



Florida Department of Transportation

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TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS BULLETIN 17-03
ROADWAY DESIGN BULLETIN 17-11
DCE MEMORANDUM NO. 12-17
(FHWA Approved: 07/27/2017)

DATE: July 27, 2017

TO: District Directors of Transportation Operations, District Directors of Transportation Development, District Design Engineers, District Consultant Project Management Engineers, District Construction Engineers, District Structures Design Engineers, District Maintenance Engineers, District Roadway Design Engineers, District Traffic Operations Engineers, District Program Management Engineers/Administrators.

FROM: Trey Tillander, P.E., Director, Traffic Engineering and Operations Office *Trey Tillander*
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SUBJECT: Manual on Speed Zoning for Highways, Roads, and Streets in Florida (*Speed Zoning Manual*) and associated Design Standards Revisions

The Department's *Speed Zoning Manual*, has been released with an effective date of July 30, 2017. It has been updated to include criteria for the signing and marking of school zones in Chapter 15 – Establishing School Zones and School Crossings. As a result, there are *Design Standards Revisions* and changes to Department Procedures implemented herein.

A summary of major changes to School Zones and School Crossings is as follows:

- No static Time of Day signs permitted (flashing beacons required)
- Reduced Speed Limit (only 15 or 20 MPH permitted)
- Location of pavement markings
- Speeding Fines Doubled sign requirements

REQUIREMENTS

1. The [*Speed Zoning Manual*](#) is released.
2. The following [*Design Standards Revisions \(DSR\)*](#) are released:
 - a. Index 17344 (School Signs and Markings) is updated.
 - b. Index 11862 (Roadside Flashing Beacon) is updated.

BACKGROUND

The Department is required to establish criteria for the installation of traffic and pedestrian controls for school zones per Section 316.1895, F.S., Establishment of school speed zones, enforcement, designation. All requirements related to school zones and crossings are included in the *Speed Zoning Manual*. The *Speed Zoning Manual* is adopted through Rule 14-15.012, F.A.C. and applies to all public roads in Florida, both on and off the state highway system.

COMMENTARY

The current procedure 750-010-027-h "ESTABLISHING SCHOOL ZONES AND SCHOOL CROSSINGS" is rescinded, effective July 30, 2017.

All information related to school zones and crossings has been included in the Speed Zoning Manual, so the current Design Standards, Index 17344 "School Signs and Markings" has been modified to include only the "School" pavement marking and sheet 5 of 6 has been relocated to Standard Index 11862 "Roadside Flashing Beacon".

In accordance with [*Roadway Design Bulletin 17-06*](#) and as part of this request for revision to the *FY 2018-19 Standard Plans for Road and Bridge Construction* (Formerly Known As: Design Standards) the current Index 11862 "Roadside Flashing Beacon", will be renumbered and renamed; Index 700-120, "Electronic Display Sign - Roadside Flashing Beacons".

IMPLEMENTATION

The use of Speed Zoning Manual, Chapter 15, "Establishing School Zones and School Crossings" is required for:

- All projects with lettings on or after January 1, 2018.
- Projects under construction with lettings prior to January 1, 2018, where school zone traffic control devices have not been installed. This Construction Memo serves as a blanket approval to process a contract supplemental agreement or work order.

The requirements for installation of traffic control devices for all new school areas, school crossings and school zones shall comply with the Speed Zoning Manual (2017 Edition). For existing school areas, school crossings and school zones, the requirements in the Speed Zoning Manual shall have a

compliance date of July 1, 2022. All existing school pavement markings shall be updated in accordance with Chapter 15 and may occur during the next resurfacing cycle when pavement markings are replaced.

The Department will coordinate with Local Agencies to provide an inventory of school zones that do not meet the new requirements by August 1, 2018. After the inventory has been reviewed and approved, the Department will coordinate with the Local Agencies to implement the new requirements. Any school zone locations not identified in the inventory are still required to comply with the criteria of the *Speed Zoning Manual* for school zone signing and markings.

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