

9900303 TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE MATERIALS
COMMENTS FROM INTERNAL/INDUSTRY REVIEW

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Comments: (1-18-19, Internal)

This change does not provide for the 12 inch font. I suggest the following (in red):

990-3.3 Portable Changeable Message Sign:

990-3.3.1 Message Matrix:

1. Message matrix panel shall be a maximum height of 7 feet by a maximum width of 10 feet.

2. The matrix must be capable of displaying three lines of 8 characters using an 18 inch **or 12 inch** font that meets the height to width ratio and character spacing requirements in the MUTCD, Section 2L.04, paragraphs 05, 06, and 08. PCMS with a minimum font size of 18 inches shall be used on any speed facility. **PCMS with a minimum font size of 12 inches may be used on facilities with speeds of 45 mph or less**

I do not know if that is the same reference in the MUTCD for the 12 inch font. I can only assume that the rest of the criteria is applicable.

Also the statement in Green does not belong in this section. It is a direction to the contractor and has been stated in Section 102.

Response: Agree. Change has been made for font height. We are going to leave the language about speed. Construction really wants to emphasize the character height based on the speeds, and wants to leave this language in 990.

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Comments: (11-18-19, Internal)

What is the origin of this request other than MUTCD?

Response: The origin of the request comes from District 4. They had an instance where they could not fit the 18" character sign on a project because of right of way restrictions. The MUTCD allows smaller character sizes for lower speed facilities. Hence we are making the change based on the speed of the facility. We discussed the change with District 4, and they believe the change based on the facility speed will cover most of their ROW concerns.

The only concern that I see initially, is that our mini VMS' will not be allowed on roadways where the speed is greater than 45mph. Sometimes, a space issue is that only reason we would place a smaller unit there in the first place.

Response: Correct, the smaller signs would not be allowed on higher speed facilities. We believe this change will address most of the ROW issues. If we continue to receive requests for smaller signs for ROW concerns after this change is implemented, then we can evaluate how to address these other cases.

David O'Hagan
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Comments: (12-10-19, Industry)

PCMS with a minimum font size of 12 inches may be used on facilities with ACTIVE POSTED speeds of 45 mph or less.

Response: Good Catch. We will use language similar to that in the MUTCD and change to "speed limits."

Douglas Prager
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Comments: (1-2-20, Industry)

Will there be a separate pay item for each PCMS? The smaller is cheaper so the department should realize some of the savings. No way to do this without separate pay item. Also none on APL at this time.

Response: The pay item in 102 is for furnishing, installing, relocating, maintaining, and removing portable changeable message signs for each day. The proposed smaller sign is only an option for the contractor; separate payment is not recommended at this time.

This change will allow a new sign size for the APL. We can start evaluating these signs for listing on the APL after the specification is Federally Approved.
