ROADWAY DESIGN BULLETIN 13-06

DATE: May 2, 2013

TO: District Directors of Production, District Design Engineers, District Program Management Engineers/Administrators, District Directors of Transportation Operations

FROM: Michael Shepard, P. E., State Roadway Design Engineer

COPIES: Tom Byron, Duane Brautigam, David Sadler, Trey Tillander, Monica Gourdine (FHWA)

SUBJECT: Thermoplastic Pavement Markings in Construction Contracts

REQUIREMENTS

This bulletin removes the restriction of placing thermoplastic markings in construction contracts with durations greater than 365 days.

BACKGROUND

In January of 2011 the Department restricted the use of thermoplastic in construction for contracts with durations greater than 365 days. The restriction was initiated as a measure to reduce the risk pavement marking contractors were experiencing due to the volatility of thermoplastic material costs. Thermoplastic prices on recent contracts indicate that costs have stabilized during the past year. Discussions with thermoplastic suppliers also indicate that for the near future raw materials availability and pricing have stabilized.

IMPLEMENTATION

The State Specifications and Estimates Office has removed the 365 day limitation from the usage notes for District blanket Special Provisions 701, 710 and 711 from January 2013 and July 2013 workbooks. Districts 1, 6 and 7 that are currently including thermoplastic pavement markings in construction contracts with durations less than 365 days may immediately include thermoplastic pavement markings in all design projects. Districts 2, 3, 4, 5 and Turnpike that are not currently including the thermoplastic pavement marking in construction contracts may elect to include thermoplastic pavement markings by establishing an implementation date with the Specifications.
and Estimates and Construction Offices. All construction projects in a District must follow the District’s decision.

**CONTACT**

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