

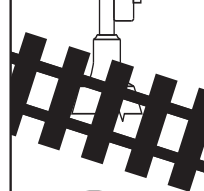
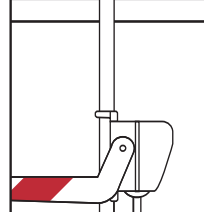
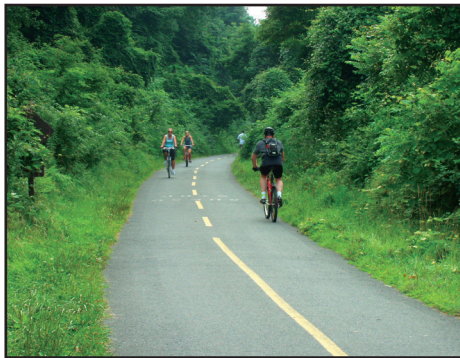


Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

for Streets and Highways

2003 EDITION

Including Revision 1 dated November 2004
and Revision 2 dated December 2007



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**Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
for Streets and Highways**



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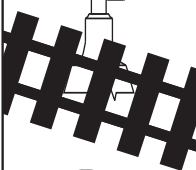
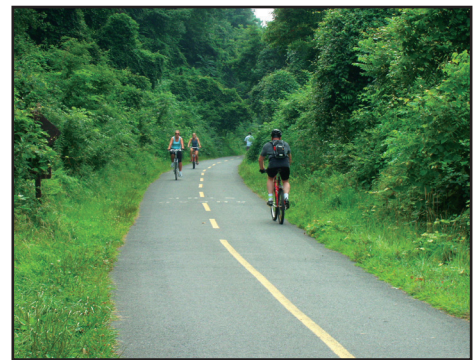


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2. **Guidance**—a statement of recommended, but not mandatory, practice in typical situations, with deviations allowed if engineering judgment or engineering study indicates the deviation to be appropriate. All Guidance statements are labeled, and the text appears in unbold type. The verb **should** is typically used. Guidance statements are sometimes modified by Options.
3. **Option**—a statement of practice that is a permissive condition and carries no requirement or recommendation. Options may contain allowable modifications to a Standard or Guidance. All Option statements are labeled, and the text appears in unbold type. The verb **may** is typically used.
4. **Support**—an informational statement that does not convey any degree of mandate, recommendation, authorization, prohibition, or enforceable condition. Support statements are labeled, and the text appears in unbold type. The verbs **shall**, **should**, and **may** are not used in Support statements.

Support:

Throughout this Manual all dimensions and distances are provided in the International System of Units, a modernized version of the Metric system, and their English equivalent units are shown in parentheses.

Guidance:

Before laying out distances or determining sign sizes, the public agency should decide whether to use the International System of Units (Metric) or the English equivalent units. The chosen units should be specified on plan drawings. The chosen unit of measurement should be made known to those responsible for designing, installing, or maintaining traffic control devices.

Except when a specific numeral is required by the text of a Section of this Manual, numerals shown on the sign images in the figures that specify quantities such as times, distances, speed limits, and weights should be regarded as examples only. When installing any of these signs, the numerals should be appropriately altered to fit the specific signing situation.

Support:

The following information will be useful when reference is being made to a specific portion of text in this Manual.

There are ten Parts in this Manual and each Part is comprised of one or more Chapters. Each Chapter is comprised of one or more Sections. Parts are given a numerical identification, such as Part 2-Signs. Chapters are identified by the Part number and a letter, such as Chapter 2B-Regulatory Signs. Sections are identified by the Chapter number and letter followed by a decimal point and a number, such as Section 2B.03-Size of Regulatory Signs.

Each Section is comprised of one or more paragraphs. The paragraphs are indented but are not identified by a number or letter. Paragraphs are counted from the beginning of each Section without regard to the intervening text headings (Standard, Guidance, Option, or Support). Some paragraphs have lettered or numbered items. As an example of how to cite this Manual, the phrase “Not less than 12 m (40 ft) beyond the stop line” that appears on Page 4D-12 of this Manual would be referenced in writing as “Section 4D.15, P7, D1(a),” and would be verbally referenced as “Item D1(a) of Paragraph 7 of Section 4D.15.”

Standard:

In accordance with 23 CFR 655.603(b)(1), States or other Federal agencies that have their own MUTCDs or Supplements shall revise these MUTCDs or Supplements to be in substantial conformance with changes to the National MUTCD within 2 years of issuance of the changes. Unless a particular device is no longer serviceable, non-compliant devices on existing highways and bikeways shall be brought into compliance with the current edition of the National MUTCD as part of the systematic upgrading of substandard traffic control devices (and installation of new required traffic control devices) required pursuant to the Highway Safety Program, 23 U.S.C. § 402(a). In cases involving Federal-aid projects for new highway or bikeway construction or reconstruction, the traffic control devices installed (temporary or permanent) shall be in conformance with the most recent edition of the National MUTCD before that highway is opened or re-opened to the public for unrestricted travel [23 CFR 655.603(d)(2)]. The FHWA has the authority to establish other target compliance dates for implementation of particular changes to the MUTCD [23 CFR 655.603(d)(4)]. These target compliance dates established by the FHWA shall be as follows:

Section 2A.09 Maintaining Minimum Retroreflectivity—new section—from the effective date of the Final Rule for Revision 2 of the 2003 MUTCD:

- **4 years for implementation and continued use of an assessment or management method that is designed to maintain traffic sign retroreflectivity at or above the established minimum levels;**
- **7 years for replacement of regulatory, warning, and ground-mounted guide (except street name) signs that are identified using the assessment or management method as failing to meet the established minimum levels; and**
- **10 years for replacement of street name signs and overhead guide signs that are identified using the assessment or management method as failing to meet the established minimum levels.**

Section 2A.19 Lateral Offset—crashworthiness of sign supports—January 17, 2013 for roads with posted speed limit of 80 km/h (50 mph) or higher.

