

School Zone Speed Detection Systems
Placement and Installation Specifications
December 31, 2023

Section 1.0 General

The Florida Statute 316.0776 was amended and signed into law with an effective date of July 1, 2023. Section 316.0776 (3) was created to authorize the installation of Speed Detection Systems (SDSs) in School Zones and requiring the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to establish placement and installation specifications by December 31, 2023. An SDS is a portable or fixed automated system used to detect a motor vehicle's speed using radar or LiDAR and to capture a photograph or video of the rear of a motor vehicle that exceeds the speed limit in force at the time of the violation. Any approved SDS shall be installed in accordance with the following placement and installation specifications.

Section 2.0 Definitions

The following words and phrases, when used in this document, shall have the following meanings:

- (a) AASHTO— American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.
- (b) MUTCD— Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, current edition adopted by Rule 14-15.010, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).
- (c) SZM—FDOT Manual on Speed Zoning for Highways, Roads, and Streets in Florida (Rule 14-15.012, F.A.C.), also known as Speed Zone Manual.
- (d) School Zone—the portion of a street or highway located within a school area that includes an established school speed limit posted thereof with signs and flashing beacons, consistent with Chapter 15 of the SZM.

Section 3.0 Application and Documentation

A County or Municipality requesting to install an SDS, fixed or portable, in a school zone within the FDOT right-of-way shall complete and submit a General Use Permit Application, FDOT form 850-040-05, and the following documentation (Applicants are encouraged to contact the local FDOT Operations Center prior to submitting a permit):

1. Letter from the County or Municipality using Agency letterhead and signed by Chief Executive requesting the installation of an SDS and authorizing an individual to submit the permit application on behalf of the Agency.
2. A copy of the County or Municipality Ordinance authorizing the SDS, including the time of day and the speed limits that are to be enforced.
3. Site Plans denoting the location(s) (e.g., latitude and longitude, Roadway ID, Mile-Point) of each proposed fixed or portable SDS installation, location(s) of the nearby FDOT infrastructure (e.g., traffic control devices and Intelligent Transportation System devices), and other location and offset criteria (i.e., offset direction and offset distance) denoted in

Section 4.0. Site Plans shall include all pertinent electrical, communication, and photo enforced school zone sign assembly details.

4. Manufacturer-provided standard structural installation and foundation details, signed and sealed by a Florida-licensed Professional Engineer, for the use of fixed SDS on the FDOT right-of-way.
5. A certification statement signed by an authorized official of the manufacturer or vendor indicating that the SDS conforms to FDOT's SDS Placement and Installation Specifications as applicable below.
6. A new permit application will be required when a previously approved portable SDS is proposed to be relocated to a new location.

Section 4.0 Placement and Installation Specifications

The following requirements apply to the placement and installation of an SDS in a school zone within FDOT right-of-way or on a street or highway under the jurisdiction of a county or municipality:

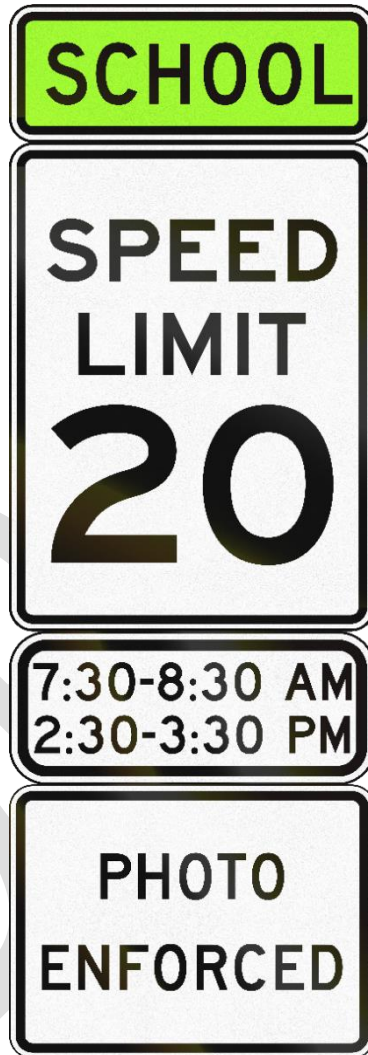
1. The placement and installation of SDS and the structure supporting the SDS shall not reduce, impede, restrict, or obstruct driver view or sight distance of any intersection, driveway, crosswalk, or existing traffic control devices.
2. SDS, fixed or portable, shall be independent stand-alone devices with independent communications and an independent power source. The FDOT traffic signal system communications interconnect or fiber communications shall not be used to transport or access SDS communication data.
3. Fixed SDS shall have breakaway support mechanisms meeting the requirements published in the AASHTO Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires, and Traffic Signals, or of the slip base design published in the FDOT Standard Specification 700-3.1.2.
4. Fixed or portable SDS shall not be placed within sidewalks. Any placement adjacent to sidewalks must meet or exceed the current minimum Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Fixed or portable (as applicable) SDS shall be installed as close to the right-of-way line as possible and no closer than the following criteria:
 - a. For urban curb and gutter roadways with posted speed limits of 45 miles per hour (mph) or less, placement shall be located no closer than 4 feet from the face of the curb.
 - b. For all other roadways, placement shall be located no closer than 12 feet from the traveled way, unless placed behind an existing barrier with the appropriate setback distance. W-beam guardrail requires a minimum of 5-foot setback from the face of the barrier and concrete barriers require a minimum of 2-foot setback from the face of the barrier.
5. If the SDS uses a flash or illuminator device, it shall be mounted, positioned, filtered, or angled to limit effects on the driver's visual field of view.

