

National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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2024 Annual Meeting - Actions of NCUTCD Council

January 11-12, 2024, Doubletree Crystal City, Arlington, VA

Meeting Summary

Draft (revised) - content may change prior to final approval by Council.

- 5 **General Session Call to Order**
- 6 NCUTCD Chair Gene Hawkins called the meeting to order on Thursday, January 11th, 2024 at
- 7 8:00 AM Eastern Standard Time.
- 8 Safety Briefing

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9 Paul Rathgeber presented a safety briefing to all attendees.

10 Attendance and Determination of Quorum

| Sponsor | Voting Members | Sponsor | Voting Members |
|---------|---------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| AAA | Michelle Schofner | IACP | Rick Campbell |
| AAR | Tony Bellamy | IBTTA | Shannon Bonilla |
| AASHTO | Meg Pirkle, Chair | IMSA | Paul Ciupa |
| | Neil Boudreau | ITE | Steven Jewell, Chair |
| | Jody Colvin | | Mike Cynecki |
| | Maysa Hanna | | Kathy Falk |
| | Jason Hyatt | | Eagan Foster |
| | Bill Lambert | | Gene Hawkins |
| | Sara Peters | | Marc Jacobson |
| | Lee Roadifer | | Brent Ogden |
| AHUA | Jonathan Upchurch | | Zoubir Ouadah |
| APBP | Peter Koonce | ITS America | Paul Carlson |
| APTA | Gary Howard | LAB | Rock Miller |
| APWA | Steve Oliver, Chair | NACE | Lee Billingsley, Chair |
| | Monica Suter | | Jeff Blue |
| | Bob Garbacz | | Tim Haagsma |
| AREMA | Adam Gerhardstein | NACTO | Lee Austin, Chair |
| ARTBA | Tim Cox | | Khanh Uyen Dang |
| ASCE | Robert Bryson | | Jay Jackson |
| ATSSA | Donna Clark | NSC | Dan Magri |
| HFR | Bryan Katz | | |

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Honorary Members

George Butzer Scott Wainwright

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Executive Secretary Richard Moeur stated a quorum of voting members was present, and Chair Hawkins noted a full complement of 41 Council members was present.

14 15 NCUTCD Council Meeting Summary 2024 Annual Meeting - January 11-12, 2024 - Revised Draft Page 2 of 9

- Bill Lambert moved and Marc Jacobson seconded approval of the meeting summary for the June 2023 meeting. This passed in a unanimous voice vote.
- 18 Chair's Report

Chair Hawkins asked for all first-time attendees to stand and be recognized, and for all first-time Council members to stand. He then asked for all members who were involved in January 2010 to stand, as that was the last time NCUTCD was working with a new edition of the MUTCD.

Chair Hawkins recognized that we were happy to see a new MUTCD published in December 2023. He announced that Randy McCourt came closest to guessing the publication date, followed by Adam Greenstein.

Chair Hawkins set out the expectations for committee and Council action. Committees should be completing their review of the new MUTCD. Resolutions requesting immediate changes reflected in a Revised Final Rule will be voted on Friday. This is a high bar. Technical corrections can follow the standard process and go out for sponsor review in spring 2024 and Council vote in June 2024. Other revisions can follow using the standard process.

After a 4-year effort of rewriting, the revised Bylaws will be voted on during the Friday session. Bill Lambert will present briefly on the process. No amendments will be allowed on the Bylaws motion. A rewritten and greatly expanded set of Operating Procedures were approved by the Executive Board in November 2023, and will take effect upon approval of the revised Bylaws.

There will be an emergency Executive Board meeting today at lunch to rescind prior technical recommendations on MUTCD content. If passed, this will be brought up for Council vote Friday.

Chair Hawkins requested that members use correct terminology as expressed in the new Bylaws and Operating Procedures. Any proposal that has not been approved by Council is a "proposed change", and becomes a "recommended change" once approved by Council. He also covered task forces, multi-committee task forces, joint task forces, technical committees, joint committees, Council, and Executive Board, emphasizing the roles of each and how they are different from one another.

Chair Hawkins discussed the January 4th Executive Board meeting. At this meeting, there was a discussion of the scheduling of the January Annual Meeting and its overlap and scheduling conflicts with TRB for several members. Hawkins asked for a non-binding show of hands for those who preferred holding the meeting the week prior to TRB, the week of TRB, and who had no preference, with inconclusive results.

Two members of the Executive Board (Steve Jewell and Peter Koonce) are stepping down from the Board, and the current NCUTCD Treasurer is moving to chair the ITE delegation. Hawkins presented all three with certificates of appreciation. Hawkins also announced the new Group II Board member replacing Koonce will be Tony Bellamy of AAR.

New Members

- 59 Chair Hawkins then called those who were approved for membership at the January 4th Board
- 60 meeting to the front, and welcomed them to NCUTCD. Each new member who was in
- attendance was given a NCUTCD membership pin. The list of new members is attached.

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62 **2024 Midyear Meeting**

- The Midyear Meeting will be at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine on June 26-28,
- 64 2024. NCUTCD has held meetings in Portland four times, most recently in 2013 at that hotel.
- 65 NCUTCD and AASHTO contacted several locations in several northeast US states before
- selecting Portland. Additional information, registration, and room booking information should be
- available in early spring 2024.

68 **2025 Midyear Meeting**

- The 2025 Midyear Meeting is proposed to be held in the Detroit, Michigan area. No venue has vet been selected. A meeting in the Detroit area could facilitate interactions with the automotive
- 71 industry, and could be convenient for Canadian TOMC or provincial officials to attend and
- 72 participate.

