National Committee on
Uniform Traffic Control Devices

GMI SIGNS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: NCUTCD Guide and Motorist Information Signs
Technical Committee
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE: January 19, 2011 and 2012
TRANSMITTAL TO SPONSORS DATE: March 10, 2012
GMI APPROVAL FOLLOWING SPONSORS: June 20, 2012
COUNCIL APPROVAL DATE: June 21, 2012

TOPIC: Review of 2009 MUTCD Standards

AFFECTED PORTIONS OF MUTCD: Chapter 2J, Specific Service Signs

DISCUSSION/QUESTION:

Following the publication of the Final Rule that issued the 2009 MUTCD, FHWA asked that the NCUTCD, through its technical committees, review the text with respect to the Standards, Guidance, and Options included therein. The GMI Signs Technical Committee reviewed each of the applicable sections, resulting in numerous recommendations submitted as sponsor ballots.

The ballot item described herein recommends changing Section 2J, paragraph 1, 2nd sentence from Standard to Guidance to reflect situations where new categories may be added on an interchange approach so that the existing signs would not need to be reordered. In addition, it reflects the common practice, allowed in the MUTCD of combining categories on a single sign. In those instances, the combined categories may well not fit in the prescribed order.

This ballot item also includes the recommendation to add a new option to allow states to use the word FUEL instead of GAS on Specific Service signs.

RECOMMENDATION: The GMI Signs Technical Committee recommends the following.
Section 2J.02 Application

Standard:

01 The number of Specific Service signs along an approach to an interchange or intersection, regardless of the number of service types displayed, shall be limited to a maximum of four.

02 A Specific Service sign shall display the word message GAS, FOOD, LODGING, CAMPING, ATTRACTION, or 24-HOUR PHARMACY, an appropriate directional legend such as the word message EXIT XX, NEXT RIGHT, SECOND RIGHT, or directional arrows, and the related logo sign panels.

Guidance:

02 03 In the direction of traffic, successive Specific Service signs shall be for 24-hour pharmacy, attraction, camping, lodging, food, and gas services, in that order.

Option:

03 04 The word FUEL may be used instead of GAS.

January 19, 2012

GMI Signs Technical Committee Vote: For: 19
Against: 0
Abstentions: 1

June 20, 2012

Editorial comments accepted by GMI and recommended for presentation to Council.

June 21, 2012

Council Vote:
0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions, 37 For – Unanimous, Motion passed