

Sonoma County Public Infrastructure

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April 24, 2023

To: CTCDC

The Sonoma County Department of Public Infrastructure would like to request authorization to implement a modified version of striping Detail 22 on North Fitch Road and South Fitch Road in Sonoma County, California. Both of these roads are narrow, winding, residential roads where there is insufficient paved roadway width to fully deploy Detail 22.

Provisions per Note 1 on Figure 3A-104(CA) allow for the reflective pavement markers to be placed on the striping in Detail 22. However, placing the markers on the painted stripe creates a maintenance issue when the road is to be re-striped.

While Detail 23 is an “on the shelf” option that Sonoma County could utilize today, Sonoma County is concerned about increased maintenance costs associated with a large number of raised pavement markers. Due to narrow lanes, vehicles are more likely to track over the raised pavement markers, thereby increasing the likelihood of the raised pavement marker becoming dislodged, as well as a creating nuisance noise to adjacent residences from vehicles driving over the raised pavement markers.

Sonoma County has developed two options for consideration by the CTCDC to address increased safety on narrow roads:

Option 1 (Detail 22A): Sonoma County proposes an alternative Detail 22 which places one raised reflective pavement marker in the area between the double yellow lines. The spacing of the raised reflective pavement markers would be the same as Detail 22. All that is changing is eliminating the two raised reflective pavement markers on the outside of the stripes and adding one raised reflective pavement marker in the middle between the stripes.

Option 2 (Detail 22B): An alternative that Sonoma County is proposing is to place the two raised reflective pavement markers in line with the double yellow stripes as allowed by Note 1. What is different is that the painted stripe would have a gap where the raised pavement markers are placed. This will reduce ongoing maintenance costs when re-striping the road in the future.

The roads in question are narrow and windy, and during winter fog or rain, driving can be difficult. Allowing the reduction in width of the striping details on the narrow roads with the reflectors will maintain both visibility and safety.

We believe that implementing a modified version of Detail 22, as proposed, will provide an effective solution to the safety concerns on North Fitch Road and South Fitch Road. The raised reflective pavement markers will improve visibility during nighttime and low-light driving conditions, while the proposed modifications will reduce the maintenance costs associated with raised pavement markers on narrow lanes.

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Sonoma County is planning on resurfacing the road and would like to complete the work in the Fall of 2023 if authorized.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your favorable consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Johannes J. Hoevertsz, Director

Sonoma County

Department of Public Infrastructure



Above: South Fitch Road



Above: South Fitch Road

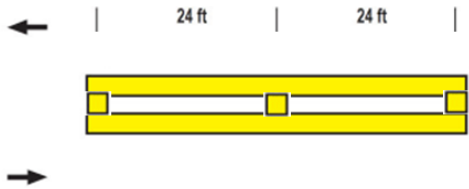


Above: North Fitch Road

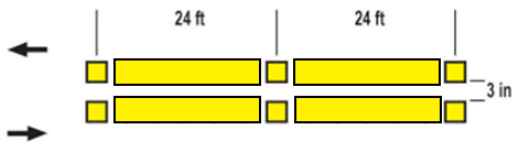


Above: North Fitch Road

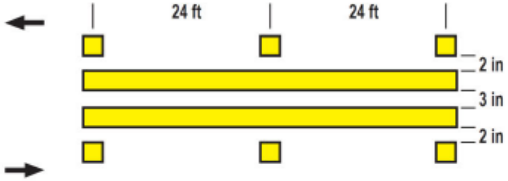
DETAIL 22A



DETAIL 22B

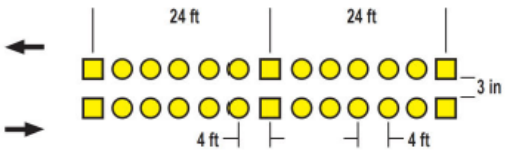


DETAIL 22



Two-direction no-passing pattern with pavement markers for use on two-lane streets and highways. See Notes 1 and 2.

DETAIL 23



Alternate to Detail 22. For use with either Detail 4 or Detail 7.

- NOTES:**
1. Pavement markers shown off the solid line in Detail 22 may be placed on the line.
 2. If the material used for centerline marking is paint, a 3 in black line shall be placed between the 4 in yellow lines on State highways and may be placed on streets and highways under local jurisdiction.

LEGEND

 4 in Yellow	 Two-Way Yellow Retroreflective Markers
 Direction of Travel	 Non-Retroreflective Yellow Markers

NOT TO SCALE

Above: Conceptual Detail 22A showing a single yellow reflective pavement marker in the middle of the double yellow striping. Conceptual Detail 22B is more or less Detail 23, but uses a solid stripe in lieu of round raised pavement markers.

Above: Detail 22 and Detail 23 from the current manual.