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4 **ATTACHMENT NO. 4**

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6 **RW # 3, January 2011**

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8 **National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices**  
9 **RWSTC RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWING SPONSOR COMMENTS**

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11 **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: NCUTCD Regulatory/Warning Signs Technical**  
12 **Committee**

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14 **DATE OF ACTION: (task force) 5-16-10, revised 5-25-10, revised 5-30-10, Revised**  
15 **6-3-10, revised 6-9-10, revised 1-10-11 following sponsor comments**

16 **TASK FORCE: Tom Heydel (chair), Ron Lipps, Dan Paddick, Jim Pline**

17 **RWSTC APPROVAL DATE: 1-19-11**

18 **TRANSMITTAL TO SPONSORS DATE: 10-28-10**

19 **COUNCIL APPROVAL DATE: 1-20-11**

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21 **TOPIC: Higher Fines Signs and Plaques (Review of NPA compared to 2009**  
22 **MUTCD)**

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24 **AFFECTED PORTIONS OF MUTCD: Sections 2B.17, 6F.12 and 7B.10**

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26 **DISCUSSION/QUESTION:**

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28 The 2009 MUTCD in Section 2B.17 indicates a SHALL condition for the installation of  
29 the BEGIN HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-10) sign or FINES HIGHER (R2-6P) PLAQUE  
30 where increased fines are imposed for traffic violations with a designated zone of a  
31 roadway. Also, the END HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-11) sign is also required.

32  
33 Section 6F.12 indicates that the BEGIN HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-10) sign and END  
34 HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-11) should be installed when fines are increased in work  
35 zones for traffic violations. This contradicts Section 2B.17 which is a SHALL condition.

36  
37 Section 7B.10 in the school area, the R2-10 and R2-11 BEGIN AND END HIGHER  
38 FINES ZONE signing is also a SHALL condition where fines are increased in school  
39 zones.

40  
41 Section 7B.15 in the school area, the FINES HIGHER, FINES DOUBLE, OR \$XX  
42 FINES plaque is also a SHALL condition where fines are increased in school zones.

43  
44 Since many states have higher fines by statute in school zones, work zones and other  
45 locations this places an undo burden on states and municipalities to sign for every

46 location where there are increased fines and there should be engineering judgment  
47 involved.

48  
49 The NPA Section 2B.17 had these signs as options. The Council approved that language  
50 on 1-12-08. The Council approved Section 7B.09 on 1-11-08 as an option statement.  
51 FHWA changed it to a SHALL condition. It was placed in Section 7B.10 of the 2009  
52 MUTCD.

53  
54  
55

56 **RECOMMENDATION:**

57

58 Change Section 2B.17, 7B.10 and 7B.15 to a should condition rather than a SHALL  
59 condition for this engineering judgement as a should condition. This would then be  
60 consistent with Section 6F.12 which is a should condition for temporary traffic control  
61 situations.

62 Also, move the second sentence in paragraph (01) to the SHALL paragraph since the  
63 word SHALL is used in the sentence.

64

65 **RECOMMENDED WORDING:**

66

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

69 **Section 2B.17 Higher Fines Signs and Plaque (R2-6P, R2-10, and R2-11)**

70 **Standard:** Guidance

71 01 If increased fines are imposed for traffic violations within a designated zone of a  
72 roadway, a BEGIN HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-10) sign (see **Figure 2B-3**) or a FINES  
73 HIGHER (R2-6P) plaque (see **Figure 2B-3**) should shall be used to provide notice to road  
74 users. ~~If used, the FINES HIGHER plaque shall be mounted below an applicable~~  
75 ~~regulatory or warning sign in a temporary traffic control zone, a school zone, or other~~  
76 ~~applicable designated zone.~~

77 02 If an R2-10 sign or an R2-6P plaque is posted to provide notice of increased fines  
78 for traffic violations, an END HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-11) sign (see **Figure 2B-3**) shall  
79 should be installed at the downstream end of the zone to provide notice to road users of  
80 the termination of the increased fines zone.

81 **Guidance:**

82 03 ~~If used,~~ The BEGIN HIGHER FINES ZONE sign or FINES HIGHER plaque should be  
83 located at the beginning of the temporary traffic control zone, school zone, or other  
84 applicable designated zone and just beyond any interchanges, major intersections, or  
85 other major traffic generators.