- Section 2B.03 Size of Regulatory Signs—increased sign sizes and other changes to Table 2B-1—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2B.04 STOP Sign (R1-1)—4-WAY plaque requirement—January 17, 2004.**
- Section 2B.06 STOP Sign Placement—signs mounted on back of STOP sign—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2B.09 YIELD Sign Applications—changes in YIELD sign application criteria from the 1988 MUTCD—January 17, 2011.**
- Section 2B.10 YIELD Sign Placement—signs mounted on back of YIELD sign—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2B.11 Yield Here to Pedestrians Signs (R1-5, R1-5a)—new section—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2B.13 Speed Limit Sign (R2-1)—color of changeable message legend of YOUR SPEED—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2B.25 Reversible Lane Control Signs (R3-9d, R3-9f through R3-9i)—removal of R3-9c and R3-9e signs—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2B.26 Preferential Only Lane Signs (R3-10 through R3-15)—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2B.27 Preferential Only Lanes for High-Occupancy Vehicles (HOVs)—new section in Millennium Edition—January 17, 2007.**
- Section 2B.28 Preferential Only Lane Sign Applications and Placement—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2B.37 ONE WAY Signs (R6-1, R6-2)—placement requirement at intersecting alleys—January 17, 2008.**
- Section 2B.46 Photo Enforced Signs (R10-18, R10-19)—new section—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2B.52 Hazardous Material Signs (R14-2, R14-3)—change in sign legend—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.04 Size of Warning Signs—increased sizes of W4-1, W5-2, W6-3, and W12-1 signs—January 17, 2008.**
- Section 2C.04 Size of Warning Signs—sizes of W1 Series Arrows signs, W7 Series truck runaway signs, W12-2p low clearance signs, and W10-1 advance grade crossing sign—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.11 Truck Rollover Warning Signs (W1-13, W1-13a)—new section—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.16 NARROW BRIDGE Sign (W5-2)—elimination of symbol sign—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.25 PAVEMENT ENDS Sign (W8-3)—removal of symbol sign—January 17, 2011.**
- Section 2C.26 Shoulder Signs (W8-4, W8-9, and W8-9a)—removal of symbol signs—January 17, 2011.**
- Section 2C.30 Speed Reduction Signs (W3-5, W3-5a)—removal of R2-5 Series Reduced Speed Ahead signs and use of W3-5 or W3-5a warning signs instead—15 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.31 Merge Signs (W4-1, W4-5)—Entering Roadway Merge sign (W4-1a)—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.32 Added Lane Signs (W4-3, W4-6)—Entering Roadway Added Lane sign (W4-3a)—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.33 Lane Ends Signs (W4-2, W9-1, W9-2)—new design of W4-2 sign—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.34 Two-Way Traffic Sign (W6-3)—transition from one-way street—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.37 Intersection Warning Signs (W2-1 through W2-6)—new design of Circular Intersection (W2-6) sign—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.40 Vehicular Traffic Signs (W8-6, W11-1, W11-5, W11-5a, W11-6, W11-8, W11-10, W11-11, W11-12, W11-14)—new symbol signs W11-1, W11-5, W11-5a, W11-6, W11-11, and W11-14—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2C.41 Nonvehicular Signs (W11-2, W11-3, W11-4, W11-7, W11-9)—elimination of crosswalk lines from crossing signs and use of diagonal downward pointing arrow supplemental plaque (W16-7) if at the crossing—January 17, 2011.**

- Section 2C.53 PHOTO ENFORCED Plaque (W16-10)—new section—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2D.38 Street Name Sign (D3-1)—symbol sizes, 150 mm (6 in) letter sizes for lettering on ground-mounted Street Name signs on roads that are not multi-lane streets with speed limits greater than 60 km/h (40 mph), other new provisions of Millennium Edition—January 9, 2012.**
- Section 2D.38 Street Name Sign (D3-1)—letter sizes on ground-mounted signs on multi-lane streets with speed limits greater than 60 km/h (40 mph) and letter sizes on overhead-mounted signs—15 years from the effective date of the Final Rule of the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2D.39 Advance Street Name Signs (D3-2)—new section in 2000 MUTCD and revisions in 2003 MUTCD—15 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2D.45 General Service Signs (D9 Series)—Traveler Info Call 511 (D12-5) sign, Channel 9 Monitored (D12-3) sign—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2D.46 Reference Location Signs (D10-1 through D10-3) and Intermediate Reference Location Signs (D10-1a through D10-3a)—location and spacing of Reference Location signs and design of Intermediate Reference Location signs—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2E.28 Interchange Exit Numbering—size of exit number plaque—January 17, 2008.**
- Section 2E.28 Interchange Exit Numbering—LEFT on exit number plaques for left exits—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2E.30 Advance Guide Signs—advance placement distance—January 17, 2008.**
- Section 2E.54 Reference Location Signs and Enhanced Reference Location Signs (D10-4, D10-5)—design of Enhanced Reference Location signs and Intermediate Enhanced Reference Location signs—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2E.59 Preferential Only Lane Signs—new section in 2003 Edition—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 2F.05 Size of Lettering—minimum height of letters and numerals on specific service signs—January 17, 2011.**
- Section 2I.03 EVACUATION ROUTE Sign (EM-1)—new design and size of EM-1 sign—15 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 3B.01 Yellow Centerline Pavement Markings and Warrants—new section in Millennium Edition—January 3, 2003.**
- Section 3B.03 Other Yellow Longitudinal Pavement Markings—spacing requirements for pavement marking arrows in two-way left-turn lanes—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 3B.07 Warrants for Use of Edge Lines—new section in Millennium Edition—January 3, 2003.**
- Section 3B.17 Crosswalk Markings—gap between transverse lines of a crosswalk—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 3B.19 Pavement Word and Symbol Markings—typical spacing of lane-use arrows in two-way left-turn lanes shown in Figure 3B-7—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 3C.01 Object Marker Design and Placement Height—width of stripes on Type 3 striped marker—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 4D.01 General—location of signalized midblock crosswalks—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 4D.05 Application of Steady Signal Indications—Item B.4 in STANDARD—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 4D.12 Flashing Operation of Traffic Control Signals—duration of steady red clearance interval in change from red-red flashing mode to steady (stop-and-go) mode—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**
- Section 4E.06 Accessible Pedestrian Signals—new section in Millennium Edition—January 17, 2005.**
- Section 4E.07 Countdown Pedestrian Signals—new section—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD for countdown pedestrian signal hardware; 3 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD for operational requirements of countdown pedestrian signals.**
- Section 4E.09 Accessible Pedestrian Signal Detectors—new section in Millennium Edition—January 17, 2005.**
- Section 4E.10 Pedestrian Intervals and Signal Phases—pedestrian clearance time sufficient to travel to far side of the traveled way—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.**

Section 5C.05 NARROW BRIDGE Sign (W5-2)—elimination of symbol sign—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.

