



Standard Drawing Report

Date: October 3, 2017

Technical Owner: Traffic – Lewis H. Wardrip, P.E.

Standard Drawing No. P-421 **Calculation Book No.** n/a

Drawing Title: South Waterfront Street Name Sign Detail



Expires 06/30/18

Background Information, Including Reference Material:

Street name signs provide people using all modes of transportation information to help navigate the road network. Street name signs also provide location information for people reporting incidents to emergency responders. The MUTCD Section 2D.43 provides general rules and recommendations regarding how street name signs should be designed. The South Waterfront District Street Plan, Criteria and Standards document (adopted by City Council) includes criteria for district specific street name signs.

Assumption Made:

Standard drawing P-421 describes the size and positioning of words, numbers and the City's rose logo for street name signs on City maintained streets in the South Waterfront District of the Central City.

Design Narrative:

The 2009 version of the South Waterfront District Street Plan, Criteria and Standards document states, "Street name signs are to be specific to the South Waterfront District in color and shape. The sign panel is to be a truncated ellipse (curved at top and bottom, straight on each end) no more than 7'0" in length, either flag mounted or mounted to the mast arm at a location nearest the vertical pole. The background is to be charcoal grey, the text is to be white. Text sizes and layouts are to follow the City of Portland standards."

The street plan specifies that South Waterfront street name signs should have a curved top and bottom however the City developed a ground mount version with a flat bottom to allow the sign to be cantilever mounted (i.e. flag mounted) to a street light pole or signal pole using standard cantilever mount hardware shown on City standard drawing P-413.

The South Waterfront street name signs were first designed and installed in the South Waterfront district with the City's Lowell Extension Streetcar project in 2005-2008.

The letter heights for South Waterfront street name signs are consistent with the letter heights specified in City standard drawing P-420.

The charcoal grey background color used for South Waterfront street name signs does not meet the 2009 MUTCD. The 2009 MUTCD Section 2D.43 states: "An alternative background color other than the normal guide sign color of green may be used for Street Name (D3-1 or D3-1a) signs where the highway agency determines this is necessary to assist road users in determining jurisdictional authority for roads... The only acceptable alternative background colors for Street Name (D3-1 or D3-1a) signs shall be blue, brown, or white"

The charcoal grey color for the street name signs was adopted as part of the South Waterfront street plan by City Council prior to issuance of the 2009 MUTCD. The 2003 version of the MUTCD recommended a green background for street name signs but it was not a shall condition. The entire South Waterfront District is a low speed network of two-lane roadways and the use of a charcoal grey background color for street name signs provides adequate contrast and legibility.