

To: All HQ Directors: Operations, Planning and Major Projects
All Regional Directors
All Regional Managers Engineering
All District Managers Transportation

Subject: Advance Warning Sign (W-012) Sheeting and Sign Illumination

Background:

Recent advances in the retroreflectivity of sign sheeting have resulted in highway signs that are significantly brighter and more visible at night.

Existing advance warning signs (W-012) use ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) Type I sheeting and are illuminated at night by sign lighters. Due to their overhead positioning combined with lower grade sheeting, these signs are lit. However, the use of new highly-reflective sign sheeting (ASTM Type 9 and above) allows for maintaining sign visibility without the need for sign lighters. This was verified through several pilot installations. This will result in energy, operations and maintenance savings.

Policy:

New or replacement advance warning signs (W-012) will use fluorescent yellow ASTM type 11 sheeting and do not require sign illumination.

Procedure:

Existing advance warning signs with lighters will be replaced through attrition.

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