



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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Item No.: 24B-TTC-04

NCUTCD RECOMMENDATION FOR CHANGES TO THE MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

COMMITTEE / TASK FORCE: TTC Technical Committee
ITEM NUMBER: 24B-TTC-04
TOPIC: Pedestrian Channelizing Devices
ORIGIN OF REQUEST: Tim Lang – TTC Committee
AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD: Section 6K.02 Pedestrian Channelizing Devices
Figure 6K-2

DEVELOPMENT HISTORY:

Approved by TTC: 06/26/2024, 01/08/2024
Approved by NCUTCD Council: 01/09/2025

This is a recommended change to the MUTCD that has been approved by the NCUTCD Council. This proposal does not represent a revision of the MUTCD and does not constitute official MUTCD standards, guidance, or options. It will be submitted to FHWA for consideration for inclusion in a future MUTCD revision. The MUTCD can be revised only through the federal rulemaking process.

SUMMARY:

The TTC Task Force #5 identified inconsistencies in Section 6K.02. The description in the section and the depiction in Figure 6K-02 do not cover all products available in the market. Our goal is to bring clarity to this section.

DISCUSSION:

The verbiage in Section 6K.02 and Figure 6K-02 should be revised to incorporate all Pedestrian Channelizing Devices. These devices come in various shapes and sizes, and the Task Force has attempted to accommodate this diversity. The current version shows hand-trailing edges with a support device. However, not all products require a hand-trailing edge to be attached to a support device, as some have a hand-trailing edge on top. Therefore, the figure is proposed to be adjusted to include additional products.

Two figures are included in the proposed change: one marking the current figure and one “clean” figure.

32 **RECOMMENDED MUTCD CHANGES:**

33 The following present the proposed changes to the current MUTCD within the context of the
34 current MUTCD language. Proposed additions to the MUTCD are shown in blue underline and
35 proposed deletions from the MUTCD are shown in ~~red strikethrough~~. Changes previously
36 approved by NCUTCD Council (but not yet adopted by FHWA) are shown in green double
37 underline for additions and ~~green double strikethrough~~ for deletions. In some cases,
38 background comments may be provided with the MUTCD text. These comments are indicated
39 by [bracketed white text in shaded green].

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41 **PART 6. TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL**

42
43 **CHAPTER 6K. TTC ZONE CHANNELIZING DEVICES**

44
45 **Section 6K.02 Pedestrian Channelizing Devices**

46 Support:

47 01 Pedestrian channelizing devices indicate a suitable path of pedestrian travel around or through the
48 ~~work~~ TTC zone.

49 *Guidance:*

50 02 *Pedestrian channelizing devices should be provided when work activities impact sidewalks or other*
51 *pedestrian facilities or when the design of the temporary pedestrian facility does not otherwise include*
52 *accessibility features consistent with the features in the existing pedestrian facility.*

53 03 *The pedestrian channelizing devices should be used both to close sidewalks and to delineate an*
54 *alternate route.*

55 Support:

56 04 An example of a pedestrian channelizing device is depicted in Figure 6K-2.

57 **Standard:**

58 05 **Pedestrian channelizing devices shall be crashworthy (see definition in Section 1C.02) when**
59 **exposed to vehicular traffic.**

60 ~~06—Devices used to channelize pedestrians shall be detectable to users of long canes and visible to~~
61 ~~pedestrians with vision disabilities.~~

62 ~~07—When used as a sidewalk closure, the device shall cover the entire width of the sidewalk.~~

63 ~~08—Pedestrian channelizing devices shall have continuous detection plates and hand-trailing edges.~~
64 ~~The bottom of the detection plate shall be no higher than 2 inches above the walkway. The top edge~~
65 ~~of the detection plate shall be at least 8 inches above the walkway. The top of the hand-trailing edge~~
66 ~~shall be no lower than 32 inches and no higher than 38 inches above the walkway. The top surface~~
67 ~~of the hand-trailing edge shall be smooth to optimize hand-trailing. Both the detection plate and the~~
68 ~~hand-trailing edge shall share a common vertical plane.~~

69 [Paragraph 06 to 08 turned into a list below]

70 06 Pedestrian channelizing devices shall have:

