NCUTCD Proposal for Changes to the
Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:  Regulatory and Warning Signs Committee
ITEM NUMBER:  19B-RW-01
TOPIC:  Street Name Plaque with W1-10 Series Signs and W10-2, 3, and 4 signs
ORIGIN OF REQUEST:  Jerome Blannard, GPI Inc., Warren County, NJ, Task Force: Doug Bartlett (chair), Jim Pline
AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD:  Sections 2C.11, 2C.46, 2C.58 and Section 8B.06

DEVELOPMENT HISTORY  Task Force 6-3-19, Revised 6-19-19, Revised 6-20-19
• Approved by RW Technical Committee: 6/19/2019
• Approved by RRLRT Technical Committee: 6/20/2019
• Approved by RW Technical Committee following Sponsor Comments
• Approved by NCUTCD Council:

This is a proposal for recommended changes to the MUTCD that has been developed by a technical committee of the NCUTCD. The NCUTCD is distributing it to its sponsoring organizations for review and comment. Sponsor comments will be considered in revising the proposal prior to NCUTCD Council consideration. This proposal does not represent a revision of the MUTCD and does not constitute official MUTCD standards, guidance, or options. If approved by the NCUTCD Council, the recommended changes will be submitted to FHWA for consideration for inclusion in a future MUTCD revision. The MUTCD can be revised only by the FHWA through the federal rulemaking process.

SUMMARY  This request originated as question from Jerome Blannard of GPI Inc. regarding Warren County’s practice of using Street Name Plaques on W1-10 Series signs. The MUTCD does explicitly permit this use.

DISCUSSION  Section 2C.58 Advance Street Name Plaque (W16-8P, W16-8aP) allows for the installation on any Intersection sign (W2 series W10-2, W10-3 or W10-4) or any Advance Traffic Control Sign (W3 series) to identify the name of the intersecting street. Section 2C.58 does not mention using the Advance Street Name Plaque with Combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection Signs (W1-10 Series) which also depict an intersecting street on the sign.
During the process of evaluating the Horizontal Alignment Warning Signs and associated Advisory Speed Plaques (W13-1P) GPI discovered that Warren County, New Jersey had routinely used the Advance Street Name Plaque on the W1-10 series signs (Section 2C.11 and Figure 2C-1) despite the fact that Section 2C.58 does not include these signs as ones that the Advance Street Name Plaque can be used in conjunction with. Examples of these types of installations are shown below.

The second sign does not indicate an intersecting street, so it would not be appropriate to install an Advance Street Name Plaque with this sign. Each of the other sign assemblies has an intersecting street so use of the Advance Street Name Plaque is appropriate.

**RECOMMENDED MUTCD CHANGES**

The following present the proposed changes to the current MUTCD within the context of the current MUTCD language. Proposed additions to the MUTCD are shown in blue underline and proposed deletions from the MUTCD are shown in red strikethrough. Changes previously approved by NCUTCD Council (but not yet adopted by FHWA) are shown in green double underline for additions and green double strikethrough for deletions. In some cases, background comments may be provided with the MUTCD text. These comments are indicated by [black font in brackets highlighted light blue].

**Section 2C.11 Combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection Signs (W1-10 Series)**

Option:

01 The Turn (W1-1) sign or the Curve (W1-2) sign may be combined with the Cross Road (W2-1) sign or the Side Road (W2-2 or W2-3) sign to create a combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection (W1-10 series) sign (see Figure 2C-1) that depicts the condition where an intersection occurs within or immediately adjacent to a turn or curve. An Advance Street Name Plaque (see Section 2C.58) may be used to identify the crossroad.

**Guidance:**
02 Elements of the combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection sign related to horizontal alignment should comply with the provisions of Section 2C.07, and elements related to intersection configuration should comply with the provisions of Section 2C.46. The symbol design should approximate the configuration of the intersecting roadway(s). No more than one Cross Road or two Side Road symbols should be displayed on any one combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection sign.

**Standard:**

03 The use of the combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection sign shall be in accordance with the appropriate Turn or Curve sign information shown in Table 2C-5 Section 2C.07 (Approved by Council June 22, 2018, Attachment # 1, 17B-RW-01)

**Section 2C.46 Intersection Warning Signs (W2-1 through W2-8)**

Option:

01 A Cross Road (W2-1) symbol, Side Road (W2-2 or W2-3) symbol, T-Intersection Symbol (W2-4), or Y-Intersection Symbol (W2-5) sign (see Figure 2C-9) may be used in advance of an intersection to indicate the presence of an intersection and the possibility of turning or entering traffic.

02 The Circular Intersection (W2-6) symbol sign (see Figure 2C-9) may be installed in advance of a circular intersection (see Figures 2B-21 through 2B-23).

**Guidance:**

03 If an approach to a roundabout has a statutory or posted speed limit of 40 mph or higher, the Circular Intersection (W2-6) symbol sign should be installed in advance of the circular intersection.

Option:

04 An educational plaque (see Figure 2C-9) with a legend such as ROUNDABOUT (W16-17P) or TRAFFIC CIRCLE (W16-12P) may be mounted below a Circular Intersection symbol sign.