Section 6D.01 Pedestrian Considerations—all new provisions for pedestrian accessibility—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.

Section 6D.02 Accessibility Considerations—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the MUTCD.

Section 6D.03 Worker Safety Considerations—high-visibility apparel requirements—3 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.

Section 6E.02 High-Visibility Safety Apparel—high-visibility apparel requirements for flaggers—3 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.

Section 6E.03 Sign Placement—crashworthiness of sign supports—January 17, 2005.

Section 6E.58 Channelizing Devices—crashworthiness—January 17, 2005.

Section 6E.59 Cones—width of retroreflective stripes—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.

Section 6E.63 Type I, II, or III Barricades—crashworthiness—January 17, 2005.

Section 6E.66 Longitudinal Channelizing Barricades—crashworthiness—January 17, 2005.

Section 6E.82 Crash Cushions—crashworthiness—January 17, 2005.

Section 7B.08 School Advance Warning Assembly (S1-1 with Supplemental Plaque)—use of AHEAD plaque (W16-9p) or distance plaque (W16-2 or W16-2a)—January 17, 2011.

Section 7B.09 School Crosswalk Warning Assembly (S1-1 with Diagonal Arrow)—elimination of crosswalk lines from crossing signs and use of diagonal downward pointing arrow supplemental plaque (W16-7)—January 17, 2011.

Section 7B.12 Reduced Speed School Zone Ahead Sign (S4-5, S4-5a)—15 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.

Section 7E.04 Uniform of Adult Crossing Guards and Student Patrols—requirement for high-visibility apparel for adult crossing guards—5 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.

Section 8B.03 Highway-Rail Grade Crossing (Crossbuck) Sign (R15-1) and Number of Tracks Sign (R15-2)—retroreflective strip on crossbuck support—January 17, 2011.

Section 8B.04 Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Advance Warning Signs (W10 Series)—removal of existing W10-6 series signs—January 17, 2006.

Section 8D.07 Traffic Control Signals at or Near Highway-Rail Grade Crossings—pre-signals—10 years from the effective date of the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD.

Section 9B.04 Bicycle Lane Signs (R3-17, R3-17a, R3-17b)—deletion of preferential lane symbol (diamond) for bicycle lane signs—January 17, 2006.

Section 9B.17 Bicycle Warning Sign (W11-1)—elimination of crosswalk lines from crossing signs and use of diagonal downward pointing arrow supplemental plaque (W16-7) if at the crossing—January 17, 2011.

Chapter 9C Markings—deletion of preferential lane symbol (diamond) for bicycle pavement markings—January 17, 2007.

Part 10 Traffic Controls for Highway-Light Rail Transit Grade Crossings—automatic gates, flashing-light signals, and blank-out signs—January 17, 2011.

Section 10C.15 Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Advance Warning Signs (W10 Series)—removal of existing W10-6 series signs—January 17, 2006.

Option:

In order for maintenance personnel to understand what to do when replacing a damaged non-compliant traffic control device, agencies may establish a policy regarding whether to replace the device in kind or to replace it with a compliant device.

Support:

Often it is desirable to upgrade to a compliant device at the time of this maintenance of a damaged device. However, it might be appropriate to replace the damaged non-compliant device in kind at the time of this maintenance activity if engineering judgment indicates that:

- A. One compliant device in the midst of a series of adjacent non-compliant devices could potentially be confusing to road users; and/or
- B. The anticipated schedule for replacement of the whole series of non-compliant devices will result in achieving timely compliance with the MUTCD.



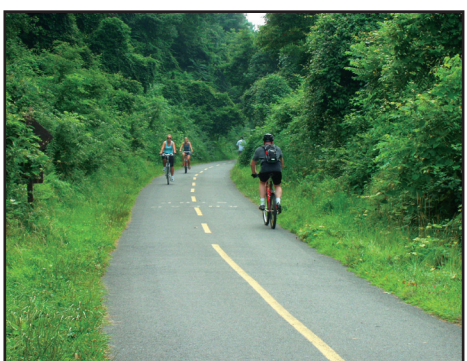
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Part 1 General



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Option:

A State may submit a request for interim approval for all jurisdictions in that State, as long as the request contains the information listed in the Guidance above.

Standard:

Once an interim approval is granted to any jurisdiction for a particular traffic control device or application, subsequent jurisdictions shall be granted interim approval for that device or application by submitting a letter to the FHWA Office of Transportation Operations indicating they will abide by Item F above and the specific conditions contained in the original interim approval.

A local jurisdiction using a traffic control device or application under an interim approval that was granted either directly to that jurisdiction or on a statewide basis based on the State's request shall inform the State of the locations of such use.

Support:

A diagram indicating the process for incorporating new traffic control devices into this Manual is shown in Figure 1A-2.

Procedures for revising this Manual are set out in the Federal Register of June 30, 1983 (48 FR 30145).

For additional information concerning interpretations, experimentation, changes, or interim approvals, write to the FHWA, 400 Seventh Street, SW, HOTO, Washington, DC 20590, or visit the MUTCD website at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov>.

Section 1A.11 Relation to Other Publications**Standard:**

To the extent that they are incorporated by specific reference, the latest editions of the following publications, or those editions specifically noted, shall be a part of this Manual: “Standard Highway Signs” book (FHWA); and “Color Specifications for Retroreflective Sign and Pavement Marking Materials” (appendix to subpart F of Part 655 of Title 23 of the Code of Federal Regulations).

