

**STATE****OF****TENNESSEE**

November 8, 2019  
(Rev. 9-1-21)

January 1, 2021

**SPECIAL PROVISION**  
**REGARDING**  
**DIGITAL SPEED LIMIT SIGN ASSEMBLY**  
**(VARIABLE SPEED ZONE)**

**DESCRIPTION**

This work shall consist of the furnishing, installation, and operation of a work zone Digital Speed Limit Sign Assembly on interstates and freeways with speed limits greater than 55 MPH or facilities that have significant traffic volumes and impacts. The signs are regulatory speed limit signs with LED displays for the speed limit numbers.

The purpose of Digital Speed Limit Sign Assembly is to easily change work zone speed limits between activities that necessitate the need for a lower speed limit and the ones that do not.

**EQUIPMENT**

Digital Speed Limit Sign Assembly shall meet the following:

1. The unit shall have a regulatory speed limit sign (R2-1) with minimum dimension of 48 inches x 60 inches.
2. The Digital Speed Limit sign shall be mounted such that the bottom of the sign is 7 feet above the roadway.
3. The LED panel shall be a minimum of 28 inches x 18 inches. The display legend on the LED panel shall be white.
4. The LED numbers shall have a minimum 5 wide by 7 high pixel array with a minimum height of 18 inches.
5. The LED panel shall have auto brightness/dimming capability.
6. The Digital Speed Limit Sign Assembly shall have flashing beacons. Beacons shall be 12 inch diameter LED circular yellow. They shall be mounted above and below sign assemblies and are to be centered horizontally. The beacons shall alternately flash at rates not less than 50 or more than 60 times per minute.
7. The Digital Speed Limit Sign Assemblies shall have operational software and wireless communications that allows for remote operation and data monitoring.

8. The Digital Speed Limit Signs may be trailer mounted or stationary mounted. The unit shall be solar powered and have the ability to operate continuously. It shall be supplemented with a battery backup system which includes a 110/120 VAC powered on-board charging system.
9. The batteries, when fully charged; shall be capable of powering the display for 20 continuous days with no solar power. The unit shall be capable of being powered by standard 110/120 VAC power source. Store the battery bank and charging system in a lockable, weather and vandal resistant box.
10. The Digital Speed Limit Sign Assembly shall be listed on the Department's Qualified Products List No.44. For project applications that require more than one assembly, the same style of digital speed limit sign assembly shall be used.

### **CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS**

The Speed Limit shall be continuously displayed on the signs. The speed limits are the sole authority of TDOT. All speed limits are to be ordained by the State Traffic Engineer in order to have a lawfully enforceable speed limit.

1. The Traffic Engineer or designee will approve all Work Zone Speed Limits based on activities and conditions that warrant.
2. All existing static Speed Limit signs within the work zone speed zone shall be covered or removed at the time of Digital Speed Limit Sign Assembly installation. Signs shall be covered with an opaque, form fitting, tear resistant material that fully obscures any text.
3. Coordinate with the Engineer when the Work Zone Speed Limits are to be changed and seek approval by the Engineer or his designee before the Speed Limit is changed.
4. Sign placement shall begin within the advanced warning area with 1 sign placed on the Right side of the road. Subsequent signs shall be positioned at intervals no greater than 2 miles with 1 placed after each entrance ramp within the work zone.
5. Placement of signs shall be on the right side of the road unless infeasible or as directed by engineer. Placement of signs shall not interfere with the function of roadside devices such as guard rail or terminals
6. Flashing beacons shall be activated at the time of any workers present, no earlier than 30 minutes prior to workers arriving and be deactivated at the conclusion of work no later than 30 minutes after all workers depart.
7. On a weekly basis for the duration of the project, supply a printable copy of the Tracking Report, reflecting the times of the speed limit changes along with their corresponding speed values.

### **METHOD OF MEASUREMENT**

The Department will measure by each the Digital Speed Limit Sign Assembly, complete in place and accepted, according to the number of Digital Speed Limit Sign Assemblies required per the spacing requirements. Payment will be made for each sign used for the duration of the project.

**BASIS OF PAYMENT**

The Department will pay for accepted quantities, complete in place, at the contract price as follows:

Item No.	Description	Unit
712-08.09	DIGITAL SPEED LIMIT SIGN ASSEMBLY	EACH

Such payment is full compensation to furnish, coordinate, install, maintain, operate, track, monitor, subsequently remove Digital Speed Limit Sign Assemblies as well as provide the weekly Tracking Report shall be included. The expense of covering or removal, and subsequent restoration of existing Speed Limit or Minimum Speed Limit signs, including any necessary supports, shall be included in the pay item for the Digital Speed Limit Sign Assembly. All installations, relocations, and removals, of supplemental signs, including signs and necessary supports, shall be included in the pay item for Digital Speed Limit Sign Assembly.