



Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Memorandum

To: Ivan B. Ulberg, P.E., Traffic Design Engineer
Danielle C. Bolan, P.E., Traffic Operations Engineer
Patricia Burke, P.E., Traffic Safety Engineer

From: Roy A. Peterson, P.E., Traffic and Safety Engineer

Date: September 26, 2017

Subject: Type XI Sign Sheeting – Application
Florescent Yellow for Curve, Pedestrian and no passing signs
Replacement schedule for signs

Type XI (eleven) sign sheeting for sign faces has shown to have higher visibility than type IV and type IX sheeting during all light conditions, has a higher level of retro reflectivity, and has a longer life before replacement. Type IX sheeting is being phased out of the industry by all vendors.

For the purposes of design, MDT's standard of practice shall be to specify type XI sheeting for all warning and regulatory signage. Any additional applications that currently use type IX sheeting, such as lettering for large overhead D-3 signs, will now use type XI. Background sheeting for D-3 signs will remain type IV. Black / white route markers will also use type XI sheeting to simplify sign producers' inventories.

This change will be mandatory to all projects with letting dates after June 1, 2018. This will allow sign producers time to use all existing type IX inventory. These changes may begin to be implemented at the issue date of this memo at the discretion of the designer.

Florescent yellow (FY) sheeting shall be used for horizontal alignment signs, no passing zone pennants (a new addition to the FY sign line-up) and pedestrian crossing signs, excluding school crossings. School crossing signs shall remain florescent yellow green.

MDT Maintenance is currently transitioning from type IX to XI. They are no longer ordering type IX sheeting. However, there is a large inventory of existing regulatory and some warning signs. These may still be deployed until all existing stock is depleted.

The replacement schedule for sign faces shall be 10 (ten) years for all signs, and will be based on the date the sign was installed. When sign replacement is included in the scope of a construction project, replacement of all signs 8 years or older based on the ready date will be required.

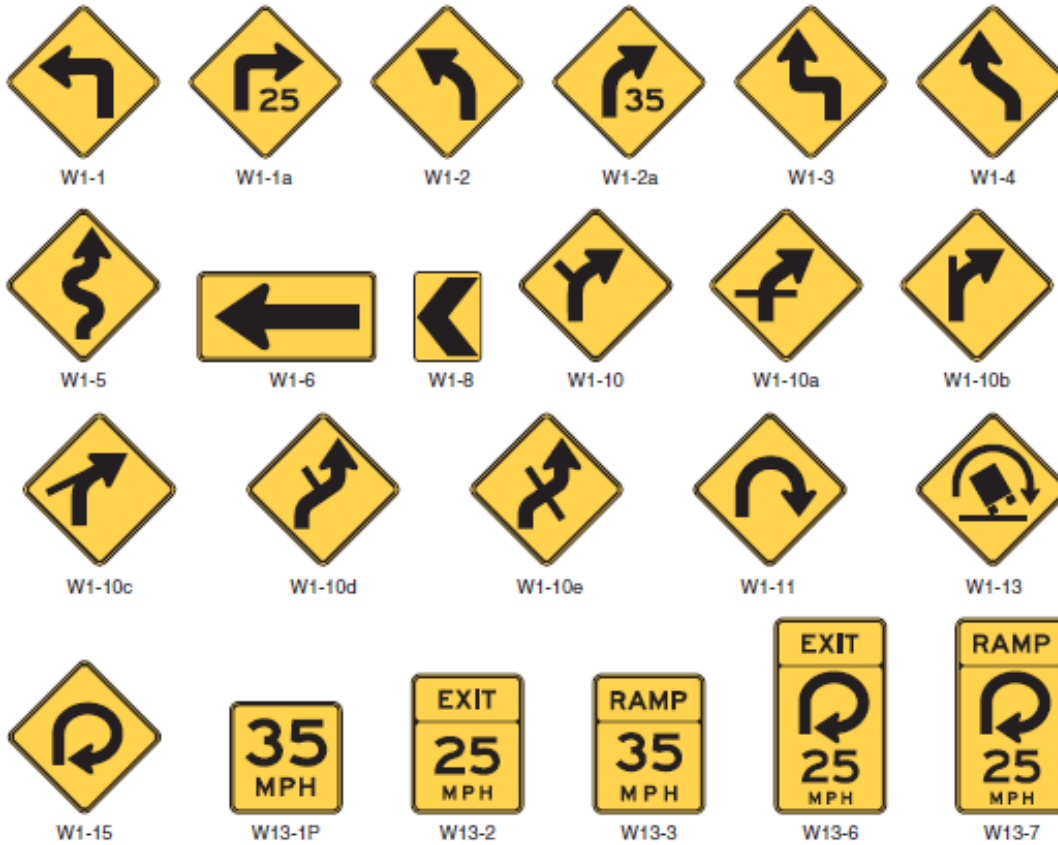
Two new bid items have been created to be used when preparing cost estimates and plans packages for contract plans. They are:

619 010 090 SIGNS-ALUM REFL SHEET XI
619 010 062 SIGNS-ALUM SHEET INCR XI

No Passing Zone / Pedestrian Crossing Signs



Figure 2C-1. Horizontal Alignment Signs and Plaques



Note: Turn arrows and reverse turn arrows may be substituted for the curve arrows and reverse curve arrows on the W1-10 series signs where appropriate.

copies:

- Dwane Kailey, P.E., Chief Engineer
- Jim Cornell, Traffic – Sign Design Supervisor
- Steve Rogne, Traffic – Sign Design Supervisor
- Jay Andrew, Traffic – Signing Checker
- LeRoy Wosoba, P.E. – Traffic Project Engineer
- Mike Grover, P.E. – Traffic Project Engineer
- Scott Gerken, P.E. – Traffic Project Engineer
- Jon Swartz, Maintenance Administrator
- Doug McBroom, Maintenance – Operations Manager
- Harlan Davis, Maintenance – Sign Shop Forman
- Brian Miller, P.E., Consultant Design
- Master File