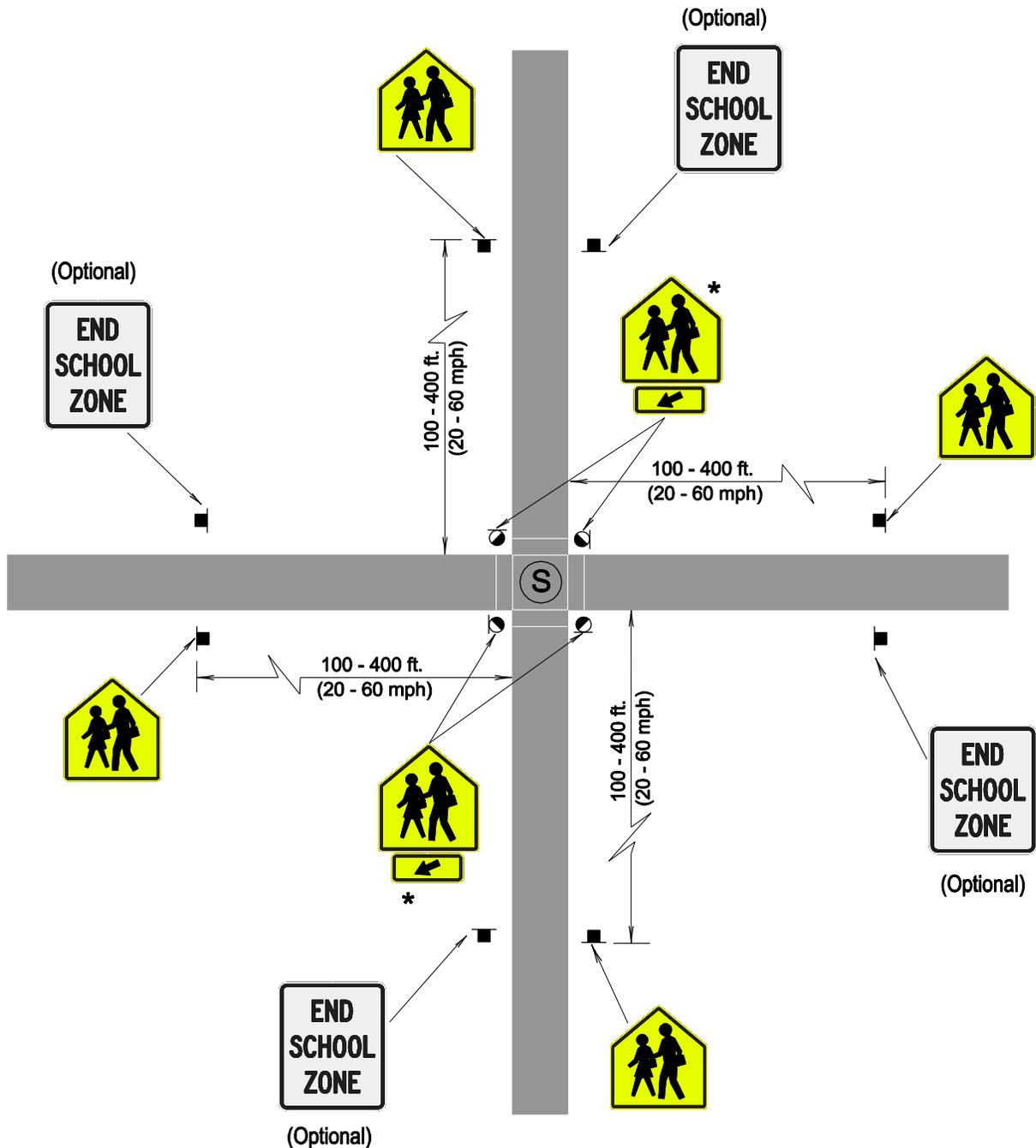
SIGNSTDR.F15

# OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Approved By: S.T.E.	Date: 5/04	Publication Date: 5/12
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# SCHOOL SIGNING

## SCHOOL CROSSWALK AWAY FROM SCHOOL AT SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION



\* Use only at established School Crossings, if Engineering Study determines need for signs.

