

From: [Nordholm, Gail \[DOT\]](#)
To: [Nordholm, Gail \[DOT\]](#)
Subject: Sign Retroreflectivity Guidebook
Date: Monday, April 19, 2010 3:08:00 PM

TO: County Engineers and City Representatives

CC: District Local Systems Engineers, Service Bureau
and Office of Local Systems

FROM: Office of Local Systems

SUBJECT: Sign Retroreflectivity Guidebook

DATE: April 19, 2010

The following is being sent on behalf of Jim Hogan, Institute for Transportation. If you have any questions, **please do not reply to this note**. Instead, you may contact Jim as shown below.

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The Sign Retroreflectivity Guidebook is a publication by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for small-sized local agencies without a traffic engineering staff. It is designed to assist Local Agency staff with meeting the new federal retroreflectivity standards. These standards are outlined in the federal Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), which is adopted by law in Iowa, and is applicable to all roads open to public travel.

Included with the guidebook is a Sign Retroreflectivity Toolkit CD-ROM, which includes the new retroreflectivity requirements as well as the necessary information to implement a program that will be in compliance.

All agencies are required to meet the new federal retroreflectivity standards by the following dates:

January 2012

All agencies must establish and implement a sign maintenance program addressing the minimum sign retroreflectivity requirements.

January 2015

All agencies must comply with the new retroreflectivity requirements for most of their traffic signs they have installed, including all red or white “regulatory” signs (such as STOP signs and Speed Limit signs), yellow “warning” signs, and green/white “guide” signs.

January 2018

All agencies must comply with the new retroreflectivity requirements for overhead guide signs and all street name signs.

Copies of the guidebook and CD can be obtained at no cost from the Iowa LTAP library by contacting:

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It can also be ordered from the Intrans web site www.InTrans.iastate.edu by clicking on “LTAP Library Catalog” and requesting document P-1747.

Mailings are available at the Office of Local Systems Weekly Mailings web page at:

http://www.iowadot.gov/local_systems/mailing/main_mailing.htm