Contents

Foreword iii

Comment Form v

Chapter 1 General Information 1-1
  1.1 Overview 1-1
  1.2 Subject Matter 1-1
  1.3 WSDOT Traffic Functions 1-2
  1.4 Key Reference Material 1-4
  1.5 Abbreviations 1-7

Chapter 2 Signs 2-1
  2.1 General 2-1
  2.2 Sign Design 2-2
  2.3 Sign Location, Installation, and Storage 2-7
  2.4 Sign Installation and Maintenance Jurisdiction 2-8
  2.5 Traffic Sign Management System (TSMS) 2-9
  2.6 State Traffic Laws and Regulations Requiring a Sign for Enforcement 2-10
  2.7 Regulatory Signs 2-11
  2.8 Warning Signs 2-18
  2.9 School Areas 2-30
  2.10 Guide Signs 2-33
  2.11 Route Signs 2-35
  2.12 Distance Signs 2-39
  2.13 Supplemental Guide Signs 2-40
  2.14 Destination Selection Requirements and Installation Details for Specific Types of Traffic Generators 2-44
  2.15 Unwarranted Traffic Generators/Destinations 2-54
  2.16 Follow-Through Signing 2-55
  2.17 General Motorist Service Signs (MSS) 2-56
  2.18 Other Essential Guide Signs 2-61
  2.19 Miscellaneous Signing 2-65
  2.20 Variable Message Signs 2-73
  2.21 Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) and Traveler Information Station (TIS) Signing 2-74
## Contents

| Appendix 2-1 | Speed Zone Signing | 2-75 |
| Appendix 2-2 | Intersection U-Turn Signing | 2-76 |
| Appendix 2-3 | Auxiliary Climbing Lane Signing | 2-77 |
| Appendix 2-4 | Auxiliary Passing Lane Signing | 2-78 |
| Appendix 2-5 | Wrong Way Signing for At-Grade Intersections | 2-79 |
| Appendix 2-6 | Wrong Way Signing for Interchange Ramps | 2-80 |
| Appendix 2-7 | Wrong Way Signing for Roundabouts | 2-81 |
| Appendix 2-8 | Shoulder Driving Signing | 2-82 |
| Appendix 2-9 | Slow Moving Vehicle Turn-Out Signing | 2-83 |
| Appendix 2-10 | Low Clearance Signing | 2-84 |
| Appendix 2-11 | Lateral Clearance Markers – Objects Within Outside Shoulder | 2-85 |
| Appendix 2-11A | Lateral Clearance Markers – Objects Within Inside Shoulder | 2-86 |
| Appendix 2-12 | Reduced School Speed Zone Signing | 2-87 |
| Appendix 2-13 | Route Intersection Guide Signing | 2-88 |
| Appendix 2-14 | Crossroad Interchange Approach Guide Signs | 2-89 |
| Appendix 2-15 | Expressway Intersection Approach Guide Signs | 2-90 |
| Appendix 2-16 | Expressway Interchange Approach Guide Signs | 2-91 |
| Appendix 2-17 | Freeway Interchange Approach Signing | 2-92 |
| Appendix 2-18 | Freeway Exit Ramp Guide Signs | 2-93 |
| Appendix 2-19 | Freeway Post Interchange Signs | 2-94 |
| Appendix 2-20 | Auxiliary Freeway Lane Less than 1/4 Mile Long | 2-95 |
| Appendix 2-21 | Auxiliary Freeway Lane 1/4 Mile or More in Length | 2-96 |
| Appendix 2-22 | Supplemental Guide Sign Criteria | 2-97 |
| Appendix 2-23 | Signing to Amtrak | 2-98 |
| Appendix 2-24 | Application for Historic/Cultural Sign | 2-99 |
| Appendix 2-25 | Adopt-a-Highway Signs for Volunteer Groups | 2-100 |
| Appendix 2-26 | Adopt-a-Highway Signs for Business Spnsored Groups | 2-101 |

## Chapter 3

### Delineation
3-1

- 3.1 General
3-1
- 3.2 Pavement Markings
3-1
- 3.3 Guideposts
3-2
- 3.4 Barrier Delineation
3-3
- 3.5 Chevron Alignment Signs
3-3
- 3.6 Raised Pavement Markers
3-3
- 3.7 Impact Attenuator Marking
3-4
## Chapter 4  Signals and Illumination

