

South Carolina Department of Transportation
Engineering Directive

Directive Number: ED-49 **Effective:** June 6, 2023

Subject: Use of Statewide ITS System Message Boards

References None

Primary Department: Traffic Engineering

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has over eighty-five overhead permanent message boards and ninety-seven portable message boards that are part of the statewide Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). This system is used to inform the motoring public of real-time traffic conditions on our roadways. These messages are applicable to traffic management, incident management, construction, and maintenance activities statewide.

The high visibility of these devices has prompted several requests from various agencies to display messages that do not pertain to real-time traffic information. Some of these requests are for highway safety related activities; others are for general messages. SCDOT displays messages related to annual safety campaigns by the South Carolina Department of Public Safety (SCDPS) and other approved SCDOT and SCDPS campaigns.

In an effort to ensure usage protocols are consistent statewide, the display of messages for real-time traffic incidents, traffic congestion, construction, and maintenance will be facilitated through normal operating channels with the appropriate local Traffic Management Center. Additionally, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control ozone alerts; South Carolina Law Enforcement Division AMBER alerts, Blue alerts, and Missing Person Advisories; and Southeastern Traffic Information Exchange activations will be coordinated through the statewide Traffic Management Center in Columbia.

All non-traffic related message requests must be approved by the Deputy Secretary for Engineering seven working days in advance of a request to display a message. Please advise personnel in your districts to forward requests for use of these message boards through the proper channels for approval.

Submitted by: Brent S. Dillon, P.E.
Director of Traffic Engineering

Recommended by: Andrew T. Leaphart, P.E.
Chief Engineer for Operations

Approved by: Leland Colvin, P.E.
Deputy Secretary for Engineering

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First Revision on March 29, 2012
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