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- No action has yet been taken on selecting sites for 2026 and subsequent Midyear Meetings.
- 76 Chair Hawkins noted the death of Dick Luettich, a 60+ year member of the NJCUTCD /
- 77 NACTCD / NCUTCD, the first Chair of NCUTCD, and the first Honorary Member of NCUTCD.
- Jonathan Upchurch described him as "a giant in the profession." There will be a memorial for
- 79 Mr. Luettich on February 10th in the Savannah area. Any thoughts or memories can be sent to
- 80 Chair Hawkins for forwarding to the family. A moment of silence was observed.

81 Other Reports

82 Website:

- Webmaster Marc Jacobson noted the NCUTCD website and new database are working well
- and contain a large amount of useful information for members and others. He and Executive
- 85 Secretary Moeur were working together to identify bugs and improve operations.

86 New Member Orientation:

- 87 Jonathan Upchurch reported a New Member Orientation session was held on Wednesday
- afternoon, with 25 persons in attendance. Randy Dittberner assisted in presenting the material.
- These sessions have reached over 450 people since their origination by Carlton "Robbie"
- 90 Robinson.

91 **TOMC / Canadian MUTCD:**

- 92 Scott Wainwright and Nicole Jackson have been participating in Canadian MUTCD activities,
- 93 and Wainwright gave a brief presentation on recent TAC / TOMC actions. This presentation is
- 94 attached.

95 Chair's Notes (cont.)

- 96 Chair Hawkins commented on the future availability of a print version of the 11th Edition of the
- 97 MUTCD, likely available in spring 2024 and sold by ATSSA, AASHTO, and ITE.

98 Election of Officers

- 99 Nominating Committee Chair Steve Oliver read the names of the candidates for Treasurer, Vice
- 100 Chair of Research, Vice Chair of Programs, and NCUTCD Chair. The only contested position is
- 101 that of NCUTCD Vice Chair for Programs.

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- 103 Bill Lambert and Jonathan Upchurch each made presentations on behalf of their respective
- qualifications for the Vice Chair of Programs position. After the presentation, written ballots were
- distributed to Council members by the Executive Secretary and collected.
- 106 Recess

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- 107 The Council session recessed from 9:17 to 9:45 AM EST.
- 108 Chair's Notes (cont.)
- 109 Chair Hawkins recognized the work of Scott Heydt in working the presentation computer at
- 110 General Sessions for several years and for Ahmed Aburahmah in walking the microphone to
- 111 Council and technical members at General Sessions for many years. This position will need
- filling, as Ahmed will become a voting member on Council at the close of the Annual Meeting,
- and a volunteer is encouraged to fill this role.
- 114 Election of NCUTCD Officers (cont.)
 - George Butzer announced the results of the balloting. 41 ballots were received.
 - Chair: Gene Hawkins, unanimous
 - Vice Chair, Programs: Bill Lambert, 26 votes, Jonathan Upchurch 15 votes
 - Vice Chair, Research: Bryan Katz, unanimous
 - Treasurer: Monica Suter, unanimous
- 121 Rick Campbell moved and Bob Bryson seconded approval of the results, which passed
- unanimously. Chair Hawkins directed the ballots be destroyed and thanked Butzer and
- 123 Wainwright for their work.
- 124 FHWA Report
- 125 Chair Hawkins thanked the FHWA MUTCD Team for their work in finishing the rulemaking
- 126 process and completing the 11th Edition of the MUTCD. Kevin Sylvester of the FHWA MUTCD
- 127 Team presented a report and update on the Final Rule, adoption, and rollout of the 11th Edition
- of the MUTCD. This presentation is attached. Sylvester then fielded questions from NCUTCD
- members regarding the 11th Edition. Kevin also thanked NCUTCD for contributions to the 11th
- 130 Edition.
- 131 Recess

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- 132 The meeting was recessed at 11:25 AM EST. Maximum session attendance for the day was
- 133 estimated at 240.

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135 **General Session - Call to Order**

136 NCUTCD Chair Gene Hawkins reconvened the General Session on Friday, January 12th, 2024

at 8:00 AM Eastern Standard Time.

138 Safety Briefing

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139 Paul Rathgeber presented a safety briefing to all attendees.

Attendance and Determination of Quorum

| Sponsor | Voting Members | Sponsor | Voting Members |
|---------|---------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| AAA | (no representative) | IACP | Rick Campbell |
| AAR | Tony Bellamy | IBTTA | Shannon Bonilla |
| AASHTO | Meg Pirkle, Chair | IMSA | Paul Ciupa |
| | Neil Boudreau | ITE | Steven Jewell, Chair |
| | Jody Colvin | | Mike Cynecki |
| | Maysa Hanna | | Kathy Falk |
| | Jason Hyatt | | Eagan Foster |
| | Bill Lambert | | Gene Hawkins |
| | Sara Peters | | Marc Jacobson |
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| APTA | Gary Howard | LAB | Rock Miller |
| APWA | Steve Oliver, Chair | NACE | Lee Billingsley, Chair |
| | Monica Suter | | Jeff Blue |
| | Bob Garbacz | | Tim Haagsma |
| AREMA | Adam Gerhardstein | NACTO | Lee Austin, Chair |
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| ASCE | Robert Bryson | | Jay Jackson |
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| HFR | Bryan Katz | | |

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Honorary Members

George Butzer Scott Wainwright

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Executive Secretary Richard Moeur stated a quorum of voting members was present.

