

South Carolina Department of Transportation  
Traffic Engineering Guidelines

**NUMBER:** TG-33

**SUBJECT:** Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons

**BACKGROUND:** Since the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) is not currently included in the MUTCD, each jurisdiction must request interim approval from FHWA prior to installation of these devices on state roadways. SCDOT has not requested FHWA approval for these devices and has no plans to in the immediate future. Some individual jurisdictions in SC have installed these devices on off-system roadways. The Department still reserves the right to approve individual locations for installation of RRFB on state roadways under the encroachment permit process.

Jurisdictions applying for an encroachment permit to install RRFBs will first have to obtain FHWA interim approval. Other encroachment permit applicants will have to obtain permission of both the jurisdiction to which interim approval has been granted and the Department. Because the Department is not currently installing these devices, no policy for installation criteria, equipment specifications, and maintenance had been developed prior to this guideline.

**GUIDEANCE:** Encroachment Permit Process

As part of the encroachment permit application, applicants will be required to provide the following information:

1. A study to show that RRFB installation is justified based on appropriate criteria from resources and research. The study shall include: Traffic data to include pedestrian and vehicular counts and crash history, a narrative describing the reason this location should be considered for implementation of RRFB, and describe other traffic control devices that have been used to address the concerns and their effectiveness.
2. Upon approval of installation, the applicant making the request would have to provide recommended installation and equipment specifications.

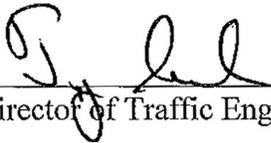
Device Ownership and Maintenance

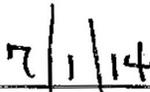
Upon receiving approval to install a RRFB on a state roadway under permit:

1. The applicant will be responsible for the full cost of device design, construction, and maintenance.
2. The applicant shall agree to bring the device into compliance with any future FHWA requirements for RRFB installations.

3. The applicant will be required to maintain the device in good working order at all times.
4. The applicant must receive Departmental approval before removing the device.

Approved:

  
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Director of Traffic Engineering

  
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Date