
APPENDIX C – ABBREVIATIONS

Acceptable Abbreviations

<u>WORD</u>	<u>ABBREVIATION</u>
Afternoon/Evening	PM
Alternate	ALT
Avenue	AVE, AV
Bicycle	BIKE
Boulevard	BLVD, BL
Center	CNTR
Circle	CIR
Closed	CLSD
Crossing (other than highway-rail)	XING
Do Not	DONT
Drive	DR
Emergency	EMER
Entrance, Enter	ENT
Expressway	EXPWY
Feet	FT
FM Radio	FM
Freeway	FWY, FRWY
Friday	FRI
Hazardous Material	HAZMAT
Highway	HWY
Hour(s)	HR
Information	INFO
Junction/Intersection	JCT
Lane	LN
Left	LFT
Maintenance	MAINT
Mile	MI
Miles Per Hour	MPH
Monday	MON

APPENDIX C – ABBREVIATIONS (Contd.)

<u>WORD</u>	<u>ABBREVIATION</u>
Morning/Late Night	AM
Normal	NORM
North	N
Parking	PRKING
Parkway	PKWY
Pedestrian	PED
Road	RD
Right	RHT
Saturday	SAT
Service	SERV
Shoulder	SHLDR
South	S
Street	ST
Sunday	SUN
Telephone	PHONE
Temporary	TEMP
Thursday	THURS
Traffic	TRAF
Tuesday	TUES
Two-Way Intersection	2-WAY
Two-Wheeled Vehicles	CYCLES
US Numbered Route	US
Vehicle(s)	VEH
Warning	WARN
Wednesday	WED
West	W
Will Not	Wont

APPENDIX C – ABBREVIATIONS (Contd.)

Acceptable Abbreviations - Only With A Prompt Word

<u>WORD</u>	<u>ABBREVIATION</u>	<u>PROMPT WORD</u>
Access	ACCS	Road
Blocked	BLKD	Lane*
Bridge	BRDG	(Name)*
Chemical	CHEM	Spill
Condition	COND	Traffic*
Congested	CONG	Traffic*
Construction	CONST	Ahead
Downtown	DWNTN	Traffic
Exit	EX, EXT	Next*
Express	EXP	Lane
Frontage	FRNTG	Road
Interstate	I	(Number)
Local	LOC	Traffic
Lower	LWR	Level
Major	MAJ	Accident
Minor	MNR	Accident
Minute	MIN	Ahead
Oversized	OVRSZ	Load
Prepare	PREP	To Stop
Roadwork	RDWK	Ahead (Distance)
Upper	UPR	Level

*These prompt words should precede the abbreviation

APPENDIX C – ABBREVIATIONS (Contd.)

Unacceptable Abbreviations

<u>ABBREVIATION</u>	<u>INTENDED WORD</u>	<u>MISINTERPRETATIONS</u>
ACC	Accident	Access (Road)
CLRS	Clears	Colors
DLY	Delay	Daily
FDR	Feeder	Federal
L	Left	Lane (Merge)
LT	Light (Traffic)	Left
PARK	Parking	Park
POLL	Pollution (Index)	Poll
RED	Reduce	Red
STAD	Stadium	Standard
WRNG	Warning	Wrong

APPENDIX D – PERMANENT CMS SAMPLE MESSAGES

<u>EVENT/SCENARIO</u>	<u>PREFERRED</u>	<u>AVOID</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
"Accident"	<div> <div>ACCIDENT AHEAD</div> <div>-----</div> </div>		<p>< Use the word "ACCIDENT" when signing for an accident - Only use the word "AHEAD" if the sign is less than a mile from the queue.</p>
N, S, E, W Dashes or Slashes	<div> <div>E-60 AT AZUSA</div> <div>2 RT LANES CLSD</div> </div>	<div> <div>2 RT LNS CLOSED</div> <div>EAST 60 AT AZUSA</div> </div> <div> <div>EB 60 2 RT LANES</div> <div>CLSD AT AZUSA</div> </div> <div> <div>E/60 2 RT LANES</div> <div>CLSD AT AZUSA</div> </div>	<p>< Use the letter designating direction (N, S, E, W) - state the location first if possible - always put a dash between the direction and route number - avoid using slashes.</p> <p>< Don't use the abbreviation "EB" - this is an internal abbreviation and not familiar to all motorists.</p>
Closed vs. Blocked	<div> <div>ACCIDENT AHEAD</div> <div>LEFT LANES BLKD</div> </div> <div> <div>ACCIDENT AHEAD</div> <div>LEFT LANES CLSD</div> </div>		<p>< The term "BLOCKED" would be preferred for an accident, unless Maintenance had arrived and closed the lane.</p>
Use Numbers	<div> <div>ACCIDENT AT</div> <div>17TH ST</div> </div>	<div> <div>ACCIDENT AT</div> <div>SEVENTEENTH ST</div> </div>	<p>< Use numbers whenever possible.</p>

APPENDIX D – PERMANENT CMS SAMPLE MESSAGES (Contd.)

