

National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices



Annual Report 2024

January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

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Purpose of the NCUTCD

The National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) or the “National Committee” is an organization whose purpose is to assist in the development of standards, guides and warrants for traffic control devices and practices used to regulate, warn and guide traffic on streets and highways. The NCUTCD recommends to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and to other appropriate agencies proposed revisions and interpretations to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and other accepted national standards related to traffic control devices. NCUTCD develops public and professional awareness of the principles of safe traffic control devices and practices and provides a forum for qualified individuals with diverse backgrounds and viewpoints to exchange professional information.

NCUTCD Leadership

(as of December 31st, 2024):

Chair: Gene Hawkins, PhD, PE, Kittelson LLC, Texas A&M University (emeritus)

Vice Chair: Bill Lambert, PE, New Hampshire Dept. of Transportation

Vice Chair for Research: Bryan Katz, PhD, PE, toXcel

Executive Board

Chair: Gene Hawkins, PhD, PE

Group I: **AASHTO:** Meg Pirkle, PE, Georgia Dept. of Transportation

ITE: Kathy Falk, PE, Kimley Horn

APWA: Steve Oliver, PE, City of Garland, TX

NACE: Lee Billingsley, PE, Lee E. Billingsley PA

NACTO: Lee Austin, PE, City of Austin TX

Group II: Rick Campbell, PE, Alfred Benesch & Co.

Tony Bellamy, CSX Transportation

Group III: Jeff Bagdade, PE, Atkins

Group IV: Jonathan Upchurch, Ph.D., PE

Technical Committee Chairs

Regulatory and Warning Sign: Tom Heydel, PE, Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation

Guide & Motorist Information Sign: Jason Hyatt, PE, Kentucky Transp. Cabinet

Markings: Paul Carlson, PE, Automated Roads

Signals: John Hibbard, PE, Georgia Dept. of Transportation

Temporary Traffic Control: Neil Boudreau, PE, Massachusetts Dept. of Transportation

Railroad and Light Rail Transit: John Dinning, PE, Alfred Benesch & Co.

Bicycle: Bill DeSantis, PE, VHB

Joint Committee Chairs

Edit: Bill Lambert, PE

Research: Bryan Katz, PhD, PE

Joint Task Force Chairs

Connected and Automated Vehicles: Roxane Mukai, PE, Maryland DOT

Pedestrian: Randy McCourt, PE

Roundabout: Scott Zehngraft, PE, Barge Design

Rules of the Road: Ronnie Bell, PE, City of Austin TX

Executive Secretary: Richard C. Moeur, PE

Sponsoring Organizations

Group I

State, county and municipal highway officials having the legal responsibility of administering public highway programs.

- American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
- Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)
- American Public Works Association (APWA)
- National Association of County Engineers (NACE)
- National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)

Group II

National organizations with a membership that includes officials directly associated with traffic operations and regulations.

- Association of American Railroads (AAR)
- Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP)
- American Public Transportation Association (APTA)
- American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association (AREMA)
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
- International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA)
- International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA)
- Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America)

Group III

Organizations representing the general public and/or private highway user groups.

- American Automobile Association (AAA)
- Human Factors Resources (HFR)
- League of American Bicyclists (LAB)
- National Safety Council (NSC)

Group IV

Industry-oriented organizations including but not limited to manufacturers, distributors, and installers of traffic control devices and related equipment, and industry highway users groups.

- American Highway Users Alliance (AHUA)
- American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA)
- American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA)

There was no change in sponsoring organizations in 2024.

NCUTCD Council

(as of December 31st, 2024):

