



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

SEP 15 2011

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

In Reply Refer To: HOTO-1

Ms. Shauna Hallmark
Center for Transportation, Research, and Education
Iowa State University
2711 South Loop Drive, Suite 4700
Ames, IA 50010-8664

Dear Ms. Hallmark:

Thank you for your email of August 29 requesting approval to experiment with certain non-standard pavement marking treatments at the entrances to the two rural communities of Jesup and Ossian in Iowa. The experimental treatments consist of a red colored rectangular box around the white word message pavement markings denoting the reduced speed limit, and a series of white triangular “dragon’s teeth” markings along the center line and edge line approaching the start of the reduced speed zone. The markings would be applied to Iowa 939 (220th Street) at its east and west entrances to Jesup, to county road W-42 at the north entrance to Ossian, and to US 52 at the east entrance to Ossian. These markings are intended to enhance the conspicuity of the speed limit markings and reduce vehicular speeds approaching the rural community.

We note that the locations are on State highways and county-maintained roads. Your request indicated that you have received concurrence with this experiment from the Iowa State Traffic Engineer and from the county engineer.

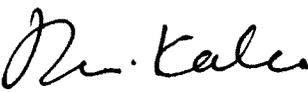
We have reviewed your proposal, evaluation plan, and answers to our questions on an earlier version of your request, and we concur with your revised proposal. Your experimentation is approved for a period of up to 2 years after installation of the markings. Please be aware of any State laws and/or directives covering the application of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) provisions that may exist in Iowa.

We have assigned this matter the following experiment number and title: "3(09)-10 (E) – Red Message Background & White Dragon’s Teeth Markings - Iowa." Please refer to this number in any future correspondence. We look forward to receiving your periodic interim and final reports on this experiment.

If there are any further questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Scott Wainwright of our MUTCD Team at scott.wainwright@dot.gov or by telephone at 202-366-0857.

Thank you for your interest in traffic operations and safety.

Sincerely yours,


for Mark R. Kehrli
Director, Office of Transportation
Operations