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

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: Guide/Motorist Information (GMI)

TOPIC: Recreational & Cultural Interest (R&CI) Signs

STATUS/DATE OF ACTION:
TC Drafts: 06/26/2014
TC Approval: 06/27/2014
Transmitted to Sponsors: 00/00/0000
Council Approval: 06/28/2014

ORIGIN OF REQUEST: Dan Williams/ Mark Wilson

AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD: FHWA, 2016 MUTCD Concept Only – Limited Distribution for GMI Review, Section 2BB.02, Page 7 of 16, lines 32-34, and Table 2M.08

SUMMARY:
This proposal deletes FHWA proposed Section 2BB.02 Standard addition and the deletion of the Section 2BB.04 Support statement to remove the National Park Service recreation area signs and symbols from the MUTCD. (Figure 2M-8 and Table 2M-1). A GMI Task Force has been formed to identify and recommend those recreational and cultural interest area symbols that should be retained for use on roadways outside of park facilities.

DISCUSSION
Some recreational and cultural area signs and symbols are in use along roadways outside of park facilities. FHWA’s proposed change will affect current application even for those recreational and culture interest area signs and symbols that enjoy wide recognition and use.
Instead of a blanket removal of an existing practice, it is recommended that a Task Force identify those cultural and recreational signs and symbols that enjoy wide recognition and use and should be allowed for use on roadways outside of park facilities.

**RECOMMENDED MUTCD PROVISIONS/ REVISIONS**

*Note:* FHWA proposed changes to the MUTCD are shown with text additions in underline blue and deleted text is shown in strikethrough red. Proposed changes are shown with additions in underline green and deletions in underline strikethrough red. TC proposed deletions from the FHWA proposed text additions are shown in underline strikethrough blue.

**Section 2M.02** Application of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Signs

*Support:* Provisions for signing recreational or cultural interest areas are subdivided into two different types of signs: (1) symbol signs and (2) destination guide signs.

*Guidance:* When highway agencies decide to provide recreational and cultural interest area signing, these agencies should have a policy for such signing. The policy should establish signing criteria for the eligibility of the various types of services, accommodations, and facilities. These signs should not be used where they might be confused with other traffic control signs.

*Option:* Recreational and cultural interest area guide signs may be used on any road to direct persons to facilities, structures, and places, and to identify various services available to the general public. These guide signs may also be used in recreational or cultural interest areas for signing non-vehicular events and amenities such as trails, structures, and facilities.

*Standard:* Recreational and cultural interest area symbols (see Section 2M.04) shall not be used on signs on roadways outside of park facilities.

*Support:* Section 2A.12 contains information regarding the use of recreational and cultural interest area symbols on other types of signs.

**Section 2M.04** General Design Requirements for Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Guide Signs

*Standard:* Recreational and cultural interest area symbol guide signs shall be square or rectangular in shape and shall have a white symbol or message and a white border on a brown background. The symbol shall be grouped into the following usage and series categories:

- A. General Applications,
- B. Accommodations,
- C. Services,
- D. Land Recreation,
E. Water Recreation, and
F. Winter Recreation.

Support:
Table 2M-1 contains a listing of the symbols within each series category. NPS R&CIA symbols to be removed from MUTCD.

Option:
Mirror images of symbols may be used where the reverse image will better convey the message.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE VOTE:
For: 19
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0