TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: Railroad / Light Rail Transit Technical Committee

TOPIC: Proposed Changes and Additions to Chapter 8B

STATUS/DATE OF ACTION:

TC Drafts: 01/09/2014
RRLRT Approval: 06/27/2014
Transmitted to Sponsors: 03/25/2014
RRLRT editorial revisions & Approval: 06/27/2014
Council Approval: 06/28/2014

ORIGIN OF REQUEST: Railroad and Light Rail Transit Technical Committee

DISCUSSION:

In an effort to clarify existing Manual parts the RRLRT TC of the NCUTCD is proposing these changes to Chapter 8B.18


The proposed changes provide for consistency between MUTCD and the FRA Final Rule.
Section 8B.18  Emergency Notification Sign (I-13)

Guidance:

Emergency Notification(I-13) signs (see Figure 8B-5) should be installed at all highway-rail grade crossings, and at all highway-LRT grade crossings on semi-exclusive alignments, to provide information to road users so that they can notify the railroad company or LRT agency about emergencies or malfunctioning traffic control devices.

Standard:

When Emergency Notification signs are used at a highway-rail grade crossing, they shall, at a minimum, include the USDOT grade crossing inventory number and the emergency contact telephone number.

When Emergency Notification signs are used at a highway-LRT grade crossing, they shall, at a minimum, include a unique crossing identifier and the emergency contact telephone number.

Emergency Notification signs shall have a white legend and border on a blue background and shall be retroreflective.

The Emergency Notification signs shall be positioned so as to not obstruct any traffic control devices or limit the view of rail traffic approaching the grade crossing.

Emergency Notification signs shall be oriented so the face of the sign is approximately parallel to the edge of the roadway or pathway and is visible to users of the roadway or pathway.

Emergency Notification signs shall not be installed on railroad or LRT signal control equipment housings in lieu of the signs required along the edge of the roadway or pathway.

Guidance:

Emergency Notification signs should be attached to the grade crossing warning devices or Crossbuck Assemblies on the right-hand side of the roadway.

At station crossings, Emergency Notification signs or information should be posted in a conspicuous location.

Emergency Notification signs mounted on Crossbuck Assemblies or signal masts should only be large enough to provide the necessary contact information. Use of larger signs that might obstruct the view of rail traffic or other highway vehicles should be avoided.

Option:

Emergency Notification signs may be located on a separate post.

Additional Emergency Notification signs may be installed at a grade crossing.