

CHANGEABLE MESSAGE SIGNS

In the last couple legislative sessions, the law pertaining to on-premise “changeable signs” was changed quite significantly. In 2005, LD 498 was passed as PL 2005, c.195 and in 2007, LD 830 was passed as PL 2007, c. 124. They have created some confusion across the state and this should help explain the details a bit more. The actual law is found in Title 23 § 1914 (11A).

1) The sign may be changed no more than every 20 minutes, unless the municipality in which the sign is located adopts an ordinance to the contrary and notifies the Department of Transportation in writing of that ordinance. If a municipal ordinance is adopted, the municipality is responsible for the administration of that ordinance.

2) The sign must change as rapidly as technologically practicable, with no phasing, rolling, scrolling, flashing or blending, unless the municipality in which the sign is located adopts an ordinance to the contrary and notifies the Department of



Transportation in writing of that ordinance. If a municipal ordinance is adopted, the municipality is responsible for the administration of the ordinance.

3) Notwithstanding the previous paragraph, a municipality may not adopt an ordinance that allows a sign to flash, and

4) The sign may consist of alphabetic or numeric text on a plain background and now may include graphic, pictorial or photographic images. However, continuous streaming of information or video animation is prohibited.

Feel free to contact MaineDOT’s Robert Sinclair, Supervisor Right of Way Control, at (207) 624-3611 or robert.sinclair@maine.gov.

MAINE LOCAL ROADS CENTER ANNOUNCES

Workshop Price Increase after 21 Years

The Maine Local Roads Center will be charging \$40 per person and \$25 for any additional person attending a Center’s workshop. Any person who is a **individual member** of the Maine Chapter American Public Works Association (MCAPWA) will receive a \$10 Discount. This increase has been in effective since January 2008.

The Maine Local Roads Center (MLRC) has charged \$25 per person and \$15 for any additional person to attend any workshop put on by the Center for 21 years. It is amazing how the Center has been able to function with the same fee for so many years. With the increasing cost of supplies, materials, lunches, and instructors the Center is forced to increase registration fees to help off-set the increased cost. The Local Roads Center hopes this will not negatively affect workshop attendance.

The Center looks forward to continually serving the Municipalities of Maine!