- 71 A. Continuous detection plates and hand-trailing edges on the sides adjacent to the pedestrian
72 path such that a pedestrian user with a long cane can follow it.
73 B. A detection plate with the bottom no higher than 2 inches above the walkway, and with the
74 top edge extending at least 8 inches above the walkway.
75 C. Hand-trailing edges with a uniform and consistent height above the walking surface. (The
76 hand-trailing edge is the upper rail on a pedestrian channelizing device. The hand-trailing

- 77 edge can be the top of a support, or it can be attached to the side of a support or continuous
78 wall).
79 **D. Hand-trailing edges between 32 and 38 inches above the walkway that are smooth, free of**
80 **edges or abrasive elements and have a round edge to optimize hand trailing.**
81 **E. A common vertical plane for the detection plate and the hand-trailing edge.**

82 *Guidance:*

83 *09 When pedestrian channelizing devices are combined in a series, the gap between devices should not*
84 *exceed 1 inch.*

85 *Support:*

86 *10 The hand-trailing edge is the upper rail on a pedestrian channelizing device, as shown in Figure 6K-*
87 *2. It is provided to allow pedestrians with vision disabilities to follow the pedestrian channelizing device*
88 *with their hand. The hand-trailing edge is not a weight-bearing railing.*

89 *Option:*

90 *10a A continuous wall may be used as a pedestrian channelizing device.*

91 **[Relocated paragraphs 18-20 to 10b, converted to a list, and made guidance.]**

92 *Guidance:*

93 *10b If a continuous wall is used as a pedestrian channelizing device, the wall should:*

- 94 *A. Have a lower edge no more than 2 inches above the walkway.*
95 *B. Extend a minimum of 32 inches above the walkway.*
96 *C. Have a common vertical plane.*
97 *D. Have alternating, contrasting sheeting positioned 32 inches above the walkway.*

98 *Option:*

99 *10c The continuous wall may extend above the 32-inch minimum.*

100 *Guidance:*

101 *11 There should be at least a 2-inch horizontal gap between the hand-trailing edge and ~~its support~~ the*
102 *continuous wall.*

103 **Standard:**

104 ~~12 **When visible to vehicular traffic the detection plate and the hand-trailing edge of the**~~
105 ~~**pedestrian channelizing device shall have retroreflective sheeting complying with Paragraph 10 of**~~
106 ~~**Section 6K.01. Where a pedestrian channelizing device is visible to vehicular traffic, the pedestrian**~~
107 ~~**channelizing device shall have retroreflective sheeting on the side facing vehicular traffic complying**~~
108 ~~**with Section 6K.01.**~~

109 *Guidance:*

110 *13 When not visible to vehicular traffic, the pedestrian channelizing device should have a contrasting*
111 *pattern in alternating light and dark colors to provide visual contrast provided by ~~on the upper surface~~*
112 *~~consisting of~~ a minimum of 6 inches of sheeting or other contrasting materials.*

113 *Option:*

114 *14 Non-retroreflective materials may be used on the pedestrian side of the pedestrian channelizing*
115 *device.*

116 *15 The sheeting on the pedestrian side of the pedestrian channelizing device may have stripes that are*
117 *oriented either vertically or at a 45-degree angle.*

118 *Support:*

119 *16 The contrast of the light and dark stripes on the barricade sheeting assists pedestrians with vision*
120 *disabilities in following the designated detour.*

121 *17 Section 6M.04 also contains information regarding detectable edging for pedestrian channelization.*

