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To: DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS,
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTOR, TRAFFIC OPERATIONS
DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS, CONSTRUCTION

Date: September 30, 2014

File: Division of Traffic
Operations

From: *Saura Quintana for:*
JOHN Y. LIU
Acting Division Chief, Division of Traffic Operations

Subject: **USE OF RAMP METERING SIGN IN PROJECTS IN DESIGN OR CONSTRUCTION**

The Ramp Metering "Meter On" Sign in the 2010 Standard Plans and Standard Specifications used throughout the State Highway System is not compliant with the national Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Device per the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The Division of Traffic Operations, Office of Traffic Engineering is processing an exemption from the Division of Engineering Services imposed moratorium to delete the existing Ramp Metering "Meter On" Sign and the associated specifications from the 2010/2015 Electrical Standards (sections 86-4.03J, SSP 86-4.03J, and ES-4B).

The Division of Traffic Operations, Office of Traffic Management and FHWA have agreed on a solution for the retrofitting of existing Ramp Metering "Meter On" Signs. Additional guidance will be coming by the end of December 2015 regarding the retrofit of existing "Meter On" Signs.

For on-going capital projects with the Ramp Metering "Meter On" Sign, and effective immediately, the districts must implement the following:

- **Projects in Design:** Districts must use Type 1 or Type 15 flashing beacon with slip base (FBS) standard, with W3-7 and/or W3-8 sign, and one or two yellow flashing beacons.
- **Projects within four weeks of "Ready to List" phase:** Districts must prepare an addendum to remove the Type A signal housing; add W3-7 and/or W3-8 sign, and one or two yellow flashing beacons.
- **Projects that are Advertised:** Districts must prepare an addendum to remove the Type A signal housing, add W3-7 and/or W3-8 sign, and one or two yellow flashing beacons.
- **Projects in Construction:** Districts must process a contract change order to remove the Type A signal housing, install W3-8 sign on the Type 1 standard (or replace the Type 1 with Type 15 FBS standard and add a new foundation), and add one or two yellow flashing beacons. The additional cost is approximately \$6,000 for reusing a Type 1 standard, or up to \$15,000 for replacing the Type 1 with Type 15 FBS standard. Deviation from this requirement must be justified and approved in writing by the Deputy District Director of Traffic Operations.

There is no change in the Bid Item to be used (Bid Item 861100 Ramp Metering System).

Districts must use the Department Standards with the following edits until the revisions are incorporated:

1. Standard Specifications, 86-4.03J: Replace the current specifications with "Reserved".
2. Standard Special Provisions 86-4.03J: Do not use.
3. Revised Standard Plans ES-4B: Do not use unless pedestrian signal indication is included in the project.

The project electrical plan must indicate the following in place of the Ramp Metering "Meter On" Sign for all new or proposed modified locations:

1. W3-7 and/or W3-8 sign on Type 1 (or Type 15 FBS) standard.
2. One (or two) flashing beacon on the standard used.

If you or your staff have any questions regarding implementation of this memorandum, please contact Theresa Gabriel at (916) 654-5039, or e-mail at <theresa.a.gabriel@dot.ca.gov>.

Attachments

- (1) FHWA correspondence dated 7/11/2014 to DES rejecting the specifications
- (2) 2010 Standard, electrical section 86-4.03J, SSP 86-4.03J and ES-4B
- (3) Proposed 2015 electrical section 87-5.02, ES-4B rejected by FHWA
- (4) 2012 CA MUTCD Advance Ramp Control Signal Sign, chapter 2, section 2C.37
- (5) 2012 CA MUTCD Figure 2C-6, for W3-7 and W3-8 Warning Sign
- (6) Draft Position Summary (2013 interaction summary between Caltrans and FHWA)

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