



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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Item No.: 24B-TTC-06

NCUTCD PROPOSAL FOR CHANGES TO THE MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

COMMITTEE / TASK FORCE: Temporary Traffic Control Technical Committee
ITEM NUMBER: 24B-TTC-06
TOPIC: Rumble Strip Warning Sign
ORIGIN OF REQUEST: Gordon Wang
**AFFECTED SECTIONS
OF MUTCD:** Sections 6H.31a, 6M.06

DEVELOPMENT HISTORY:

Approved by TTC: 06/29/2023
Approved by NCUTCD Council:

This is a proposal for recommended changes to the MUTCD that has been developed by a technical committee or joint task force 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 through the federal rulemaking process.

SUMMARY:

One warning sign section is proposed to be created. A new section will introduce a RUMBLE STRIPS warning sign to provide a sign for an optional practice described in Section 6M.06.

DISCUSSION:

Transverse rumble strips alert drivers to unusual vehicular traffic conditions. They are widely adopted by state DOTs (California, Texas, Massachusetts, to name a few). Rumble strips are effective in alerting drivers to the presence of a temporary traffic control zone. MUTCD Section 6M.06 Rumble Strips discusses the use of transverse rumble strips and presents an option to use a sign to alert users to the presence of rumble strips, but the MUTCD does not contain a rumble strip warning sign. Due to this lack of guidance, many agencies have created RUMBLE STRIPS warning signs but sign design and use vary. This proposal creates a new section in Chapter 6H, introduces a new sign, and cross references the existing Section 6M.06.

34 **RECOMMENDED MUTCD CHANGES:**
 35 The following present the proposed changes to the current MUTCD within the context of the
 36 current MUTCD language. Proposed additions to the MUTCD are shown in blue underline and
 37 proposed deletions from the MUTCD are shown in ~~red strikethrough~~. Changes previously
 38 approved by NCUTCD Council (but not yet adopted by FHWA) are shown in green double
 39 underline for additions and ~~green double strikethrough~~ for deletions. In some cases,
 40 background comments may be provided with the MUTCD text. These comments are indicated
 41 by [bracketed white text in shaded green]. Deletions made by a technical committee or task
 42 force after initial distribution to sponsoring organizations are shown in ~~highlighted red~~
 43 ~~strikethrough and Helvetica text~~. Additions made by a technical committee or task force after
 44 initial distribution to sponsoring organizations are shown in underline blue and Helvetica text.

46 **PART 6 TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL**

47 **CHAPTER 6H. TTC ZONE WARNING SIGNS**

48 **Table 6H-1. Temporary Traffic Control Zone Warning Sign and Plaque Sizes**
 49 **(Sheet 1 of 2)**

50 [Only a few sample lines of Table 6H-1 shown.]

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway	Minimum
Steel Plate Ahead	W8-25	6H.28	36x36	48x48	30x30
Shoulder Ends	W8-25	6H.01	36x36	48x48	30x30
<u>Rumble Strips</u>	<u>W8-XX</u>	<u>6H.31</u>	<u>36x36</u>	<u>48x48</u>	<u>30x30</u>
Lane Ends	W9-1, 2	6H.01	36x36	48x48	30x30

