



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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

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8 **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:** NCUTCD Bicycle Technical Committee (BTC)

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10 **TOPIC:** Revised M1-8 and M1-8a Numbered Bicycle
11 Route Signs

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13 **STATUS/DATE OF ACTION:**

14 **BTC Draft:** 08/19/2010 (version 1.1)

15 **BTC Approval:** 08/20/2010

16 **GMITC Concurrence:** 01/20/2011

17 **Transmitted to Sponsors:** 01/21/2011

18 **TC Revision:** 06/22/2011

19 **Council Approval:** **06/23/2011**

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21 **ORIGIN OF REQUEST:** NCUTCD Bicycle Technical Committee (BTC)

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23 **AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD:** 9B.21

24
25 **SUMMARY:**

26 The BTC proposes a new design for the M1-8 Numbered Bicycle Route marker that will
27 improve legibility and increase flexibility for local agencies. This design is also
28 consistent with the revised M1-9 US Bicycle Route marker approved by NCUTCD in
29 January 2010.

30
31 **DISCUSSION**

32 The existing M1-8 was established in the MUTCD in 1978, and has been used by
33 agencies to establish route guidance for bicyclists in much the same way that other M1
34 series numbered route signs are used to guide other road users. In 2005 NCUTCD
35 recommended to FHWA that a modified design (M1-8a) be added to the MUTCD to
36 allow local agencies the option to add a unique pictograph or words to identify the
37 jurisdiction having authority over the route. This M1-8a was added to the MUTCD in
38 2009.

1 A comment received about the design of the M1-8a is that although agencies welcome
2 the idea of adding a pictograph or wording, the oval design of the M1-8 does not offer a
3 large area for such a pictograph or legend. Also, the current oval design of the M1-8 is
4 not optimal for creating a distinctive state-level bicycle route marker, which has become
5 an issue as some states are beginning to develop and implement state bicycle routes.

6
7 In developing a new design for the M1-9 US Bicycle Route marker, it was noted that the
8 simple and clear design of the revised M1-9 could easily be adapted for a revised M1-8
9 and M1-8a, addressing all these concerns. These proposals were then developed, and
10 are presented in this proposal.

11
12 The 4" numeral size is the same as used in the new M1-9 US Bicycle Route marker.
13 The 2" minimum text size is consistent with other bicycle-specific guide signing, and
14 should be legible under nearly all conditions at typical bicycle operating speeds.

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16 These proposed changes were also reviewed and endorsed by the NCUTCD Guide and
17 Motorist Information Sign Technical Committee at their meeting in January 2011.

1 **RECOMMENDED MUTCD PROVISIONS/ REVISIONS:**

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3 **Note:** Deletions from the 2009 MUTCD text are noted in ~~strikethrough red~~, and
4 insertions in underline blue.

5
6 1. Section 9B.21 of the MUTCD is modified as follows:

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8 **Section 9B.21 Bicycle Route Signs (M1-8, M1-8a, M1-9)**

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10 Option:

11 01 To establish a unique identification (route designation) for a State or local bicycle route, the Bicycle
12 Route (M1-8, M1-8a) sign (see Figure 9B-4) may be used.

13
14 ~~Standard~~ Guidance:

