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SECRETARY

OFFICE OF DESIGN MEMORANDUM 20-01
TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM 20-01
DME MEMORANDUM 20-04
DCE MEMORANDUM 20-19

DATE: August 18, 2020

TO: District Directors of Transportation Operations, District Directors of Transportation Development, District Design Engineers, District Construction Engineers, District Structures Design Engineers, District Maintenance Engineers, District Consultant Project Management Engineers, District Roadway Design Engineers, District Traffic Operations Engineers, Program Management Engineers, District Materials Engineers, District Specifications Engineers, District Estimates Engineers

FROM: Tim Lattner, P.E., Director, Office of Design
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SUBJECT: Managed Lane Markers (Tubular Markers)

This Memorandum provides notification of upcoming changes to the color from orange to white of tubular markers (currently called either Managed Lane Markers or Express Lane Markers) providing separation between managed lanes and general use lanes. The District Design and Construction Offices are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities to change the color prior to the implementation to avoid a prolonged transition from orange to white through maintenance operations.

For construction projects with lettings prior to July 2021, at the contractor's request, white tubular markers may be substituted in locations where orange tubular markers are called for in the plans. This substitution is only permitted if it will be applied to the entire project. No mixing of orange and white tubular markers within the project is permitted. This memorandum serves as a blanket approval to process a $0.00 contract change to substitute white for orange tubular markers and should be attached to the Work Order or Supplemental Agreement.

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MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

Effective immediately, during maintenance of existing installations of tubular markers providing separation between managed lanes and general use lanes, replace damaged orange-colored tubular markers with new white-colored tubular markers. Existing orange-colored tubular markers may remain until their service life is completed. The use of the existing inventory of orange-colored tubular markers is allowed for managed lane applications until the inventory is depleted.

During the transition period, there may be a random mixture of orange and white tubular markers. The District should look for opportunities to replace existing orange-colored permanent tubular markers at a faster rate (e.g., RRR projects, restriping operations).

BACKGROUND

The Department conducted a ***Human Factors Study on the Use of Colors for Express Lane Markers*** (FDOT Contract BDV24 TWO 977-26). The purpose of the study was to determine the most appropriate colors for tubular markers for managed lane applications. The colors of white and yellow, which are required by the MUTCD, performed best in the study.

Beginning with July 2021 lettings, the Department will be using the same product as the Managed Lane Markers for permanent channelizing devices on arterials and collectors. For the July 2021 Standard Specifications, new Specifications Sections 704 and 991 for Tubular Markers will be effective. The Managed Lane Markers along with the other applications for arterials and collectors will be covered under these new Standard Specifications for Tubular Markers. The colors for these Tubular Markers will be the same as the lane line they supplement (white or yellow) per the MUTCD requirements. There will be no allowance for the use of orange-colored permanent tubular markers.

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