



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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Item No.: 25A-TTC-05

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

COMMITTEE / TASK FORCE: Temporary Traffic Control Technical Committee
ITEM NUMBER: 25A-TTC-05
TOPIC: STOP/SLOW Paddle
ORIGIN OF REQUEST: TTC Task Force 4
AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD: 6D.02, 6G.03a
Tables 6G-1, 6H-1

DEVELOPMENT HISTORY:

Approved by TTC TC: 01/09/2025
Approved by NCUTCD Council:

This is a proposed change to the MUTCD that has been developed by a technical committee, joint committee, or joint task force of the NCUTCD. The NCUTCD is distributing this 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, options, or support. 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:

The technical description of the STOP/SLOW paddle will be moved from Section 6D.02 into a new Section under Chapter 6G, and the dimensions for the STOP/SLOW paddle will be combined into a new line in Table 6G-1. In addition, an option to increase the dimensions of the STOP/SLOW paddle to a 24-inch by 24-inch version is included.

DISCUSSION:

The STOP/SLOW paddle (R1-1 and W20-8) is described in Section 6D.02 for use in hand signaling. While Chapter 6D addresses flagger control; the STOP face of the paddle is defined in Section 2B.04, and there is no corresponding definition of the SLOW face in Chapter 6H on warning signs. The dimensions for the STOP face are included in Table 6G-1, which addresses regulatory signs, and the dimensions for the SLOW face are included in Table 6H-1, on warning signs.

The technical committee believes that the standards and options for the design of the STOP/SLOW paddle as a traffic control device should be consolidated into a single section to make it clearer for users of the Manual. This proposal relocates the design standards and options for the STOP/SLOW paddle from Section 6D.02 to a new section within Chapter 6G as

38 a regulatory traffic control device and combines the dimensions for the paddle into a single line
39 in Table 6G-1.

40
41 In addition, the Technical Committee noted that many states are specifying a minimum
42 dimension for the STOP/SLOW paddle at 24 x 24 inches, while Tables 6G-1 and 6H-1 show the
43 minimum dimensions for the respective faces at 18 x 18 inches. In addition, the requirements
44 for the STOP/SLOW Automated Flagger Assistance Device (Section 6L.03) call for the
45 STOP/SLOW sign to have dimensions of 24 x 24 inches. This proposal includes adding an
46 option to utilize a 24 x 24 inch paddle for added emphasis.

47
48 **RECOMMENDED MUTCD CHANGES:**
49 The following present the proposed changes to the current MUTCD within the context of the
50 current MUTCD language. Proposed additions to the MUTCD are shown in blue underline and
51 proposed deletions from the MUTCD are shown in ~~red strikethrough~~. Changes previously
52 approved by NCUTCD Council (but not yet adopted by FHWA) are shown in green double
53 underline for additions and ~~green double strikethrough~~ for deletions. In some cases,
54 background comments may be provided with the MUTCD text. These comments are indicated
55 by bracketed white text in shaded green. Deletions made by a technical committee or task
56 force after initial distribution to sponsoring organizations are shown in ~~highlighted red~~
57 ~~strikethrough and Helvetica text~~. Additions made by a technical committee or task force after
58 initial distribution to sponsoring organizations are shown in underline blue and Helvetica text.

60 PART 6 TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL

61 CHAPTER 6D. FLAGGER CONTROL

62 63 64 65 Section 6D.02 STOP/SLOW Paddle for Hand-Signaling

66 *Guidance:*
67 *01 The STOP/SLOW paddle (see Figure 6D-1 and Table 6G-1) should be the primary and preferred*
68 *hand- signaling device because the STOP/SLOW paddle gives road users more positive guidance than*
69 *red flags.*

70 **Standard:**
71 ~~02— The STOP/SLOW paddle (R1-1 and W20-8) shall have an octagonal shape on a rigid handle.~~
72 ~~When used at night, the STOP/SLOW paddle shall be retroreflectorized.~~

73 *Option*
74 ~~0302~~ A STOP/STOP or a SLOW/SLOW paddle may be used in certain situations (see Section
75 6D.05), provided the device meets the size and shape requirements for the STOP/SLOW paddle.

76 *Guidance:*
77 ~~04— The STOP/SLOW paddle should be fabricated from light semi-rigid material.~~

78 *Support:*
79 ~~0503~~ The optimum method of displaying a STOP or SLOW message is to place the STOP/SLOW
80 paddle on a rigid staff that is tall enough that when the end of the staff is resting on the ground, the
81 message is high enough to be seen by approaching or stopped traffic.