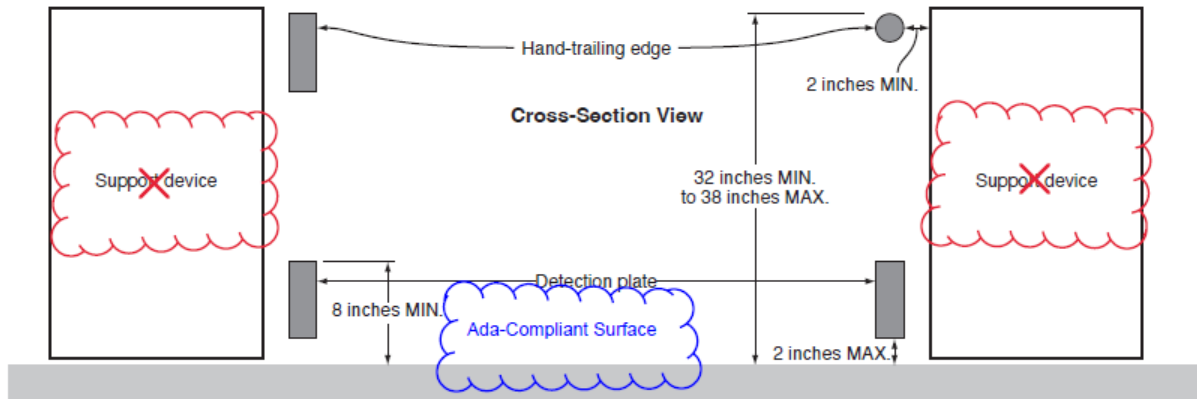
- 122 ~~Option:~~
- 123 ~~18—A continuous wall may be used as a pedestrian channelizing device.~~
- 124 ~~Guidance:~~
- 125 ~~19—When used, a continuous wall should have a lower edge no more than 2 inches above the walkway,~~
- 126 ~~should extend a minimum of 32 inches above the walkway, should have a common vertical face, and~~
- 127 ~~should have alternating, contrasting sheeting positioned 32 inches above the walkway.~~
- 128 ~~Option:~~
- 129 ~~20—The continuous wall may extend to any height above the 32-inch minimum.~~

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Figure 6K.2

[This is showing the proposed changes to the current drawing]

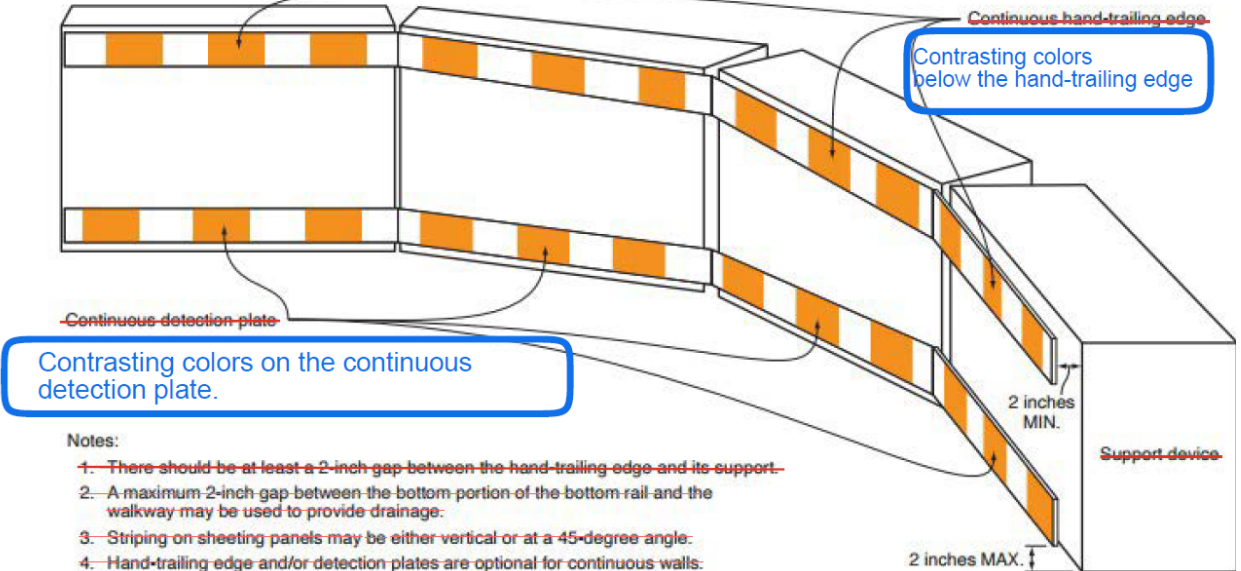
Figure 6K-2. Pedestrian Channelizing Device



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Retroreflective areas can be distributed in a manner that ensures visibility and detection without necessitating a single continuous application.

