



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

13236 North 7th Street, Suite 4-259, Phoenix, Arizona 85022

Phone/Text: 231-4-NCUTCD (231-462-8823)

E-mail: secretary@ncutcd.org Website: <https://ncutcd.org>

1 **2023 Midyear Meeting - Wednesday, June 28 - Friday, June 30, 2023**
2 *Marriott Tacoma Downtown and Greater Tacoma Convention Center, Tacoma, WA*
3 **Meeting Summary**

4 **Draft - content may change prior to final approval by Council.**

5 **General Session**

6 No General Session was held as part of this meeting. The following are reports from joint
7 committees, technical committees, joint task forces, and other entities summarizing actions at
8 the meeting or related activities.

9 **Executive Board**

10 The NCUTCD Executive Board report was submitted by Gene Hawkins, NCUTCD Chair. The
11 Executive Board met virtually on May 31, 2023. Nine of ten voting members and all non-voting
12 Board members were present. This Board meeting was focused primarily on administrative
13 issues. Verbal reports were provided by the Treasurer, Executive Secretary, Chair of the Edit
14 Committee, Chair of the Research Committee, and Chair of the Bylaws/Operating Procedures
15 Update Board Committee. Written reports were provided by the Webmaster, Honorary Member
16 Selection Committee chair, and several joint task force chairs. During the meeting, the Board
17 approved the FY 2024 proposed budget, approved applications for eight new Technical
18 Members, appointed a Nominating Committee, and, in Executive Session, approved a new
19 contract for the Executive Secretary and an ongoing honorarium for the NCUTCD Webmaster.
20 As there was no Council meeting, the new Technical Members will be introduced at the 2024
21 Annual Meeting in January.

22 **Edit Committee**

23 The Edit Committee report was submitted by Bill Lambert, Edit Committee Chair. The committee
24 met on Wednesday, June 28th with 7 members and 12 visitors in attendance. The Edit
25 Committee recognized the contributions of Jim Pline. An update on the status of the Bylaws and
26 Operating Procedures task force was presented, noting that the initial draft changes have been
27 forwarded to the Executive Board for comment. There were presentations on guidelines for
28 crafting MUTCD language, traffic control device characteristics and activities, a definition of
29 "midblock", and whether a median island should be a "pedestrian refuge island" (as currently
30 used in the MUTCD) or simply a "refuge island".

31 **Research Committee**

32 The Research Committee report was submitted by Bryan Katz, Research Committee Chair.
33 The Research Committee met on Thursday, June 29th with 15 members and 18 visitors. After
34 self-introductions, Bryan Katz provided an update on the Journal on Traffic Control Device
35 Research and reminded members of our current call for papers. The timeline for Technical
36 Committee research topics was reviewed. There were presentations on the FHWA Traffic
37 Control Devices Pooled Fund Study, on adapting pedestrian hybrid beacons to assist bicyclists,
38 and on bicycling facilities, crash types, & bicyclist risk.

39 **Regulatory and Warning Sign Technical Committee**

40 The Regulatory and Warning Sign Technical Committee report was submitted by Tom Heydel,
41 RWSTC Chair. The committee met on Thursday, June 29th with 24 members and 11 visitors.
42 The committee remembered Jim Pline, who passed away on April 29, 2023 at the age of 91. His
43 many achievements were recognized and members were given an opportunity to share
44 personally about their colleague and friend. He will be missed greatly. RWSTC discussed multi-
45 way stop control and micromobility / e-mobility users as related to engineering studies. RWSTC
46 heard reports on the 12th Edition task force, FHWA updates, and on the TCD Pooled Fund
47 Study. Task force assignments were reviewed and updated. Four potential research projects will
48 be provided to the Research Committee. RW expects to have two proposals to go to sponsors
49 this fall on emergency vehicle weight limit signs and unusual vehicle / non-traditional travel
50 mode signs.

51 **Guide and Motorist Information Sign Technical Committee**

52 The Guide and Motorist Information Sign Technical Committee report was submitted by Tom
53 Honich, GMITC Chair. The committee met on Thursday, June 29th with 30 members and 7
54 visitors. GMITC heard a report from FHWA on the TCD Pooled Fund Study with specific
55 emphasis on a recent study of arrow designs for arrow-per-lane signing. GMITC also heard
56 reports on the 12th Edition task force and FHWA updates. GMI discussed fonts used on
57 dynamic message signs (DMS) and its relationship to NEMA TS-4. This may result in a new
58 multi-committee task force. GMI discussed guide sign arrows, specifically the differences
59 between tapered and straight shaft arrows, questioning the need for both types. GMI reviewed
60 the interoperability symbol for toll and managed lanes approved by Council in 2016 but not
61 adopted in the NPA given progress on interoperability. GMI discussed plans for the January
62 2024 meeting, specifically if the final rule is released before the end of 2023. GMITC expects to
63 have two proposals to go to sponsors this fall on sign spacing and arrow-per-lane arrow design.