Support:

The “Standard Highway Signs” book includes standard alphabets and symbols for highway signs and pavement markings.

For information about the above publications, visit the Federal Highway Administration's MUTCD website at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov>, or write to the FHWA, 400 Seventh Street, SW, HOTO, Washington, DC 20590.

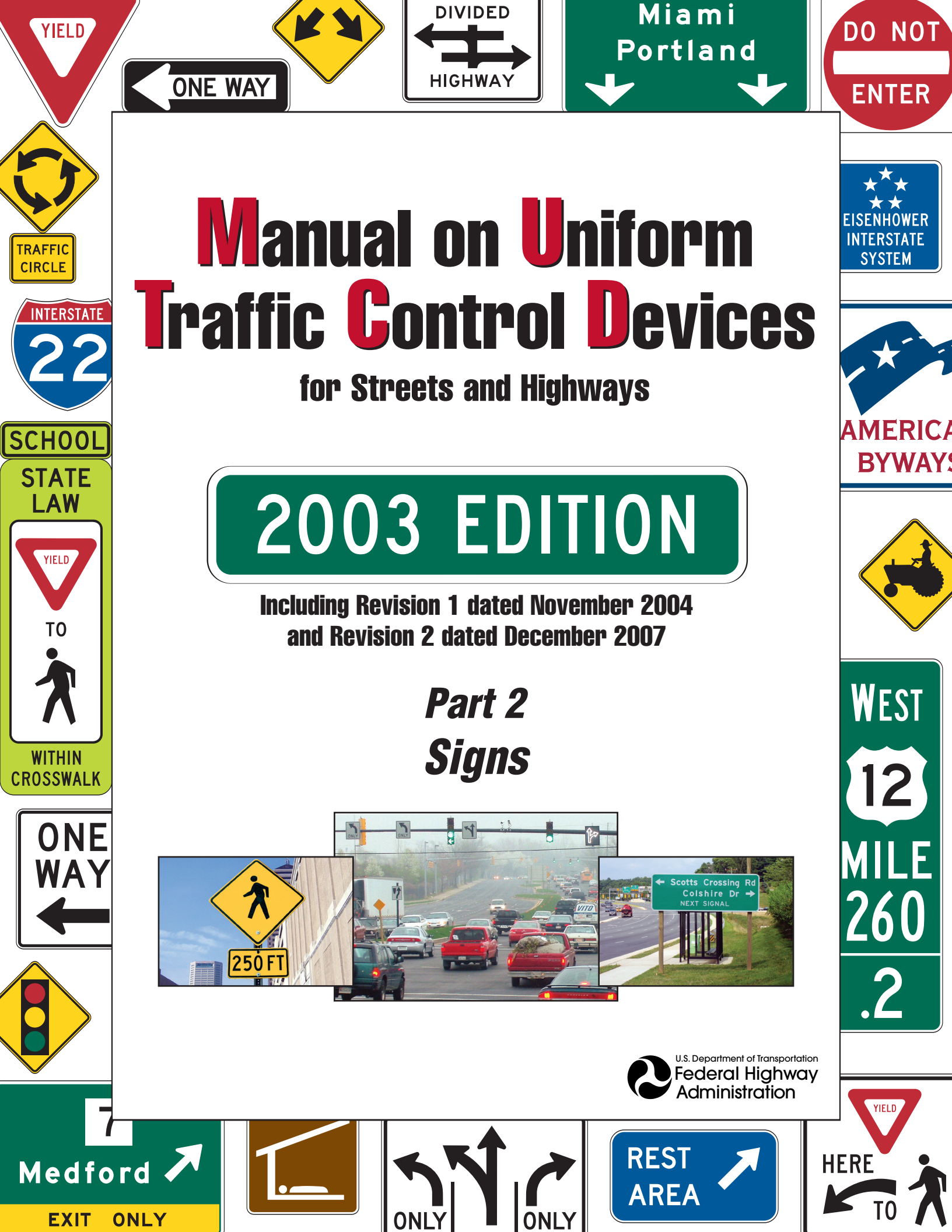
The publication entitled “Federal-Aid Highway Program Guidance on High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes” is available at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/operations/hovguide01.htm>, or write to the FHWA, 400 Seventh Street, SW, HOTO, Washington, DC 20590.

The publication entitled “Maintaining Traffic Sign Retroreflectivity” (2007 Edition) is available at www.fhwa.dot.gov/retro, or write to the FHWA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, HSA-1, Washington, DC 20590.

Other publications that are useful sources of information with respect to use of this Manual are listed below. See Page i of this Manual for ordering information for the following publications:

1. “A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets,” 2001 Edition (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials—AASHTO)
2. “Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities,” 1999 Edition (AASHTO)
3. “Guide to Metric Conversion,” 1993 Edition (AASHTO)
4. “Guidelines for the Selection of Supplemental Guide Signs for Traffic Generators Adjacent to Freeways,” 2001 Edition (AASHTO)
5. “List of Control Cities for Use in Guide Signs on Interstate Highways,” 2001 Edition (AASHTO)
6. “Roadside Design Guide,” 2001 Edition (AASHTO)
7. “Standard Specifications for Movable Highway Bridges,” 1988 Edition (AASHTO)
8. “Traffic Engineering Metric Conversion Folders—Addendum to the Guide to Metric Conversion,” 1993 Edition (AASHTO)
9. “2000 AREMA Communications & Signals Manual,” American Railway Engineering & Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA)
10. “Designing Sidewalks and Trails for Access—Part 2—Best Practices Design Guide,” 2001 Edition (FHWA) [Publication No. FHWA-EP-01-027]
11. “Practice for Roadway Lighting,” RP-8, 2001, Illuminating Engineering Society (IES)
12. “Safety Guide for the Prevention of Radio Frequency Radiation Hazards in the Use of Commercial Electric Detonators (Blasting Caps),” Safety Library Publication No. 20, Institute of Makers of Explosives
13. “American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel,” (ANSI/ISEA 107-1999), 1999 Edition, ISEA - The Safety Equipment Association.
14. “Manual of Traffic Signal Design,” 1998 Edition (Institute of Transportation Engineers—ITE)

Rev. 2



Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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Part 2 Signs



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Support:

Information regarding the use of retroreflective material on the sign support is contained in Section 2A.21.