144 Chair's Notes

Chair Hawkins recognized three members of Council that will be stepping down or retiring fully from NCUTCD at the close of the Annual Meeting - Donna Clark of ATSSA, Brent Ogden of ITE, and Tom Macchione of IBTTA.

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Executive Secretary Moeur advised attendees that a shutdown of the WMATA Blue Line starting this morning and continuing through the weekend may affect travel to Dulles Airport and northern Virginia.

Bylaws and Operating Procedures

- 153 Vice Chair of Programs Bill Lambert presented on the proposed revised NCUTCD Bylaws.
- 154 These were sent to Council members prior to the meeting for review and comment. If approved,
- these will take effect at the close of this meeting, along with the revised Operating Procedures

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- approved by the Executive Board in November 2023. Lambert moved and Jonathan Upchurch
- 157 seconded approval of the revised Bylaws, and after brief discussion were approved
- 158 unanimously.

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159 Resolution on Rescission of Prior Proposals

- 160 Chair Hawkins reported that the Executive Board unanimously approved the proposed
- resolution rescinding prior technical recommendations on Thursday. Prior recommendations can
- be used as a template for future proposals, but will need to be updated to reflect and modify the
- 163 11th Edition. These recommendations will remain available on the NCUTCD website, but will be
- 164 noted as rescinded. Hawkins moved and Steve Jewell seconded a motion to rescind the
- recommendations, which was approved unanimously. The resolution is attached.

Signals Technical Committee

- 167 Signals TC Chair John Hibbard presented a report on committee activities. The committee met
- on Wednesday, January 10 with 40 members and 11 visitors, and on Thursday, January 11 with
- 169 38 members and 9 visitors. There were presentations from FHWA and also presentations on
- 170 flashing yellow arrow research and on efforts associated with digitization of road rules.

Hibbard presented a resolution to be submitted to FHWA regarding conflicting content in Section

- 173 4A.05 of the 11th Edition regarding flashing yellow bicycle signal indications. Hibbard moved
- and Jay Jackson seconded the motion to approve. Bryan Katz moved to amend the resolution to
- 175 strike a paragraph stating this was an Administrative Procedures Act violation, and Zoubir
- Ouadah seconded. After discussion, the amendment was called for vote, and failed 14-23-3.
- 177 Peter Koonce asked if NCUTCD could forward improved material, but Hawkins replied per the
- APA the content must match either the 2009 MUTCD, the 11th Edition MUTCD, or the 11th
- 179 Edition NPA. A vote was called, and the resolution approved unanimously. The resolution is
- attached. (Note: Chair Hawkins forwarded this resolution to FHWA after the meeting adjourned.)

Hibbard then presented a resolution to be submitted to FHWA and the US Access Board

- regarding content in the recently approved PROWAG regulations regarding pedestrian
- pushbutton APS messages during flashing operation. Current pushbuttons or controllers are not
- capable of providing such messages. Hibbard moved and Jewell seconded the motion to
- approve. A vote was called, and the resolution approved by a vote of 39-1-0. The resolution is
- 187 attached. (Note: Chair Hawkins forwarded this resolution to FHWA and the Access Board after
- 188 the meeting adjourned.)

MUTCD 12th Edition Planning

- 190 Jonathan Upchurch presented an update on the working group developing a vision and plan for
- the 12th Edition of the MUTCD, which is attached.

Edit Committee

- 193 Edit Committee Chair Bill Lambert presented a report on committee activities. The committee
- met on Wednesday, January 10 with 11 members and 11 visitors. The committee identified no
- objectionable material in the 11th Edition of the MUTCD. Existing task forces were re-
- 196 established with new members, and the chair notes it is a challenge to replace the output of Jim
- 197 Pline.

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198 Research Committee

- 199 Vice Chair of Research and Research Committee Chair Bryan Katz presented a report on
- 200 committee activities. The committee met on Thursday, January 11 with 14 members and 23
- 201 visitors. A summary of the research process was presented and technical committee
- 202 representatives were updated on deadlines for problem statements by various funding
- 203 organizations. The committee received information on the proposed revisions to the bylaws and
- 204 operating procedures. There was an update on the TCD Pooled Fund Study, and an update on
- 205 the Journal of TCD Research, encouraging additional submissions so that the next issue can be
- 206 released.

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Regulatory and Warning Sign Technical Committee

- 208 RWSTC Chair Tom Heydel presented a report on committee activities. The committee met on
- Wednesday, January 10 with 29 members and 15 visitors, and on Thursday, January 11 with 30
- 210 members and 7 visitors. The committee identified no objectionable material in the 11th Edition of
- 211 the MUTCD. Several new task forces were created to address committee priorities. There was
- 212 an update on the TCD Pooled Fund Study and from FHWA on the 11th Edition. The Bicycle TC
- 213 presented a proposed W6-3a two-way traffic sign, which the committee concurred with.

Guide and Motorist Information Sign Technical Committee

- 215 GMITC Vice Chair Jason Hyatt presented a report on committee activities. The committee met
- on Wednesday, January 10 with 28 members and 11 visitors, and on Thursday, January 11 with
- 217 28 members and 10 visitors. The committee identified no objectionable material in the 11th
- 218 Edition of the MUTCD, although there was some discussion of several items of new content.
- 219 There was an update from FHWA on the 11th Edition. RWSTC presented on a proposal for
- signing for non-traditional vehicles. The committee began compiling a list of errors and technical
- 221 corrections for the 11th Edition.

