



Raised Pavement Markers and Delineators

Design Manual

Chapter 9

Traffic Control

Originally Issued: 09-01-95

Revised: 12-30-11

Although pavement markings are effective in guiding traffic through work zones, pavement markings may be supplemented by raised pavement markers (RPMs) and delineators to outline the vehicular path and lead traffic around a work zone. This section describes raised pavement markings and delineators and presents guidelines for their use.

Raised Pavement Markers

Raised pavement markers are used to supplement standard pavement markings when a higher degree of nighttime visibility is warranted. The use of RPMs in combination with standard pavement markings has been replaced by Wet Retroreflective Pavement Marking Tape (WRRPMT). Using the WRRPMT negates the need to place both temporary paint and RPMs. The decision to use paint and RPMs in cold weather applications instead of WRRPMT comes from the Contractor via change order in the contract. Therefore, any situations that used to call for RPMs and standard pavement markings should now be marked with WRRPMT only.

Delineators

Delineators are post-mounted retroreflective units with minimum dimensions of approximately 3 inches (75 millimeters) in diameter. The reflector units can be seen from up to 1,000 feet (300 meters) under normal conditions when reflecting the high beam of standard automobile headlights.

Delineators should not be used alone as channelizing devices in work zones but may be used to supplement the other channelizing devices in outlining the correct vehicle path. To be effective, several delineators need to be seen at the same time. The color of the delineator should be the same as the pavement marking that it supplements. Delineators are not to be used in lieu of arrows, chevrons, signs, or any other warning devices.

Post-mounted delineators should be used with on-site detours and shoulder runarounds. They should be spaced no more than 50 feet (15 meters) apart when placed in work zones. See [SI-172](#) for general information regarding delineators.

Chronology of Changes to Design Manual Section:

009B-004 Raised Pavement Markers and Delineators

12/30/2011 Revised

Remove 'Pavement Markings' section as it is being added to 9D-1. Noted design switch from Raised Pavement Markers to Wet Retroreflective Pavement Marking Tape.