Section 2A.09 Maintaining Minimum Retroreflectivity**Support:**

Retroreflectivity is one of several factors associated with maintaining nighttime sign visibility (see Section 2A.22).

Standard:

Public agencies or officials having jurisdiction shall use an assessment or management method that is designed to maintain sign retroreflectivity at or above the minimum levels in Table 2A-3.

Support:

Compliance with the above Standard is achieved by having a method in place and using the method to maintain the minimum levels established in Table 2A-3. Provided that an assessment or management method is being used, an agency or official having jurisdiction would be in compliance with the above Standard even if there are some individual signs that do not meet the minimum retroreflectivity levels at a particular point in time.

Guidance:

Except for those signs specifically identified in the Option in this Section, one or more of the following assessment or management methods should be used to maintain sign retroreflectivity:

- A. Visual Nighttime Inspection – The retroreflectivity of an existing sign is assessed by a trained sign inspector conducting a visual inspection from a moving vehicle during nighttime conditions. Signs that are visually identified by the inspector to have retroreflectivity below the minimum levels should be replaced.
- B. Measured Sign Retroreflectivity – Sign retroreflectivity is measured using a retroreflectometer. Signs with retroreflectivity below the minimum levels should be replaced.
- C. Expected Sign Life – When signs are installed, the installation date is labeled or recorded so that the age of a sign is known. The age of the sign is compared to the expected sign life. The expected sign life is based on the experience of sign retroreflectivity degradation in a geographic area compared to the minimum levels. Signs older than the expected life should be replaced.
- D. Blanket Replacement – All signs in an area/corridor, or of a given type, should be replaced at specified intervals. This eliminates the need to assess retroreflectivity or track the life of individual signs. The replacement interval is based on the expected sign life, compared to the minimum levels, for the shortest-life material used on the affected signs.
- E. Control Signs – Replacement of signs in the field is based on the performance of a sample of control signs. The control signs might be a small sample located in a maintenance yard or a sample of signs in the field. The control signs are monitored to determine the end of retroreflective life for the associated signs. All field signs represented by the control sample should be replaced before the retroreflectivity levels of the control sample reach the minimum levels.
- F. Other Methods – Other methods developed based on engineering studies can be used.

Support:

Additional information about these methods is contained in the 2007 Edition of FHWA's "Maintaining Traffic Sign Retroreflectivity" (see Section 1A.11).

Option:

Highway agencies may exclude the following signs from the retroreflectivity maintenance guidelines described in this Section:

- A. Parking, Standing, and Stopping signs (R7 and R8 series)
- B. Walking/Hitchhiking/Crossing signs (R9 series, R10-1 through R10-4b)
- C. Adopt-A-Highway signs
- D. All signs with blue or brown backgrounds
- E. Bikeway signs that are intended for exclusive use by bicyclists or pedestrians

Section 2A.10 Shapes**Standard:**

Particular shapes, as shown in Table 2A-4, shall be used exclusively for specific signs or series of signs, unless specifically stated otherwise in the text discussion in this Manual for a particular sign or class of signs.

Section 2A.11 Sign Colors**Standard:**

The colors to be used on standard signs and their specific use on these signs shall be as indicated in the applicable Sections of this Manual. The color coordinates and values shall be as described in 23 CFR, Part 655, Subpart F, Appendix.

Table 2A-3. Minimum Maintained Retroreflectivity Levels^①

Sign Color	Sheeting Type (ASTM D4956-04)				Additional Criteria
	Beaded Sheeting			Prismatic Sheeting	
	I	II	III	III, IV, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	
White on Green	W*; G ≥ 7	W*; G ≥ 15	W*; G ≥ 25	W ≥ 250; G ≥ 25	Overhead
	W*; G ≥ 7	W ≥ 120; G ≥ 15			Ground-mounted
Black on Yellow or Black on Orange	Y*; O*	Y ≥ 50; O ≥ 50			②
	Y*; O*	Y ≥ 75; O ≥ 75			③
White on Red	W ≥ 35; R ≥ 7				④
Black on White	W ≥ 50				—
<p>① The minimum maintained retroreflectivity levels shown in this table are in units of cd/lx/m² measured at an observation angle of 0.2° and an entrance angle of -4.0°.</p> <p>② For text and fine symbol signs measuring at least 1200 mm (48 in) and for all sizes of bold symbol signs</p> <p>③ For text and fine symbol signs measuring less than 1200 mm (48 in)</p> <p>④ Minimum Sign Contrast Ratio ≥ 3:1 (white retroreflectivity ÷ red retroreflectivity)</p> <p>* This sheeting type should not be used for this color for this application.</p>					
Bold Symbol Signs					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W1-1, -2 – Turn and Curve • W1-3, -4 – Reverse Turn and Curve • W1-5 – Winding Road • W1-6, -7 – Large Arrow • W1-8 – Chevron • W1-10 – Intersection in Curve • W1-11 – Hairpin Curve • W1-15 – 270 Degree Loop • W2-1 – Cross Road • W2-2, -3 – Side Road • W2-4, -5 – T and Y Intersection • W2-6 – Circular Intersection • W3-1 – Stop Ahead 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W3-2 – Yield Ahead • W3-3 – Signal Ahead • W4-1 – Merge • W4-2 – Lane Ends • W4-3 – Added Lane • W4-5 – Entering Roadway Merge • W4-6 – Entering Roadway Added Lane • W6-1, -2 – Divided Highway Begins and Ends • W6-3 – Two-Way Traffic • W10-1, -2, -3, -4, -11, -12 – Highway-Railroad Advance Warning 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W11-2 – Pedestrian Crossing • W11-3 – Deer Crossing • W11-4 – Cattle Crossing • W11-5 – Farm Equipment • W11-6 – Snowmobile Crossing • W11-7 – Equestrian Crossing • W11-8 – Fire Station • W11-10 – Truck Crossing • W12-1 – Double Arrow • W16-5p, -6p, -7p – Pointing Arrow Plaques • W20-7a – Flagger • W21-1a – Worker 	
Fine Symbol Signs – Symbol signs not listed as Bold Symbol Signs.					
Special Cases					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W3-1 – Stop Ahead: Red retroreflectivity ≥ 7 • W3-2 – Yield Ahead: Red retroreflectivity ≥ 7; White retroreflectivity ≥ 35 • W3-3 – Signal Ahead: Red retroreflectivity ≥ 7; Green retroreflectivity ≥ 7 • W3-5 – Speed Reduction: White retroreflectivity ≥ 50 • For non-diamond shaped signs such W14-3 (No Passing Zone), W4-4p (Cross Traffic Does Not Stop), or W13-1, -2, -3, -5 (Speed Advisory Plaques), use largest sign dimension to determine proper minimum retroreflectivity level. 					