Markings Technical Committee

- 223 Markings TC Chair Jody Colvin presented a report on committee activities. The committee met
- on Wednesday, January 10 with 31 members and 16 visitors, and on Thursday, January 11 with
- 225 31 members and 13 visitors. The committee identified no objectionable material in the 11th
- 226 Edition of the MUTCD. The committee reviewed status reports and new task force assignments,
- 227 and will review Part 3 for errors and technical corrections.

Temporary Traffic Control Technical Committee

- 229 TTC Chair Neil Boudreau presented a report on committee activities. The committee met on
- Wednesday, January 10 with 39 members and 12 visitors, and on Thursday, January 11 with 40
- 231 members and 9 visitors. The committee identified no objectionable material in the 11th Edition of
- the MUTCD, but task forces did identify a number of items warranting technical corrections. The
- 233 committee updated its task forces in light of the Bylaws & Operating Procedures, and has
- several pending proposals which will be updated to modify the 11th Edition.

Railroad and Light Rail Technical Committee

- 236 RRLRT Chair Rick Campbell presented a report on committee activities. The committee met on
- Wednesday, January 10 with 42 members and 4 visitors, and on Thursday, January 11 with 41
- 238 members and 5 visitors. The committee identified no objectionable material in the 11th Edition of
- the MUTCD. There was an update from FHWA on the 11th Edition, and from FRA on recent
- actions. The committee received reports from task forces and joint task forces, and began
- 241 review of 11th Edition content.

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242 Bicycle Technical Committee

- 243 BTC Chair Bill DeSantis presented a report on committee activities. The committee met on
- Wednesday, January 10 with 27 members and 8 visitors, and on Thursday, January 11 with 28
- 245 members and 7 visitors. The committee identified no objectionable material in the 11th Edition of
- the MUTCD. There was an update from FHWA on the 11th Edition, and a presentation from
- 247 RWSTC on signing for non-traditional vehicles. The committee reviewed Part 9 of the 11th
- 248 Edition and began developing a list of technical corrections and proposals. The committee may
- seek a Request for Interpretation from FHWA for one item related to the definition of a bicycle
- 250 lane.

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Pedestrian Joint Task Force

- 252 Pedestrian JTF Chair Randy McCourt presented a report on committee activities. The joint task
- 253 force met on Wednesday, January 10 with 16 members and 52 visitors. The joint task force
- identified no objectionable material in the 11th Edition of the MUTCD, but issues for future
- action were identified. There was an update on the TCD Pooled Fund Study. One future action
- 256 item may involve speed limits and pedestrians.

257 Roundabout Joint Task Force

- 258 Roundabout JTF Chair Brian Walsh presented a report on committee activities. The joint task
- force met on Thursday, January 11 with 28 attendees. The joint task force identified no
- 260 objectionable material in the 11th Edition of the MUTCD. The task force identified some
- 261 roundabout-related recommendations by NCUTCD that were not included in the 11th Edition.
- There was a presentation on detectable indicators at roundabouts.

Rules of the Road Joint Task Force

- 264 ROR JTF Chair Ronnie Bell presented a report on committee activities. The ROR JTF did not
- 265 meet at the Annual Meeting, but meets virtually on a monthly schedule. The joint task force
- 266 identified no objectionable material in the 11th Edition of the MUTCD. The task force is working
- on identifying where the Rules of the Road may need to be modified to coordinate with the 11th
- 268 Edition, and working with technical committees in case MUTCD changes are appropriate.

Connected and Automated Vehicle Joint Task Force

- 270 CAV JTF Chair Paul Carlson presented a report on committee activities. The joint task force met
- on Wednesday, January 10 with 50 attendees. The joint task force identified no objectionable
- 272 material in the 11th Edition of the MUTCD. Roxane Mukai is the new vice chair of CAV JTF,
- and shared presiding duties. The task force received a presentation on how clarity and
- 274 uniformity of TCDs impacts where experimental autonomous vehicles are deployed, including
- 275 specific examples. The task force reviewed Part 5 of the 11th Edition and developed items for
- 276 future actions.

Closing Comments

278 Chair Hawkins noted that the 11th Edition goes into effect as of Thursday, January 18. States

279 have two years to adopt.

- There are many requests for meeting time and space for task forces at Annual and Midyear
- 282 Meetings, which must be accommodated either on Wednesday mornings or Wednesday or
- 283 Thursday evenings. Every technical committee, joint committee, and joint task force has a Zoom
- account for virtual meetings. These accounts can be used by committees and task forces to
- conduct business between in-person meetings, and have no limits on time and can

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accommodate hundreds of attendees. In-person meetings should focus on final votes on 286 287 material developed in virtual meetings. 288 **Adjournment** 289 There being no other business for the Council, Campbell moved and Clark seconded a motion 290 to adjourn, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 AM EST. Maximum 291 session attendance for the day was estimated at 170. 292 293 Respectfully submitted, 294 295 Richard C. Moeur, PE 296 **Executive Secretary**



New Members January 2024

Technical Members Name

Matthew Bolte Alan El-Urfali

Justin Garrison

Jay Jackson

Sonya LaGrand

Eric Leaming

Matt Luker

James McGinnis

Fred Mills

Elliott Shepherd

Briana Weisgerber

Organization

Railway Equipment Co.

