



Traffic Guidelines Manual

ORIGINATOR State Traffic Engineer	2-15-31
CHAPTER 2	Signing
SECTION 15	Comprehensive Guiding Policies
SUBJECT 31	Signing for Low Inlets along Barrier Walls

A. Purpose

County maintenance personnel, first responders, and WisDOT maintenance staff have indicated problems with identification of low inlets along freeway barrier walls. There could be times that the inlets are covered with snow, ice or other debris that makes location difficult. Clogged inlets can present potential traffic safety issues and efficient, rapid location of them is very essential.

FHWA has indicated that a sign used for marking such inlets would not be considered an official traffic sign. Technically, the sign would not be in the line of sight or directed to passing motorists.

This policy governs the design and placement of signing for low inlets along freeway barrier walls.

B. Policy

The sign used for the identification of low inlets along barrier walls is the green object marker (W5-53S) sign. This sign may be used, provided the following criteria are met:

1. The request to use the signs **shall** be coordinated with both the WisDOT Region Maintenance Engineer and Traffic Engineer.
2. The signs **shall** be installed on the face of the barrier, near the top to prevent covering by snow. See Figure 1 for typical installation detail.
3. Signs are paid for under the bid item: Signs Reflective Type II.
4. The signs shall be manufactured on 0.040" thick aluminum and fastened to the concrete wall with an adhesive with 1 ½" concrete anchor screws at each corner.
5. Replacement signs for maintenance **shall** be obtained through WisDOT.

FIGURE 1
(Typical Installation of Storm Drain Inlet Marking)