Support:

Rev. 2 | As a quick reference, common uses of sign colors are shown in Table 2A-5. Color schemes on specific signs are shown in the illustrations located in each appropriate Section.

Whenever white is specified herein as a color, it is understood to include silver-colored retroreflective coatings or elements that reflect white light.

The colors coral, purple, and light blue are being reserved for uses that will be determined in the future by the Federal Highway Administration.

Information regarding color coding of destinations on guide signs is contained in Section 2D.03.

Table 2A-4. Use of Sign Shapes

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Shape	Signs
Octagon	* Stop
Equilateral Triangle (1 point down)	* Yield
Circle	* Highway-Rail Grade Crossing (Advance Warning)
Pennant Shape / Isosceles Triangle (longer axis horizontal)	* No Passing
Pentagon (pointed up)	* School Advance Warning Sign * County Route Sign
Crossbuck (two rectangles in an "X" configuration)	* Highway-Rail Grade Crossing
Diamond	Warning Series
Rectangle (including square)	Regulatory Series ** Guide Series Warning Series
Trapezoid	Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Series National Forest Route Sign

* This sign shall be exclusively the shape shown.

** Guide series includes general service, specific service, recreation, and emergency management signs.

Section 2A.12 Dimensions

Support:

Sign sizes for use on the different classes of highways are shown in Sections 2B.03, 2C.04, 2D.04, 5A.03, 6F.02, 7B.01, 8B.02, and 9B.02, and in the "Standard Highway Signs" book.

The "Standard Highway Signs" book (see Section 1A.11) prescribes design details for up to five different sizes depending on the type of traffic facility, including bikeways. Smaller sizes are designed to be used on bikeways and some other off-road applications. Larger sizes are designed for use on freeways and expressways, and can also be used to enhance road user safety and convenience on other facilities, especially on multi-lane divided highways and on undivided highways having five or more lanes of traffic and/or high speeds. The intermediate sizes are designed to be used on other highway types.

Standard:

The sign dimensions prescribed in this Manual and in the "Standard Highway Signs" book shall be used unless engineering judgment determines that other sizes are appropriate. Where engineering judgment determines that sizes smaller than the prescribed dimensions are appropriate for use, the sign dimensions shall not be less than the minimum dimensions specified in this Manual. Where engineering judgment determines that sizes larger than the prescribed dimensions are appropriate for use, standard shapes and colors shall be used and standard proportions shall be retained as much as practical.

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Table 2A-5. Common Uses of Sign Colors

Type of Sign	Legend					Background									
	Black	Green	Red	White	Yellow	Black	Blue	Brown	Green	Orange	Red	White	Yellow	Fluorescent Yellow-Green	Fluorescent Pink
Regulatory	X		X	X		X					X	X			
Prohibitive			X	X							X	X			
Permissive		X										X			
Warning	X												X		
Pedestrian	X												X	X	
Bicycle	X												X	X	
Guide				X					X						
Interstate Route				X			X				X				
State Route	X											X			
US Route	X											X			
County Route					X		X								
Forest Route				X				X							
Street Name				X					X						
Destination				X					X						
Reference Location				X					X						
Information				X			X		X						
Evacuation Route				X			X								
Road User Service				X			X								
Recreational				X				X	X						
Temporary Traffic Control	X									X					
Incident Management	X									X					X
Changeable Message Signs *				X	X	X									
School	X												X	X	

* Reverse colors or fluorescent yellow-green pixels may also be used on changeable message signs

Guidance:

Increases above the prescribed sizes should be used where greater legibility or emphasis is needed. Wherever practical, the overall sign dimensions should be increased in 150 mm (6 in) increments.

Section 2A.13 Symbols

Support:

Sometimes a change from word messages to symbols requires significant time for public education and transition. Therefore, this Manual includes the practice of using educational plaques to accompany some new symbol signs.

Standard:

Symbol designs shall in all cases be unmistakably similar to those shown in this Manual and in the “Standard Highway Signs” book (see Section 1A.11). New symbol designs shall be adopted by the Federal Highway Administration based on research evaluations to determine road user comprehension, sign conspicuity, and sign legibility.

Guidance:

New warning or regulatory symbol signs not readily recognizable by the public should be accompanied by an educational plaque.

Option:

State and/or local highway agencies may conduct research studies to determine road user comprehension, sign conspicuity, and sign legibility.

Educational plaques may be left in place as long as they are in serviceable condition.

Although most standard symbols are oriented facing left, mirror images of these symbols may be used where the reverse orientation might better convey to road users a direction of movement.

Section 2A.14 Word Messages**Standard:**

Except as noted in Section 2A.06, all word messages shall use standard wording and letters as shown in this Manual and in the “Standard Highway Signs” book (see Section 1A.11).

Guidance:

Word messages should be as brief as possible and the lettering should be large enough to provide the necessary legibility distance. A minimum specific ratio, such as 25 mm (1 in) of letter height per 12 m (40 ft) of legibility distance, should be used.

Support:

Some research indicates that a ratio of 25 mm (1 in) of letter height per 10 m (33 ft) of legibility distance could be beneficial.

Guidance:

Abbreviations (see Section 1A.14) should be kept to a minimum, and should include only those that are commonly recognized and understood, such as AVE (for Avenue), BLVD (for Boulevard), N (for North), or JCT (for Junction).