54 **Section 6H.31a RUMBLE STRIPS Sign (W8-XX)**

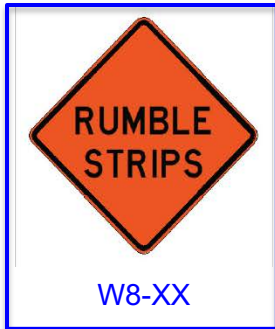
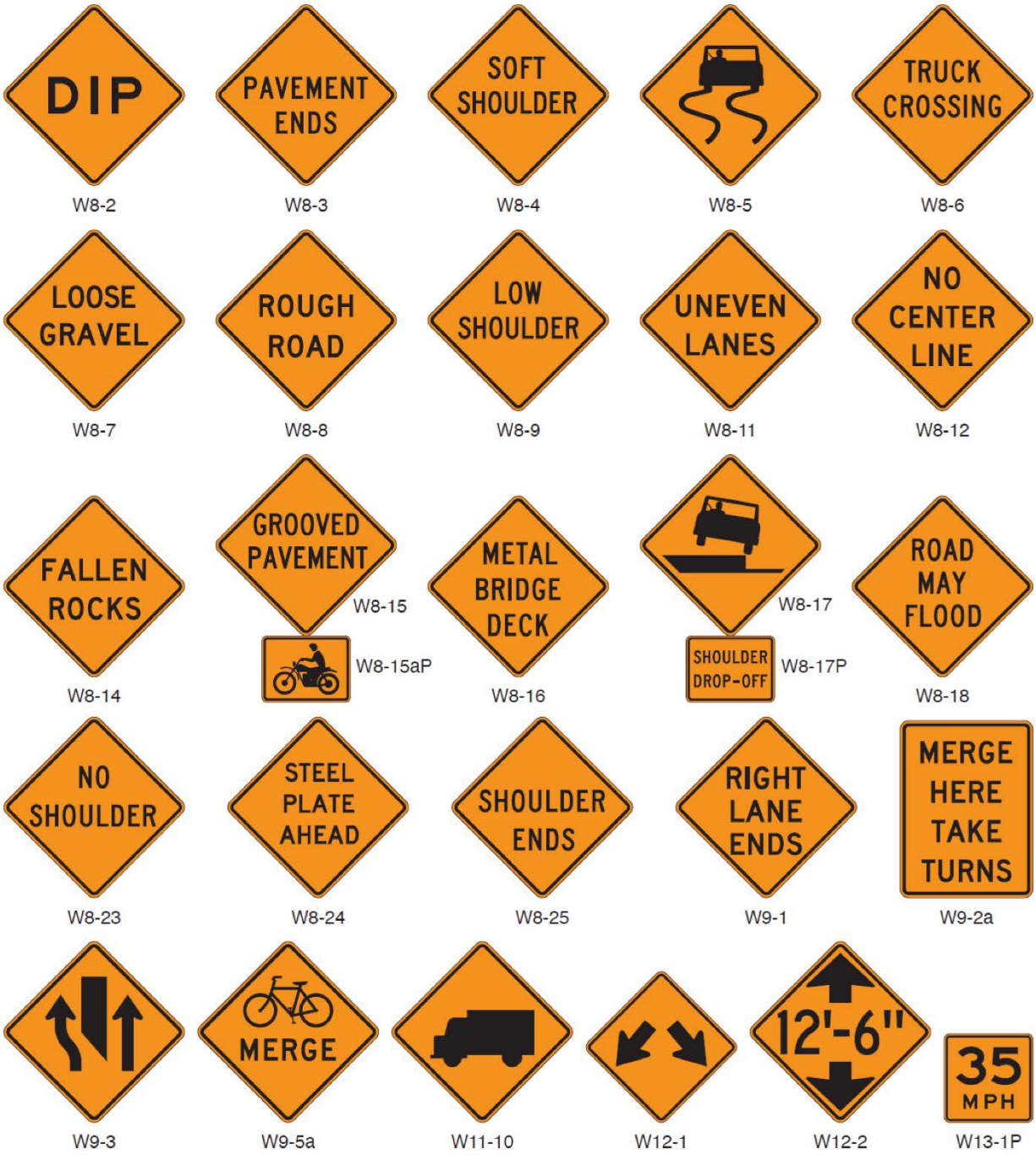
55 Guidance:

56 *01 The RUMBLE STRIPS (W8-XX) sign (see Figure 6H-1) should be used to give warning of transverse*
 57 *rumble strips (see section 6M.06).*

58 Option:

59 *02 The legend RUMBLE STRIPS XX FEET or RUMBLE STRIPS AHEAD may be used instead of the*
 60 *legend RUMBLE STRIPS on the W8-XX sign.*

62 **Figure 6H-1. Warning Signs and Plaques in Temporary Traffic Control Zones (Sheet 2 of 4)**



63

64 **CHAPTER 6M. TTC ZONE DESIGN FEATURES AND DEVICES THAT ARE NOT TRAFFIC**
65 **CONTROL DEVICES**
66

67 **Section 6M.06 Rumble Strips**

68 Support:

69 01 Transverse rumble strips consist of intermittent, narrow, transverse areas of rough-textured or
70 slightly-raised or depressed road surface that extend across the travel lanes to alert drivers to unusual
71 vehicular traffic conditions. Through noise and vibration they attract the driver's attention to such features
72 as unexpected changes in alignment and to conditions requiring a stop.

73 02 Longitudinal rumble strips consist of a series of rough-textured or slightly-raised or depressed road
74 surfaces located along the shoulder to alert road users that they are leaving the travel lanes.

75 **Standard:**

76 03 **If it is desirable to use a color other than the color of the pavement for a longitudinal rumble**
77 **strip, the color of the rumble strip shall be the same color as the longitudinal line the rumble strip**
78 **supplements.**

79 04 **If the color of a transverse rumble strip used within a travel lane is not the color of the**
80 **pavement, the color of the rumble strip shall be white, black, or orange.**

81 Option:

82 05 Intervals between transverse rumble strips may be reduced as the distance to the approached
83 conditions is diminished in order to convey an impression that a closure speed is too fast and/or that an
84 action is imminent. A sign warning drivers of the onset of rumble strips may be placed in advance of any
85 transverse rumble strip installation ([see Section 6H.31a](#)).

86 *Guidance:*

87 06 *Transverse rumble strips should be placed transverse to vehicular traffic movement. They should not*
88 *adversely affect overall pavement skid resistance under wet or dry conditions.*

89 07 *In urban areas, even though a closer spacing might be warranted, transverse rumble strips should be*
90 *designed in a manner that does not promote unnecessary braking or erratic steering maneuvers by road*
91 *users.*

92 08 *Transverse rumble strips should not be placed on sharp horizontal or vertical curves.*

93 09 *Rumble strips should not be placed through pedestrian crossings or on bicycle routes.*

94 10 *Transverse rumble strips should not be placed on roadways used by bicyclists unless a minimum*
95 *clear path of 4 feet is provided at each edge of the roadway or on each paved shoulder.*

96 11 *Longitudinal rumble strips should not be placed on the shoulder of a roadway that is used by*
97 *bicyclists unless a minimum clear path of 4 feet is also provided on the shoulder.*