



Florida Department of Transportation

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GOVERNOR

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DENVER J. STUTLER, JR.
SECRETARY

June 20, 2006

This Memo Has Expired

DCE MEMORANDUM NO.: 16-06

**TO: DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS
DISTRICT MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS
DISTRICT DESIGN ENGINEERS**

FROM: Brian Blanchard, Director, Office of Construction
Tim Lattner, Director, Office of Maintenance
Bob Greer, Director, Office of Design

COPIES: Bob Burleson (FTBA), Don Davis (FHWA)

**SUBJECT: SIGN POST SLIP BASES -- GROUND TO TOP OF STUB BASE PLATE
CLEARANCE ISSUES**

Indexes 11200, Standard Roadside Sign, and 11860, Single Column Ground Signs, for 2006 require that the distance or ground clearance from the top of footing, which is assumed to also be the ground line, to the top of the base plate for the sign post stub, is 3 inches. As shown, no tolerance is indicated for the 3 inch dimension. As a result, individuals that perform MRP evaluations of signs are rating the signs as not meeting MRP conditions when the clearance is not exactly 3 inches. A sign that is rated "No" has a significant impact on the overall MRP grade and when this is due to a ground clearance that may be slightly more or less (say 1/8th inch) than 3 inches, the magnitude of the violation does not warrant such a significant overall MRP impact.

To correct this problem, and by authority of this memorandum, future MRP ground clearance evaluations will be considered meeting conditions if the dimension from the ground to the top of the base plate, for the sign post stub, is 4 inches or less. For the purpose of sign acceptance during construction, if the ground clearance dimension is 3 inches plus or minus 1/2 inch (2.5 inches to 3.5 inches) the sign will be considered to be acceptable.

If you have further questions, please contact Steve Plotkin at 850-414-4155.

BLG/pw

