

South Carolina Department of Transportation
Traffic Engineering Guideline

NUMBER: TG-25

SUBJECT: Use of Wireless Internet General Service Signs (D9-22)

BACKGROUND: In recent years, various governmental and business organizations have made wireless internet (Wi-Fi) service increasingly available in public locations. Wi-Fi, by definition, is internet access using wireless technology which is provided by an entity to assist consumers in their pursuit of work based or recreational information. The latest version of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD) contains a general service sign, D9-22, to inform motorists that Wi-Fi Services are available at a particular location. This guideline has been developed to define the appropriate locations where this sign may be installed on the South Carolina Highway System and to establish the legal responsibility of the parties providing the service.

GUIDELINE: The wireless internet general service sign should only be installed in conjunction with advance (1 Mile) signing for welcome centers and rest areas on the interstate system where Wi-Fi service is provided on a 24 hour, 7 day a week basis. This use is in compliance with the guidance provided in Section 2I.05 of the MUTCD for signing of rest areas and other roadside areas.

When used, the sign shall have the graphic indicated in the FHWA's Standard Highway Signs book and shall be fabricated in accordance with the sign layout for the D9-22. The sheeting type shall be as specified in Engineering Directive Memorandum number 4.

The wireless internet general service sign shall not be erected at any other type of interstate interchange or along the interstate mainline to indicate that Wi-Fi services are provided by governmental or private business organizations. In addition, the signs shall not be erected on US, SC or secondary routes on the state highway system.

The provider of the wireless service will bear the legal responsibility for all information provided over the wireless system. The provider should monitor transmissions to ensure that all access provided is only to web sites that are non-offensive in nature and appropriate for persons of all ages.

Any organization or business intending to provide wireless access at rest area or welcome center locations must first have written approval from the SCDOT Director of Maintenance Office.

Approved: 
Director of Traffic Engineering

June 9, 2011
Date