Interim Guidance – Termination of Interim Approval of Clearview

On Monday, January 25, 2016, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued a notice in the Federal Register officially terminating Interim Approval IA-5 for Clearview Font that was issued back in 2004. This notice became effective on February 25, 2016, thirty days from publication in the Federal Register. The notice did not address the cost or time impacts of revising completed guide sign plans.

In response to this notice, the Michigan Department of Transportation issued the “Interim Guidance Termination of Interim Approval of Clearview” for the transition from Clearview Font to Traditional Highway Fonts. Please be advised to follow this guidance in the design and installation of traffic guide signs on state trunkline.

Key points in the guidance:
- Signs already ordered/fabricated or are in projects under construction do not need to be removed or revised.
- If the Microstation and/or SignCAD design portion of the signing plans have begun as of February 25, 2016, Clearview font may be used. The signs should not be redesigned to eliminate use of Clearview font unless it can be accomplished with minimal additional cost, effort, and/or delay to the project. If the signing plans have not yet begun design as of February 25, 2016, Clearview font shall not be used.
- Future projects, Clearview shall not be used.
- Guidance regarding repairs and damaged signs will be addressed in a Systems Operations Advisory.

For further details, go to the Interim Guidance - Termination of Interim Approval of Clearview document found under the Traffic Signing - Correspondence/Guidelines category on the Traffic and Safety website.