Standard:

All sign lettering shall be in capital letters as provided in the “Standard Highway Signs” book, except as indicated in the Option below.

Option:

Word messages on street name signs and destinations on guide signs may be composed of a combination of lower-case letters with initial upper-case letters.

Section 2A.15 Sign Borders**Standard:**

Unless specifically stated otherwise, each sign illustrated herein shall have a border of the same color as the legend, at or just inside the edge.

The corners of all sign borders shall be rounded, except for STOP signs.

Guidance:

A dark border on a light background should be set in from the edge, while a light border on a dark background should extend to the edge of the panel. A border for 750 mm (30 in) signs with a light background should be from 13 to 19 mm (0.5 to 0.75 in) in width, 13 mm (0.5 in) from the edge. For similar signs with a light border, a width of 25 mm (1 in) should be used. For other sizes, the border width should be of similar proportions, but should not exceed the stroke-width of the major lettering of the sign. On signs exceeding 1800 x 3000 mm (72 x 120 in) in size, the border should be 50 mm (2 in) wide, or on larger signs, 75 mm (3 in) wide. Except for STOP signs and as otherwise provided in Section 2E.15, the corners of the sign should be rounded to fit the border.

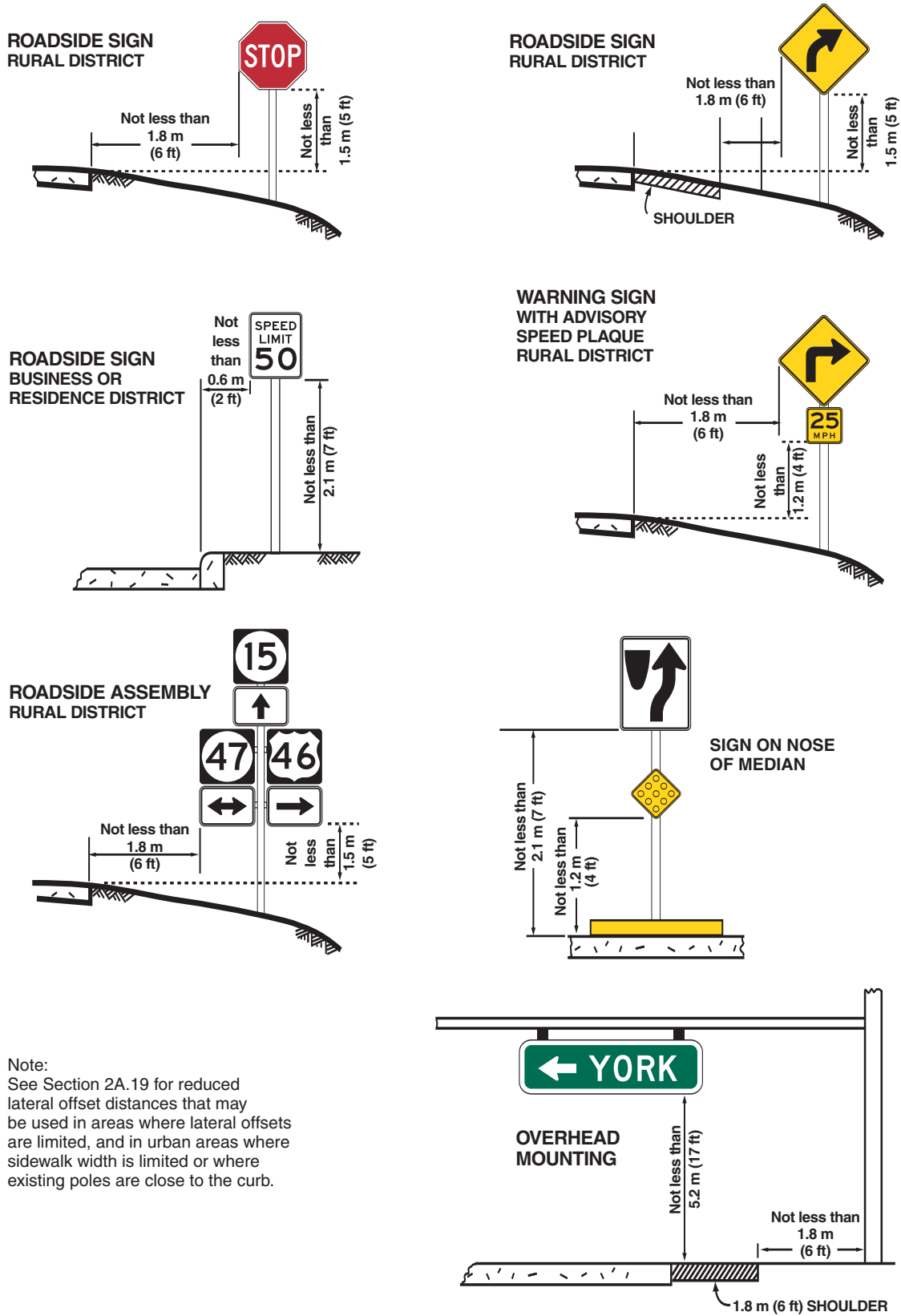
Section 2A.16 Standardization of Location**Support:**

Standardization of position cannot always be attained in practice. Examples of heights and lateral locations of signs for typical installations are illustrated in Figure 2A-1, and examples of locations for some typical signs at intersections are illustrated in Figure 2A-2.

