



# National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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## National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) Recommended Changes to Proposed Text for 11<sup>th</sup> Edition of the MUTCD Docket Number: FHWA-2020-0001

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2 **Federal Register Item Number:** 647  
3 **NPA MUTCD Section Number:** Appendix A1  
4 **Legend:** Base text shown in proposal is the NPA “clean” proposed text.  
5     • [NCUTCD recommendation for text to be added in final rule.](#)  
6     • ~~NCUTCD recommendation for text to be deleted in final rule.~~  
7     • [NCUTCD recommendation for text to be moved/relocated in final rule.](#)  
8     • NPA text that was not previously approved by NCUTCD but is now approved.  
9     • Explanatory note: [\[Note that explains purpose of recommended change.\]](#)

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11 The following pages present NCUTCD recommendations for changes to the MUTCD NPA  
12 proposed text, tables, and figures for Appendix A1.

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14 • NPA #647, Appendix A1: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021  
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18 **Appendix A1 Comment:** NCUTCD recommends revising Appendix A1 as follows:

- 19 • Delete the Option and Standard paragraphs relating to alternative lettering styles on highway  
20 guide signs and relocate some of this material to Section 2E.12. The deleted material is  
21 adequately addressed in Part 2.  
22

23  
24 **APPENDIX A1**  
25 **CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS**

26 **PUBLIC LAW 102-240-DEC. 18, 1991 (INTERMODAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION**  
27 **EFFICIENCY ACT OF 1991)**

28 **Section 1077. REVISION OF MANUAL** — Not later than 90 days after the date of the  
29 enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall revise the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices  
30 and such other regulations and agreements of the Federal Highway Administration as may be  
31 necessary to authorize States and local governments, at their discretion, to install stop or yield  
32 signs at any rail-highway grade crossing without automatic traffic control devices with 2 or more  
33 trains operating across the rail-highway grade crossing per day.

34 **PUBLIC LAW 102-388-OCT. 6, 1992 (DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND**  
35 **RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1993)**

36 **Section 406** — The Secretary of Transportation shall revise the Manual of Uniform Traffic  
37 Control Devices to include —

- 38 (a) a standard for a minimum level of retroreflectivity that must be maintained for  
39 pavement markings and signs, which shall apply to all roads open to public travel; and
- 40 (b) a standard to define the roads that must have a centerline or edge lines or both,  
41 provided that in setting such standard the Secretary shall consider the functional  
42 classification of roads, traffic volumes, and the number and width of lanes.

43 **PUBLIC LAW 104-59-NOV. 28, 1995 (NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM**  
44 **DESIGNATION ACT OF**  
45 **1995)**

46 **Section 205. RELIEF FROM**  
47 **MANDATES** — (c) METRIC  
48 **REQUIREMENTS** —

49 (1) **PLACEMENT AND MODIFICATION OF SIGNS** — The Secretary shall not  
50 require the States to expend any Federal or State funds to construct, erect, or otherwise  
51 place or to modify any sign relating to a speed limit, distance, or other measurement on a  
52 highway for the purpose of having such sign establish such speed limit, distance, or other  
53 measurement using the metric system.

54 (2) **OTHER ACTIONS** — Before September 30, 2000, the Secretary shall not require  
55 that any State use or plan to use the metric system with respect to designing or  
56 advertising, or preparing plans, specifications, estimates, or other documents, for a  
57 Federal-aid highway project eligible for assistance under title 23, United States Code.

58 (3) **DEFINITIONS** — In this subsection, the following definitions apply:

59 (A) **HIGHWAY** — The term ‘highway’ has the meaning such term has under  
60 section 101 of title 23, United States Code.

61 (B) METRIC SYSTEM — the term ‘metric system’ has the meaning the term  
62 ‘metric system of measurement’ has under section 4 of the Metric Conversion Act of  
63 1975 (15 U.S.C. 205c).

64 **Section 306. MOTORIST CALL BOXES** — Section 111 of title 23, United States Code, is  
65 amended by adding at the end the following:

66 (c) MOTORIST CALL BOXES —

67 (1) IN GENERAL — Notwithstanding subsection (a), a State may  
68 permit the placement of motorist call boxes on rights-of-way of the National  
69 Highway System. Such motorist call boxes may include the identification and  
70 sponsorship logos of such call boxes.

