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: Memorial or Dedication Signing

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: Matt Rauch

AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD: FHWA, 2016 MUTCD Concept Only – Limited Distribution for GMI Review, Section 2BB.10, Page 5 of 10, lines 13-15

SUMMARY:
GMI reviewed the proposed FHWA Revisions to Section 2M.10 and recommends that the proposed FHWA text addition which states that the legend of a memorial or dedication sign shall not include “ROAD” or “HIGHWAY” be deleted.

DISCUSSION
GMI believes that the proposed FHWA standard language would be controversial and conflict with existing state legislation. The first sentence of the new standard language is appropriate. However, GMI recommends that the second sentence be deleted.

RECOMMENDED MUTCD PROVISIONS/ REVISIONS
**Section 2M.10**  
**Memorial or Dedication Signing**

**Support:**  
Legislative bodies will occasionally adopt a name resolution memorializing or dedicating a highway, bridge, or other component of the highway.

**Guidance:**  
Such memorial or dedication names should not appear on a long highway, or be placed on a bridge or other highway component. If a route, bridge, or highway component is officially designated as a memorial or dedication, and if notification of the memorial or dedication is to be made on the highway right-of-way, such notification should consist of installing a memorial or dedication marker in a rest area, scenic overlook, recreational area, or other appropriate location where parking is provided with the signing inconspicuously located relative to vehicle operations along the highway.

**Option:**  
If the installation of a memorial or dedication marker on the mainline is not practical, memorial or dedication signs may be installed on the mainline. Option not needed for deviation from Guidance statement based on engineering judgment.

**Guidance:**  
Memorial or dedication signs should have a white legend and border on a brown background. On all such signs, the design should be simple and dignified, devoid of any tendency toward advertising, and in general compliance with other signs.

The minimum letter height of the principal legend on memorial or dedication signs should conform to the minimum letter height of Miscellaneous Information signs (see Section 2H.04).

The lettering for the name of the person or entity being recognized should be composed of a combination of lower-case letters with initial upper-case letters.

**Standard:**  
Where such memorial or dedication signs are installed on the highway mainline because the provision of Paragraph 3 of this Section cannot be met, (1) memorial or dedication names shall not appear on directonal guidesigns, (2) memorial or dedication signs shall not interfere with the placement of any other necessary traffic control devices, and (3) memorial or dedication signs shall not compromise the safety or efficiency of traffic flow. The memorial or dedication signs shall be limited to one sign at an appropriate location, each on an independent post-mounted sign installation.

Memorial or dedication signs shall be rectangular in shape. The legend displayed on memorial or dedication signs shall be limited to the name of the person or entity being recognized and as simple a message preceding or following the name, such as “DEDICATED TO” or “Memorial Parkway.” Additional legend, such as biographical information, shall not be displayed on the memorial or dedication signs. Decorative or graphic elements, pictographs, logos, or symbols shall not be displayed on memorial or dedication signs. Alphabetic and numeric symbols shall be provided in the “Standard Highway Signs and Markings” book (see Section 1A.11). The route number or officially mapped name of the highway shall not be displayed on the memorial or dedication sign.
Memorial or dedication signs shall not imply that a highway has been officially renamed. The legend of a memorial or dedication sign shall be displayed in the format of an official highway name, such as a proper noun followed by descriptors such as “Road” or “Highway.”

Memorial or dedication names shall not appear on supplemental signs or any other information sign along the highway or its intersecting routes.

Option:

The lettering for the name of the person or entity being recognized may be composed of a combination of lower-case letters with initial upper-case letters. Relocated to following Guidance provision.

Guidance:

Freeways and expressways should not be signed as memorial or dedicated highways. When used, memorial or dedication signs should be located in accordance with the provisions for locating vanity signs (see Section 2A.03).

Support:

Named highways (see Section 2D.53) are officially designated and shown on official maps and serve the purpose of providing route guidance, primarily on unnumbered highways and property addresses. A highway designated as a memorial or dedication is not considered to be a named highway for the purposes of highway signing or road user navigation and orientation. Section 2D.53 contains provisions for the signing of named highways.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE VOTE:

GMI TC 06/27/2014

For: 19
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0