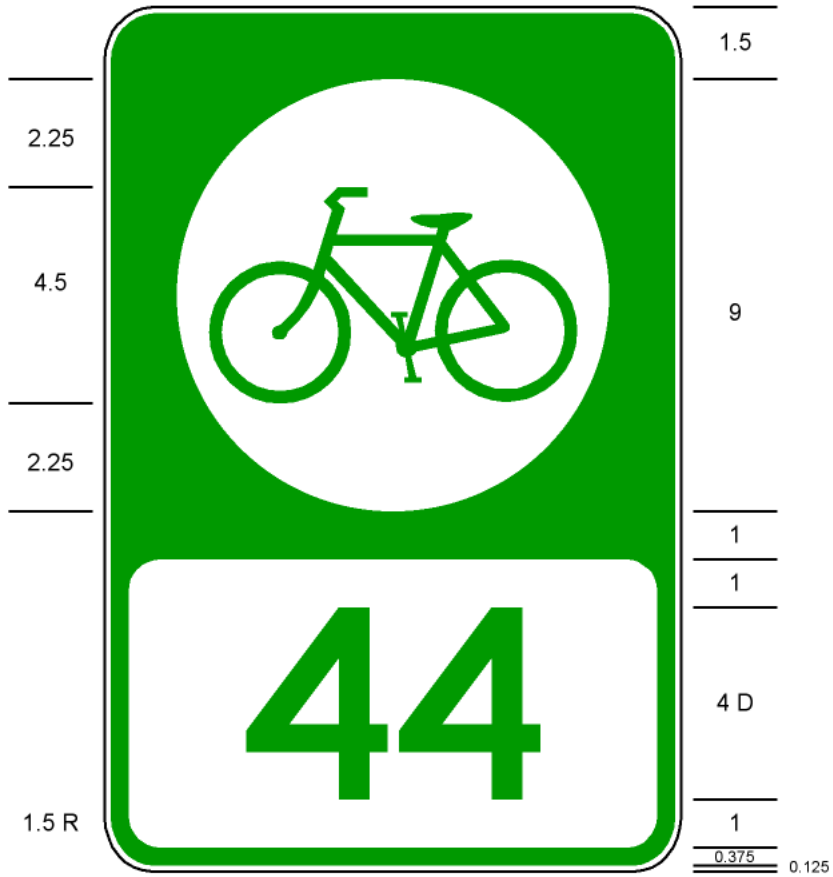
15 02 The Bicycle Route (M1-8) sign ~~shall~~ should contain a route designation and ~~shall~~ should have a green
16 background with a ~~retroreflectorized~~ white legend and border. The Bicycle Route (M1-8a) sign ~~shall~~
17 ~~contain the same information as the M1-8 sign and in addition shall~~ should include on the upper portion
18 of the sign panel a pictograph or words that are associated with the route or with the agency that has
19 jurisdiction over the route. The pictograph or legend shall should incorporate a bicycle symbol or word
