



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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Item Number: 25A-BIK-06

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

COMMITTEE / TASK FORCE: Bicycle Technical Committee
ITEM NUMBER: 25A-BIK-06
TOPIC: Bicycle Signals Visibility
ORIGIN OF REQUEST: Bicycle-Signals MCTF
AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD: Section 4D.03, 9F.03

DEVELOPMENT HISTORY:

Approved by Bicycle TC: 06/13/2025
Concurrence from Signals TC: 01/07/2026
Approved by NCUTCD Council: 01/09/2026

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 text in the 11th Edition of the MUTCD, Section 9F.03 Signal Operation for Bicycles, is identical to the text in a portion of Section 4D.03, Provisions for Bicyclists with some differences. Those differences in Section 4D.03 could also be misinterpreted (or missed) when additional signal faces are needed for signal visibility to bicyclists. This proposal clarifies the content in Section 4D.03 and reduces content redundancy.

DISCUSSION:

The provisions in Section 9F.03 Signal Operations for Bicyclists are related to accommodating bicyclists where visibility-limited signal faces are used. The information is also shown, nearly verbatim, in Section 4D.03. There is no information in Section 9F.03 to direct users to Section 4D.03.

The content of Section 4D.03, as currently written, could be interpreted as requiring only bicycle signal faces to be used when an additional signal face is required to meet the visibility requirements of a bicyclist. This proposal will provide an Option for the use of bicycle signal faces when an additional signal face is needed to accommodate bicyclists. The proposal also eliminates redundant content in Chapter 9F.

35 **RECOMMENDED MUTCD CHANGES:**

36 The following present the proposed changes to the current MUTCD within the context of the current
37 MUTCD language. Proposed additions to the MUTCD are shown in blue underline and proposed
38 deletions from the MUTCD are shown in ~~red strikethrough~~. Changes previously approved by NCUTCD
39 Council (but not yet adopted by FHWA) are shown in green double underline for additions and ~~green~~
40 ~~double strikethrough~~ for deletions. In some cases, background comments may be provided with the
41 MUTCD text. These comments are indicated by bracketed white text in shaded green.
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44 **PART 4**

45 **HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SIGNALS**

46 **CHAPTER 4D. DESIGN FEATURES OF TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS**

47 **Section 4D.03 Provisions for Bicyclists**

48 **Standard:**

49 01 **At installations where visibility-limited signal faces are used, signal faces shall be adjusted so**
50 **bicyclists for whom the indications are intended can see the signal indications. If the visibility limited signal**
51 **faces cannot be aimed to serve the bicyclist, then ~~separate~~ one or more additional signal faces (~~see Chapter~~**
52 **4H) shall be provided for the bicyclist.**

53 Guidance

54 01A When an additional signal face is provided for bicyclists to comply with paragraph 01 above, visibility-
55 limited signal faces should be considered.

56 **Standard**

57 02 **On bikeways, signal timing and actuation shall be reviewed and adjusted to consider the needs of**
58 **bicyclists.**

59 **Option:**

60 03 **Where it is desired to provide separate signal indications to control bicyclist movements at a traffic control**
61 **signal, bicycle signal faces may be used (see Chapter 4H).**

62 **Support:**

63 04 **Sections 9B.02, 9B.11, 9B.20, 9B.22, 9E.02, 9E.06, 9E.07, 9E.08, 9E.11, 9E.12, and 9E.15 contain additional**
64 **provisions regarding bicyclist movements and actuation at traffic control signals.**

65 **PART 9**

66 **TRAFFIC CONTROL FOR BICYCLE FACILITIES**

67 **CHAPTER 9F. SIGNALS**

68 **Section 9F.03 Signal Operations for Bicycles**

69 **Standard:**

70 01 **At installations where visibility-limited signal faces are used, signal faces shall be adjusted so bicyclists**
71 **for whom the indications are intended can see the signal indications. If the visibility-limited signal faces**
72 **cannot be aimed to serve the bicyclist, then ~~separate~~ one or more additional signal faces shall be provided for**
73 **the bicyclist. (See Section 4D.03.)**

74 02 **On bikeways, signal timing and actuation shall be reviewed and adjusted to consider the needs of**
75 **bicyclists.**