Sponsor	Voting Members	Associate Members
AAA	Jeff Bagdade, Atkins Realis	Michelle Schofner, Atkins Realis
AAR	Tony Bellamy, CSX Transportation	Derek Mihaly, CSX Transportation
AASHTO	Meg Pirkle, Georgia DOT, Chair	Dongho Chang, Washington St DOT
	Neil Boudreau, Massachusetts DOT	John Hibbard, Georgia DOT
	Jody Colvin, Louisiana DOTD	Ryan Hoyt, Louisiana DOTD
	Tom Honich, Missouri DOT	Jason Hyatt, Kentucky TC
	Bill Lambert, New Hampshire DOT	Mike O'Donnell, New Hamp. DOT
	Ryan Lancaster, Idaho TD	James Sullivan, Mississippi DOT
	Sara Peters, Kansas DOT	Jon Suomala, South Dakota DOT
	Lee Roadifer, Wyoming DOT	Dan Waddle, Nebraska DOT
AHUA	Jonathan Upchurch	(vacant)
APBP	Paige Anderson, Pittsburgh PA	Bailey Waters, Kansas City, MO
APTA	Gary Howard, Houston Metro	Christina Jung, APTA
APWA	Steve Oliver, Chair	David Carney, Iowa State Univ
	Bob Garbacz, Alexandria VA	Ralph Norwood, Maine Turnpike
	Monica Suter, Santa Ana CA	Robert Weber, Virginia DOT
AREMA	Adam Gerhardstein, Union Pacific	David Flores, Keolis
ARTBA	Tim Cox, Cox Transportation	Tim Lang, Impact Recovery Systems
ASCE	Robert Bryson	Jon Esslinger
ATSSA	Eric Perry, ATSSA	Nagham El-Zine, ATSSA
HFR	Bryan Katz, toXcel	Fred Hanscom, Transp. Research
IACP	Richard Campbell, Benesch	(vacant)
IBTTA	Shannon Bonilla, Dewberry	(vacant)
IMSA	Paul Ciupa, AECOM	Lenny Addair, IMSA
ITE	Kathy Falk, Kimley Horn, Chair	Karen Hankinson, Olsson
	Ahmed Aburahmah, San Diego CA	Amitai Lipton, Massachusetts DOT
	Michael Cynecki, Lee Engineering	Randy McCourt
	Eagan Foster	Roxane Mukai, Maryland DOT
	Gene Hawkins, Kittelson LLC	Venu Nemani, Seattle WA
	Marc Jacobson, San Antonio TX	Nicholas Nene, Huntsville AL
	Scott Kuznicki, Modern Traffic	Joey Paskey, Las Vegas NV
	Zoubir Ouadah, LLG Engineers	Pete Yauch
ITS America	Paul Carlson, Automated Roads	Bobby McCurdy, ITS America
LAB	Rock Miller, R E Miller	Blair Tomten, Avenue Consultants
NACE	Lee Billingsley, L E Billingsley, Chair	Jon Krieg
	Jeff Blue, Champaign County IL	Mark Nahra, Woodbury County IA
	Tim Haagsma, Kent County MI	Gary Smart, Santa Barbara Cty CA
NACTO	Lee Austin, Austin TX, Chair	Elijah Ferrari, New York City NY
	Uyen Dang, DDEC	Jay Jackson, Mass Bay Transp Auth
	Katy Sawyer, Toole Design	Dan Nabors, Arlington VA
NSC	Dan Magri, NSC	Ryan Pietzsch, NSC

Living Honorary Members

(as of December 31st, 2024)

George Butzer
Ken Kobetsky
Scott Wainwright

Bruce Ibarguen (emeritus)
Dave Kuemmel (emeritus)

In Memoriam

The NCUTCD lost one Honorary Member in 2024. This individual is recognized below.

Bob Garrett

Bob passed away September 26, 2024, at the age of 88. Bob joined the NCUTCD in 1980 when he became the Executive Director of ATSSA. Under Bob's leadership, ATSSA grew into a major trade association representing the traffic control. After retiring from ATSSA in 1998, Bob became the NCUTCD Executive Secretary, guiding the National Committee through a period of steady growth and fiscal stability. Bob retired from NCUTCD in spring 2020 and was elected as an Honorary Member. Bob is fondly remembered in the profession for his selfless service and wise organizational management.

2024 In Review

In January 2024, NCUTCD held a successful Annual Meeting at the Doubletree Crystal City. There were more than 320 attendees. This was the first meeting after the publication of the 11th Edition of the MUTCD by FHWA in December 2023. At the Annual Meeting, NCUTCD held officer elections, re-electing Gene Hawkins as Chair, Bill Lambert as Vice-Chair, and Bryan Katz as Research Chair. Monica Suter was elected as the new Treasurer. The NCUTCD Council approved a new set of Bylaws and the Executive Board approved a new set of Operating Procedures, which greatly updated and improved NCUTCD's internal processes. Joint Task Forces for connected and automated vehicles, pedestrians, roundabouts, and rules of the road were formalized and empowered to create technical proposals. Technical committees and joint task forces reviewed the new 11th Edition and began developing proposals for proposed changes. The Board rescinded all prior recommended changes, as they were intended to modify the 2009 MUTCD and not the 11th Edition.