20 message that clearly identifies the route as a bicycle route or pathway.

21
22 03 If a pictograph is used on the M1-8a sign the maximum dimension (height or width) of the pictograph
23 should not exceed two times the height of the route numeral, and should be contained within a green
24 border.

25 04 If a bicycle symbol is used on the M1-8a sign, it should have a minimum height of 20% of the M1-8a
26 sign panel height.

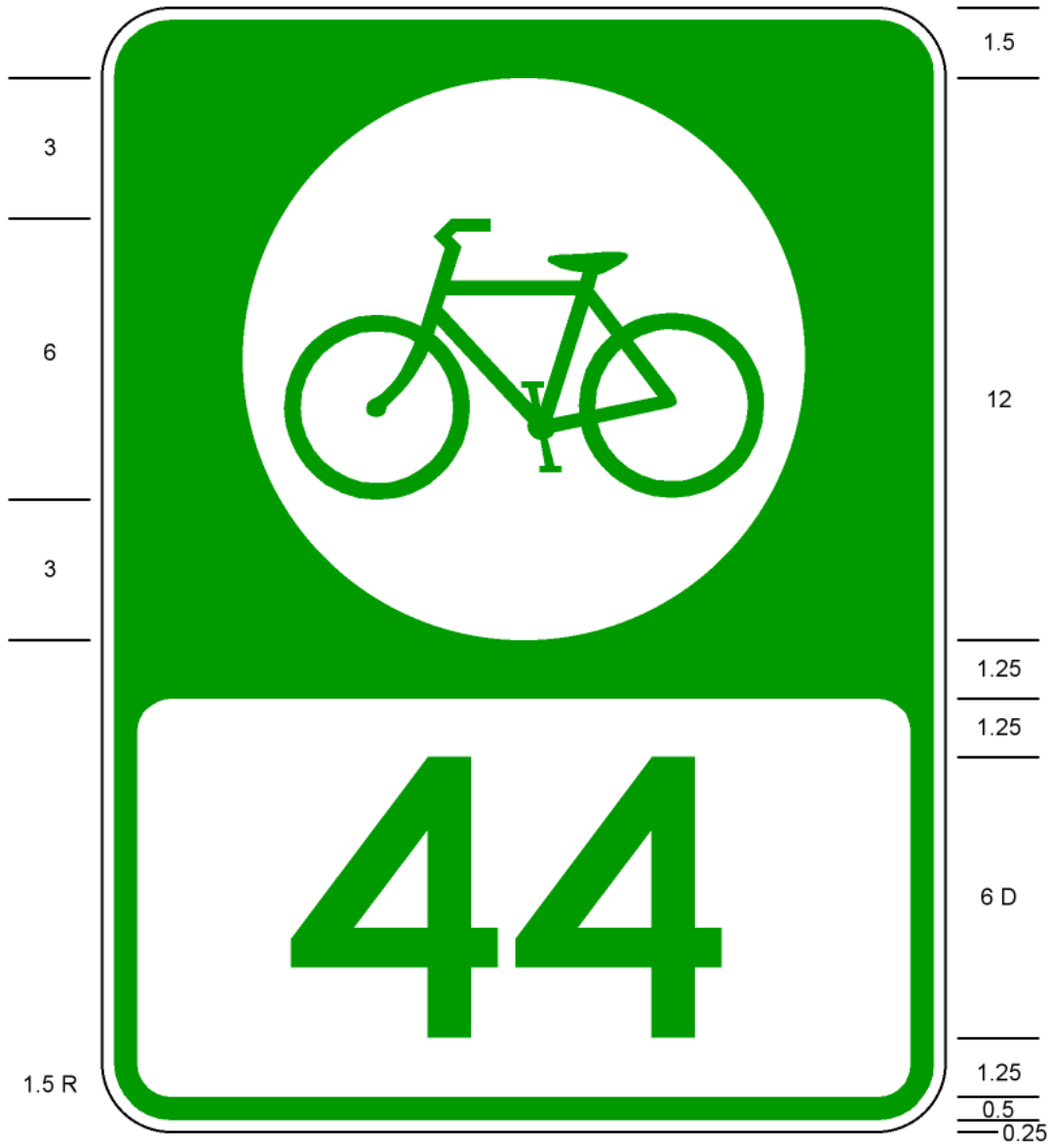
- 1 2. New designs for the M1-8 and M1-8a are recommended as follows:
- 2

