

National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

Chair's Message

MESSAGE 2024-#4 October 23, 2024 Gene Hawkins NCUTCD Chair

Well, summer 2024 passed in a hurry and the year will be over before we know it. Seems like it was just a couple of weeks ago that I was in Portland with all of you. It has been non-stop for me since then and I'm just now catching my breath to get this message out to everyone.

2024 Midyear Meeting Update

Richard tells me that we had 314 individuals attend the meeting in Portland, setting a new record for Midyear Meeting attendance, beating the 2015 meeting in San Antonio by 8 (314 vs 306). The meeting attendance was a 21 percent increase over the 2023 meeting in Tacoma and almost 10 percent higher than the 2022 meeting in Virginia Beach.

Proposed Changes Being Reviewed by Sponsoring Organizations

This fall, the NCUTCD distributed the 28 proposed changes listed below to sponsoring organizations for review and comment. Comments were due last week and will be posted on the NCUTCD website around November 1.

- 24B-BIK-01: Counter-Flow Bike Lane One-Way Signs
- 24B-BIK-02: Advisory Bike Lanes
- 24B-BIK-03: Remove North Arrows in Part 9
- 24B-BIK-04: Table 9A-1 Technical Correction
- 24B-BIK-05: Two-Stage Turn Box Signs
- 24B-CAV-01: Marking Contrast Pattern
- 24B-EDT-01: Scope, Applicability, and Purpose of the MUTCD
- 24B-GMI-01: Advance Guide Sign Spacing
- 24B-GMI-02: Clarification of Diverging Movement
- 24B-GMI-03: Parking Signs
- 24B-MKG-01: Marking Line Widths
- 24B-MKG-02: Channelizing Devices
- 24B-ROR-01: Rules of the Road: Definitions
- 24B-RR-01: Exempt Plaques at LRT Grade Crossings
- 24B-RR-02: Pedestrian Gates at LRT Grade Crossings
- 24B-RR-03: Crossbucks at Restricted Sight Distance Crossings
- 24B-RR-04: Audible Warning Devices on Flashing-Light Signals
- 24B-RR-05: Detectable Warning at Swing Gates
- 24B-RW-01: Weight Limit Signs
- 24B-SIG-01: Midblock Pedestrian Signals
- 24B-SIG-02: Dynamic Lane-Use Control Signals
- 24B-TTC-01: Combine Chapters 6N and 6P
- 24B-TTC-02: Relocate Night Work
- 24B-TTC-03: Relocate Work Duration
- 24B-TTC-04: Pedestrian Channelizing Devices
- 24B-TTC-05: TAs for AFAD
- 24B-TTC-06: Rumble Strip Sign
- 24B-TTC-07: Center / Bike Lane Closed Sign

2025 Annual Meeting

Registration is open for the NCUTCD 2025 Annual Meeting, January 8-10, 2025 at the Doubletree Crystal City Hotel in Arlington, VA (<u>registration link</u>). This meeting will repeat the schedule of the last few Annual Meetings with the NCUTCD meeting at the end of TRB week. Next year, we go back to our traditional meeting time of the week before the TRB Annual Meeting. Our meeting in January will be very busy, as technical committees, joint task forces, and Council will be considering and taking action on 28 proposed changes. I'm also sure the technical committees will be developing a number of new proposed changes to go out for review in the spring.

Because of the large number of proposed changes likely to be considered by Council, I am expecting our Friday meeting to last well into the afternoon. How late we go on Friday will depend upon how many of the 28 proposed changes are presented to Council, how many are approved during the Thursday General Session, and how much discussion there is on individual items. Council Members and Associate Members should make travel arrangements so that their delegation will be represented regarding of how late we meet on Friday.

Since our 2025 Midyear Meeting is earlier in June that typical (see next section for dates), I have told technical committee and joint task chairs that all work and votes on items going to sponsoring organizations in the spring must be completed during the Annual Meeting. There will be no virtual meetings or developing work on 2025 spring cycle items once our meeting ends.

Finally, we will also try to get group photos of Council, technical committees, and other groups during the Annual Meeting to share on our rarely used X and Facebook accounts.

2025 Midyear Meeting

After evaluating several locations, we have finally executed a contract for the 2025 summer meeting. The NCUTCD meeting will be June 11-13, 2025 in Des Moines, Iowa at the Downtown Marriott, following the AASHTO CTE meeting. We will announce when the room block is open and additional information at a later time.

Current NCUTCD Leadership

The current NCUTCD leadership is listed in the table below. Notes below the table indicate changes that are effective at the end of the 2025 Annual Meeting.

Туре	Unit	Chair	Vice-Chair	Secretary
Technical Committee	RW Signs	Tom Heydel*	James Sullivan	Bob Seyfried
	GMI Signs	Jason Hyatt	Ryan Hoyt	Heather Schmidt
	Markings	Paul Carlson	Jody Colvin	Tom Grant
				James Kratz
	Signals	John Hibbard	Matt Duncan	Dee Taylor
	TTC	Neil Boudreau	Ryan Lancaster	Tim Cox
	Railroad	John Dinning	JoNette Kuhnau	Nicole Jackson
	Bicycles	Bill DeSantis	Rock Miller	Stewart Robinson
Joint Committee	Research	Bryan Katz	Scott Kuznicki	open
	Edit	Bill Lambert	Scott Wainwright	Jonathan Upchurch
Joint Task Force	CAV	Roxane Mukai	Amanda Hamm	Melodie Matout
	Pedestrians	Randy McCourt	Lee Austin	Amanda Purcell
	Roundabouts	Brian Walsh*	Scott Zehngraff	None
	Rules of the Road	Ronnie Bell	Robert Saylor	Mark Nahra
Admin	NCUTCD	Gene Hawkins	Bill Lambert	Richard Moeur

^{*} Erika Lindeberg will become chair of RW Signs TC after the 2025 Annual Meeting

^{*} Scott Zehngraff will become chair of Roundabout JTF after the 2025 Annual Meeting

MUTCD News

I want to share some news about FHWA and the MUTCD.

- Kevin Sylvester is currently serving as the Acting Director for the Office of Transportation Operations while Mark Kehrli is on special assignment. While he is serving in this role, Marty Calawa is serving as the Acting MUTCD Team Leader.
- Last week, FHWA posted a hotlinks version of the 11th Edition MUTCD on their <u>website</u>. This version of the MUTCD has hyperlinks to Parts, Chapters, Sections, Figures, and Tables and it also identifies the known errors (as of May 10, 2024). The hyperlinks are not underlined so they are not readily obvious.
- Release 2 for the Standard Highway Signs was posted on September 27, 2024. This
 release includes regulatory signs and several appendices. Additional releases will be
 posted in the future.

In Memoriam

As announced in an email to all members, Bob Garrett passed away on September 26, 2024. Bob was one of our Honorary Members. Bob's involvement with the NCUTCD began in 1973 and he served as the NCUTCD Executive Secretary from 1998 to 2020. He was the Executive Director of ATSSA from 1980 to 1998. His obituary is available here.

We recently learned that Norman Deitch, the former state traffic engineer for New Jersey and former NCUTCD member, passed away on August 18, 2024. He was active in the NCUTCD from 1982 to 2011. His obituary is available here.