4.1 MUTCD  4-1  
4.2 Design Manual  4-1  
4.3 Flashing Operation  4-1  
4.4 Intersection Control Beacons  4-1  
4.5 Audio-Tone Signal Application  4-2  
4.6 Illumination  4-2  

## Chapter 5  Work Zone Traffic Control

5.1 General  5-1  
5.2 Principles  5-1  
5.3 Strategy Planning  5-9  
5.4 Plan Preparation  5-10  
5.5 Work Zone Operations  5-14  
  Appendix 5.A Work Zone Traffic Control  5.A-1  
  Appendix 5.B Speed Limit Reductions in Work Zones  5.B-1  

## Chapter 6  Traffic Regulations

6.1 General  6-1  
6.2 Documentation  6-2  
6.3 Regional Traffic Regulations  6-3  
6.4 Headquarters Traffic Regulations  6-11  
6.5 Other Traffic Restrictions  6-20  
6.6 Rescinding Existing Traffic Regulations  6-20  

## Chapter 7  Specialized Highway Uses

7.1 Introduction  7-1  
7.2 Bicycling, Running, Walking, Parade, and Festival Special Events  7-1  
7.3 Commercial Filming on State Highways  7-6  
7.4 Other Special Events  7-7  
7.5 Traffic Control for Special Events  7-7  
7.6 Special Event Signing Guidelines  7-9  
7.7 Banners  7-11  
7.8 Special Event Pavement Markings  7-14  
7.9 Transit Vehicle Stop Zones  7-14  
7.10 School Bus Stops on Limited Access Highways  7-16  
7.11 Interpretive Signs/Markers  7-17  
7.12 “Memorial” Highways and Bridges  7-17  
7.13 Pedestrians Crossing Limited Access Highways  7-18  
7.14 Shoulder Driving for Slow Vehicles  7-19  
  Appendix 7-1 Memorandum of Understanding  7-25  
  Appendix 7-2 Transit Vehicle Stop Zone Guidelines  7-40  
  Appendix 7-3 Interpretive Signs/Markers Agreement  7-68  

**Contents**
Chapter 8  Highway Advertising Control

8.1  General

8.2  Highway Advertising Signs

8.3  Advertising at Rest Areas and on Washington State Ferries

Appendix 8-1  Unzoned Commercial/Industrial Area

Appendix 8-2  Sign Visibility Checklist on Unregulated Roadways

Appendix 8-3  Type 3(b) Business Complex On-Premise Sign

Appendix 8-4  Off Premise Sign Spacing – Interstate

Appendix 8-5a  Off Premise Sign Spacing – NHS Non-Interstate Controlled Access

Appendix 8-5b  Off Premise Sign Spacing – NHS Non-Interstate Non-Controlled Access

Appendix 8-6  Sign Permit Application

Appendix 8-7  Permit Application Transmittal

Appendix 8-8a  Interstate Sign Permit Review Checklist

Appendix 8-8b  NHS Non-Interstate or Scenic System Sign Permit Review Checklist

Appendix 8-9  Agricultural Sign Permit Application

Appendix 8-10a  Sample Voluntary Compliance Letter – Property Owner

Appendix 8-10b  Sample Voluntary Compliance Letter – Sign Owner

Appendix 8-11  Request for AG Assistance to Remove Illegal Signs

Appendix 8-12  Highway Advertising Control Field Review

Appendix 8-13  Illegal Sign Inventory

Appendix 8-14  Letter to City for Illegal Sign Removal

Chapter 9  Safety Management System

9.1  General

9.2  SMS Collaboration Responsibilities Within WSDOT

9.3  SMS Needs Identification Within WSDOT

9.4  SMS Solution and Resource Development Within WSDOT

9.5  SMS Investment Prioritization/Implementation Within WSDOT

9.6  SMS Investment Tracking Within WSDOT

9.7  SMS Investment Evaluation Within WSDOT

9.8  WSDOT Programming for Safety Preservation and Improvements

9.9  References
Chapter 11  Traffic Engineering Records Management

11.1 Overview 11-1
11.2 WSDOT’s Record Management Guidelines 11-1
11.3 Secretary of State’s Office, General Records Retention 11-2
11.4 Traffic Engineering Records Retention 11-2
11.5 Key Words and Phrases 11-3
11.6 Inventory Record of Site-Specific Traffic Control Device Installations 11-4
11.7 Executive Orders, Statutes, and Official Guidelines 11-4