SIGNSTDPG.F15

# OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

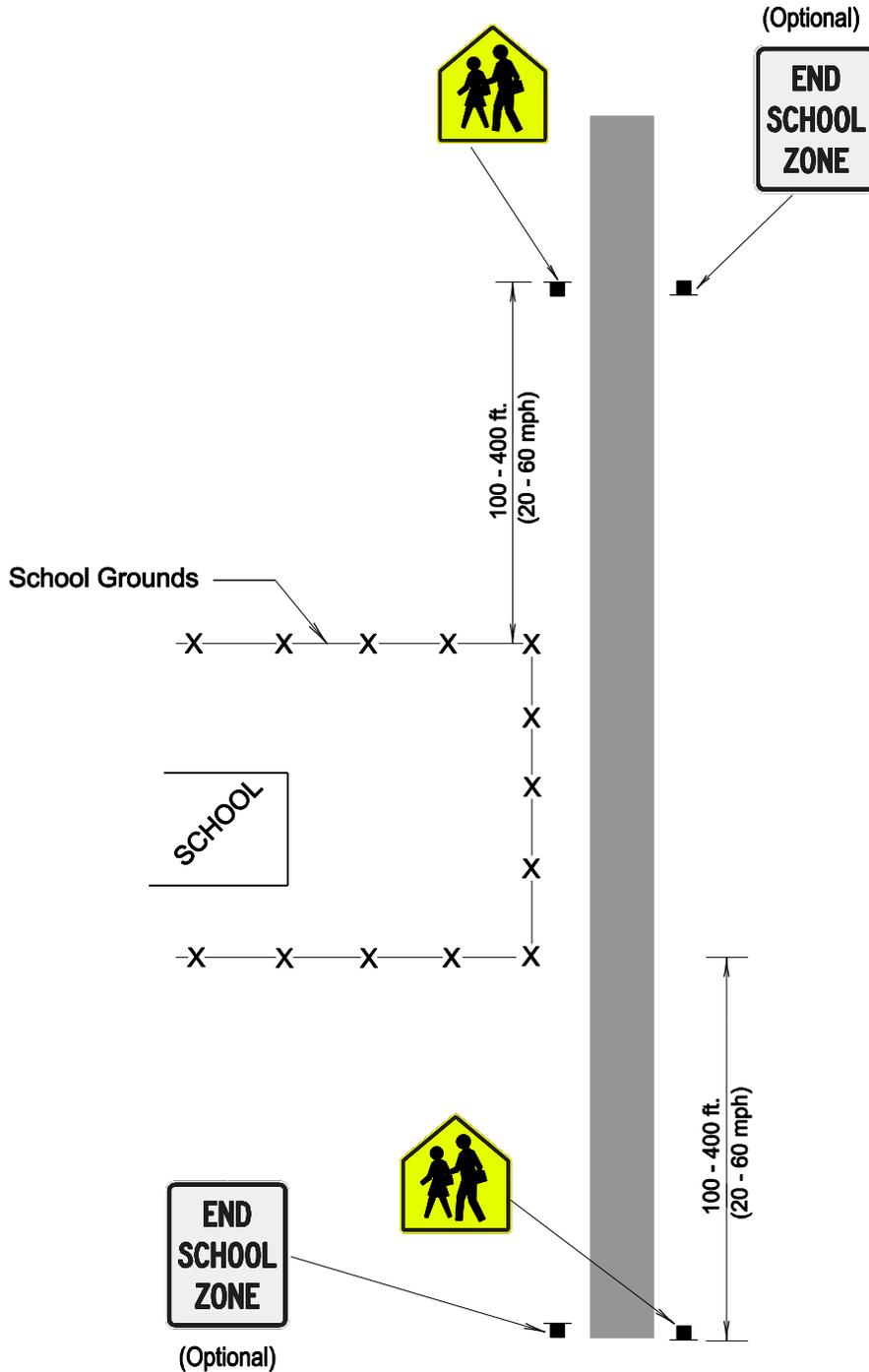
Approved By: S.T.E.

