February 5, 2013

TO: Jon Nance, Deputy Chief Engineer

FROM: J. Stuart Bourne, PE, State Traffic Management Engineer

SUBJECT: Flashing Arrow Boards (REVISED)

On November 29, 2012 we sent a memo clarifying the sizes of Flashing Arrow Boards used in stationary, moving/mobile operations as well as for emergency service work. Since that time, it has been brought to our attention that no allowances were made for the replacement of flashing arrow boards used on shadow vehicles inside of stationary lane closures. This was an oversight on our part and there should be the same consideration for the use of these devices until the end of their useful lives as the ones described in item #2 below. Item #1 has been revised to grant the same flexibility for these.

1) **Stationary Operations** (ie lane closures) - Use 96” x 48” sized trailer mounted flashing arrow boards according to the Roadway Standard Drawings. The shadow vehicles used inside of a stationary lane closure may use the 60” x 30” flashing arrow boards until they can be replaced or until the end of their useful life. Upon replacement, 96” x 48” flashing arrow boards are to be installed on the vehicles where they are required equipment.

2) **Moving/Mobile Operations on facilities with Speed Limits 60 MPH and higher**

   We recommend the use of truck mounted 96” x 48” flashing arrow boards on the required shadow vehicle and advance warning vehicles. Vehicles where flashing arrow boards are shown as “optional” equipment, may use the 60” x 30” devices. However, in an effort to provide the Divisions a reasonable strategy to replace the smaller flashing arrow boards, the existing 60” x 30” devices may be used until they can be replaced or until the end of their useful life. Upon replacement, 96” x 48” flashing arrow boards are to be installed on the vehicles where they are required equipment.

3) **Moving/Mobile Operations on facilities with Speed Limits 55 MPH and below**

   Either sized (96” x 48” or the 60” x 30”) truck mounted devices may be used for shadow vehicles and advance warning vehicles. Flashing arrow boards smaller than 60” x 30” should not be used on NCDOT roadways for construction or maintenance activities.
4) Emergency Service/IMAP vehicles

Emergency Service/IMAP vehicles are exceptions to these standards as they are responding to incidences (unplanned events) and are supplementing law enforcement and other emergency service personnel. They may be equipped with a flashing arrow board that is appropriately sized for the vehicle.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me or Steve Kite by phone at 919 662-4338 or by email at sbourne@ncdot.gov or skite@ncdot.gov.

cc:

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