



## Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

RACHEL D. CONE  
INTERIM SECRETARY

**STRUCTURES DESIGN BULLETIN 17-02**  
**ROADWAY DESIGN BULLETIN 17-02**  
**TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS BULLETIN 17-02**  
*(FHWA Approved: March 28, 2017)*

DATE: March 30, 2017

TO: District Directors of Transportation Operations, District Directors of Transportation Development, District Design Engineers, District Construction Engineers, District Traffic Operations Engineers, District Structures Design Engineers, District Structures Maintenance Engineers, Plans Preparation Manual Holders, Structures Manual Holders

FROM: Robert V. Robertson, P.E., State Structures Design Engineer   
Michael Shepard, P.E., State Roadway Design Engineer   
Trey Tillander, P.E., Director, Office of Traffic Engineering and Operations 

COPIES: Brian Blanchard, Courtney Drummond, Tim Lattner, David Sadler, Rudy Powell, Amy Tootle, Daniel Scheer, Gregory Schiess, SDO Staff, Jeffrey Ger (FHWA)

SUBJECT: Signs and Sign Supports Attached To Bridges

### **REQUIREMENTS**

1. Add the following new section to ***FDOT MODIFICATIONS TO LRFD SPECIFICATIONS FOR STRUCTURAL SUPPORTS FOR HIGHWAY SIGNS, LUMINAIRES AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS (LRFDLTS-1)***:

#### **2.6 Integration of Structural Supports With Roadway And Bridge Design**

##### **2.6.1 Signs**

*Add the following:*

Installation of all permanent signs and associated sign supports other than *Design Standards* Indexes 11870 and 11871 on bridges must be approved by the District Structures Design Engineer.

For permanent signs directed towards traffic on the bridge and that are attached to bridge superstructures, limit the total sign area to 25 square feet per support.

##### **C 2.6.1**

*Add the following:*

See the FDOT PPM, Volume 1, Section 4.5 and FDOT SDG Section 1.9 for criteria for making attachments to traffic railings.

When signs directed towards the lower roadway are approved to be attached to substructures and/or superstructures, limit the height of the signs and associated sign supports to between the top of the adjacent traffic/pedestrian railing and 6” above the bottom of the adjacent beam/girder.

Signs directed towards the lower roadway that are attached to bridges are not permitted to extend above a traffic railing because they are not crashworthy designs. In addition, wind forces induced on the bridge could cause unforeseen stresses, hinder future bridge widenings and create aesthetic concerns for the bridge travelers.

See the FDOT PPM, Volume 1, Section 2.10 for vertical clearance requirements.

**Modification for Non-Conventional Projects:**

Delete the first paragraph of *LRFDLTS-1* 2.6.1 and insert the following:

Installation of all permanent signs and associated sign supports other than *Design Standards* Indexes 11870 and 11871 on bridges is not permitted unless otherwise shown in the RFP.

2. Add the following to *Plans Preparation Manual*, Volume 1, Section 29.1, at the end of the section:

See *FDOT Modifications To LRFD Specifications For Structural Supports For Highway Signs, Luminaires And Traffic Signals (LRFDLTS-1), Structures Manual Volume 3*, Section 2.6 for limitations on the use of bridge mounted signs.

3. Add the following to *Traffic Engineering Manual*, Section 2.6:

**2.6.5 GUIDE SIGNS ON OVERPASSES**

See *FDOT Modifications To LRFD Specifications For Structural Supports For Highway Signs, Luminaires And Traffic Signals (LRFDLTS-1), Structures Manual Volume 3*, Section 2.6 for limitations on the use of bridge mounted signs.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

These requirements are effective immediately on all design-bid-build projects at 60% plans or less. These requirements may be implemented immediately on all other design-bid-build projects at the discretion of the District.

These requirements are effective immediately on all design-build projects for which the advertisement has not been released. Design-build projects for which the advertisement has been released are exempt from these requirements unless otherwise directed by the District.

Structures Design Bulletin 17-02  
Roadway Design Bulletin 17-02  
Traffic Engineering and Operations Bulletin 17-02  
Signs and Sign Supports Attached To Bridges  
Page 3 of 3

## **CONTACT**

Andre Pavlov, P.E.  
Assistant State Structures Design Engineer  
Phone (850)-414-4293  
[andre.pavlov@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:andre.pavlov@dot.state.fl.us)

RVR/CEB