<u>EVENT/SCENARIO</u>	<u>PREFERRED</u>	<u>AVOID</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
"HWY" vs. "RTE," "I" or "SR"	<div>ACCIDENT AT ----- HWY-5 -----</div> <div>ACCIDENT AT I-5 ----- ----- -----</div>	<div>ACCIDENT AT ----- RTE-5 -----</div> <div>ACCIDENT AT ----- SR-55 -----</div>	< The Caltrans standard is "HWY" to address the subject route - "SR" is not considered a common abbreviation to the public - "I" is still usable to indicate "Interstate," especially when space is limited.
Single phase messages are preferred	<div>3 RT LANES CLSD AT ROSEMEAD BL TRAFFIC JAMMED</div> <div>3 RT LANES CLSD AT ROSEMEAD BL TRAFFIC JAMMED</div>	<div>3 RT LANES CLSD AT ROSEMEAD BL -----</div> <div>3 RIGHT LANES CLSD ROSEMEAD TO BALDWIN AVE</div>	<p>< This information can be displayed on a single phase 3 line message, rather than a 2 phase message.</p> <p>< Lane closure limits are not useful to motorists, only the location of the beginning of closure -</p>
Congestion after incident is cleared	<div>TRAFFIC JAMMED CITRUS TO GRAND -----</div> <div>HEAVY TRAFFIC ROSEMEAD - GRAND ----- -----</div> <div>TRAFFIC JAMMED TO ROSEMEAD ----- -----</div>		<p>< Providing congestion limits is very effective.</p> <p><A dash can be used to replace the word "TO," especially when pressed for space.</p> <p><Use "TO" instead of "AT" if the CMS is located in the traffic queue.</p>
CMS is on the same route as the incident	<div>2 LFT LANES BLKD AT LAKE AVE ----- -----</div>	<div>2 LEFT LANES AT LAKE BLOCKED ----- -----</div>	< Problem stated on one line, location stated on another.

APPENDIX D – PERMANENT CMS SAMPLE MESSAGES (Contd.)

<u>EVENT/SCENARIO</u>	<u>PREFERRED</u>	<u>AVOID</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Only one lane is open	<div>E-60 AT PECK RD SINGLE LANE ONLY</div> <div>SINGLE LANE ONLY E-60 AT PECK RD</div>	<div>E60 AT PECK 3 RT LNS BLCKD</div>	< “Single Lane Only” has great impace, and provides a good description of the conditions to the motorists.
Off ramp closed	<div>FAIRFAX EXIT CLOSED</div>	<div>FAIRFAX OFF-RAMP CLOSED</div>	
Off ramp partially blocked	<div>ACCIDENT FAIRFAX EXIT BLOCKED</div>		
Freeway Connector closed with recommended detour	<div>W-10 EXIT CLOSED DETOUR AT VALLEY</div>	<div>W-10 CONNECTOR CLOSED</div>	< If a detour is in place
Freeway Connectors (both directions) blocked	<div>ACCIDENT HWY-10 EXIT BLOCKED</div> <div>ACCIDENT HWY-10 EXIT BLKD</div>		

APPENDIX D – PERMANENT CMS SAMPLE MESSAGES (Contd.)

<u>EVENT/SCENARIO</u>	<u>PREFERRED</u>	<u>AVOID</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Freeway Connector closed with recommended detour	<div> <div>N-605 EXIT CLSD</div> <div>DETOUR LONG BCH</div> </div>		< "If a detour is in place.
Freeway connector closed on another route	<div> <div>N-710 TO W-105</div> <div>EXIT CLOSED</div> </div>		
Standard Messages	<div> <div>TRAFFIC INFO</div> <div>TUNE TO 1620 AM</div> <div>-SLOW-</div> <div>DENSE FOG AHEAD</div> <div>TOLL LANES</div> <div>CLOSED</div> <div>ANAHEIM POND</div> <div>EXITBALLRD</div> <div>-CAUTION-</div> <div>FLOODING AHEAD</div> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The only desirable punctuation is a dash - no periods, commas, quotes, etc. ✓ Make sure reference is a major cross street with signing on freeway ✓ Always use the word accident if accident involved ✓ For off route incidents, use affected route and direction after the word "ACCIDENT" ✓ Usually location only for on route incidents ✓ Only use the word "AHEAD" on signs one mile or less from an incident scene ✓ Limit messages to two lines when possible ✓ Try to blank a sign which is directly above an end of queue 	