Date: 7/99

Publication Date: 5/12

# SCHOOL SIGNING

## SCHOOL BUILDING AWAY FROM HIGHWAY OR SCHOOL GROUNDS FENCED (Optional)



SIGNSTDP.F15

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

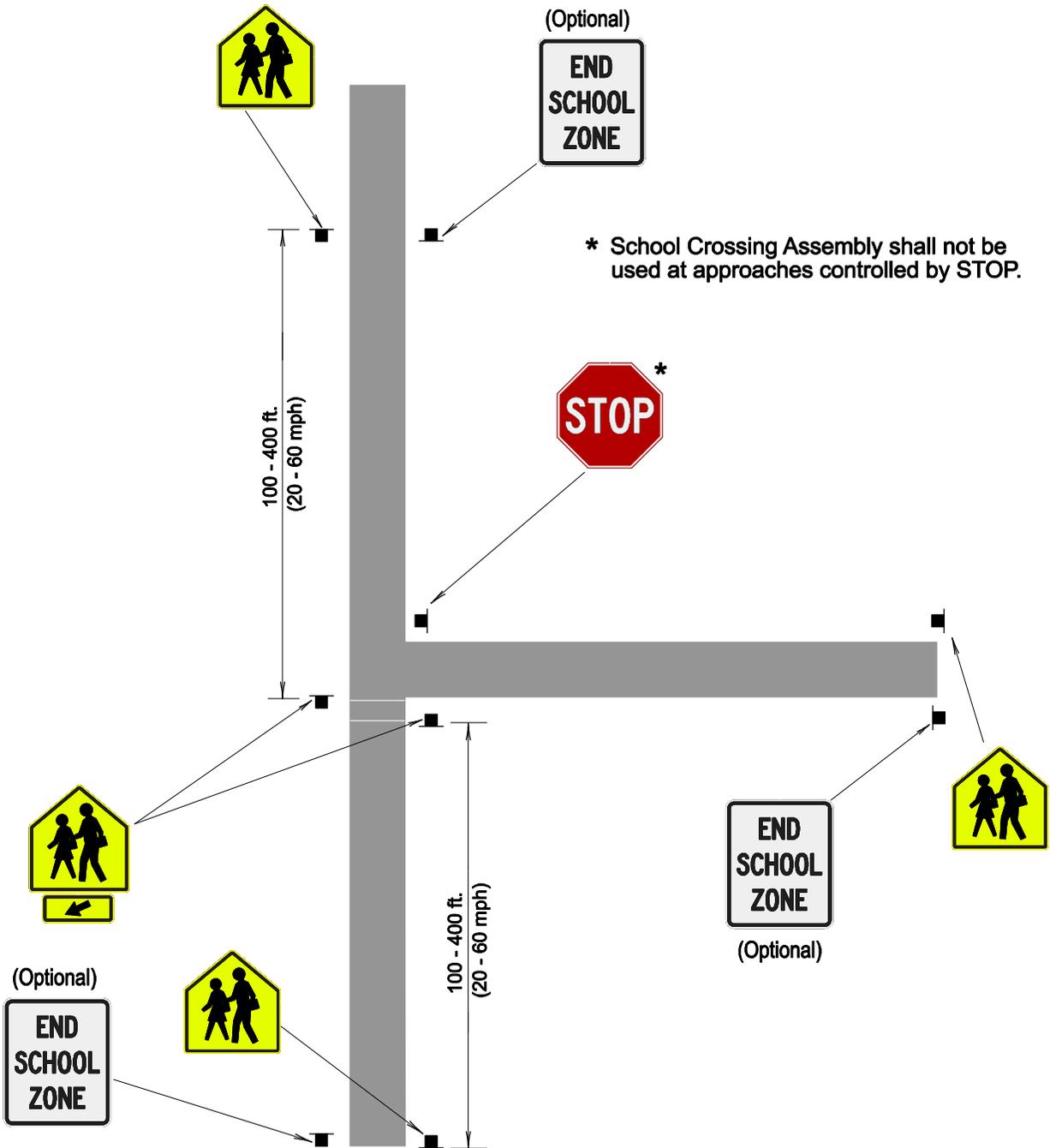
Approved By: S.T.E.

Date: 5/04

Publication Date: 5/12

# SCHOOL SIGNING

## SCHOOL CROSSWALK AWAY FROM SCHOOL (Optional)



\* School Crossing Assembly shall not be used at approaches controlled by STOP.

\*\* For further guidance and recommendations on the location and use of School Advance Warning Assemblies and School Speed Limit Assemblies, consult ODOT Traffic Engineering publication "A Guide to School Area Safety".

SIGNSTD.P.F15

# OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Approved By: S.T.E.      Date: 3/06      Publication Date: 5/12