

**ATTACHMENT NO. 5**

**MARKINGS ITEM #2  
(Chapter 3I)  
JUNE 2007**

**Approved by NCUTCD Council 6/21/07**

**MARKINGS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE SPONSOR BALLOT  
CHAPTER 3I – RUMBLE STRIPS**

One of the primary goals of the Federal Highway Administration and other agencies is to reduce the number and severity of single vehicle, run-off-the-road crashes. Rumble strips have been in use for many years and numerous agencies are considering increased usage as part of their strategic highway safety plans. Although rumble strips are not considered traffic control devices, the Markings Technical Committee was asked to consider adding language in the MUTCD to better define the relationship between rumble strips and traffic control devices such as markings and signs. The proposed chapter is intended to address the use of markings in combination with rumble strips.

Rumble strips are currently included in Part 6 of the MUTCD in the context of temporary traffic control. The proposed language is similar to that in 6F.84, but has been split into two sections and some of the application information has been deleted. Although Section 6F.84 includes guidance on rumble strip design issues such as location, spacing, and bicycle and pedestrian issues, we have restricted the language in Part 3 to address only the use of pavement markings in combination with rumble strips. The MTC believes that, since rumble strips are not classified as traffic control devices, design and application information about rumble strips should not be addressed in the MUTCD. We have also made a few minor changes in text.

**RECOMMENDED MUTCD CHANGES**

The following presents the Markings Technical Committee recommendations for a new chapter on rumble strips. Additions to the current MUTCD language are shown in blue underline; deletions are shown in ~~red strikethrough~~.

## CHAPTER 3I. COORDINATION OF MARKINGS WITH RUMBLE STRIPS

Note: All language is new language.

### Section 3I.01 Markings Used In Combination With Longitudinal Rumble Strips

Support:

Longitudinal rumble strips ~~are a design feature that~~ consists of a series of rough-textured or slightly raised or depressed road surfaces intended to alert inattentive drivers through vibration and sound that their vehicle has left the travel lane. Shoulder rumble strips are typically installed along the shoulder near the travel lane. On divided highways, they are sometimes installed on the median side of the roadway as well as on the outside (right) shoulder. On two-lane roadways, they can also be installed along the centerline.

~~Longitudinal rumble strips are not considered traffic control devices.~~ The guidelines in this manual address the use of markings in combination with a longitudinal rumble strip.

Option:

An edge line or centerline may be located over a longitudinal rumble strip to create a rumble stripe.

Support:

Rumble stripes improve the visibility of markings at night and in wet weather conditions. This visibility can be enhanced by placing all of the marking within the width of the rumble strip.

**Standard:**

**If the marking is applied over the rumble strip, the edge line or centerline associated with a longitudinal rumble stripe shall be white for the right edge of the roadway and yellow for the left edge of the roadways of divided and one-way highways and ramps, and yellow for the separation of traffic traveling in opposite directions.**

### Section 3I.02 Markings Used In Combination With Transverse Rumble Strips

Support:

Transverse rumble strips ~~are a design feature that~~ consists of intermittent narrow, transverse areas of rough-textured or slightly raised or depressed road surface that extend across the travel lanes to alert drivers to unusual vehicular traffic conditions. Through noise and vibration, they attract road users' attention to such features as unexpected changes in alignment or to conditions requiring a reduction in speed or a stop.

~~Transverse rumble strips are not considered traffic control devices.~~ The guidelines in this manual address the use of markings in combination with a transverse rumble strip.

**Standard:**

**If the color of a transverse rumble strip used within a travel lane is not similar to the color of the pavement, the color of the transverse rumble strip shall be white.**

Guidance:

White transverse rumble strips should not be placed in locations where they could be confused with transverse markings such as stop bars or crosswalks.