



**STATE OF TENNESSEE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS DIVISION**  
SUITE 1000, JAMES K. POLK BUILDING  
505 DEADERICK STREET  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1402  
(615) 741-2208

**JOHN C. SCHROER**  
COMMISSIONER

**BILL HASLAM**  
GOVERNOR

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Nathan Vatter, Region 1 Traffic Engineer  
Alan Wolfe, Region 2 Traffic Engineer  
Phil Trammel, Region 3 Traffic Engineer  
Scott Pate, Region 4 Traffic Engineer  
Amin Salman, Headquarters Signing Designer  
Randy Plummer, Region 1 Signing Designer  
Kevin Crisp, Region 2 Signing Designer  
Rusty Boguski, Region 3 Signing Designer  
Larry Brasher, Region 4 Signing Designer

**FROM:** Jason Oldham, State Traffic Engineer  
Traffic Operations Division

**DATE:** December 14, 2015

**SUBJECT: Proposed Overhead Street Name Sign Layouts  
Traffic Signal Design Projects (Mounted on Mast Arm and Span Wires)**

For traffic signal design projects, the size of the proposed overhead street name sign is:

**Height:** 18"

**Width:** Varies depending on the legend required (6-foot minimum, 8-foot maximum)

To determine the width of the proposed overhead street name sign, the recommended procedure to follow is as follows:

1. Using Series "D" lettering style (8" upper-case, 6" lower-case)\*, calculate the length of the legend required and include the design criteria listed in the following section to determine the overall sign width. Round up to the nearest 6 inch increment (i.e. 7'-6").
2. If the Series "D" calculated sign width distance exceeds 8 feet, then use Series "C" lettering style (8" upper-case, 6" lower-case)\*. With Series "C", the maximum sign width may be increased up to 10 feet if necessary.
3. If the Series "C" calculated sign width distance exceeds 10 feet, then contact the Traffic Operations Division for further instructions.

\*Supplementary lettering to indicate the type of street (such as Street, Avenue, or Road) or the section of the city (such as NW) should be 6" upper-case, 4" lower-case.

Other proposed overhead street name sign design criteria includes:

**Color:** White on Green Background

**Sheeting:** Retro-reflective

**Border Width:** 1 inch

**Corner Radii:** 2.5 inches

**Minimum distance between the sign border and the legend:** 3 inches

If you should need any further information, please contact Steve Bryan at (615) 741-2152 or e-mail him at [Steve.Bryan@tn.gov](mailto:Steve.Bryan@tn.gov).

**CC:** Larry Jordan, Christie Brown, Robert Rodgers, Shane Hester, Gary Scruggs, Steve Bryan, Stanley Trice, Melissa Shull, Mike Towles, File