05 The relative importance of the intersecting roadways may be shown by different widths of lines in the symbol.

**An Advance Street Name Plaque (see Section 2C.58) may be used to identify the crossroad.**

An advance street name plaque (see Section 2C.58) may be installed above or below an Intersection Warning sign.

**Guidance:**

07 The Intersection Warning sign should illustrate and depict the general configuration of the intersecting roadway, such as cross road, side road, T-intersection, or Y-intersection.

08 Intersection Warning signs, other than the Circular Intersection (W2-6) symbol sign and the T-intersection (W2-4) symbol sign should not be used on approaches controlled by STOP signs, YIELD signs, or signals.

09 If an Intersection Warning sign is used where the side roads are not opposite of each other, the Offset Side Roads (W2-7) symbol sign (see Figure 2C-9) should be used instead of the Cross Road symbol sign.

10 If an Intersection Warning sign is used where two closely-spaced side roads are on the same side of the highway, the Double Side Roads (W2-8) symbol sign (see Figure 2C-9) should be used instead of the Side Road symbol sign.
No more than two side road symbols should be displayed on the same side of the highway on a W2-7 or W2-8 symbol sign, and no more than three side road symbols should be displayed on a W2-7 or W2-8 symbol sign. (approved by Council January 19, 2012, RW # 8, Attachment # 8)

Support:
Figure 2A-4 shows the typical placement of an Intersection Warning sign.

Section 2C.58 Advance Street Name Plaque (W16-8P, W16-8aP)
Option:
An Advance Street Name (W16-8P or W16-8aP) plaque (see Figure 2C-12) may be used with any Intersection sign (W2 series, W10-2, W10-3, or W10-4), Combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection Sign (W1-10, W1-10a-e), or Advance Traffic Control (W3 series) sign to identify the name of the intersecting street.

Standard:
The lettering on Advance Street Name plaques shall be composed of a combination of lower-case letters with initial upper-case letters.

Guidance:
If two street names are used on the Advance Street Name plaque, the street names and associated arrows should be displayed in the following order:

A. For a single intersection, the name of the street to the left should be displayed above the name of the street to the right; or

B. For two sequential intersections, such as where the plaque is used with an Offset Side Roads (W2-7) or a Double Side Road (W2-8) symbol sign, the name of the first street encountered should be displayed above the name of the second street encountered, and the arrow associated with the second street encountered should be an advance arrow, such as the arrow shown on the W16-6P arrow plaque (see Figure 2C-12). (Approved by Council 1-19-2012)

Section 8B.06 Grade Crossing Advance Warning Signs (W10 Series)
Standard:
A Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Advance Warning (W10-1) sign (see Figure 8B-4) shall be used on each highway in advance of every highway-rail grade crossing, and every highway-LRT 98 grade crossing in semi-exclusive alignments, except in the following circumstances:

A. On an approach to a grade crossing from a T-intersection with a parallel highway if the distance from the edge of the track to the edge of the parallel roadway is less than 100 feet and W10-3 signs are used on both approaches of the parallel highway;

B. On low-volume, low-speed highways crossing minor spurs or other tracks that are infrequently used and road users are directed by an authorized person on the ground to not enter the crossing at all times that approaching rail traffic is about to occupy the crossing;

C. In business or commercial areas where active grade crossing traffic control devices systems are in use; or
D. Where physical conditions do not permit even a partially effective display of the sign.

E. At LRT grade crossings, where crossbuck signs are not used. (Approved by Council January 2011, 10B-RR-03)

The placement of the Grade Crossing Advance Warning sign shall be in accordance with Section 2C.05 and Table 2C-4.

A Yield Ahead (W3-2) or Stop Ahead (W3-1) Advance Warning sign (see Figure 2C-6) shall also be installed if the criteria for their installation given in Section 2C.36 is met. If a Yield Ahead or Stop Ahead sign is installed on the approach to the crossing, the W10-1 sign shall be installed upstream from the Yield Ahead or Stop Ahead sign. The Yield Ahead or Stop Ahead sign shall be located in accordance with Table 2C-4. The minimum distance between the signs shall be in accordance with Section 2C.05 and Table 2C-4.

Option:

On divided highways and one-way streets, an additional W10-1 sign may be installed on the left-hand side of the roadway.

Standard:

If the distance between the tracks and a parallel highway, from the edge of the tracks to the edge of the parallel roadway, is less than 100 feet, W10-2, W10-3, or W10-4 signs (see Figure 8B-4) shall be installed on each approach of the parallel highway to warn road users making a turn that they will encounter a grade crossing soon after making a turn, and a W10-1 sign for the approach to the tracks shall not be required to be between the tracks and the parallel highway.

If the W10-2, W10-3, or W10-4 signs are used, sign placement in accordance with the guidelines for Intersection Warning signs in Table 2C-4 using the speed of through traffic shall be measured from the highway intersection.

Option:

An Advance Street Name Plaque may be installed to identify the crossroad (see Section 2C.58)

Guidance:

If the distance between the tracks and the parallel highway, from the edge of the tracks to the edge of the parallel roadway, is 100 feet or more, a W10-1 sign should be installed in advance of the grade crossing, and the W10-2, W10-3, or W10-4 signs should not be used on the parallel highway.