Four Joint Task Forces were formally established following the Annual Meeting, focusing on connected and automated vehicles, pedestrians, roundabouts, and on the Rules of the Road. These Joint Task Forces can now develop proposed changes directly without having to channel them through a technical committee. The JTFs immediately set to work developing proposed changes and working with technical committee on issues of mutual interest.

In spring 2024, NCUTCD conducted a survey of its members to assess their preferences on scheduling the Annual Meeting prior to or the week of the TRB Annual Meeting. Based on the results, NCUTCD is moving the Annual Meeting back to the week prior to TRB starting in 2026 and continuing through at least 2028. Spring 2024 also saw 13 proposed changes sent to sponsoring organizations for review, with over 400 comments returned for consideration.

In June 2024, NCUTCD held another successful Midyear Meeting at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine. This is the fourth time NCUTCD has held its Midyear Meeting in Portland. This meeting set a new attendance record for a Midyear Meeting with more than 300 attendees. This meeting was the first meeting since January 2020 to have a "normal" schedule of technical committees developing and reviewing proposals, and Council reviewing and voting on proposed changes. In addition, at the Midyear Meeting NCUTCD approved and welcomed its first Distinguished Member, Dr. Richard Nassi of Tucson, Arizona.

Following the Midyear Meeting, 28 proposed changes were sent to sponsoring organizations for review. These sponsors reviewed the proposals in fall 2024 and sent over 900 comments back to NCUTCD for consideration.

In October 2024, NCUTCD published the second issue of the Journal of Traffic Control Device Research (JTCDR). This contained research findings from studies on bicyclists at pedestrian hybrid beacons, sign conspicuity, orange markings in TTC zones, and lane use compliance on freeways.

After all the work on developing recommendations for the 11th Edition and then thoroughly reviewing the draft MUTCD, following the publication of the 11th Edition several long-time technical committee chairs stepped down in 2024. Since 2022, every technical committee has seen a change in the chair and vice chair positions.

The National Committee continues to leverage the value of virtual meetings by holding numerous electronic task force, working groups and technical committee meetings throughout each year. The ability to meet virtually and in person has improved NCUTCD's ability to make progress on initiatives and issues, and improved overall productivity.

At the end of 2024, the total membership in NCUTCD stood at 335 members from all across the United States. These members represent state, county, and local governments, plus private-sector consultants, practitioners, and vendors, and community and safety organizations.

Forecast for 2025 and Beyond

In 2025, NCUTCD plans to continue the practice of in-person Annual and Midyear Meetings of the full membership. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for the Doubletree Crystal City on January 8-10, and the Midyear Meeting is scheduled for the Des Moines Marriott Downtown on June 11-13. NCUTCD also intends to continue the extensive use of virtual meeting technology, with technical committees meeting electronically at least once in between each in-person meeting, and monthly or biweekly meetings for working groups and task forces.

The technical committees and joint task forces of NCUTCD are expected to continue to develop proposed changes to the MUTCD and Rules of the Road. The number of changes sent out for sponsoring organization review may be decreased somewhat in 2025, in order to not overwhelm the reviewers and to allow for more-through reviews. NCUTCD still intends to address a full range of issues, and each TC and JTF will be tasked with developing a strategic plan to help guide and prioritize proposed changes.

At the Annual Meeting in each even-numbered year, NCUTCD elects a new slate of officers. Dr. Gene Hawkins has served as NCUTCD Chair since 2018, but will be stepping down after 8 years in the position. The Board will appoint a nominating committee to develop a list of candidates for all officer positions, including a new Chair.

The Federal Highway Administration has not yet set a date for any rulemaking to revise the 11th Edition of the MUTCD, including correction of known errors. Should FHWA move forward with a rulemaking on known errors or other revisions, NCUTCD plans to be ready to respond in a timely manner.

NCUTCD membership and interest in NCUTCD by prospective members remains strong. Our base of volunteer expertise from both the public and private sectors continues to remain steady, recognizing the value of NCUTCD's role in advising FHWA on national traffic control standards and guidelines.



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