

# System Operations Advisory

SOA 2011-01

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## Lights on Plastic Drums

This advisory will provide several clarifications to the application of Bureau of Highway Instructional Memorandum (BOHIM) 2010-11, Type D Lights on Plastic Drum Channelizing Devices, which was signed on December 22, 2010 and distributed in early January 2011. The new policy can be found at the following link:

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT\\_IM10-11\\_342214\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_IM10-11_342214_7.pdf)

The following clarifications are to be noted and implemented:

1. It has been determined that MDOT will not negotiate extra costs for lights on drums on projects that were let on January 7 and February 4, 2011. Therefore, if projects let on these dates did not include pay items for lighted plastic drums, then these projects will not incorporate lights on plastic drums.
2. All projects in the March 2011 letting and beyond are to include lights on plastic drums as specified in BOHIM 2010-11. Addendums should be issued as necessary.
3. It should be stressed that lights are not to be specified on all drums within a project. As noted in the BOHIM, lights should be placed on drums only in the following locations:
  - Work zone tapers for shoulder/lane closures.
  - In tangent sections, between tapers, when closing multiple lanes.
  - To delineate freeway cross-overs.
  - When delineating direct freeway on and off ramps, according to engineering judgment. Engineering judgment can be used depending on the following criteria: sight distance, geometrics, interchange/roadway lighting, urban location, high traffic volume, commercial average daily traffic. When lights are called for in this instance, lights on drums shall commence at the ramp gore and terminate at the ramp-crossroad intersection.

4. The following language should be included in the Special Provision for Maintenance of Traffic.

***Type D lights must be placed on plastic drum channelizing devices in the following locations:***

- ***Work zone tapers for shoulder and lane closures.***
- ***Tangent sections of channelizing devices, between tapers, when closing multiple lanes.***
- ***Delineation of freeway cross-overs.***

***Quantities for Plastic Drum, High Intensity, Lighted, Furn and Plastic Drum, High Intensity, Lighted, Oper are included in the project pay items.***

If the Engineer has determined that lights on drums are necessary on freeway on and off ramps per the BOHIM, then the following bullet point should also be included in the location language provided above:

- ***Delineation of direct freeway on and off ramps***

5. Project plan sheets are to specify the specific locations for lighted plastic drums.
6. Delivery staff should note that enhanced and unique enforcement requirements are listed in the BOHIM for functioning (working) light compliance.
7. Projects which include lights on plastic drums should have night reviews performed a minimum of once per week. The frequency of nighttime reviews should be increased as needed based on light compliance.
8. These guidelines do not affect maintenance or Local Agency Projects.
9. Please provide this advisory to consultants in your area.