

From: [Wood, Ken \(FHWA\)](#)
To: [Sylvester, Kevin \(FHWA\)](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Setups for Zip Merge Experiment
Date: Thursday, October 28, 2010 10:26:53 AM
Attachments: [0916104123_001.pdf](#)

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From: Silva, Jill J. [mailto:jjsilva@dot.ri.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 9:55 AM
To: Wood, Ken (FHWA)
Cc: Berman, Daniel (FHWA); jhwang@uri.edu; Rocchio, Bob
Subject: Proposed Setups for Zip Merge Experiment

Hi Ken

Sorry for the delay in sending these setups to you. As discussed with you during the summer, attached are ideas for a zip merge setup using word messages, as well as symbols. The idea is to determine the difference in queue lengths, speeds, as well as driver delays & behavior when using word messages vs. symbols. Please note that this setup will work very similar to the dynamic late merge setups used in Maryland and Minnesota in that the message boards will not be activated unless congested conditions exist. At all other times, the message boards will be off, and only the static signs will portray the message to motorists that a lane closure is ahead (typical MUTCD setup).

The University of Rhode Island will be conducting this study. It is my understanding that you would like to see their proposal for this experiment which will include the data that will be collected and analyzed. I have not received the final proposal from them yet, but once I do I will send it to you as well.

Please let me know if you have any questions/comments or need anything else in order to approve our experiment. Thanks.

Jill J. Silva

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Work Zone

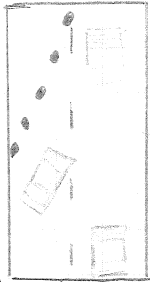
*Radar units will also need to be present to determine when VMS/digital boards become active in congested conditions

Truck mounted attenuator



Flashing arrow board

500'



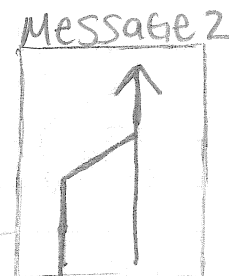
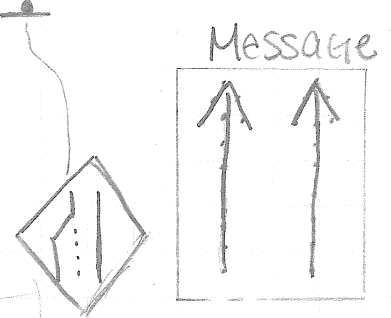
digital board (provided by Czech Republic)

500'

1,000'

1,500'

2,640'



full matrix VMS



SETUP USING SYMBOLS

WORK ZONE

* Radar units will also need to be present to determine when VMS/digital boards become active in congested conditions

Truck mounted attenuator



flashing arrow board

500'

TAKE YOUR TURN
MERGE HERE

500'

digital board

1,000'

1,500'

2,640'

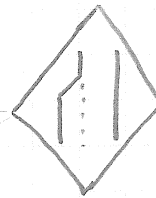


Message 1

TAKE YOUR TURN

Message 2

MERGE HERE



USE BOTH LANES

VMS



SETUP USING WORD MESSAGES