86 **Standard:**

87 04 **The Higher Fines signs and plaque shall have a black legend and border**  
88 **on a white rectangular background. All supplemental plaques mounted below**  
89 **the Higher Fines signs and plaque shall have a black legend and border on a**  
90 **white rectangular background.**

91 **The FINES HIGHER plaque shall be mounted below an applicable**  
92 **regulatory or warning sign in a temporary traffic control zone, a school zone, or**  
93 **other applicable designated zone.**

94 *Guidance:*

95 05 Agencies should limit the use of the Higher Fines signs and plaque to locations  
96 where work is actually underway, or to locations where the roadway, shoulder, or other  
97 conditions, including the presence of a school zone and/or a reduced school speed limit  
98 zone, require a speed reduction or extra caution on the part of the road user. (Move this  
99 paragraph to above paragraph 4 with other guidance statements)

100 *Option:*

101 06 Alternate legends such as BEGIN (or END) DOUBLE FINES ZONE may also be used  
102 for the R2-10 and R2-11 signs.

103 07 The legend FINES HIGHER on the R2-6P plaque may be replaced by FINES  
104 DOUBLE (R2-6aP), \$XX FINE (R2-6bP), or another legend appropriate to the specific  
105 regulation (see Figure 2B-3).

106 08 The following may be mounted below an R2-10 sign or R2-6P plaque:

- 107 A. A supplemental plaque specifying the times that the higher fines are in effect
- 108 (similar to the S4-1P plaque shown in Figure 7B-1), or
- 109 B. A supplemental plaque WHEN CHILDREN (WORKERS) ARE PRESENT, or
- 110 C. A supplemental plaque WHEN FLASHING (similar to the S4-4P plaque shown in
- 111 Figure 7B-1) if used in conjunction with a yellow flashing beacon.

112 *Support:*

113 09 Section 6F.12 contains information regarding other signs and plaques associated  
114 with increased fines for traffic violations in temporary traffic control zones. Section 7B.10  
115 contains information regarding other signs and plaques associated with increased fines  
116 for traffic violations in designated school zones.

## 117 **Section 7B.10 Higher Fines Zone Signs (R2-10, R2-11) and Plaques**

118 **Standard:** *Guidance:*

119 01 Where increased fines are imposed for traffic violations within a designated school zone,  
120 a BEGIN HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-10) sign (see Figure 7B-1) or a FINES HIGHER (R2-6P),  
121 FINES DOUBLE (R2-6aP), or \$XX FINE (R2-6bP) plaque (see Figure 2B-3) shall ~~shall~~ *should* be  
122 installed as a supplement to the School Zone (S1-1) sign to identify the beginning point of the  
123 higher fines zone (see Figures 7B-2 and 7B-3).

124  
125  
126 *Option:*

127 02 Where appropriate, one of the following plaques may be mounted below the sign that  
128 identifies the beginning point of the higher fines zone:  
129 A. An S4-1P plaque (see Figure 7B-1) specifying the times that the higher fines are in  
130 effect,  
131 B. A WHEN CHILDREN ARE PRESENT (S4-2P) plaque (see Figure 7B-1), or  
132 C. A WHEN FLASHING (S4-4P) plaque (see Figure 7B-1) if used in conjunction with a  
133 yellow flashing beacon.

134  
135 **Standard:**

136 03 Where a BEGIN HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-10) sign or a FINES HIGHER (R2-  
137 6P) plaque supplementing a School Zone (S1-1) sign is posted to notify road users of

138 increased fines for traffic violations, an END HIGHER FINES ZONE (R2-11) sign (see  
139 Figure 7B-1) or an END SCHOOL ZONE (S5-2) sign shall be installed at the downstream  
140 end of the zone to notify road users of the termination of the increased fines zone (see  
141 Figures 7B-2 and 7B-3).

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

144 **Standard:**

145 01 **A School Speed Limit assembly (see Figure 7B-1) or a School Speed Limit (S5-**  
146 **1) sign (see Figure 7B-1) shall be used to indicate the speed limit where a**  
147 **reduced school speed limit zone has been established based upon an**  
148 **engineering study or where a reduced school speed limit is specified for such**  
149 **areas by statute. The School Speed Limit assembly or School Speed Limit sign**  
150 **shall be placed at or as near as practical to the point where the reduced school**  
151 **speed limit zone begins (see Figures 7B-3 and 7B-5).**

152 02 **If a reduced school speed limit zone has been established, a School (S1-1)**  
153 **sign shall be installed in advance (see Table 2C-4 for advance placement**  
154 **guidelines) of the first School Speed Limit sign assembly or S5-1 sign that is**  
155 **encountered in each direction as traffic approaches the reduced school speed**  
156 **limit zone (see Figures 7B-3 and 7B-5).**