HNTB

Oklahoma DOT

MBTA

DelDOT

Oregon DOT

Utah DOT

Florida DOT

Houston Metro

FTA

WSDOT

Tech Committee

Railroad & Lt Rail

Reg & Warn Sign

Railroad & Lt Rail

Signals

Reg & Warn Sign

Markings

Signals

Temporary TC

Railroad & Lt Rail

Railroad & Lt Rail

Bicycle

Council Members Name

Paige Anderson Nicholas Nene

Organization

City of Pittsburgh PA City of Huntsville AL

Tech Committee

Markings Reg & Warn Sign

Sponsor

APBP ITE



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

NCUTCD Resolution Regarding Final Rule for Section 4A.05

- Whereas, The National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) represents 21 sponsoring organizations representing a wide range of transportation stakeholders, and uses a strong consensus-building approach to develop recommendations for traffic control device standards and guides;
- Whereas, The NCUTCD and its predecessor organizations have developed or contributed to 11 editions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD);
- Whereas, NCUTCD members represent a wide range of MUTCD users and road users, with a significant emphasis on involvement by volunteers representing public agencies responsible for implementing MUTCD content;
- Whereas, The NCUTCD expresses its appreciation to FHWA for publishing the 11th edition of the MUTCD (2023 edition);
- Whereas, The NCUTCD has reviewed the 11th edition of the MUTCD and identified content in the final rule that is not consistent with the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) and that should be immediately addressed in a revised final rule;
- Whereas, The Notice of Proposed Amendments (NPA) item 384 included a new Standard with a proposed meaning for a flashing YELLOW BICYCLE signal indication in Section 4A.05 paragraph 01 E;
- Whereas, The Supplemental Summary of Final Rule Dispositions indicated that the proposed addition of Section 4A.05 Meanings of Bicycle Symbol Signal Indications (item 384) was "...adopted as proposed";
- Whereas, The proposed text in the Final Rule for paragraph 01 E in Section 4A.05 was not "...adopted as proposed" but was replaced with the significantly more restrictive "A flashing YELLOW BICYCLE signal indication has no meaning and shall not be used";
- *Whereas*, The prohibition listed in Section 4A.05 paragraph 01 E conflicts with at least the following two sections:
 - Section 4H.05 paragraph 03 (Guidance) "When a traffic control signal is operated in the flashing mode, bicycle signal faces should display a flashing YELLOW BICYCLE signal indication if the other vehicular signal faces for the through lanes on the same approach are displaying flashing yellow signal indications unless it is determined by engineering judgment that a flashing RED BICYCLE signal indication would provide a safer operation."
 - Section 4G.03 paragraph 08 (Standard) "All signal faces that are flashed on an approach shall flash the same color, either yellow or red ..."
- Whereas, The NCUTCD recommends that the text proposed in the NPA for Section 4A.05 paragraph 01 E be established as the meaning of a flashing YELLOW BICYCLE signal indication;
- *Resolved*, That the NCUTCD recommends the FHWA issue a revised final rule for the 11th edition of the MUTCD revising the MUTCD as shown in the attachment.
- *Be it Further Resolved,* That the NCUTCD recommends such revised final rule for the 11th edition of the MUTCD be published immediately.

Approved by the NCUTCD on January 12, 2024.

Gene Hawkins, NCUTCD Chair

NCUTCD Attachment for Section 4#.05 Recommended Change to the 11th Edition of the MUTCD Final Rule

Section 4A.05 Meanings of Bicycle Symbol Signal Indications

E. A flashing YELLOW BICYCLE signal indication has no meaning and shall not be used.

E. Bicyclists facing a flashing YELLOW BICYCLE signal indication are permitted to cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by the lane-use arrow(s) displayed on the Bicycle Signal sign (see Section 9B.22) that is located immediately adjacent to the signal face. Bicyclists proceeding into the intersection during the display of the flashing YELLOW BICYCLE signal indication shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an associated crosswalk, and to other vehicles lawfully within the intersection.



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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NCUTCD Resolution Regarding Incorporation of PROWAG into the MUTCD

- Whereas, The National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) represents 21 sponsoring organizations representing a wide range of transportation stakeholders, and uses a strong consensus-building approach to develop recommendations for traffic control device standards and guides;
- Whereas, The NCUTCD and its predecessor organizations have developed or contributed to 11 editions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD);
- Whereas, NCUTCD members represent a wide range of MUTCD users and road users, with a significant emphasis on involvement by volunteers representing public agencies responsible for implementing MUTCD content;
- Whereas, PROWAG R307.8.4 requires that when a traffic signal is in the flashing mode of operation, pedestrian locator tones remain active, and the pedestrian pushbutton activates a speech message communicating the operating mode of the traffic control signal;
- Whereas, This requirement did not appear in any version of PROWAG that was available for public comment, the NCUTCD had no opportunity to comment on this new standard;
- Whereas, None of the accessible pedestrian signal (APS) manufacturers or traffic signal controller manufacturers manufacture equipment are capable of meeting this requirement;
- Whereas, Both the 2009 MUTCD and the MUTCD 11th edition require that "Pushbutton locator tones shall be deactivated when the traffic control signal or pedestrian hybrid beacon is operating in a flashing mode, that is, when no information is provided by the pedestrian signal head, which is dark;"
- Whereas, PROWAG does not specify what message shall be transmitted from the APS devices when the signal is flashing, thereby making it unlikely that messages determined by jurisdictions will be consistent, which undermines the idea and principle of "Uniformity" foundational to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices;
- Whereas, There is precedent for the Access Board to suspend ADAAG provisions (1994 suspension of the requirement for detectable warnings to be placed on the full surface of curb ramps);
- *Resolved*, That the NCUTCD encourages the US Access Board to suspend PROWAG R307.8.4, pending further research which would then direct any appropriate technical development.

