



**National Committee on
Uniform Traffic Control Devices**

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NOTE: This is a recommendation to FHWA on changes to the MUTCD by the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD). This recommendation is not a revision to the MUTCD and does not constitute official standards, guidance, or options. No proposed revision to the MUTCD is effective unless and until approved by FHWA through an Interim Approval or through the Federal rulemaking process.

TTC Agenda item 3 - June 2014

**National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
TTC TC**

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: NCUTCD Temporary Traffic Control Technical Committee

DATE OF ACTION: 06-26-14

TASK FORCE: Sue Reiss (chair), Korfin, Ross, Chacon, Ullman, Cox

TTC TC APPROVAL DATE: 06-26-14

TRANSMITTAL TO SPONSORS DATE:

TOPIC: Section 6F.72 / 6M.03 Temporary Lane Separators

AFFECTED PORTIONS OF MUTCD: 2009 Edition – Section 6F.72 / draft 2016 Section 6M.03

DISCUSSION:

In advance of the January 2014 meeting of the NCUTCD FHWA sent members of the TTC TC a preliminary draft of Part 6 of the 2016 MUTCD. The purpose was to allow members to review and comment on the new numbering system and to comment on those Standards of the 2009 Edition that had been revised to Guidance in the draft 2016 Edition.

The draft 2016 Edition relocated Section 6F.72 to the new Section 6M which makes the Temporary Lane Separator a traffic design feature rather than a traffic control device. The Temporary Lane Separator guides the driver by providing definition of the lane. The device is retroreflectorized to provide nighttime visibility and receives channelizing devices as an integral part of its design. The TTC TC voted that Temporary Lane Separators currently in Section 6F.72

39 be placed in Section 6K under the numbering system proposed by FHWA for the 2016 Edition.
 40 As part of our review of this section, we made the proposed changes in the wording to clarify the
 41 meaning of the device.

42

43 **RECOMMENDATION:**

44 TTC TC recommends that Section 6F.72 remain in the Traffic Control Devices Chapter when
 45 Part 6 is reformatted in the 2016 Edition of the MUTCD. Further, TTC recommends adoption of
 46 the recommended wording.

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48 **RECOMMENDED WORDING:**

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50 **Note: Proposed changes to the MUTCD are shown in underline red and removed text are**
 51 **shown in ~~strikethrough red~~.**

52

53 **Section 6F.72 [6M.03] Temporary Lane Separators**

54 Option:

55 Temporary lane separators may be used to channelize road users, to divide opposing vehicular traffic
 56 lanes **and** to divide lanes when two or more lanes are open in the same direction, ~~and to provide~~
 57 ~~continuous pedestrian channelization.~~

58 **Standard:**

59 Temporary lane separators shall be crashworthy. Temporary lane separators shall ~~have a~~ **consist**
 60 **of a longitudinal base component** with a maximum height of 4 inches, ~~and~~ a maximum width of 1
 61 foot, ~~and~~ shall have sloping sides in order to facilitate crossover by emergency vehicles, **and shall**
 62 **incorporate one or more of the following types of channelizing devices affixed to the longitudinal**
 63 **base such as tubular markers, vertical panels and opposing traffic lane dividers. and shall contain**
 64 **include any of the approved channelizing devices contained in this Chapter, such as tubular**
 65 **markers, vertical panels and opposing traffic lane dividers.**

66

67 ~~Option:~~

68 ~~Temporary lane separators may be supplemented with any of the approved channelizing devices~~
 69 ~~contained in this Chapter, such as tubular markers, vertical panels, and opposing traffic lane dividers.~~

70 **Standard:**

71 **If Appropriate** Channelizing devices ~~are used to supplement a temporary lane separator, the~~
 72 **channelizing devices** shall be retroreflectorized to provide nighttime visibility. ~~If channelizing~~
 73 **devices are not used, the temporary lane separator shall contain retroreflectorization to enhance its**
 74 **visibility.**

75 *Guidance:*

76 *A temporary lane separator should be stabilized by affixing it to the pavement in a manner suitable to its*
 77 *design, while allowing the unit to be shifted intentionally moved from place to place within the TTC zone*
 78 *in order to accommodate changing conditions.*

79 *Guidance:*

80 *Temporary Lane Separators have not met the crashworthy requirements for temporary traffic barriers*
 81 *and should not be used to shield obstacles or provide positive protection for pedestrians or workers.*

82 **Standard:**

83 **At pedestrian crossing locations, temporary lane separators shall have an opening or be shortened**
 84 **to provide a pathway that is at least 60 inches wide for crossing pedestrians.**

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