64 **Markings Technical Committee**

65 The Markings Technical Committee report was submitted by Jody Colvin, Markings TC Chair.
66 The committee met on Thursday, June 29th with 26 members and 14 visitors. MTC heard
67 reports on the 12th Edition task force, FHWA updates, and on the TCD Pooled Fund Study.
68 MTC assigned task forces to start new proposals on topics of interest.

69 **Signals Technical Committee**

70 The Signals Technical Committee report was submitted by John Fisher, outgoing Signals TC
71 Chair. The committee met on Thursday, June 29th with 30 members and 5 visitors. STC
72 discussed temporary/portable traffic signals, guidelines for leading pedestrian intervals, ramp
73 metering signals, and lane use control signals. STC heard reports on the 12th Edition task force
74 and FHWA updates. STC expects to have three proposals to go to sponsors this fall on "shall
75 /shall not be permitted" phrases, midblock pedestrian signals, and traffic signal warrants. At the
76 close of the meeting, John Fisher stepped down as STC chair after more than 7 years of
77 service. Current vice-chair John Hibbard of Georgia DOT will be assuming the STC chair, and
78 Matt Duncan of City of Lakewood, CO will be the incoming vice chair.

79 **Temporary Traffic Control Technical Committee**

80 The Temporary Traffic Control Technical Committee report was submitted by Ryan Lancaster,
81 TTC Vice-Chair. Ryan Lancaster presided over the TTC meeting. The committee met on
82 Thursday, June 29th with 31 members and 8 visitors. TTC task forces reported on activities of
83 those task forces. TTC expects to move forward soon on a proposal on driveway assistance

84 devices (DAD). TTC heard reports and presentations on a worker protection toolkit by ATSSA,
85 TCD crashworthiness, 12th Edition visioning, real time work zone data, and vulnerable road
86 user safety. TTC expects to have five proposals to go to sponsors this fall on temporary and
87 portable traffic control signals, Stay in Lane signs, Chapter 6P tables, rumble strip warning
88 signs, and work zone duration relocation.

89 **Railroad and Light Rail Transit Technical Committee**

90 The RRLRT Technical Committee report was submitted by Rick Campbell, RRLRT Chair. The
91 committee met on Thursday, June 29th with 35 members and 4 visitors. RRLRT heard reports
92 from representatives from/to other TCs, JTFs, and MCTFs. RRLRT also heard updates from
93 FHWA and FRA. Sound Transit presented information regarding their expansion and safety
94 programs. SAE presented regarding LED light refresh / flicker rates and video / machine vision
95 issues. RRLRT discussed items from the 11th Edition of the MUTCD NPA.

96 **Bicycle Technical Committee**

97 The Bicycle Technical Committee report was submitted by Bill DeSantis, Bicycle Chair. The
98 committee met on Thursday, June 29th with 25 members and 9 visitors, and on Friday, June
99 30th with 11 members and 5 visitors. On Thursday, BTC heard reports on the 12th Edition task
100 force and FHWA updates. The BTC worked on proposals for advisory bike lanes, bicycle signal
101 warrants, alternative intersection designs, sign mounting height, and notes on MUTCD figures.
102 BTC also reviewed the RWSTC proposal on unusual vehicle / non-traditional travel mode signs
103 and heard reports from representatives from/to other TCs, JTFs, and MCTFs. On Friday, the
104 BTC continued work on bicycle signal warrants.

105 **Connected and Automated Vehicle Joint Task Force**

106 The CAV Joint Task Force report was submitted by Paul Carlson, CAV JTF Chair. The joint
107 task force met Wednesday, June 28th with 57 attendees. Chair Paul Carlson shared key CAV
108 developments. The JTF heard reports on a FHWA AV Readiness Webinar (May 2023) and
109 pending report, NCHRP Synthesis 20-05 / Topic 53-10 on contrast markings, NCHRP 03-147 -
110 LED and TCDs, Japan's approach to AV readiness, vulnerable road user initiatives, and AV
111 road readiness assessments. Other CAV task forces provided reports, and the JTF made plans
112 for 11th Edition review after the Final Rule and 12th Edition preparation.

113 **Pedestrian Joint Task Force**

114 The Pedestrian Joint Task Force report was submitted by Randy McCourt, Pedestrian JTF
115 Chair. The task force met Wednesday, June 28th with 64 attendees. The JTF reviewed the
116 status of PROWAG, the MUTCD, the draft revisions to the NCUTCD bylaws and operating
117 procedures, and research actions by collaborating organizations. The JTF heard updates on
118 FHWA research in pedestrian areas and on a BTC proposal on advisory bike lanes. The status
119 of several JTF working groups was discussed. Future action items may include greater clarity as
120 to when to mark and enhance uncontrolled crosswalks and warrants/guides for control
121 elements, MUTCD updates driven by PROWAG adoption, and criteria for signals at crosswalks
122 at bus stops.

