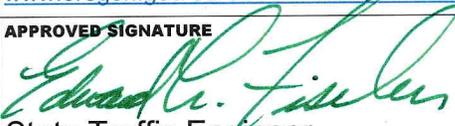


SUBJECT TCP Design Manual Update: Chapter 4 - Eliminates use of "Construction Speed XX" sign	FINAL NUMBER TR 07-04(b)	EFFECTIVE DATE April 13, 2007	VALIDATION DATE 00/00/0000	SUPERSEDES or RESCINDS new
	WEB LINK(S) www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/TRAFFIC-ROADWAY/traffic_control.shtml			
TOPIC/PROGRAM Traffic Control Plans Design	APPROVED SIGNATURE  State Traffic Engineer			

PURPOSE

This Bulletin deletes the third bulleted item in Chapter 4 of the TCP Design Manual, Section 4.2, Page 60, under the heading, "SPEED ZONE REDUCTION GENERAL INFORMATION" and introduces a new temporary sign to be used in a Traffic Control Plan for a highway construction project.

BACKGROUND

The former "CONSTRUCTION SPEED XX" sign was a rectangular, orange/black temporary warning sign. It was intended to warn motorists within a work zone and provide an advisory travel speed. However, because of its rectangular shape it was often mistakenly interpreted as a regulatory sign. Due to repeated problems regarding confusion over the sign's enforcement, this sign was discontinued. In email communications from the State Traffic Control Plans Engineer and the State Construction Engineer in April and May of 2006, instructions were given to ODOT field crews to discontinue use of the rectangular sign with the exception that signs already in place could be used until the completion of the project.

GUIDANCE

This Technical Bulletin updates and supersedes the corresponding language in the TCP Design Manual currently posted on the ODOT Traffic-Roadway Section website at:

www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/TRAFFIC-ROADWAY/traffic_control.shtml

DEFINITIONS

The proper sign to provide advisory travel speeds through work zones is called the "ROAD WORK XX MPH" sign, where "XX" is the numerical advisory speed in miles per hour.

The new "ROAD WORK XX MPH" sign is # CW20-1A and can be found in the ODOT Sign Policy at the following web site:

www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/TRAFFIC-ROADWAY/sign_policy.shtml



In addition, a second warning sign with advisory speed was developed for use on Emulsified Asphalt Surface Treatment (“Chip Seal”) pavement preservation projects. This new sign is the “**LOOSE GRAVEL XX MPH**” sign, #CW8-7A, and can also be found in the ODOT Sign Policy.



EXPLANATION

Please read through the ODOT Special Provisions and Unique Special Provisions (for pavement preservation projects) for language relating to either of these two signs.

Please review the ODOT Standard Drawings – TM700 series – for additional information as to the application of these signs.

Avoid the overuse of these signs, as with overuse, these signs will quickly lose their effectiveness. Please use sound engineering judgment when including these signs in your traffic control plan.

RESPONSIBILITIES

In determining the appropriate numeric speed for the **fluorescent orange “XX”** portion of the signs, please confer with ODOT Region Traffic personnel or the ODOT Traffic-Roadway Section.

As a general application, a 10-mph reduction below the preconstruction posted speed may be used for the “**XX**” portion of the sign. However, further reductions in speed are heavily dependent on the type of work being conducted and other traffic control measures in place on the project site.

The “**XX**” portion of the sign may either be permanent legend or attached (with Velcro) as a rider. The “**XX**” portion of the sign shall be **fluorescent orange background with black legend**. **DO NOT** use white/black sheeting for the “**XX**” portion of these signs.

ACTION REQUIRED

The replacement of the "CONSTRUCTION SPEED XX" sign is effective immediately.

STAKEHOLDERS PROVIDING REVIEW

- Traffic Operations Leadership Team

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Scott M. McCanna, P.E.
Title: State Traffic Control Plans Engineer
Branch/Section: Technical Services Branch, Traffic – Roadway Section
Phone: (503) 986-3788
E-mail: scott.m.mccanna@odot.state.or.us