



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N925 - CM
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204


PHONE: (317) 232-5456
FAX: (317) 232-5551

Michael R. Pence, Governor
Brandye L. Hendrickson,
Commissioner

October 25, 2016

CONSTRUCTION MEMORANDUM 16-12

TO: District Deputy Commissioners
District Construction Directors
District Technical Services Directors
District Area Engineers
District Project Management Director
Project Management Director
District Traffic Engineers
District Testing Engineers
District LPA Coordinators
Project Engineers/Supervisors
Field Engineers
Office of Material Management

FROM: *for* Mark A. Miller, Director 
Division of Construction Management and District Support

SUBJECT: Protection of Traffic

It has come to the attention of Construction Management that there may be an issue with the protection of traffic as it applies to the placement of construction sign bases along shoulders adjacent to traffic. Occurrences of sign bases being left along open inside and outside shoulder areas adjacent to live travel lanes are being reported. These areas must be kept free and clear of obstructions in order to provide the least inconvenience to traffic and allow access for emergency vehicles if situations arise. The reports of sign bases being left in shoulder areas adjacent to live travel lanes would not meet these requirements. They produce an obstruction to traffic, and may impede or block emergency access.

All construction signs, posts, and temporary foundations shall be located to minimize the hazard to motorists in accordance with 801.04. These construction signs should be completely covered or removed when their messages no longer apply to the construction situation. When these construction signs are removed, the signs, posts and foundations may be stored on-site, but shall be in accordance with 107.08(c).

In accordance with 107.08(c), items shall be stored no less than 30 ft from the edge of open pavement lanes except when those items are stored behind guardrail in good condition. Cable rail is not considered as providing traffic with the same type of protection against stored items as guardrail. Therefore, cable rail should not be considered to be an acceptable substitute for guardrail when storing items closer than 30 ft from the edge of open pavement.

If there are any questions on the issue of protection of traffic as described above, please contact your District's Field Engineer for assistance.

MAM/kap