82 **Option:**

83 ~~06—The STOP/SLOW paddle may be modified to improve conspicuity by incorporating either white or~~
84 ~~red flashing lights on the STOP face, and either white or yellow flashing lights on the SLOW face. The~~
85 ~~flashing lights may be arranged in any of the following patterns:~~

- 86 ~~A. Two white or red lights, one centered vertically above and one centered vertically below the~~
87 ~~STOP legend; and/or two white or yellow lights, one centered vertically above and one centered~~
88 ~~vertically below the SLOW legend;~~
- 89 ~~B. Two white or red lights, one centered horizontally on each side of the STOP legend; and/or two~~
90 ~~white or yellow lights, one centered horizontally on each side of the SLOW legend;~~
- 91 ~~C. One white or red light centered below the STOP legend; and/or one white or yellow light~~
92 ~~centered below the SLOW legend;~~
- 93 ~~D. A series of eight or more small white or red lights no larger than ¼ inch in diameter along the~~
94 ~~outer edge of the paddle, arranged in an octagonal pattern at the eight corners of the border of the~~
95 ~~STOP face; and/ or a series of eight or more small white or yellow lights no larger than ¼ inch in~~
96 ~~diameter along the outer edge of the paddle, arranged in a diamond pattern along the border of~~
97 ~~the SLOW face; or~~
- 98 ~~E. A series of white lights forming the shapes of the letters in the legend.~~

99 **Standard:**

100 ~~07—If flashing lights are used on the STOP face of the paddle, their colors shall be all white or all~~
101 ~~red. If flashing lights are used on the SLOW face of the paddle, their colors shall be all white or all~~
102 ~~yellow.~~

103 ~~08—If more than eight flashing lights are used, the lights shall be arranged such that they clearly~~
104 ~~convey the octagonal shape of the STOP face of the paddle and/or the diamond shape of the SLOW~~
105 ~~face of the paddle.~~

106 ~~09—If flashing lights are used on the STOP/SLOW paddle, the flash rate shall be at least 50, but~~
107 ~~not more than 60, flashes per minute.~~

108
109 [The following proposed section is adapted from Section 6D.02 STOP/SLOW Paddle for Hand-
110 Signaling.]

111
112 **CHAPTER 6G. TTC ZONE REGULATORY SIGNS**

113
114 **Section 6G.03a STOP/SLOW Paddle (R1-1 and W20-8)**

115 **Standard:**

116 **01 The STOP/SLOW paddle (R1-1 and W20-8, see Figure 6D-1) shall have an octagonal shape on**
117 **a rigid handle. When used at night, the STOP/SLOW paddle shall be retroreflectorized.**

118 **Guidance:**

119 **02 The STOP/SLOW paddle should be fabricated from light semi-rigid material.**

120 **Option:**

121 **03 The STOP/SLOW paddle may be modified to improve conspicuity by incorporating either white or**
122 **red flashing lights on the STOP face, and either white or yellow flashing lights on the SLOW face. The**
123 **flashing lights may be arranged in any of the following patterns:**

- 124 **A. Two white or red lights, one centered vertically above and one centered vertically below the**
125 **STOP legend; and/or two white or yellow lights, one centered vertically above and one centered**
126 **vertically below the SLOW legend;**
- 127 **B. Two white or red lights, one centered horizontally on each side of the STOP legend; and/or two**
128 **white or yellow lights, one centered horizontally on each side of the SLOW legend;**

- 129 C. One white or red light centered below the STOP legend; and/or one white or yellow light
- 130 centered below the SLOW legend;
- 131 D. A series of eight or more small white or red lights no larger than ¼ inch in diameter along the
- 132 outer edge of the paddle, arranged in an octagonal pattern at the eight corners of the border of the
- 133 STOP face; and/ or a series of eight or more small white or yellow lights no larger than ¼ inch in
- 134 diameter along the outer edge of the paddle, arranged in a diamond pattern along the border of
- 135 the SLOW face; or
- 136 E. A series of white lights forming the shapes of the letters in the legend.

137 **Standard:**

138 **04 If flashing lights are used on the STOP face of the paddle, their colors shall be all white or all**

139 **red. If flashing lights are used on the SLOW face of the paddle, their colors shall be all white or all**

140 **yellow.**

141 **05 If more than eight flashing lights are used, the lights shall be arranged such that they clearly**

142 **convey the octagonal shape of the STOP face of the paddle and/or the diamond shape of the SLOW**

143 **face of the paddle.**

144 **06 If flashing lights are used on the STOP/SLOW paddle, the flash rate shall be at least 50, but**

145 **not more than 60, flashes per minute.**

146 **Option:**

147 **07 The STOP/SLOW paddle may be increased in size to 24 x 24 inches to improve conspicuity.**

148

149 **Table 6G-1. Temporary Traffic Control Zone Regulatory Sign and Plaque Sizes**

150

151 **[Only a few sample lines of Table 6G-1 shown.]**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway	Minimum
Stop	R1-1	6G.02	30x30	-	-
Stop (on Stop/Slow Paddle)	R1-1	6D.02	48x48	-	-
<u>Stop/Slow Paddle</u>	<u>R1-1, W20-8</u>	<u>6G.03a</u>	<u>18x18</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Yield	R1-2	6G.02	36x36x36	-	30x30x30

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

154

155 **Table 6H-1. Temporary Traffic Control Zone Warning Sign and Plaque Sizes**

156

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

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway	Minimum
Flagger	W20-7a	6H-15	36x36	48x48	30x30
Slow (on Stop/Slow Paddle)	W20-8	6D.02	48x48	-	-
Workers	W21-1, 1a	6H.18	36x36	48x48	30x30