All text / symbols centered



3 M1-8 (generic) - 12" x 18" size

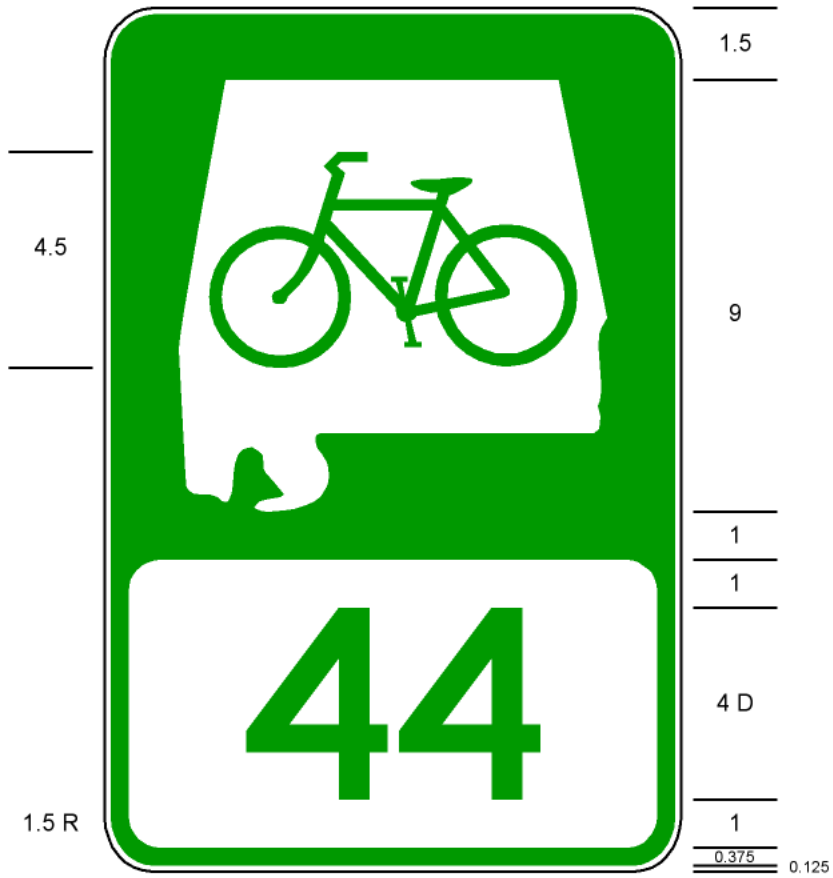
All text / symbols centered



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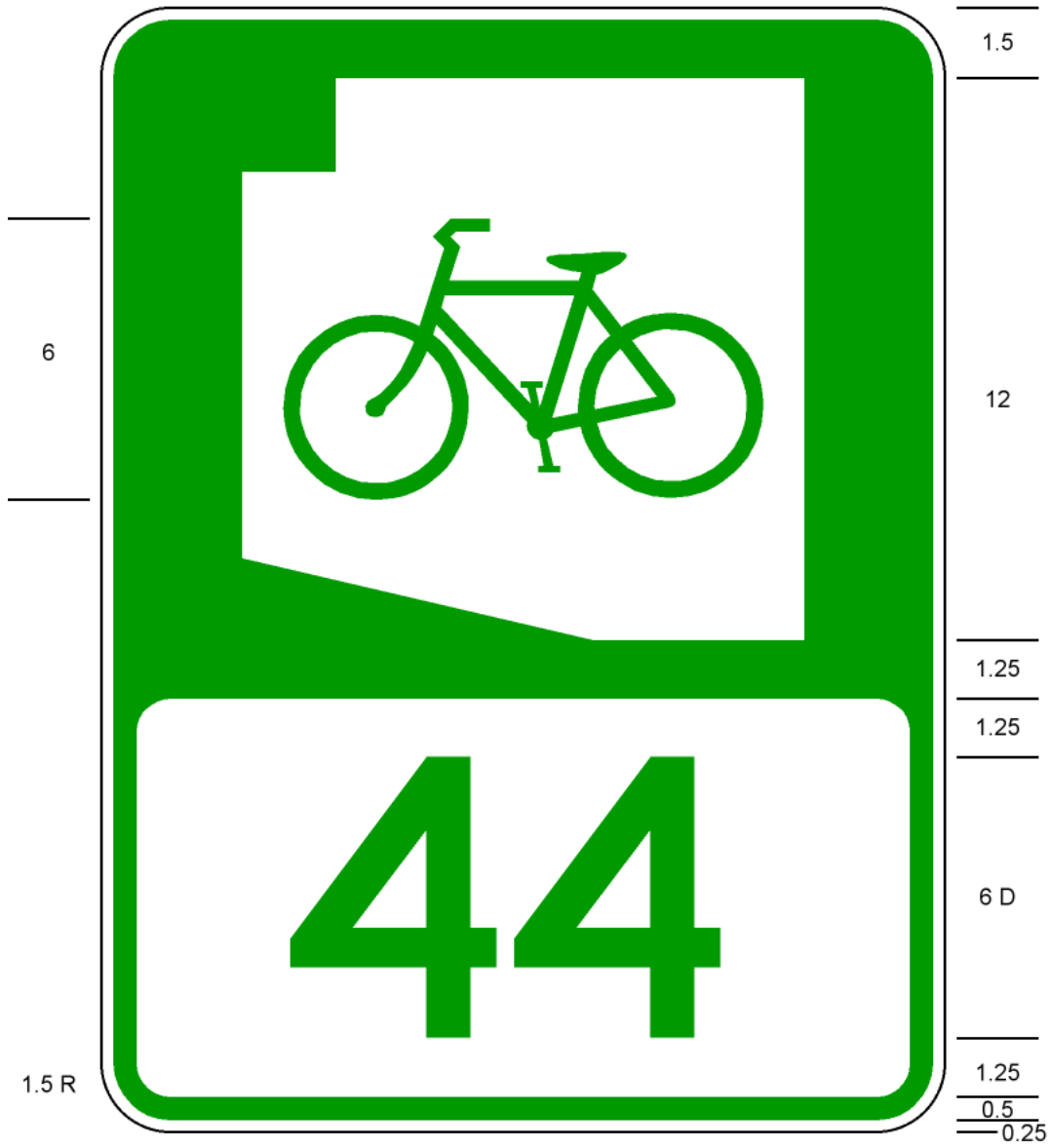
M1-8 (generic) - 18" x 24" size

