

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

To Office Bridges and Structures Date April 10, 2006
Attention All Employees Ref No. 521.1
From Gary Novey
Office Bridges and Structures
Subject MM No. 58 (Revision to Temporary Roadway Widths during Staged Construction)

When determining roadway widths for staged construction, the Office of Bridges and Structures, Design Manual "Article 9.1.8.2 Construction considerations" has been revised as follows:

The Office of Design needs to be contacted when:

1. The roadway width during construction (width between barriers) is less than the minimum 14'-6, so Design can provide details for advance signing in advance of the work area.
2. The roadway width during construction is less than 10'-6 on primary and 12'-5 on interstate, so the Office of Traffic and Safety can do a TBR design review.

The guidelines shown in the Design Manual, Chapter 9 (Traffic Control), Section 9B-9 (Temporary Barrier Rail) need to be updated also. The required width in the Design Manual of 12'-5 is the "legal load width"; however, the Motor Carrier Services routinely allows oversize load widths up to 14'-6 without reviewing the route. This contradiction was discovered when permitted loads began encountering narrowed construction zones without advance signing; therefore, plans need to include restricted width signing for construction lanes widths less than 14'-6.

GAN/DGB/bj