Signing for Clearance Under Bridges, Underpasses & Structures

Operational Instruction

LOW BRIDGE AHEAD
2.9m
HIGH VEHICLES
DETOUR →
AMENDMENT RECORD

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Manager, Traffic and Access Standards Section
28 / 11 / 2012

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For information regarding the interpretation of this document please contact:
Traffic Regulation and Standards Unit
Telephone: (08) 8343 2289 Facsimile: (08) 8343 2630

For additional copies or to confirm the current status of this document please contact:
Traffic and Access Standards Section, Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
Telephone: (08) 8343 2849 Facsimile: (08) 8343 2630
Email: david.widdrington@sa.gov.au
CONTENTS

1. Scope ...........................................................................................................................................4
2. Background ......................................................................................................................................4
3. Sign Installation .............................................................................................................................4
   3.1 Low Clearance Regulatory Sign ..............................................................................................4
   3.2 Low Clearance Warning Sign ...................................................................................................5
   3.3 Clearance Regulatory Sign .........................................................................................................5
   3.4 Low Bridge Ahead …m High Vehicles Detour Regulatory Signs ..............................................6
1. Scope

This Operational Instruction details signing to be used for clearance under bridges, underpasses and structures on Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) roads.

2. Background

The Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Rules 1999-30.6.2011, have set legal Maximum Vehicle Height Limits for all vehicles. In summary:

- For buses, coaches, rigid trucks and articulated vehicles: **4.30m** (Part 7 Division 2 Rule 72(1));
- For stock crates and car carriers: **4.60m** (Part 7 Division 2 Rule 72(2)(a));
- For Over-Dimensional (OD) loads: **4.90m**. A special permit must be obtained by vehicle operators carrying OD loads from Transport Services Division, Vehicle Permits for travel only on identified Over-Dimension Routes;
- Vehicles **greater than 4.90m** high must not travel on any roads, unless a special permit is granted from Transport Services Division, Vehicle Permits.

3. Sign Installation

This operational instruction is based on the *Australian Standard 1742.2 - Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices Part 2: Traffic Control Devices for General Use (AS1742.2-2009)*.

3.1 Low Clearance Regulatory Sign

The regulatory sign LOW CLEARANCE…m (R6-11) sign **shall** be installed on all bridges, underpasses, and other structures where the safe vertical clearance above the road pavement is **less than or equal to 4.60m** (refer to AS1742.2-2009 clause 4.6.6.1(g)). The sign shall be attached to the structure and over the centre of the carriageway to face approaching traffic.
3.2 Low Clearance Warning Sign

The warning sign LOW CLEARANCE…m (W4-8) shall be used in conjunction with R6-11 and shall be located in advance of the structure in accordance with the table shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$V_{85}$ (Km/h)</th>
<th>Distance to bridges, structures and underpasses (m)</th>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;75</td>
<td>80-120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-90</td>
<td>120-180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;90</td>
<td>180-250</td>
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</table>

Table 1

The R6-11 and W4-8 signs shall not be used for clearances greater than 4.60m. Both signs shall show the same clearance.

3.3 Clearance Regulatory Sign

The regulatory sign CLEARANCE…m (R6-12) sign shall be installed on all bridges, underpasses, and structures where the safe vertical clearance is greater than 4.60m high but less than 5.00m (refer to AS1742.2-2009 clause 4.6.6.1(h)). Advance warning signs are not used in this case.

Any bridges, structures and underpass equal to or greater than 5.00m high shall not be signed.

A maximum safety tolerance of 100mm shall be applied at where R6-11 and R6-12 signs installed.

R6-11 & R6-12 signs shall show a clearance in metres to the nearest 0.1m below the measured safe clearance.
3.4 Low Bridge Ahead …m High Vehicles Detour Regulatory Signs

Signs LOW BRIDGE AHEAD…m, HIGH VEHICLES DETOUR (G9-3), (G9-5-1) signs shall be installed along the route to provide a suitable detour to avoid all low clearance structures ie, equal to or less than 4.6m.

G9-3 (L)