All text / symbols centered



1 M1-8 (state bicycle route option) - 12" x 18" size

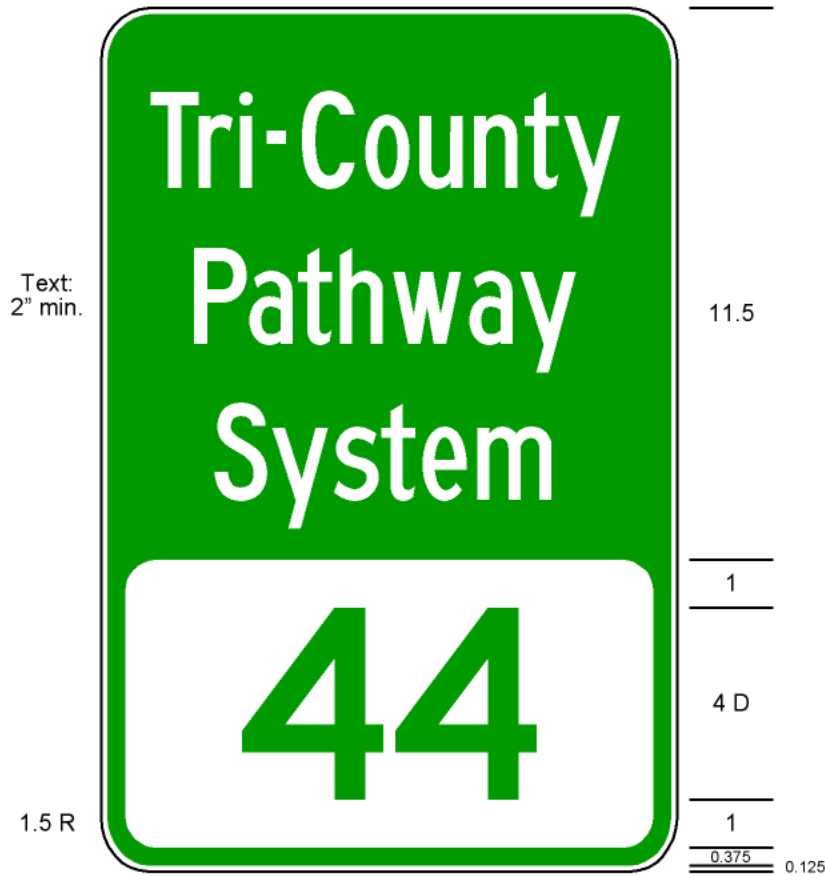
All text / symbols centered



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M1-8 (state bicycle route option) - 18" x 24" size

All text / symbols centered



1 M1-8a (word legend option) - 12" x 18" size

All text / symbols centered

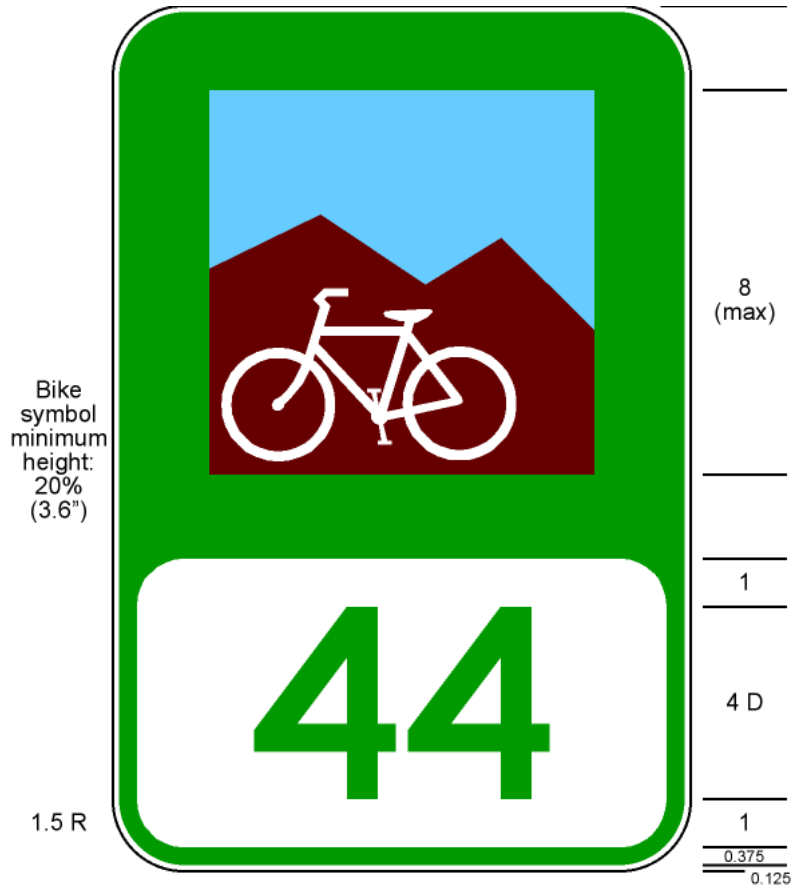
Text size:
2" min.
3" typ.