Typical contrasting layout for Pedestrian Channelizing Devices



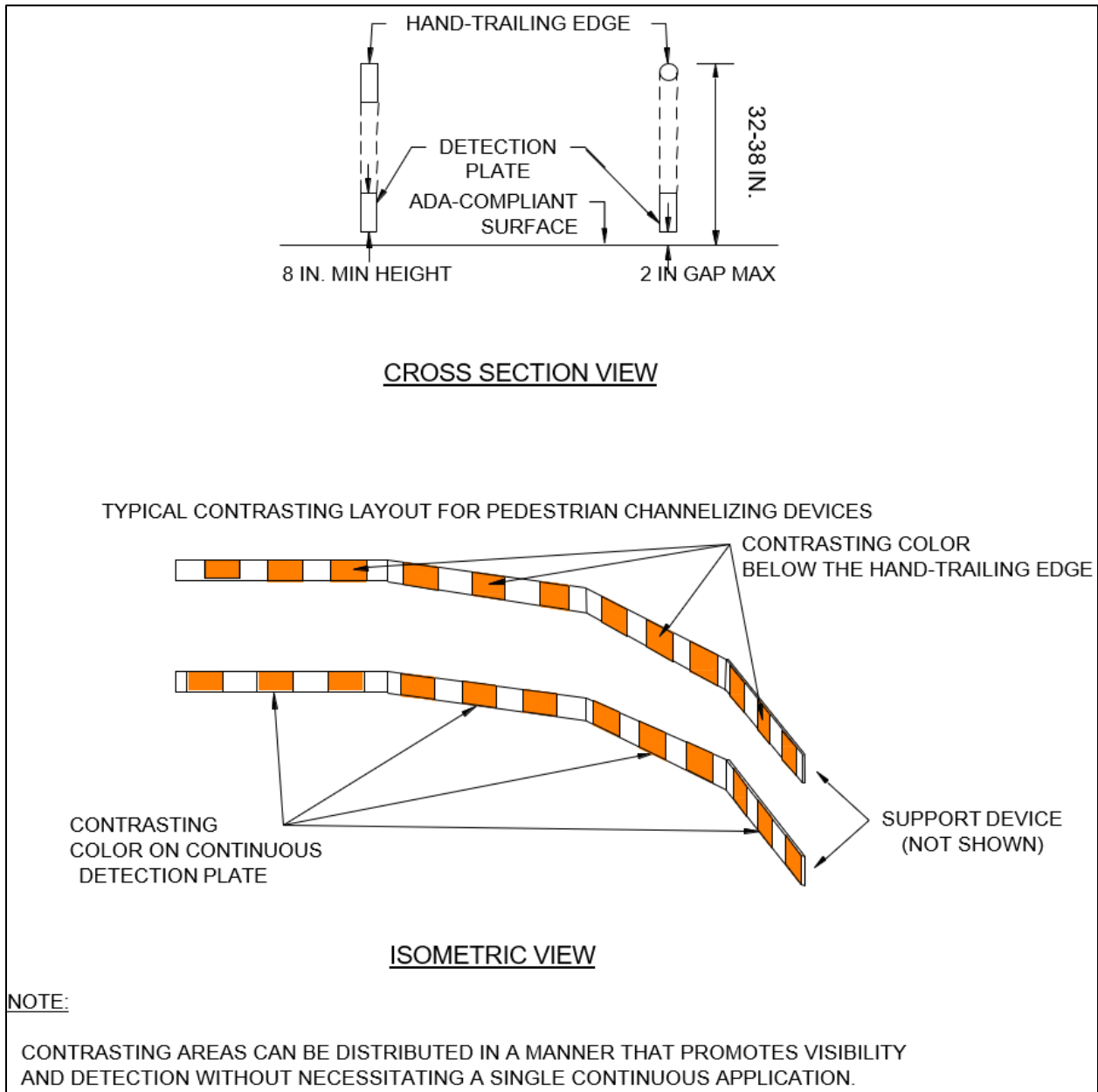
- Notes:
1. There should be at least a 2-inch gap between the hand-trailing edge and its support.
 2. A maximum 2-inch gap between the bottom portion of the bottom rail and the walkway may be used to provide drainage.
 3. Striping on sheeting panels may be either vertical or at a 45-degree angle.
 4. Hand-trailing edge and/or detection plates are optional for continuous walls.

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[New Drawing recommended for Figure 6K-2. This drawing was created to highlight the current design of pedestrian channelizing devices.]

Figure 6K-2. Pedestrian Channelizing Device



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