

July 1, 2019

Approved: Division Administrator
By: Federal Highway Administration South Carolina Division

Delete Subsection 601.1.3 of the Standard Specifications in their entirety and replace them with the following:

601.1.3 Closure Restrictions

601.1.3.1 General Restrictions

1 The Department reserves the right to restrict the installation of lane closures, road closures, shoulder closures, ramp closures, pacing operations or any other operations that will impact the efficient flow of traffic or hinder normal traffic operations on the roads of the South Carolina state highway system during peak travel hours and/or days, holidays, holiday weekends, extended holiday periods, weekends, special events or any time traffic volumes are high. Lane closures on high volume highways during peak traffic periods or at any time traffic volumes exceed the numerical values determined to be acceptable by the Department are PROHIBITED. Lane closures on routes with high volume commuter traffic during peak traffic periods are PROHIBITED.

2 Special events are events generating excessive traffic as determined by the Department. Lane closures, road closures, shoulder closures, pacing operations or any other operations that would impact the efficient flow of traffic or hinder normal traffic operations during special events are PROHIBITED unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

3 The Department reserves the right to suspend a lane closure, road closure, shoulder closure, pacing operation or any other operation if the RCE determines a delay or a resulting traffic backup is excessive. Observe and maintain all project specific time restrictions as specified by the Plans, the Specifications and the RCE. Install and remove lane closures, road closures, shoulder closures, pacing operations, or any other operation that would impact the efficient flow of traffic or hinder normal traffic operations within the time restrictions including all relative traffic control devices and signs. Coordinate work activities requiring lane closures, road closures, shoulder closures, pacing operations or any other operation in accordance with all restrictions.

4 Installation and maintenance of a lane closure is PROHIBITED when not actively engaged in work activities specific to the location of the lane closure unless otherwise specified and approved by the RCE. The length of the lane closure shall not exceed the length of roadway anticipated to be subjected to the proposed work activities within the work shift time frame or the maximum lane closure length specified within the contract unless otherwise specified and approved by the RCE. Also, a maximum lane closure length specified within a contract does not warrant installation of the specified lane closure length when the length of the lane closure necessary for conducting the work activity is less. The length and duration of each lane closure, within the contract specified parameters, shall require approval by the RCE prior to installation. The length and duration of each lane closure may be reduced by the RCE if the work zone impacts generated by a lane closure are deemed excessive or unnecessary.

5 The presence of temporary signs, portable sign supports, traffic control devices, trailer mounted equipment, truck mounted equipment, personnel, and vehicles relative to the installation or removal of a closure is PROHIBITED within the temporary clear zone during the prohibited hours.

601.1.3.2 Holiday Restrictions

1 The Department prohibits lane closures on interstate highways during holiday weekends and extended holiday periods as defined below unless otherwise directed by the Engineer. The Department's holiday lane closure restrictions for holidays that are observed on a Monday will include the weekend and are considered

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a holiday weekend unless otherwise established by these specifications. The Department defines the typical Monday holiday weekend as from 6:00 am of the Friday before the weekend until 6:00 a.m. of the Tuesday after the holiday. Lane closures, road closures, shoulder closures, pacing operations or any other operations that will impact the efficient flow of traffic or hinder normal traffic operations during these Monday holiday weekends as defined above are PROHIBITED unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

2 Easter and Thanksgiving holidays are varied and extended holiday periods of a holiday weekend. Easter holidays are defined as from 12:00 noon of the Thursday before Easter until 6:00 p.m. of the Monday after Easter. Thanksgiving holidays are defined as from 12:00 noon of the Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day until 6:00 a.m. of the Monday after Thanksgiving Day. Lane closures, road closures, shoulder closures, pacing operations, or any other operations that will impact the efficient flow of traffic or hinder normal traffic operations during the Easter and Thanksgiving holidays as defined above are PROHIBITED unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

3 Consider Independence Day (4th of July) an extended holiday period. This extended holiday period will vary from year to year depending upon the day of the week the 4th of July occurs. See the table below. Lane closures, road closures, shoulder closures, pacing operations or any other operations that will impact the efficient flow of traffic or hinder normal traffic operations during the Independence Day holiday as defined below are PROHIBITED unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

INDEPENDENCE DAY (4th OF JULY) HOLIDAY	
DAY OF WEEK	DURATION
MONDAY	6:00 AM FRIDAY, JULY 1 ST through 10:00 PM TUESDAY, JULY 5 TH
TUESDAY	6:00 AM MONDAY, JULY 3 RD through 10:00 PM WEDNESDAY JULY 5 TH
WEDNESDAY	6:00 AM TUESDAY, JULY 3 RD through 10:00 PM THURSDAY JULY 5 TH
THURSDAY	6:00 AM WEDNESDAY, JULY 3 RD through 10:00 PM FRIDAY JULY 5 TH
FRIDAY	6:00 AM THURSDAY, JULY 3 RD through 10:00 PM MONDAY JULY 7 TH
SATURDAY	6:00 AM THURSDAY, JULY 2 ND through 10:00 PM MONDAY JULY 6 TH
SUNDAY	6:00 AM FRIDAY, JULY 2 ND through 10:00 PM TUESDAY JULY 6 TH

4 Consider Christmas an extended holiday period. This extended holiday period will vary from year to year depending upon the day of the week Christmas Day occurs. See the table below. Lane closures, road closures, shoulder closures, pacing operations or any other operations that will impact the efficient flow of traffic or hinder normal traffic operations during the Christmas holiday as defined below are PROHIBITED unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	
DAY OF WEEK	DURATION
MONDAY	6:00 AM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22 ND through 10:00 PM WEDNESDAY JANUARY 3 RD
TUESDAY	6:00 AM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 ST through 10:00 PM THURSDAY JANUARY 3 RD
WEDNESDAY	6:00 AM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20 TH through 10:00 PM FRIDAY JANUARY 3 RD
THURSDAY	6:00 AM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23 RD through 10:00 PM SUNDAY JANUARY 4 TH
FRIDAY	6:00 AM WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23 RD through 10:00 PM SUNDAY JANUARY 3 RD
SATURDAY	6:00 AM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23 RD through 10:00 PM MONDAY JANUARY 3 RD
SUNDAY	6:00 AM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23 RD through 10:00 PM TUESDAY JANUARY 3 RD

601.1.3.3 Waiver of Restrictions

1 Waiver or modification of these restrictions or the established hourly lane closure prohibition hours shall require approval from either the Deputy Secretary of Engineering, the Chief Engineer for Operations, or the Chief Engineer for Project Delivery. When requesting such a waiver or modification of these restrictions, submit the request to the RCE no less than 30 calendar days prior to the day in question. The Department reserves the right to approve, deny, and/or rescind waivers at its discretion. The Department reserves the right to suspend a lane closure, road closure, shoulder closure, pacing operation or any other operation if the RCE determines a delay or a resulting traffic backup is excessive.