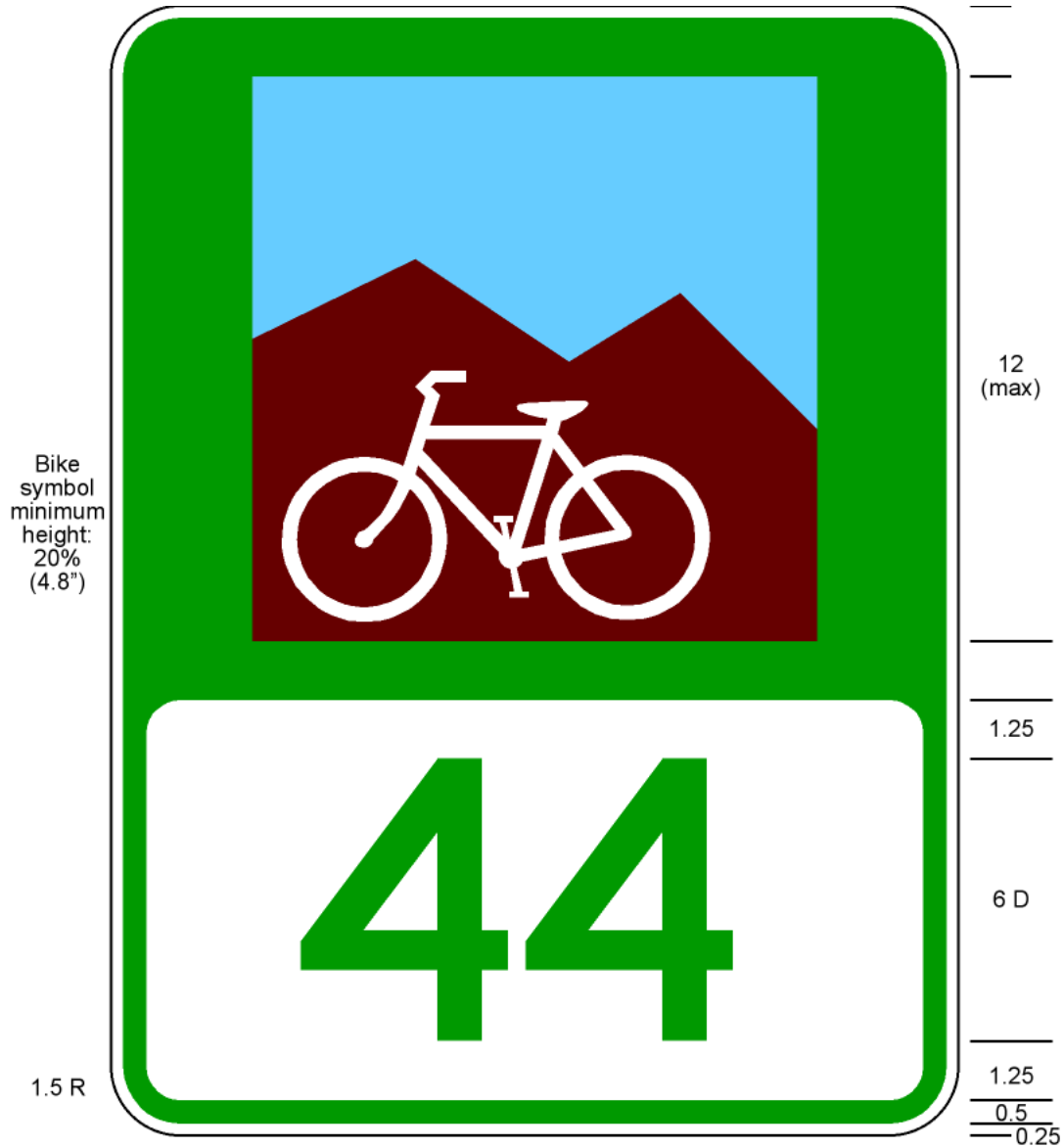
1.5 R

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M1-8a (word legend option) - 18" x 24" size



1 M1-8a (pictograph option) - 12" x 18" size



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M1-8a (pictograph option) - 18" x 24" size