



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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

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

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10 **TOPIC:** Use of Pictographs on guide signs

11 **STATUS/DATE OF ACTION:**

12 **TC Drafts:** 06/26/2014

13 **TC Approval:** 06/26/2014

14 **Transmitted to Sponsors:** 00/00/0000

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

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18 **ORIGIN OF REQUEST:** Tom Honich

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20 **AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD:** Proposed Section 2AK.04 (current 2E.35)

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22 **SUMMARY:**

23 The language proposed by FHWA for the future manual removes the options to placed
24 pictographs on guide signs for colleges and universities as well as governmental
25 jurisdictions. The use of pictographs on guide signs has been a practice used by states
26 for decades and the removal of this option in the future is highly likely to place states in
27 non-conformance with the next MUTCD as the removal of pictograph usage by states
28 who have been using them will not likely occur.

29
30 **DISCUSSION**

31 GMI discussed the removal of the provision of the use of pictographs on guide signs. To
32 remove this option completely would place states in a situation where they would likely
33 violate the new MUTCD. The direction was to retain many of the change FHWA made
34 to this section, but to reinstate the current pictograph usage options. However, after
35 hearing details on the research conducted in relation to pictographs it was discovered
36 the research showed very little negative impact when one pictograph was added to a
37 guide sign, but distraction increased significantly when three pictographs were
38 displayed. The pictograph options were reinstated, but a guidance statement

39 recommending the use of pictographs should be limited to one per supplemental guide
40 sign was also added.

41

42 RECOMMENDED MUTCD PROVISIONS/ REVISIONS

43 **Note:** FHWA proposed changes to the MUTCD are shown with text additions in
44 underline blue. Proposed changes to FHWA Concept are shown with text deletions in
45 strikeout red and additions in underline green.

46

47 ~~Section 2E.35~~ **Section 2AK.04 Other Supplemental Guide Signs**

48 Support:

49 (01) Supplemental Guide signs can be used to provide information regarding destinations accessible from an
50 interchange, other than places displayed on the standard interchange signing. However, such Supplemental
51 Guide signing can reduce the effectiveness of other more important guide signing because of the possibility of
52 overloading the road user's capacity to receive visual messages and make appropriate decisions. "The
53 AASHTO Guidelines for the Selection of Supplemental Guide Signs for Traffic Generators Adjacent to
54 Freeways" is incorporated by reference in this section (see Page i for AASHTO's address).

55 *Guidance:*

56 (02) A Supplemental Guide sign should not be installed unless a destination meets the criteria established by
57 the State or agency policy (see Paragraph 5 of this Section). ~~States and other agencies should adopt~~
58 ~~an appropriate policy for installing supplemental signs using "The AASHTO Guidelines for the Selection of~~
59 ~~Supplemental Guide Signs for Traffic Generators Adjacent to Freeways." In developing policies for such~~
60 ~~signing, such items as population, amount of traffic generated, distance from the route and the significance of the~~
61 ~~destination, should be taken into account.~~

62

63 (03) *No more than one Supplemental Guide sign should be used on each interchange approach.*

64 (04) A Supplemental Guide sign (see Figure 2E-24) should not ~~list~~ display more than two destinations and
65 no more than three lines of destination information. *Destination names should be followed by the interchange*
66 *number (and suffix), or if interchanges are not numbered, by the legend NEXT RIGHT or SECOND RIGHT or*
67 *both, as appropriate. The Supplemental Guide sign should be installed as an independent guide sign*
68 *assembly.*

69 (05) *Where two or more Advance Guide signs are used, the Supplemental Guide sign should be installed*
70 *approximately midway between two of the Advance Guide signs. If only one Advance Guide sign is used, the*
71 *Supplemental Guide sign should follow it by at least 800 feet. If the interchanges are numbered, the*
72 *Interchange number should be used for the action message.*

73 ~~(05) States and other agencies should adopt an appropriate policy for installing supplemental signs using "The~~
74 ~~AASHTO Guidelines for the Selection of Supplemental Guide Signs for Traffic Generators Adjacent to~~
75 ~~Freeways." In developing policies for such signing, such items as population, amount of traffic generated,~~
76 ~~distance from the route, and and the significance of the destination, and the need for signing for the~~
77 ~~destination should be taken into account.~~

78 **Standard:**

79 (06) Supplemental Guide signs shall not be placed at the same location as Advance Guide, Exit
80 Direction, or other signs related to that exit.

81 (07) Guide signs ~~directing drivers to~~ for park -- ride facilities shall be considered as Supplemental
82 Guide signs (see Figure 2E-25).

83 (08) Guide signs for recreational or cultural interest destinations (see Chapter 2K) shall be
84 considered as Supplemental Guide signs.

85 **Option:**

86 ~~(09) A pictograph (see definition in Section 1A.13) may be used on a Supplemental Guide sign in~~
 87 ~~conjunction with a destination that is associated with governmental agencies, military bases, universities,~~
 88 ~~or other government-approved institutions.~~

89 Option:

90 (10) A pictograph (see definition in Section 1A.13) may be used on a Supplemental Guide sign in
 91 conjunction with a destination that is associated with governmental agencies, military bases, universities,
 92 or other government-approved institutions.

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94 Guidance:

95 (11) When used, no more than one pictograph should be displayed on a supplemental guide sign.

96 **Standard:**

97 ~~(12) Pictographs shall not be displayed on Supplemental Guide signs, except as provided in~~
 98 ~~Paragraph XX for the Park – Ride Supplemental Guide sign~~

99 ~~(13) The maximum dimension (height or width) of a pictograph shall not exceed two times the~~
 100 ~~upper-case letter height of the destination legend and shall not exceed the size of a route shield on~~
 101 ~~the guide sign. If used, the pictograph shall be located to the left of the destination legend it~~
 102 ~~represents, except as provided in Paragraph 9 for the park-ride Supplemental Guide sign.~~

103 (14) The maximum dimension (height or width) of a pictograph shall not exceed two times the
 104 upper-case letter height of the destination legend and shall not exceed the size of a route shield on
 105 the guide sign. If used, the pictograph shall be located to the left of the destination legend it
 106 represents, except as provided in Paragraph 9 for the park-ride Supplemental Guide sign.

107 (15) When a transit pictograph is displayed on the Park – Ride ~~park-ride~~ Supplemental Guide sign,
 108 it shall be located on the same line as the carpool symbol, if used, above the word legend. The
 109 maximum dimension (height or width) of the pictograph shall not exceed two times the upper-case
 110 letter height of the PARK – RIDE legend.

111 ~~(16) A pictograph representing a State, county, or municipal corporation or other incorporated or~~
 112 ~~unincorporated community shall not be displayed on a Supplemental Guide sign.~~

113 ~~(17) Pictographs shall otherwise comply with the provisions of Section 2A.06.~~

114 (18) Pictographs shall otherwise comply with the provisions of Section 2A.06.

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116 **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (6/26/2014) VOTE:**

117 For: 19

118 Opposed: 0

119 Abstentions: 1

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