CHARLIE CRIST GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee St. Tallahassee, Fl. 32399-0450 STEPHANIE C. KOPELOUSOS SECRETARY

May 21, 2008 This Memo Has Expired

DCE MEMORANDUMNO. 16-08

(FHWA Approved: 5/21/08)

TO: DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS

FROM: Brian Blanchard, Director, Office of Construction

COPIES: David Sadler, Andy Keel, Dean Perkins, MaryAnne Koos, Jim Mills,

Leslie McCarthy (FHWA), Bob Burleson (FTBA)

SUBJECT: PLACEMENT OF DETECTABLE WARNINGS

This memo is issued to provide new direction for the placement of detectable warnings on curb ramps, landings and flush transitions. This is consistent with recent guidance provided by the United States Access Board and Federal Highway Administration.

Detectable warnings replace the edge cue provided by a curb for persons with vision impairments. This is why detectable warnings are placed along the back-of-curb. Sometimes, on radius returns, the detectable warnings will be partially on the landing and extend onto the curb ramp. On these radius returns, the detectable warnings may be placed perpendicular across the bottom of the curb ramp, **but only if the bottom of the curb ramp is no more than 5 feet** from the back-of-curb. If any part of the bottom of the curb ramp is greater than 5 feet from the back-of-curb, the detectable warnings must be placed along the back-of-curb.

Detectable warnings do not provide directional information; however, the orientation of detectable warnings may impact the tracking of wheelchairs on curb ramps where slopes are greater than 5%. Detectable warnings shall be oriented as follows:

• When placed on curb ramps, landings and flush transitions perpendicular to the curb line: Rows of domes shall be aligned with the centerline of the ramp. See Pictorial View A on the attached Interim Design Standard Index 304, Sheet 6 of 6, dated **04/30/08**.

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- When placed on landings and flush transitions at radius returns: Rows of domes are **not** required to be aligned with the centerline of the ramp. See Pictorial View B on the attached Interim Design Standard Index 304, Sheet 6 of 6, dated **04/30/08**.
- When placed on curb ramps at radius returns: Rows of domes shall be aligned with the centerline of the ramp. See Pictorial View C on the attached Interim Design Standard Index 304, Sheet 6 of 6, dated **04/30/08**.

Interim Index 304, Sheet 6 of 6, dated **04/30/08**, will not be referenced in contracts until the January 2009 letting. For all projects let prior to January 2009, this memorandum serves as a blanket approval to process a \$0.00 contract change to allow the use of this Interim Index. A copy of this memorandum should be attached to the Work Order or Supplemental Agreement.

If you have any questions, please contact Stefanie Maxwell at (850) 414-4314.

BB/mw Attachment

