# TRAFFIC OPERATIONS POLICY DIRECTIVE

**JOSEPH HECKER, DIVISION CHIEF (Signature)**

**(for Joe Hecker)**

**DATE ISSUED**

January 18, 2002

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

January 18, 2002

**SUBJECT**

Supplemental Signing For City Civic Center Areas

**DISTRIBUTION**

- All District Directors
- All Deputy District Directors - Traffic Operations
- All Deputy District Directors - Maintenance
- All Deputy District Directors - Construction
- All Deputy District Directors - Project Development
- Chief Council, Legal Division
- Engineering Service Center Director
- Headquarters Division Chiefs for:
- Publications (For distribution to all holders of Traffic Manual)

**DOES THIS DIRECTIVE AFFECT OR SUPERSEDE ANOTHER DOCUMENT?**

☐ YES ☒ NO

**IF YES, DESCRIBE**

**WILL THIS DIRECTIVE BE INCORPORATED IN THE TRAFFIC MANUAL?**

☒ YES ☐ NO

**IF YES, DESCRIBE**

Section 4-04.13 (2) Supplemental Destination Signing

## DIRECTIVE

Signs to City Civic Center areas may be installed on State highways, for incorporated cities with a population of 100,000 or more.

For the purpose of this Directive, the term State highway means any conventional highway, expressway, or freeway, which is operated by the State of California.

If there are questions regarding this Directive or how it is to be implemented, districts should consult with the Headquarters Traffic Operations Liaison.
IMPLEMENTATION

1) The city shall be incorporated and contiguous with the State highway right-of-way.

2) The city shall adopt a resolution requesting installation of signs on specific State highways for the purpose of guiding motorists to the city's civic center area, otherwise commonly referred to as downtown, central district, city center, or city hall. The resolution shall include the current population of the city and the legend for the sign.

3) The route from State highways to city hall shall NOT be more than 4.8 kilometers (3 miles). Signs may be placed on all State highways, which are within 4.8 kilometers (3 miles) of city hall.

4) Only one sign shall be installed in each direction of travel for each State highway. Trailblazer signs should be in place on local streets and roads prior to installation of signs on state highways. The route from State highways to the city's civic center area shall NOT pass through another city.

5) The legend may be "(city name) Civic Center," "Downtown (city name)," "(city name) Central District," "(city name) City Center," "(city name) City Hall," or a very similar message. Only one legend shall be selected and used on all corresponding State highways for a particular civic center area.

6) Signs shall NOT be mounted overhead. Signs shall be supplemental plates on existing roadside signs for G86 series (NEXT RIGHT or NEXT EXIT) and G87 (NEXT __ EXITS). When this is not feasible signs may be standalone roadside signs.

7) The city shall pay all costs for fabrication, installation and maintenance of signs.

8) Sign installations shall comply with applicable Department policies, specifications and standards.

BACKGROUND

This policy is intended to improve traffic operations in large metropolitan areas where a significant number of trips are generated by civic center activities involving travel on adjacent State highways.

DEFINITIONS

Meanings of “Shall,” “Should,” and “May”

To clarify the meanings intended in this Directive by the use of these words, the following definitions apply:

1) SHALL – A mandatory requirement. Mandatory requirements are those considered most essential to achievement of overall objectives of this Program Directive. Mandatory requirements use the word “shall” and are printed in Boldface type.

2) SHOULD – An advisory requirement. Advisory requirements are important also, but allow greater flexibility in application to accommodate varying conditions. Advisory requirements use the word “should” and are indicated by Underlining.

3) MAY – A permissive requirement. Permissive requirements use the word "may" and indicate that no requirement for application is intended.