NOTE: This is a recommendation by NCUTCD to FHWA to add or revise the content of the MUTCD. This proposal by itself does not constitute official standards or guidance. Regardless of NCUTCD approval status, any proposed change or revision has no legal or official status until specifically approved by FHWA through either the Interim Approval process or adoption into a new edition of the MUTCD.

Technical Committee: NCUTCD Regulatory/Warning Signs Technical Committee

Date of Action: 1-8-09, approved 6-18-09, updated to 2009 MUTCD 12-21-09
RWSTC Approval Date: 1-8-09, 6-18-09
Transmittal to Sponsors Date: Sent to sponsors Fall 2009
RWSTC Approval Following Sponsor Comments: 1-7-2010
Council Approval Date: 1-8-2010

Topic: School Speed Zones

Affected Portions of MUTCD: Section 7B.15 (2009 MUTCD)

Discussion: Kay Fitzpatrick from TTI presented a study done related to advanced placement of school speed limit signs in relation to a school crosswalk.

Recommendation: Recommendation of RWSTC on 6-18-09 to change the distances shown in Section 7B.14 of 2003 MUTCD and NPA.

Note: Proposed changes to the MUTCD are shown in underline red and removed text are shown in strikethrough red.

2009 MUTCD
FHWA was aware of the revision being proposed by the RWSTC in June 2009. The 2009 MUTCD largely captured this proposal. Section 7B.14 of the 2003 MUTCD was changed to Section 7B.15 in the 2009 MUTCD and contains the following language:

Section 7B.15 School Speed Limit Assembly (S4-1P, S4-2P, S4-3P, S4-4P, S4-6P, S5-1) and END SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT Sign (S5-3)

Guidance:

The beginning point of a reduced school speed limit zone should be at least 200 feet in advance of the school grounds or a school crossing; or other school related activities; however, this 200-foot distance should be increased if the reduced school speed limit is 30 mph or higher, but not to greater than 500 feet.

RWSTC to Sponsors 6-18-09

RWSTC VOTE (1-7-2010): For: 18

Opposed: 4

Abstentions: 1

COUNCIL VOTE (1-8-2010) For: Unanimous

Abstentions: 1

u: school speed zones – section 7B.14 1-24-09, 6-18-09, updated 6-19-09

Section 7B.15 revised in 2009 MUTCD, revised following sponsor comments

1-7-10, 1-8-10