

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

*TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIVISION*

MEMORANDUM

<b>GENERAL SUBJECT:</b> Traffic Signs		<b>NUMBER:</b> TE-280
<b>SPECIFIC SUBJECT:</b> "Watch for Children" Signs		<b>DATE:</b> June 11, 1997
<b>DIRECTED TO:</b> District Administrators		<b>SUPERSEDES:</b>
		<b>SIGNATURE:</b> <i>J. L. Butner</i>

The 1997 General Assembly enacted an amendment to the Code of Virginia, adding §33.1-210.2 (copy attached) regarding the installation and maintenance of "signs alerting motorists that children may be at play nearby."

In accordance with this new law, effective July 1, 1997, counties may request that VDOT install and maintain this type of signing. The following process has been established for handling all such requests:

- The request should be submitted by the county to the local VDOT resident engineer. All requests must be in the form of a resolution directed to the Transportation Commissioner.
- The resolution shall include the source of funding for the installation of signs: (i) out of the secondary system construction allocation to the affected county; (ii) from direct contributions or grants made for such purpose to the governing body; or (iii) from such other source as may be provided by the governing body. In all cases the costs of maintaining such signs shall be paid out of the secondary system maintenance allocation to the affected county.
- The resolution shall also include the location(s) where the signs are desired. However, VDOT reserves the right to review all signing plans and make the final determination as to the exact number and location of signs.

- Upon receipt of the resolution from the county, the resident engineer, with assistance from the district traffic- engineer as necessary, shall review the request and conduct a field review to ensure the proposed signs will be effectively located and will not be in conflict with any other traffic control devices.
- Generally, WATCH FOR CHILDREN signs shall be installed only on secondary routes within residential areas. Any requests to install such signs on primary routes shall be forwarded to the state traffic engineer for review.
- Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the resolution, a written response shall be provided to the governing body of the county granting or denying the request. If the request is granted, the response should include any recommended changes to the signing plan proposed by the county.
- All signs installed by VDOT under this policy shall be designed in accordance with the attached standards.

FMD:gjt

Attachment

c: Mr. David R. gehr  
Mr. J. G. Browder, Jr.  
Mr. Claude D. Garver, Jr.  
Mr. P. R. Kolakowski  
Division Administrators  
Resident Engineers  
District Traffic Engineers  
Ms. Kathe Jefferson



SHAPE	Diamond			
COLOR	Message and Border:	Black (Non-reflectORIZED)		
	Field:	Yellow (ReflectORIZED)		
SIZE	Each Side:	A	B	C
		30"	36"	48"
MESSAGE	Line 1 Capitals:	4"C	5"C	6"D
	Line 2 Capitals:	4" C	5" C	6"D
MARGIN WIDTH		1/2"	5/8"	3/4"
BORDER WIDTH		3/4"	7/8"	1 1/4"
CORNER RADIUS		1 1/2"	2"	3"

## CHAPTER 167

*An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 33.1-210.2, relating to erection of certain warning signs in counties.* [S 8741

Approved March 8, 1997

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 33.1-210.2 as follows:

*@33.1-210.2' Installation and maintenance of certain signs in counties.*

*The governing body of any county may by resolution request the Commissioner to install and maintain, at locations specified in such resolution, signs alerting motorists that children may be at play nearby. Upon receipt of such resolution the Commissioner shall, within thirty days, respond in writing to such governing body granting or deny4ng the request. The cost of installation of signs installed under this section shall be pai4 at the option of the governing body, either (i) out of the secondary system construction allocation to the affected county, (ii) from direct contributions or grants made for such purpose to the governing body, or (iii) from such other source as may be provided by the governing body and the cost of maintaining such signs shall be paid out of the secondary system maintenance allocation to the affected county.*

*The provisions of this section shall not apply to any county that has withdrawn its roads from the secondary system of state highways under the provisions of § II of Chapter 415 of the Acts of 1932 and has not elected to return.*



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