71 (2) SPONSORSHIP LOGOS —

72 (A) APPROVAL BY STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES — All call  
73 box

74 installations displaying sponsorship logos under this subsection shall be  
75 approved by the highway agencies having jurisdiction of the highway on  
76 which they are located.

77 (B) SIZE ON BOX — A sponsorship logo may be placed on the call  
78 box in a dimension not to exceed the size of the call box or a total  
79 dimension in excess of 12 inches by 18 inches.

80  
81 (C) SIZE ON IDENTIFICATION SIGN — Sponsorship logos in a  
82 dimension not to exceed 12 inches by 30 inches may be displayed on a  
83 call box identification sign affixed to the call box post.

84 (D) SPACING OF SIGNS — Sponsorship logos affixed to an  
85 identification sign on a call box post may be located on the rights-of-way  
86 at intervals not more frequently than 1 per every 5 miles.

87 (E) DISTRIBUTION THROUGHOUT STATE — Within a State, at  
88 least 20  
89 percent of the call boxes displaying sponsorship logos shall be located on  
90 highways outside of urbanized areas with a population greater than  
91 50,000.

92 (3) NONSAFETY HAZARDS — The call boxes and their location,  
93 posts, foundations, and mountings shall be consistent with requirements of the  
94 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices or any requirements deemed  
95 necessary by the Secretary to assure that the call boxes shall not be a safety  
96 hazard to motorists.

97 **Section 353(a) SIGNS** — Traffic control signs referred to in the experimental project conducted  
98 in the State of Oregon in December 1991 shall be deemed to comply with the requirements of  
99 Section 2B-4 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices of the Department of  
100 Transportation.

101 **Section 353(b) STRIPES** — Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a red, white, and blue  
102 center line in the Main Street of Bristol, Rhode Island, shall be deemed to comply with the  
103 requirements of Section 3B-1 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices of the  
104 Department of Transportation.

105 **PUBLIC LAW 115-141-MAR. 23, 2018 (CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT,**  
106 **2018)**

107 **DIVISION L, TITLE I**

108 **Section 125** -- For this fiscal year, the Federal Highway Administration shall reinstate Interim  
109 Approval IA-5, relating to the provisional use of an alternative lettering style on certain highway  
110 guide signs, as it existed before its termination, as announced in the Federal Register on January  
111 25, 2016 (81 Fed. Reg. 4083).

112 **Option:**

113 ~~Series E(modified)-Alternate may be used in place of Series E(modified) for the names of~~  
114 ~~places, streets, and highways on freeway and expressway guide signs in accordance with the~~  
115 ~~provisions of the following paragraph. (relocate to Section 2E.12)~~

116 **Standard:**

117 ~~The use of Series E(modified)-Alternate shall be limited to the display of names of~~  
118 ~~places, streets, and highways on freeway and expressway guide signs. Words shall be~~  
119 ~~composed of lower case letters with initial upper case letters. The design and spacing of~~  
120 ~~the letters shall be as provided in the “Standard Highway Signs” publication (see Section~~  
121 ~~1A.11 of this Manual). (relocate to Section 2E.12) The nominal loop height of the lower-~~  
122 ~~case letters shall be 84 percent of the height of the initial upper case letter. Interline~~  
123 ~~spacing, measured from the baseline of the upper line of legend to the upper limit of the~~  
124 ~~initial upper case letter of the lower line of legend, shall be at least 96 percent of the initial~~  
125 ~~upper case letters (equivalent to 84 percent of the initial upper case letter when measured~~  
126 ~~from the baseline of the upper line of legend to the upper limit of the rising stems of the~~  
127 ~~lower case letters of the lower line of legend). Edge spacing shall be as provided in Section~~  
128 ~~2E.13 of this Manual. The size of the sign shall be suitably enlarged to accommodate the~~  
129 ~~larger lower case letters and interline spacing. When the name of a place, street, or~~  
130 ~~highway contains numerals, the numerals shall be composed of the FHWA Standard~~  
131 ~~Alphabet Series E(modified). Other lettering on the sign, such as for cardinal directions~~  
132 ~~and distance or action messages, and all numerals or special characters, shall be composed~~  
133 ~~of Series B, C, D, E, E(modified), or F of the FHWA Standard Alphabets as provided in~~  
134 ~~this Manual. (delete)~~

135 ~~Series E(modified)-Alternate shall not be used for any application other than as~~  
136 ~~provided in the two preceding paragraphs. (relocate to Section 2E.12)~~