

**Technology Deployment Initiatives and Partnership Program**  
**Request for Funding**  
**FY 2001**

**FHWA Strategic Goal Area:** Process Management

**Project Title:** Sign Retroreflector

**Problem Statement:** FLH construction work zone signs are required to be maintained in “acceptable” standards; repaired or removed and replaced within 48 hours when “marginal” ; and repaired or removed and replaced immediately when devices are unacceptable. This subjective judgment is often controversial between inspectors and contractors. A more objective measure is needed to prescribe when repair, or removal and replacement are required. A season of data collection under the current specification could be used to modify the specification providing objective measurement thresholds to replace the subjective analysis.

**Proposal:** Purchase five Sign Master 920-SE sign retroreflectometers with cases to measure construction signs. Record data and correlate to the existing specification. Establish realistic threshold values for acceptable, marginal and unacceptable retroreflectivity. Modify the current specifications to include threshold values and procedures for measuring construction signs.

**Benefits:** Reduce controversy between contractor and inspector about condition of work zone signs, and provide safer, more visible construction signs on FLH projects.

**Resources/Cost:** \$18,000

**Duration:** One year, seasonal data collection, winter analysis and specification modification.

**Organization/Method:** Conduct data collection on several FLH construction projects, and analyze during winter season

**Submitter:**

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**Date:** 5 June 2001

**Champion:**

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