



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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1 **NOTE: This is a recommendation by the GMI Technical Committee of the**
2 **NCUTCD. It is being distributed to the National Committee sponsoring**
3 **organizations for review and is subject to revision. This draft recommendation is**
4 **not a revision to the MUTCD and does not constitute official standards, guidance,**
5 **or options. No proposed revision to the MUTCD is effective unless and until**
6 **approved by FHWA through an Interim Approval or through the Federal**
7 **rulemaking process.**

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9 **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:** Guide/Motorist Information (GMI)

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11 **TOPIC:** Street Name Signs

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13 **STATUS/DATE OF ACTION:**

14 **TC Drafts:** 01/09/2014

15 **TC Approval:** 01/09/2014

16 **Transmitted to Sponsors:** 03/25/2014

17 **Council Approval:** 06/26/2014

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19 **ORIGIN OF REQUEST:** Maggie Cusack-Steciuk

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21 **AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD:** Page 162, Section 2D.43, paragraph 1

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23 **SUMMARY:**

24 The proposed modification provides guidance to street name signs to include displaying
25 the street names for both directions of travel for pedestrians.

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27 **DISCUSSION**

28 The GMI Sign Technical Committee received a suggested change to Section 2D.43
29 Street Name Signs (D3-1 or D3-1a) from the Pedestrian Task Force of the NCUTCD.

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31 The suggestion was that the MUTCD include a provision for street name signs be
32 readable from both directions of approach including along one-way streets. The
33 purpose of this recommendation is to aid wayfinding for pedestrians walking on
34 sidewalks, multi-use trails or along the street in the opposite direction of one-way traffic.

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36 This suggestion was made in reaction to the policies of some agencies to provide
37 signage for only one direction of travel as a cost-cutting measure. The signage should
38 address the needs of road users beyond motor vehicle operators.

40 **RECOMMENDED MUTCD PROVISIONS/ REVISIONS**

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42 Add Guidance to Section 2D.43 after paragraph 1 to indicate when street name signs
43 are used it should display street names for both directions of travel along roadways to
44 facilitate wayfinding for pedestrians.

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46 **Note:** Proposed changes to the MUTCD are shown with text additions in underline blue
47 and removed text are shown in ~~strikethrough red~~.

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50 **RECOMMENDED WORDING:**51
52 **Section 2D.43 Street Name Signs (D3-1 or D3-1a)**

53 *Guidance:*

54 01 *Street Name (D3-1 or D3-1a) signs (see Figure 2D-10) should be installed in urban areas at all street*
55 *intersections regardless of other route signs that might be present and should be installed in rural*
56 *areas to identify important roads that are not otherwise signed.*

57 02 *If used, Street Name signs should display street names for both directions of travel along all*
58 *roadways, including one-way roadways to facilitate wayfinding for pedestrians.*

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60 *Option:*

61 0203 For streets that are part of a U.S., State, or county numbered route, a D3-1a Street Name sign (see
62 Figure 2D-10) that incorporates a route shield may be used to assist road users who might not otherwise
63 be able to associate the name of the street with the route number.

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65 **Standard:**

66 0304 **The lettering for names of streets and highways on Street Name signs shall be**
67 **composed of a combination of lower-case letters with initial upper-case letters (see**
68 **Section 2A.13).**

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70 *Guidance:*

71 0405 *Lettering on post-mounted Street Name signs should be composed of initial upper-case letters at*
72 *least 6 inches in height and lower-case letters at least 4.5 inches in height.*

73 0506 *On multi-lane streets with speed limits greater than 40 mph, the lettering on post-mounted Street*
74 *Name signs should be composed of initial upper-case letters at least 8 inches in height and lower-case*
75 *letters at least 6 inches in height.*

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77 *Option:*

78 0607 For local roads with speed limits of 25 mph or less, the lettering on post-mounted Street Name
79 signs may be composed of initial upper-case letters at least 4 inches in height and lower-case letters at
80 least 3 inches in height.

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82 *Guidance:*

83 0708 *If overhead Street Name signs are used, the lettering should be composed of initial upper-case*
84 *letters at least 12 inches in height and lower-case letters at least 9 inches in height.*

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86 *Support:*

87 0809 The recommended minimum letter heights for Street Name signs are summarized in Table 2D-2.

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Option:

0910 Supplementary lettering to indicate the type of street (such as Street, Avenue, or Road) or the section of the city (such as NW) on the D3-1 and D3-1a signs may be in smaller lettering, composed of initial upper-case letters at least 3 inches in height and lower-case letters at least 2.25 inches in height. Conventional abbreviations (see Section 1A.15) may be used except for the street name itself.

4011 A pictograph (see definition in Section 1A.13) may be used on a D3-1 sign.

Standard:

4412 **Pictographs shall not be displayed on D3-1a or Advance Street Name (D3-2) signs (see Section 2D.44).**

4213 **If a pictograph is used on a D3-1 sign, the height and width of the pictograph shall not exceed the upper-case letter height of the principal legend of the sign.**

Guidance:

4314 *The pictograph should be positioned to the left of the street name.*

Standard:

4415 **The Street Name sign shall be retroreflective or illuminated to show the same shape and similar color both day and night. The color of the legend (and border, if used) shall contrast with the background color of the sign.**

Option:

4516 The border may be omitted from a Street Name sign.

4617 An alternative background color other than the normal guide sign color of green may be used for Street Name (D3-1 or D3-1a) signs where the highway agency determines this is necessary to assist road users in determining jurisdictional authority for roads.

Standard:

4718 **Alternative background colors shall not be used for Advance Street Name (D3-2) signs (see Section 2D.44).**

4819 **The only acceptable alternative background colors for Street Name (D3-1 or D3-1a) signs shall be blue, brown, or white. Regardless of whether green, blue, or brown is used as the background color for Street Name (D3-1 or D3-1a) signs, the legend (and border, if used) shall be white. For Street Name signs that use a white background, the legend (and border, if used) shall be black.**

Guidance:

4920 *An alternative background color for Street Name signs, if used, should be applied to the Street Name (D3-1 or D3-1a) signs on all roadways under the jurisdiction of a particular highway agency.*

2021 *In business or commercial areas and on principal arterials, Street Name signs should be placed at least on diagonally opposite corners. In residential areas, at least one Street Name sign should be mounted at each intersection. Signs naming both streets should be installed at each intersection. They should be mounted with their faces parallel to the streets they name.*

Option:

2422 To optimize visibility, Street Name signs may be mounted overhead. Street Name signs may also be placed above a regulatory or STOP or YIELD sign with no required vertical separation.

Guidance:

139 ²²23 *In urban or suburban areas, especially where Advance Street Name signs for signalized and other*
140 *major intersections are not used, the use of overhead Street Name signs should be strongly considered.*
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142 Option:

143 ²³24 At intersection crossroads where the same road has two different street names for each
144 direction of travel, both street names may be displayed on the same sign along with directional arrows.
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146 Support:

147 ²⁴25 Information regarding the use of street names on supplemental plaques for use with intersection-
148 related warning signs is contained in Section 2C.58.

149 Proposed MUTCD content goes here
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151 **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE VOTE:**

152	For:	21
153	Opposed:	0
154	Abstentions:	0

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