



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**TRAFFIC DESIGN DIVISION**  
SUITE 1800, JAMES K. POLK BUILDING  
505 DEADERICK STREET  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1402  
(615) 253-1122

**HOWARD H. ELEY**  
COMMISSIONER

**BILL LEE**  
GOVERNOR

**TRAFFIC MEMORANDUM NO. 2403**

**Project Information and 511 Signs**

**Effective Immediately**, TDOT will begin to install informative signs on larger Program projects and bridge replacement projects. These signs will display the type of project and the estimated completion date. Additionally, a TN "511" sign (MUTCD Sign D12-5) will be posted to direct motorists to TDOT's SmartWay information service for project information and traffic conditions. Project information on these projects will also be reported on the TDOT SmartWay website. Therefore, it is essential that project/district staff notify their respective Regional Communications Officer (RCO) about any significant issues and any time extensions on these projects.

Signs on interstates and controlled access roadways with speed limits 55 miles per hour or greater, will have a larger 156"x 72" (13'x 6') project information sign (MUTCD Sign I2-5) posted at each end of the project. State route projects, non-controlled access roadways, and bridge replacement projects will have a 108"x 48" (9'x4') project information sign (MUTCD I2-5) posted at each end of the project. The "511" sign will be 72"x 72" (6'x 6') on interstates and controlled access roadways and 48"x 60" (4'x 5') on all other roadways.

These signs shall be included in the "Signing and Pavement Marking Plan" and paid for under the respective pay items for "permanent signs". (Item numbers 713.xx-xx)

When designing the signs, use the current contract completion date to determine the correct *season* for project completion. (i.e., for a contract completion date of September 30, 2026, the signs should show "Completion Fall 2026").

Seasons are as follows:

Spring - January, February, March, April

Summer - May, June, July, August

Fall - September, October, November, December

Roadway naming on the sign will be assigned by the RCO. Coordinate with the Headquarters Traffic Design Division and Regional Traffic Design Managers as needed.

All signs should be installed in accordance with TDOT Standard Drawings T-S-9, "Standard Layout Ground Mounted Signs" and T-S-13, "I-Beam Breakaway Large Sign Support Details". All signs will be "extruded aluminum panel signs".

At the completion of the project, project information signs shall be removed from all roadways. The "511" signs shall be removed from all roadways except for Interstates and controlled access highways where they will remain in place. The foundation and "post stubs" shall be removed to 4-inches (4") below the ground surface.

The signs should be placed as follows:

### **Controlled access routes**

Signs on Interstates and controlled access roadways with speed limits 55 miles per hour or greater, will have larger 156"x72" (13'x 6') Project Information sign (MUTCD Sign I2-5) posted at each end of the project.

The Project Information sign should be located 800' before the road work advance signage but can be reduced to 500' if spacing is needed. The 511 sign should be located 800' before the Project information sign but can be reduced to 500' if spacing is needed.

These signs should be placed so that they encompass all phases of the project.


### **Non-controlled access routes**

State route projects, non-controlled access roadways, and bridge replacement projects will have a 96"x48" (8'x4') Project Information sign (I2-5) posted at each end of the project.

The Project Information sign should be located 300' before the road work advance signage but can be reduced to 200' if spacing is needed. The 511 sign should be located 300' before the Project information sign but can be reduced to 200' if spacing is needed.

These signs should be placed so that they encompass all phases of the project.

For any questions or clarifications please contact [Eric.Jackson@tn.gov](mailto:Eric.Jackson@tn.gov) P:(615)-741-0802

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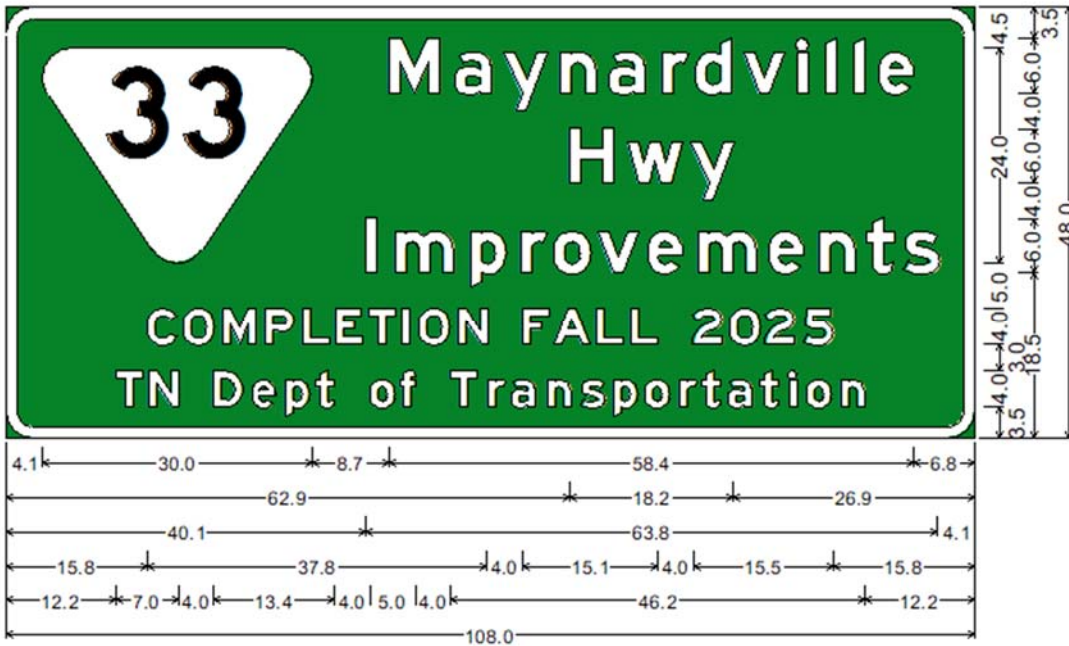
Andrew Barlow (Apr 24, 2024 11:56 CDT)

Andy Barlow, PE  
Director  
Traffic Design Division

AB:ej

Sign Example  
Interstate and Controlled Access Facilities





3.0" Radius, 1.3" Border, White on Green;  
 "Maynardville", E Mod 90% spacing; "Hwy", E Mod 90% spacing;  
 "Improvements", E Mod 90% spacing; "COMPLETION FALL 2025", E Mod;  
 "TN Dept of Transportation", E Mod;



2.3" Radius, 0.8" Border, White on Blue;  
 "TRAVEL", E 2K specified length;  
 "INFO", E 2K specified length;  
 "CALL 511", E 2K specified length;