



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

November 22, 2011

CIRCULAR LETTER 2011-18

INTERIM APPROVAL – OPTIONAL USE OF COLORED PAVEMENT FOR BIKE LANES IN ILLINOIS

COUNTY ENGINEERS/SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS/DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS/MAYORS
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

On May 9, 2011, the department requested interim approval for the use of colored pavement for bike lanes in Illinois. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) gave the department interim approval on May 20, 2011, provided specific conditions are met. Please see the attached memorandum from the Bureau of Operations for details on these conditions.

Local agencies electing to use colored pavement for bike lanes must maintain an inventory of locations where green colored pavement is used for dedicated bike lanes under their jurisdiction in accordance with the conditions of the interim approval. Any site where green colored pavement is installed must be modified if necessary to a condition that meets requirements of the MUTCD within three months of the issuance of a final rule regarding this application. Green colored pavement shall be removed if it is determined to be the cause of a serious safety concern or if FHWA terminates this interim approval.

Please contact the Local Policy Unit at dot.LocalPolicy@illinois.gov with any questions about this interim approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darrell Lewis".

Darrell W. Lewis, P. E.
Acting Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

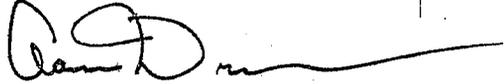
Attachment



Illinois Department of Transportation

Memorandum

To: Darrell Lewis

From: Aaron A. Weatherholt 

Subject: Interim Approval – Optional Use of Colored Pavement for
Bike Lanes in Illinois

Date: June 28, 2011

On April 15, 2011, FHWA issued an interim approval for the optional use of green colored pavement for marked bicycle lanes and bicycle lane extensions through intersections and other conflict areas. The Department has requested and been granted blanket statewide approval for dedicated bicycle lanes along and across all Illinois roadways. At this time, the Department will not allow green colored pavements within IDOT right-of-way; however local agencies may now install green colored pavement for bike lanes along or across roads under their jurisdiction without having to individually request approval through FHWA.

The following specific conditions of the interim approval must be met if green colored pavement is used.

- Green colored pavement may be installed as a supplement to required bicycle lane pavement markings. It may not be used instead of longitudinal lines or word, symbol, and arrow markings as required by the 2009 MUTCD.
- Green colored pavement may be installed for the entire length or for only portions of the bicycle lane. It may also be installed as a rectangular background to enhance the conspicuity of word, symbol, and arrow markings for bicycle lanes.
- Green colored pavement may be installed as a supplement to dotted extension lines that extend a bicycle lane through an intersection, driveway or turn lane entrance, but may not be used instead of these markings. Green colored pavement may be installed for the entire length or for only a portion of the bicycle lane extension. The pattern of green colored pavement may be dotted in a manner that matches the pattern of the dotted lines, thus filling in only the areas that are directly between a pair of dotted line segments that are on opposite sides of the bicycle lane extension.

Darrell Lewis
June 28, 2011
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- The daytime chromaticity coordinates for the color used for green colored pavement shall be as follows:

1		2		3		4	
x	y	x	y	x	y	x	y
0.230	0.754	0.266	0.500	0.367	0.500	0.444	0.555

The daytime luminance factor (Y) shall be at least 7, but no more than 35.

- The nighttime chromaticity coordinates for the color used for green colored pavement shall be as follows:

1		2		3		4	
x	y	x	y	x	y	x	y
0.230	0.754	0.336	0.540	0.450	0.500	0.479	0.520

- Green colored pavement may be retroreflective, but is not required to be.

Although not specifically required by the conditions of the interim approval, the Bureau of Operations recommends any surface applied marking material have an initial skid resistance value of at least 45 BPN when tested according to ASTM E303 to help prevent skidding during wet conditions.

Local agencies must maintain an inventory of locations where green colored pavement is used for dedicated bike lanes under their jurisdiction in accordance with the conditions of the interim approval. Any site where green colored pavement is installed must be modified if necessary to a condition that meets the requirements of the MUTCD within three months of the issuance of a final rule regarding this application. Green colored pavement shall be removed if it is determined to be the cause of a serious safety concern or if FHWA terminates this interim approval.

The details of this interim approval may be found at http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/res-interim_approvals.htm. Please find attached a copy of the FHWA letter granting statewide blanket approval for this application. If you have any questions please contact Kyle Armstrong at 217-782-7414.

Attachment

cc: Kyle Armstrong



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

In Reply Refer to:
HOTO-1

Christine M. Reed, P.E.
Director of Highways
Illinois Department of Transportation
2300 South Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62764

Dear Ms. Reed:

Thank you for your letter of May 9 requesting approval to use green colored pavement in marked bike lanes statewide in Illinois, including State highways and all local jurisdictions' roadways. Your request is made under the provisions of Section 1A.10 of the 2009 Edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and our Interim Approval Memorandum IA-14 dated April 15, 2011.

Your request is approved provided that you also agree to abide by the specific conditions for the use of this device as contained in our interim approval document and that you agree to maintain and continually update a list of locations where the device has been installed per Items B and C in Paragraph 18 of Section 1A.10 of the 2009 MUTCD, respectively. Your specific approval has been numbered "IA-14-3 - Green Colored Pavement for Bike Lanes - Illinois Statewide." Please reference this number in any future correspondence.

Thank you for your interest in improving highway safety. If we can be of further assistance on this matter, please contact Mr. Bruce Friedman at bruce.friedman@dot.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Mark R. Kehrli
Director, Office of Transportation
Operations

