HARRIS COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES FOR STOP SIGN REMOVAL

The following procedure is recommended to achieve removal of unwarranted STOP signs on the major approach of a four-way or three-way intersection.*

STEP 1: Install black on white notification signs for 14-days prior to the targeted date for removal stating: "THIS STOP SIGN TO BE REMOVED ON <target date>". Under the STOP sign(s) to remain, install the "CROSS STREET STOP TO BE REMOVED ON <target date>". See Figures 1 and 2.

STEP 2: On the target date remove the STOP signs, notification signs, "ALL WAY" plaques and stop lines on the proposed uncontrolled, street. Also, install (W4-4P), "CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP" sign(s) under the remaining permanent new STOP sign(s). The Rl-5b plate(s) can remain with the STOP signs between 6 months to 1 year as sufficient time for motorists to become accustomed to the changes. Orange flags may be installed with the W4-4P sign for added recognition.

* Iowa Highway Research Board (HRB Project TR 527) found through a review of potential liability exposure: agencies should not be exposed to tort claims for removal or conversion of unneeded stop control if adequate notice is provided and an adopted policy is followed.

The above described procedures are based on an agency practice found to be adequate, and published in the ITE Journal, December 2002, "Traffic Control Changes Requiring Transition", pp. 34, 39-41. Cole, Childers, and Humphreys