157 03 ~~Where increased fines are imposed for traffic violations within a reduced~~  
158 ~~school speed limit zone, a FINES HIGHER (R2-6P), FINES DOUBLE (R2-6aP), or~~  
159 ~~\$XX FINE (R2-6bP) plaque (see Figure 2B-3) shall be installed as a supplement~~  
160 ~~to the reduced school speed limit sign to notify road users.~~

161 04 **Except as provided in Paragraph 5, the downstream end of an authorized and**  
162 **posted reduced school speed limit zone shall be identified with an END SCHOOL**  
163 **SPEED LIMIT (S5-3) sign (see Figures 7B-1 and 7B-5).**

164 **Option:**

165 05 If a reduced school speed limit zone ends at the same point as a higher fines zone, an  
166 END SCHOOL ZONE (S5-2) sign may be used instead of a combination of an END HIGHER  
167 FINES ZONE (R2-11) sign and an END SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT (S5-3) sign.

168 06 A standard Speed Limit sign showing the speed limit for the section of highway that is  
169 downstream from the authorized and posted reduced school speed limit zone may be  
170 mounted on the same post above the END SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT (S5-3) sign or the END  
171 SCHOOL ZONE (S5-2) sign.

172 **Guidance:**

173 07 *The beginning point of a reduced school speed limit zone should be at least 200 feet in*  
174 *advance of the school grounds, a school crossing, or other school related activities;*  
175 *however, this 200-foot distance should be increased if the reduced school speed limit is*  
176 *30 mph or higher.*

177 ~~08 Where increased fines are imposed for traffic violations within a reduced school speed~~  
178 ~~limit zone, a FINES HIGHER (R2-6P), FINES DOUBLE (R2-6aP), or \$XX FINE (R2-6bP)~~  
179 ~~plaque (see Figure 2B-3) should be installed as a supplement to the reduced school~~  
180 ~~speed limit sign to notify road users. If the FINES HIGHER, FINES DOUBLE, or \$XX FINES~~  
181 ~~plaque is used as shown in Section 7B.10, then the duplicate plaque shown in this section~~  
182 ~~is not necessary.~~

183 **Standard:**  
184 ~~08~~ **09** The School Speed Limit assembly shall be either a fixed-message sign  
185 assembly or a changeable message sign.

186 ~~09~~ **10** The fixed-message School Speed Limit assembly shall consist of a top  
187 plaque (S4-3P) with the legend SCHOOL, a Speed Limit (R2-1) sign, and a  
188 bottom plaque (S4-1P, S4-2P, S4-4P, or S4-6P) indicating the specific periods of  
189 the day and/or days of the week that the special school speed limit is in effect  
190 (see Figure 7B-1).

191 Option:  
192 ~~10~~ **11** Changeable message signs (see Chapter 2L and Section 6F.60) may be used to  
193 inform drivers of the school speed limit. If the sign is internally illuminated, it may have a  
194 white legend on a black background. Changeable message signs with flashing beacons  
195 may be used for situations where greater emphasis of the special school speed limit is  
196 needed.

197 *Guidance:*  
198 ~~11~~ **12** *Even though it might not always be practical because of special features to make*  
199 *changeable message signs conform in all respects to the standards in this Manual for*  
200 *fixed-message signs, during the periods that the school speed limit is in effect, their basic*  
201 *shape, message, legend layout, and colors should comply with the standards for fixed-*  
202 *message signs.*

203 ~~12~~ **13** *A confirmation light or device to indicate that the speed limit message is in*  
204 *operation should be considered for inclusion on the back of the changeable message sign.*

205 **Standard:**  
206 ~~13~~ **14** **Fluorescent yellow-green pixels shall be used when the "SCHOOL"**  
207 **message is displayed on a changeable message sign for a school speed limit.**

208 Option:  
209 ~~14~~ **15** Changeable message signs may use blank-out messages or other methods in order  
210 to display the school speed limit only during the periods it applies.

211 ~~15~~ **16** Changeable message signs that display the speed of approaching drivers (see  
212 Section 2B.13) may be used in a school speed limit zone.

213 ~~16~~ **17** A Speed Limit Sign Beacon (see Section 4L.04) also may be used, with a WHEN  
214 FLASHING legend, to identify the periods that the school speed limit is in effect.

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219 RWSTC Vote: For: 21  
220 Opposed: 1  
221 Abstentions: 0

222  
223 COUNCIL VOTE: For: Unanimous

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225 APPROVED January 2011

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227 c: NCUTCD/Jan 2011 meetings/fines higher signing 5-25-10, revised 5-30-10,

228 revised 6-3-10, revised 6-9-10, revised 1-10-11 revised 1-19-11 following sponsor

229 comments, 1-20-11

230