



## Florida Department of Transportation

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SECRETARY

### **ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM NO. 25-01**

DATE: June 30, 2025

TO: District Directors of Transportation Operations, District Directors of Transportation Development, District Design Engineers, District Construction Engineers, District Maintenance Engineers, District Traffic Operations Engineers

FROM: Will Watts, P.E., Chief Operating Officer, Assistant Secretary  


COPIES: Jennifer Marshall, P.E., Chief Engineer of Production  
Rudy Powell, P.E., Chief Engineer of Operations

SUBJECT: **Traffic Control Device Compliance on All Public Roads**

This Memorandum highlights Department policy, Florida Administrative Code (FAC, Rule 14-15) requirements, and Florida Statute (*F.S. 316.0745*) requiring all traffic control devices, including pavement surface markings, be compliant with the *FDOT Design Manual (FDM)* and the *Manual of Uniform Minimum Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance for Streets and Highways, 2023 (2023 Florida Greenbook)* on all public roads, as applicable.

#### **Background**

Non-standard surface markings, signage, and signals that do not directly contribute to traffic safety or control can lead to distractions or misunderstandings, jeopardizing both driver and pedestrian safety. Furthermore, uniform and consistent application of pavement surface markings is critical for the overall effectiveness of automated vehicle operation, as automated vehicle technologies rely heavily on consistent traffic control devices.

FDOT's traffic control device standards conform to FHWA's *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)* in accordance with *Florida Statute 316.0745*. Doing so ensures our design practices remain in line with national standards.

In addition to adoption of the *MUTCD*, FDOT policy specifically addresses pavement surface marking design criteria in the following documents:

1. ***2025 FDOT Design Manual***

- *FDM Chapter 230* provides clear guidelines on the proper use of traffic control devices, including surface markings, to ensure they serve a functional, safety-related

purpose. This chapter stresses the importance of clarity, consistency, and uniformity in traffic control, which is essential to maintaining an efficient and safe transportation network.

- ***FDM Chapter 127.2 (15)*** explicitly prohibits the application of pavement or surface art on travel lanes, paved shoulders, intersections, crosswalks or sidewalks. It defines pavement or surface art as surface markings that are not in direct support of traffic control or public safety. This language helps eliminate potential misinterpretation of the purpose and intent of surface markings.

2. ***2023 Florida Greenbook, Chapter 18.D*** defines and explicitly prohibits the application of pavement art and surface art.

Examples of non-complaint surface pavement would include any pavement markings that do not meet the color, shape, or dimensions provided in the ***MUTCD*** or ***FDOT Standard Plans***; including elements such as Bicycle Symbols, Crosswalk markings, or other pavement surface art that is associated with social, political, or ideological messages or images and does not serve the purpose of traffic control.

This memorandum showcases Florida's proactive steps to ensure that all transportation traffic control devices and pavement marking are installed for traffic control purposes and the safety of the traveling public with the passage of recently enacted legislation. This policy has now also garnered further support with our federal partners as U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)'s Secretary Duffy recently issued a memo ([Link to USDOT Memorandum](#)) further supporting the shared vision of safety related to developing consistent and uniform standards on transportation facilities.

### **Implementation**

As stated in ***F.S. 316.0745***, the Department has the authority to enforce compliance and withhold state funds from any public agency that is found to be in violation of the established standards for traffic control devices on public roadways. This includes directing the removal of non-compliant traffic control devices and surface markings, including pavement art installations.

Any identified non-compliant traffic control devices or pavement markings currently installed on Florida public roads are to be immediately remedied, i.e., removed, modified or replaced as required for conformity with FDOT Policy and Standards. In accordance with ***Section 316.0745(7)***, F.S., failure to remove non-compliant traffic control devices or pavement markings shall be cause for withholding of state funds. Permission to allow non-compliant traffic control

devices or pavement markings to remain may be granted at the Department's discretion, if the public agency is able to demonstrate good cause for doing so.

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