Approved by the NCUTCD on January 12, 2024.

Gene Hawkins, NCUTCD Chair

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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

NCUTCD Resolution Rescinding Prior Recommendations

Whereas, The National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

(NCUTCD) represents 21 sponsoring organizations representing a wide range of transportation stakeholders, and uses a strong consensus-building approach to develop recommendations for traffic control device standards

and guides;

Whereas, The NCUTCD and its predecessor organizations have developed or

contributed to 11 editions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control

Devices (MUTCD);

Whereas, The NCUTCD expresses its appreciation to FHWA for publishing the

11th edition of the MUTCD (2023 edition);

Whereas, The NCUTCD approved many recommended changes to the 2003 and

2009 MUTCDs:

Whereas, These recommended changes remain available on the NCUTCD website; Whereas, The NCUTCD desires to eliminate conflicts between previously approved

recommended changes and any recommended changes to the 11th edition

of the MUTCD;

Resolved, That the NCUTCD rescinds all prior recommended changes to the

MUTCD:

Be it Further Resolved, That the only valid NCUTCD recommended changes to the MUTCD are

those recommended changes approved at or after the January 2024

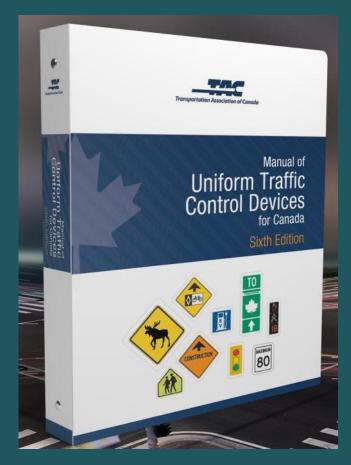
Annual Meeting.

Approved by the NCUTCD on January 12, 2024.

Gene Hawkins, NCUTCD Chair

Activities of the Canadian Traffic Operations & Management Committee (TOMC)

January 2024 Update



W. Scott Wainwright, P.E., PTOE
Proprietor
Wainwright Traffic Consulting Services, LLC
(FHWA Retired)

TOMC Meeting Fall 2023





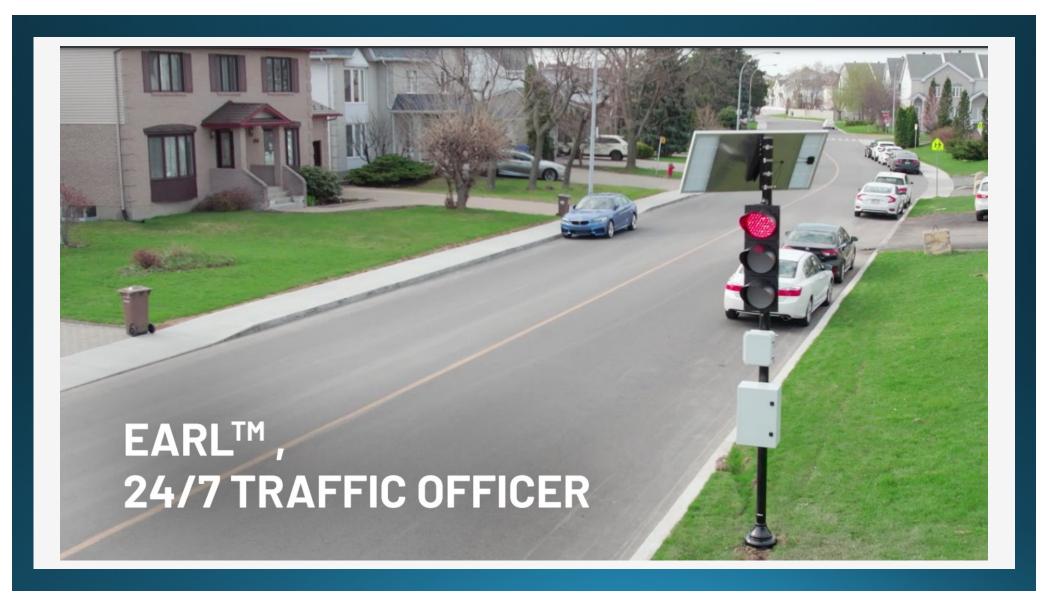
- Ottawa, Ontario Sept. 22-23, 2023
- Attended by Scott Wainwright & Nicole Jackson
- Reported on NCUTCD activities
- June 2025 NCUTCD meeting Detroit (tentative location) possible TOMC interest

Top Current Issues for TOMC

 Comprehension testing – problems with the process

- Non-Standard (Decorative) X-walk Markings
 - still awaiting FHWA study results

· "EARL"



Next Meetings of TOMC

- April 2023 Virtual
- September 2023 in-person Vancouver, BC





Thank You...

wainwright.tcds@gmail.com



FHWA REPORT

ANNUAL MEETING

National Committee on

Uniform Traffic Control Devices



Presented by
Kevin J. Sylvester, P.E., PTOE
FHWA Office of
Transportation Operations
January 11, 2024



