TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Approved by NCUTCD Council June 24, 2004

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: Bicycle Technical Committee

DATE OF ACTION: January 9th, 2004 (revised June 23rd, 2004)

TOPIC: Proposed Mode-Specific Guide Signs - Part 9 of the MUTCD

ORIGIN OF REQUEST: NCUTCD Bicycle Technical Committee

DISCUSSION:

"Shared use paths" as defined in the MUTCD can generally be used by bicyclists, pedestrians, equestrians, skaters, and other non-motorized users. In certain cases it is desirable to guide users by type to different paths, one restricted to wheeled users (bicyclists and skaters) and another restricted to pedestrians. Currently, the Manual provides tools only to prohibit user types, not to show which user types are permitted. In these situations, jurisdictions are commonly installing varied, non-standard mode permission signs.

These mode-specific guide signs are not intended to indicate permitted user types on roadways. Such signing would provide little guidance or benefit, and may be interpreted incorrectly by users as meaning that such routes are the only ones permitted for these modes of travel.

These proposed changes were also reviewed and approved by the NCUTCD Guide and Motorist Information (G/MI) Technical Committee at their meeting in January 2004.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Bicycle Technical Committee recommends that the National Committee forward this proposal to Federal Highway Administration for consideration.

Section 9B.xx Mode-Specific Guide Signs for Shared-Use Paths (D11-1a, D11-1b, D11-2, D11-3, D11-4)

Support:
Where separate pathways are provided for different types of users, this series of signs may be used to guide different types of users to travelways intended for their respective modes. Signs for prohibiting travel by mode are discussed in Section 9B.07. (Note: The Section 9B.07 referred to in this section is the revision of 9B.07 as approved by NCUTCD and sent to FHWA in spring 2003)

Option:
Mode-Specific Guide (D11-1a, D11-1b, D11-2, D11-3, D11-4) signs may be installed at the entrance to shared use paths where the signed mode(s) are permitted or encouraged, and periodically along these facilities as needed.

The Bicycles Permitted sign, when combined with the BIKE ROUTE supplemental plaque (D11-1b), may be substituted for the D11-1 Bicycle Route Guide sign on paths and shared roadways.

When some but not all non-motorized user types are encouraged or permitted on a shared use path, these signs may be placed in combination with each other, and with the signs described in Section 9B.07.

Support:
Figure 9B-x shows an example of signing where separate pathways are provided for different non-motorized user types.
D11-1a
450 x 450 mm (18 x 18 in) min.
White symbol & border on green background

D11-2
450 x 450 mm (18 x 18 in) min.
White symbol & border on green background

D11-3
450 x 450 mm (18 x 18 in) min.
White symbol & border on green background

D11-4
450 x 450 mm (18 x 18 in) min.
White symbol & border on green background

D11-1b
450 x 150 mm (18 x 6 in) min.
White symbol & border on green background
Figure 9B-x. Example of Mode-Specific Guide Signs on a Shared-Use Path