6. For all school zones with existing post mounted or overhead signs, a Photo Enforced ground (post) mounted sign assembly as depicted in Attachment (A) shall be installed following the existing S1-1 school zone warning sign. School Zone signage shall be spaced and installed in accordance with Table 15-1 of the SZM. Ground signs must meet requirements of FDOT Standard Specifications 700 and designed in accordance with FDOT Standard Plans 700-010.
- a. For school zones located along corridors with posted speed limits of 45 mph and above, an S4-5 advance speed reduction warning sign shall be installed with a Photo Enforced W16-10aP plaque.
 - b. For minor side streets and roadways on the approach to a main road having a school zone equipped with an SDS, the Photo Enforced sign assembly depicted in attachment (A) shall be placed to inform drivers that they are entering an active photo-enforced school zone.

Attachment A

Photo Enforced School Zone Sign Assembly

MUTCD Sign
Designation



S4-3P

R2-1

S4-1P

R10-19aP

Note: The speed limit and time period shown on the R2-1 and S4-1P, respectively, shall be consistent with the school zone speed limit and time periods where the SDS is installed.

Special Provisions to General Use Permit for the Installation of
School Zone Speed Detection Systems on the State Highway System
December 31, 2023

1. Any Speed Detection System (SDS), fixed or portable, placed within, under, over, or along the state right-of-way that is found by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to be interfering in any way with the convenient, safe, or continuous use, or maintenance, improvement, extension, or expansion of the state roadway facility shall, within thirty (30) days of written notice to the Permittee by FDOT or its agent, be removed or relocated by the Permittee at the Permittee's own expense. If the Permittee does not remove the SDS, FDOT may remove it at the Permittee's expense. This in no way restricts FDOT from immediately removing any individual SDS that is an immediate safety concern or that is causing an unsafe condition.
2. In the event the placement or relocation of an SDS is to be done simultaneously with FDOT's construction work, the Permittee shall coordinate with FDOT before proceeding and shall cooperate with the FDOT's contractor to arrange the sequence of work to not delay the work of the FDOT contractor and shall comply with all provisions of the issued permit. Further, the Permittee shall defend the Department against any legal claims by FDOT's contractor due to delays caused by the Permittee's failure to comply and remove or relocate in accordance with the approved construction schedule.
3. The Permittee shall comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 556, Florida Statutes (Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act), including but not limited to, those pertaining to requests for locating their underground facilities.
4. The Permittee is responsible for prompt repair and restoration of the right-of-way damage caused by any SDS installed by the Permittee under this permit. If the Permittee fails to perform such restoration, FDOT is authorized to do so and charge the Permittee the cost thereof or may remove the SDS at Permittee's expense.
5. Should the Permittee permanently deactivate the SDS, the Permittee shall remove the SDS within thirty (30) days of deactivation. The permittee shall inform the Department when an SDS system is deactivated and again when the device is removed. If the Permittee does not remove the SDS, FDOT will remove it at the Permittee's expense.
6. For fixed SDS, the Permittee shall install the SDS on a standalone pole and shall not attach it to any bridge structure, sign support structure, traffic signal mast arms, light poles, or other structures or traffic control devices within the FDOT right-of-way.

7. The Permittee shall ensure that all electrical and communication conduits and junction boxes to be installed meet the current FDOT Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction.
8. The Permittee shall ensure that fixed or portable SDS shall have its own electrical service or power supply. Traffic signal controller cabinets, lighting, or other power sources within the FDOT right-of-way shall not be used to power any SDS. Payment of electrical service costs for the SDS will be the sole responsibility of the Permittee.
9. The Permittee shall ensure that fixed or portable SDS shall have its own communications system. The FDOT traffic signal system communications interconnect or fiber communications shall not be used to transport or access SDS data.
10. The Permittee shall present as-built Plans at permit close-out documenting all field-adjusted locations.
11. This permit is valid for a period of five (5) years.