123 **Roundabout Joint Task Force**

124 The Roundabout Joint Task Force report was submitted by Brian Walsh, Roundabout JTF
125 Chair. The task force met Wednesday, June 28th with 15 attendees. The JTF noted the
126 publication of NCHRP Report 1043 (updated Roundabout Guide). This report includes new
127 information and analysis on accommodating trucks in roundabouts. The JTF then looked at

128 advance signing for trucks at roundabouts and may be developing proposals based on this
129 work, working with other committees as appropriate. Other future proposals may be to add
130 object markers at lower heights to supplement or eliminate signs, "metering signals" at
131 roundabouts, and advance signing for rural roundabouts. The JTF reviewed proposed Operating
132 Procedures for joint task force membership and how it will impact TC representation on the
133 Roundabout JTF.

134 **Rules of the Road Joint Task Force**

135 The Rules of the Road Joint Task Force report was submitted by Ronnie Bell, ROR JTF Chair.
136 The task force met Wednesday, June 28th with 33 attendees. RORJTF is tasked with updating
137 Chapter 11 (Rules of the Road) of the Uniform Vehicle Code (UVC). The MUTCD is reliant on
138 the UVC for defining the legal aspects of many TCDs, but the UVC is a model ordinance and not
139 binding law. Discussions focused on reviewing the 11th Edition of the MUTCD after publication
140 to identify items in the current Rules of the Road that need to be revised, including identification
141 of various types of mobility and transportation devices not currently included as well as
142 determining whether current rules adequately and apply to the operation of these devices.
143 RORJTF plans monthly virtual meetings to continue work.

144 **TOMC / Canadian MUTCD**

145 The TOMC report was submitted by Scott Wainwright, senior NCUTCD TOMC representative.
146 TOMC met virtually on April 18, 2023. Scott Wainwright and Nicole Jackson are the two
147 NCUTCD representatives to TOMC meetings. Wainwright presented an update on FHWA and
148 NCUTCD activities on the US MUTCD. The Editing & Publication Subcommittee reported on
149 efforts to finalize text and graphics for first update of the 6th Edition of the MUTCD-C, including
150 errata and completed projects. Status reports were presented on active projects, including
151 several on comprehension testing, and possible termination of projects with no progress. A [final
152 report was presented on non-standard pavement markings for crosswalks](#). TOMC is also
153 looking forward to FHWA's pooled-fund study on this subject. The next TOMC meeting will be in
154 person on September 22-23, 2023, in Ottawa, Ontario, and Scott and Nicole plan to attend.

155 **FHWA**

156 Kevin Sylvester of the FHWA MUTCD Team provided the following report and update:
157 FHWA and USDOT have been working diligently on a final rule for the next edition of the
158 MUTCD. With the vast input submitted through the public docket, and the commitment to
159 implementing the provisions of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), we want the
160 new edition of the MUTCD to be as responsive as possible. We share in everyone's enthusiasm
161 and support for a new MUTCD and it remains a top priority for the entire USDOT.

162 The IIJA was enacted after the NPA for the MUTCD 11th Edition was issued and the
163 comment period had closed. So there were some specific items in that law that we need to
164 ensure would be addressed. A significant part of the additional effort involves looking at what
165 aspects of the IIJA could be incorporated into the new edition and to what extent that could be
166 done under the current rulemaking.

167 In general terms, if there are specific provisions related to the IIJA that warrant public
168 comment on the details of their implementation, then the approach would be to issue those for
169 comment separately so as not to impede the current rulemaking. This does not mean that the
170 current rulemaking won't address both the essence and specifics of the IIJA where the changes
171 align with the NPA, with comments, and the action taken for the final rule. It merely means that
172 certain aspects related to the IIJA might need to be deferred to a future rulemaking action.

173 FHWA would look to incorporate those into the first revision of the 11th Edition when addressing
174 the eventual adoption of PROWAG.

175 A few important details:

- 176 • The rule is reported on the Spring Unified Regulatory Agenda as final rule stage. While it
177 might seem obvious, this detail is important because it verifies that the MUTCD remains
178 among the Federal government's priority rulemaking actions. (As a point of reference, the
179 Retroreflectivity rulemaking was reported as a long-term action for a number of years,
180 indicating that it was not ready to proceed to a final rule.)
- 181 • The rule is still designated significant. While we cannot predict how this affects the timeline, it
182 does involve another step in the process.
- 183 • A slideshow of the major changes will be available, similar to when the 2009 MUTCD was
184 issued.
- 185 • The MUTCD text in editable format (Word document) will be made available for use in
186 preparing State MUTCDs or Supplements for those that do so.
- 187 • We will also issue guidelines to assist FHWA Division offices in Substantial Conformance
188 reviews of State MUTCDs and Supplements.

189 FHWA appreciates the work that the Committee does in both its technical expertise and in
190 bringing so many different perspectives together through its sponsor organizations and
191 membership. In similar regard, the MUTCD Team appreciates the patience and support that
192 you've expressed as we have continued to work toward getting a new MUTCD out on the street.

193
194 Respectfully submitted,

195
196 Richard C. Moeur, PE
197 Executive Secretary