

SIGNING AND MARKING

Design of Multi-Post Sign Supports

Design plans for a roadside sign showed the use of two W10x33 support posts. In response to a Request For Information (RFI), the Consultant realized that support posts should have been designed as larger W12x40, and revised the plans accordingly. Another sign was offset laterally from 40 to 45 feet due to underground utilities. The designer also recommended a larger post. Since posts were already installed, the Contractor had to replace foundations and posts and this resulted in premium costs.

LESSON LEARNED: The designer's Quality Control should have detected the under-design. Also, design should allow for lateral displacement of a sign resulting in posts up to 2-feet longer without requiring shop drawings (see FDOT Design Standard 11200). Further, the foundation location of each post should have been cleared for utilities during the design process..