



2829 W. Howard Place  
 Denver, CO 80204-2305

**POLICY MEMORANDUM**

**To:** CDOT Staff  
**From:** Stephen Harelson, Chief Engineer *SH*  
**Date:** December 1, 2019  
**Subject:** Issuance of Statewide Six (6) Inch Striping Standard Plan

This memo shall be effective immediately upon signature. CDOT will be upgrading current four (4) inch longitudinal pavement markings to six (6) inch longitudinal markings on all CDOT highways as shown in the **Table 1: Minimum Longitudinal Pavement Marking Width**. This memo supersedes the memo dated on September 27, 2019. A design variance signed by the Regional Transportation Director or designee is required if these minimum longitudinal widths cannot be met. All active construction projects will coordinate with the Region Traffic Engineers to incorporate six (6) inch markings into final striping. Temporary markings may remain at four (4) inches unless otherwise directed by the Region Traffic Engineer.

Colorado currently has approximately 37,100 lane miles of four (4) inch longitudinal pavement marking statewide in either paint, epoxy, special epoxy, or tape. CDOT has developed a strategic approach to upgrade longitudinal striping to the wider six (6) inch stripe. This plan was developed in concert with all of the Regions to improve driving safety, ensure corridor consistency across the state, maintain the principles of the MUTCD, properly address motorist expectations, and provide automated driver assist technologies with improved infrastructure.

The following information outlines the general guidance on the application of pavement marking widths for various types of highway facilities. Table 1 shows the six (6) inch striping application. For CDOT, to be more specific with the definitions in the MUTCD, the CDOT definition of Normal Lines shall be four (4) inches or six (6) inches and Wide Lines shall be eight (8) inches or twelve (12) inches as shown in CDOT's M & S Standard S-627-01.

**Table 1: Minimum Longitudinal Pavement Markings Widths**

Facility Type	Speed	Edge Lines	Lane Lines	Center Lines <sup>1</sup>
2-Lane Facilities	All	6"	n/a	4"
3-Lane Facilities	All	6"	6"	4"
Multi-Lane Facilities	≥ 50 MPH	6"	6"	4"
Multi-Lane Facilities	≤ 45 MPH	4"	4"	4"

<sup>1</sup>Applies to facility types with double yellow lines, painted median, or undivided highway.