FHWA's Traffic Control Devices Team

| Kevin J. Sylvester P.E., PTOE | Duane Thomas, P.E. |
|--|--|
| Team Leader | Highway Traffic Signals, Rail/Light-Rail Transit |
| S. Usman Ali, P.E., PTOE, RSP | Ashley Timm, P.E. |
| Traffic Control for Automated Vehicles, Standard Highway Signs | Pavement Markings, Standard Highway Signs |
| Marty Calawa, P.E. | Toni Whitfield, P.E. |
| Regulatory & Rulemakings Management, General (Part 1) | General Info & Motorist Services Signs, Changeable Message Signs |
| J. Eric Ferron, P.E. | Matt Zeller, P.E. |
| Temporary Traffic Control | Regulatory & Warning Signs, School Zones |
| Dean Mentjes, P.E. | Adison Zoretic, P.E., PTOE |
| Outreach & Training Coordination, Bicycle Facilities, Vulnerable Users | Pooled-Fund Study, Guide & Managed Lane Signs, Standard Highway Signs |



contact us...24/7/365

mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov



MUTCD 11TH EDITION

Background



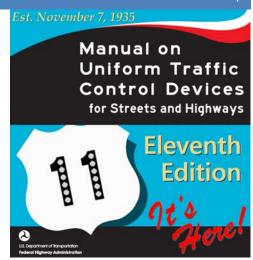
U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration

Traffic Control Devices . . . the Voice of the Road.

MUTCD 11th Edition: Background

- ► Final Rule **published Dec. 19, 2023**
- ▶ Becomes effective Jan. 18, 2024
- ► Must adopt within 2 years of effective date
- ▶ 6 Compliance Dates (see **Table 1B-1**)
 - > 5 new + 1 existing from previous rulemaking
 - Specific paragraph(s) noted where applicable
 - Compliance dates are from effective date of National MUTCD
- Rulemaking designated "significant"









OVERVIEW OF MUTCD 11TH EDITION

Final Rule

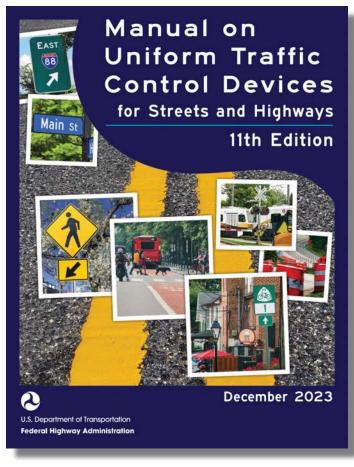


Administration

Traffic Control Devices . . . the Voice of the Road.

Overview of Final Rule

- ► Federal Register Notice
- Supporting Documents
- State Adoption
- ➤ Substantial Conformance of State documents

















Federal Register Notice

- Structure differs from previous rulemakings
 - Preamble covers high-interest topics
 - Not full list and narrative for every change (there were nearly 650 items in the NPA Preamble)
 - > **Supporting Documents** cover other changes
 - Placed in the public docket





Final Rule Supporting Documents

- ► Posted in the rulemaking docket
 - Disposition Matrix
 - Final disposition of each proposed change in the NPA
 - - Changes from 10th Edition (2009)
 - Regulatory Impact Assessment
 - Economic analysis
- Supporting Documents are informational
 - MUTCD provisions take precedence





Final Rule Supporting Documents

► Posted in the rulemaking docket

(MUTCD) (also referred to as "the Manual") is incorporated by reference within





regulations.gov

National Standards for Traffic Control Devices; the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways; Revision

FHWA-2020-0001

Supporting Documents:

- Assessment of Economic Impacts of Amendment to the Manual on Uniform Traffic...
- 2009 MUTCD Text Redline with 11th Edition Changes
- MUTCD 11th Edition Supplemental Summary of Dispositions for Final Rule Changes
- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices 2023







rule is approved by the Director















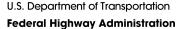


Final Rule Supporting Documents

▶ Disposition Matrix

| MUTCD 1th Edition Supplemental Summary of Final Rule NPA Proposal Description or Final Rule Section Reference for Final Rule 55 FHWA proposes to add a new section numbered and record to the final Rule 56 FHWA proposes to add a new section numbered and record to the final Rule 57 SHWA proposes to add a new section numbered and record to the final Rule 58 SHWA proposes to add a new section numbered and record to the final Rule 59 SHWA proposes to the final Rule 50 SHWA proposes to the fin | osed except that, the parenthetical ance is removed at is not needed. vrase "combined is inserted before | Final disposition of eachDescribes changes resu | |
|--|---|--|--|
| 67 FWMs proposes to add a new section numbered and. The changes are adopted as propertiesd. "Section 28.11 Mem Cenal Step Centrol," that some commenters opposed the consisting of one paragraphs relocated from existing section. 26.256, plus proposed new Guidanne provisions are adopted, as they we paragraphs regarding step control on the minor road provisions. The provision of | e changes in this however, these vere the result of ler, this Section e considered by | where relevant | |
| | | | |
| 50 FHVA process to add were section numbered and. The charges are adopted as profited. Section 28.12 A. Whys. Slop. Control: consisting of one paragraph relocated from existing Section 28.07 and proposed new Guidinon and section 28.07 and processed section and section 19.07 and processed the section to clarify the application of all-way sept ocentral and section 19.07 and processes the new section to clarify the application of all-way sept ocentral and (Sections 28.13 through 28.17) related to all-way stop control warrants. | MUTCD | 11th Edition Su | pplemental Summary of Final Rule Dispositions |
| tilled, "Section 28.12 Al-Way Stop Control," consisting of one paragraph resoluted from easing the control of the paragraph of the control of the control of Standard paragraphs regarding warrants for all-way stop control. FHVM proposes this new section to clarly the application of all-way stop control and the paragraph of the control of the control of Section 28.13 through 28.17 related to all-way (Section 28.13 through 28.17 related to all-way | MUTCD NPA Item No. | NPA Proposal Description or Final Rule Section Reference | pplemental Summary of Final Rule Dispositions Disposition for Final Rule |







The MUTCD

- ▶ Where is it?
 - > The official MUTCD PDF is on the MUTCD Web site
 - - There is no companion HTML version
 - "Hotlinked" PDF to come in future
 - > FHWA does not print the MUTCD
 - Other organizations planning to print copies for purchase







STATE ADOPTION and SUBSTANTIAL CONFORMANCE



Federal Highway Administration

Traffic Control Devices . . . the Voice of the Road.

