

Road Closed Signs



Description

It has become common practice to close routes for bridge replacements or rehabilitation projects. To provide the public notice, Changeable Message Signs have been used notifying the public of the closure date. Typically, two CMS boards are provided per project as well as a “Road Closed Date” sign. During a core team meeting regarding routes in Knox and Macon counties, it was decided that additional intersections should have CMS boards. However, with the average cost of \$3,500 per contractor, a small project’s budget can become financially impacted. The team recommended designing a 4x8 static sign that provided the route marker and the “Closed Ahead X Miles” message. Standardized plaques were made to designate the route number/letter and the date. Two signs were placed near the bridge to indicate the route and date of closure. After the road closed, the signs were relocated to designated intersections and message changed to indicate “Closed Ahead X Miles” as well as the route.

In January and February 2016, six bridge projects were selected to gauge contractors response to incorporating these signs. An average bid of \$350 per sign was received and no issues expressed. The weather impacted the closure, so the contractor was able to change the plaques to communicate the change. One request for change was to add the reason for closure so the sign was modified to state “Bridge Closed XX Miles Ahead”.

Benefit

The most significant savings associated with using static signs is the cost. The average CMS board is \$3,500 compared to static sign cost of \$350. The savings can be redirected to other needs of the project or used toward other STIP projects. In addition to cost savings, the static signs improve safety to motorists. CMS boards are much larger than the static signs and finding rural locations to safely place the boards is challenging. The static signs are installed on two sign posts with appropriate breakaway features to improve safety by reducing the size of traffic control obstacles.

Materials and Labor

Materials cost details on back page.

For More Information Contact:

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Additional photos or videos can be seen by accessing the Innovations Challenge SharePoint page at: <http://sharepoint/systemdelivery/TP/Documents/InnovationsChallenge.aspx>.

