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

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: Bicycle Technical Committee

TOPIC: Lane Control Sign (R3-8 Series)

STATUS/DATE OF ACTION:
BTC Drafts: 01/09/2014
BTC Approval: 01/09/2014
RWSTC Concurrence: 01/09/2014
Transmitted to Sponsors: 03/25/2014
TC Revision: 06/25/2014
Council Approval: 06/26/2014 (v 1.4)

ORIGIN OF REQUEST: Bicycle Technical Committee

AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD: 2B.22 Advance Intersection Lane Control Signs (R3-8 Series)

SUMMARY:
This proposal provides options for the installation of bicycle lane movement control symbols on Advance Intersection Lane Control signs for bicycle lanes along roadways where bicycle lanes are located between vehicle travel lanes on intersection approaches or where only a single bicycle movement is permitted from a certain bicycle lane.

DISCUSSION
Where bicycle lanes are located between vehicle travel lanes and vehicle mandatory movement lanes, operational problems can occur when lane markings are obscured by environmental conditions and/or queued motor vehicles. Conflicts between vehicles and bicyclists can occur at intersections when bicyclists attempt to turn left (or right) from a bicycle lane. Signing is especially helpful to provide drivers and bicyclists adequate time to position themselves in the appropriate lane at the intersection depending on their intended direction of travel.
The NCUTCD Regulatory and Warning Sign Technical Committee reviewed and concurred with this proposal in January 2014 (vote: 22-2-5).

RECOMMENDED MUTCD PROVISIONS/ REVISIONS

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

Paragraph 02 of Section 2B.22 of the MUTCD is revised as follows:

Section 2B.22 Advance Intersection Lane Control Signs (R3-8 Series)

Option:

01 Advance Intersection Lane Control (R3-8, R3-8a, and R3-8b) signs (see Figure 2B-4) may be used to indicate the configuration of all lanes ahead.
02 The word messages ONLY, OK, THRU, ALL, or HOV 2+ or BIKE or bicycle symbol may be used within the border in combination with the arrow symbols of the R3-8 sign series.

Example of R3-8 with bicycle symbol in lieu of ONLY