State Adoption of the New MUTCD

- ► Within 2 years of Effective Date
- States must adopt
 - National MUTCD
 - OR -
 - - OR -



State Supplements and State MUTCDs must be in **Substantial Conformance** w/ the National MUTCD





Substantial Conformance

- ▶ What is it?
 - Accommodates pre-existing State laws

 - Provides States ability to specify their allowable practices, tailor to unique geographical/ regional conditions (based on what National MUTCD allows)
 - Codified in regulation at 23 CFR 655.603(b)





Substantial Conformance

- What does it mean?
 - Mandate levels in State documents must be at least same levels as National MUTCD
 - All Standard provisions in National MUTCD must be Standard in State MUTCD or Supplement
 - All Guidance provisions in National MUTCD must be <u>at least</u> Guidance in State MUTCD or Supplement

(No, you can't add an Option that negates a Standard!)





Substantial Conformance

- ▶ What does it mean?
 - Mandate levels in State documents must be at least same levels as National MUTCD

|--|

Standard..... Standard

Guidance..... Guidance or Standard

Option..... Option, Guidance, Standard,

or deleted





Substantial Conformance

- ▶ How does it work?
 - Applies if a State does not adopt National MUTCD
 - FHWA Division Administrator must approve State MUTCD or Supplement within the 2-year adoption period
 - ≥ 2 years from Effective Date of <u>National</u> MUTCD
- ▶ Is that all?
 - Also applies to other State documents (policies, directives, manuals, specifications, etc.) on TCDs
 - Divisions will review for consistency







A LOOK AHEAD

Future Revisions . . . and More



Administration

▶ Public Webinars

- Starting Feb. 2024
 - Series of live Topical presentations on final rule
 - Similar in structure to NPA Webinars
 - Monthly
 - Recordings to be available on MUTCD Web site

► Informational and Training Aids

- ▶ March 2024
 - Slideshow of major changes
 - To be available on MUTCD Web site





- ► MUTCD Origin Files
 - ▶ Late Jan. 2024
 - Word format of regulatory text
 - "Native" files of Figures, Tables
 - Will be available through FHWA Division contacts on request





- ► Standard Highway Signs
 - Phased release
 - Fabrication details
 - ▶ March 2024
 - Design Guidelines
 - ▶ Late Spring 2024
 - Electronic fabrication files
 - > Summer 2024
 - > To be available on MUTCD Web site





- Experimentation Guidelines

 - > To be available on MUTCD Web site





- Speed Limit Setting Guidelines
 - Primary focus on engineering study
 - How different factors might be applied
 - Context-specific, different situations
 - Expected release Late 2024





- Microlearning Videos

 - Overviews of select topics of interest
 - > For less technical audiences
 - Phased release starting Spring 2024
 - > To be available on MUTCD Web site





- ▶ MUTCD Revisions
 - > PROWAG

 - ▷ Issue NPA for public comment (after USDOT final rule)
 - Other Revisions and/or 12th Edition
 - Public comments from 11th Ed. NPA will help inform scope and plan







LAST WORDS

Basics



U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration

Basics

- ► What makes for an **Effective** Traffic Control Device?
 - ✓ Fulfills a need
 - ☑ Conveys a clear, simple message
 - Commands attention
 - Commands respect
 - ✓ Provides time for adequate response









for more information

mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov

- ☑ e-Subscribe Service
 - ☑ Official Rulings Database
 - ☑ Standard Highway Signs
 - ☑ FAQ
 - ☑ MUTCD News Feed





MUTCD \'em-y\"u-\te-s\"e-d\"e\'\\^1 n (ca. 1935): the national standard for traffic control devices on all roads open to public travel in the United States.

U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration

¹ Not \'myüt-sid\, \'mət-sid\, or \'mət-kid\.

Safety

Section 1A.01 Purpose of the MUTCD

Support:

- O1 The purpose of the MUTCD is to establish uniform national criteria for the use of traffic control devices that meet the needs and expectancy of road users on all streets, highways, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and site roadways open to public travel.
- 02 This purpose is achieved through the following objectives:
 - A. Promote safety, inclusion, and mobility for all users of the road network;
 - B. Promote efficiency through creating national uniformity in the meaning and appearance of traffic control devices;
 - C. Promote national consistency in the use, installation, and operation of traffic control devices; and
 - D. Provide basic principles for traffic engineers to use in making decisions regarding the use, installation, operation, maintenance, and removal of traffic control devices.

Canadian MUTCD

- Part 1—Safety Effects of Traffic Control Devices
 - 1.1 Overview
 - 1.2 Measuring Safety
 - 1.3 Safety Performance of Traffic Control Devices
 - 1.4 Road Safety Management Program
 - 1.5 Safety During the Life Cycle of a Traffic Control Device

Safety

Safety 157 → 178

Safe 26 → 34

Safely 4

Safer 4

Safeguard(s) 4