Standard:

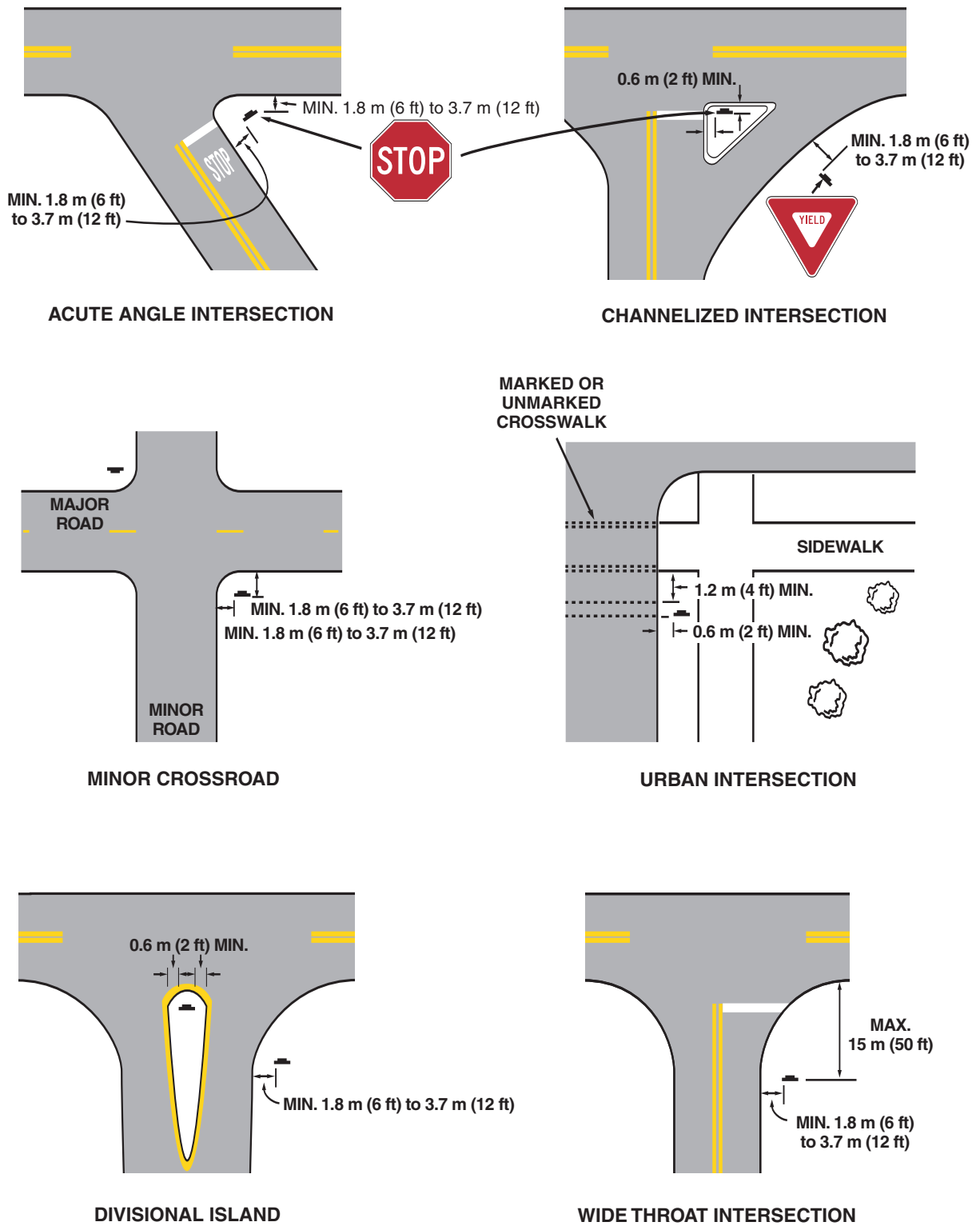
Signs requiring different decisions by the road user shall be spaced sufficiently far apart for the required decisions to be made reasonably safely. One of the factors considered when determining the appropriate spacing shall be the posted or 85th-percentile speed.

Figure 2A-1. Examples of Heights and Lateral Locations of Signs for Typical Installations



Note:
See Section 2A.19 for reduced lateral offset distances that may be used in areas where lateral offsets are limited, and in urban areas where sidewalk width is limited or where existing poles are close to the curb.

Figure 2A-2. Examples of Locations for Some Typical Signs at Intersections



Note: Lateral offset is a minimum of 1.8 m (6 ft) measured from the edge of the shoulder, or 3.7 m (12 ft) measured from the edge of the traveled way. See Section 2A.19 for lower minimums that may be used in urban areas, or where lateral offset space is limited.

Guidance:

Signs should be located on the right side of the roadway where they are easily recognized and understood by road users. Signs in other locations should be considered only as supplementary to signs in the normal locations, except as otherwise indicated.

Signs should be individually installed on separate posts or mountings except where:

- A. One sign supplements another, or
- B. Route or directional signs are grouped to clarify information to motorists, or
- C. Regulatory signs that do not conflict with each other are grouped, such as turn prohibition signs posted with one-way signs, street name signs posted with a stop or yield sign, or a parking regulation sign posted with a speed limit sign.

Signs should be located so that they:

- A. Are outside the clear zone unless placed on a breakaway or yielding support (see Section 2A.19);
- B. Optimize nighttime visibility;
- C. Minimize the effects of mud splatter and debris;
- D. Do not obscure each other; and
- E. Are not hidden from view.

Support:

The clear zone is the total roadside border area, starting at the edge of the traveled way, available for use by errant vehicles. The width of the clear zone is dependent upon traffic volumes, speeds, and roadside geometry. Additional information can be found in the "AASHTO Roadside Design Guide" (see Page i for AASHTO's address).

Guidance:

With the increase in traffic volumes and the desire to provide road users regulatory, warning, and guidance information, an order of priority for sign installation should be established.

Support:

An order of priority is especially critical where space is limited for sign installation and there is a demand for several different types of signs. Overloading road users with too much information is not desirable.

Guidance:

Because regulatory and warning information is more critical to the road user than guidance information, regulatory and warning signing whose location is critical should be displayed rather than guide signing in cases where conflicts occur. Information of a less critical nature should be moved to less critical locations or omitted.

Option:

Under some circumstances, such as on curves to the right, signs may be placed on median islands or on the left side of the road. A supplementary sign located on the left of the roadway may be used on a multi-lane road where traffic in the right lane might obstruct the view to the right.

Guidance:

In urban areas where crosswalks exist, signs should not be placed within 1.2 m (4 ft) in advance of the crosswalk.

Section 2A.17 Overhead Sign Installations**Guidance:**

Overhead signs should be used on freeways and expressways, at locations where some degree of lane-use control is desirable, and at locations where space is not available at the roadside.

Support:

The operational requirements of the present highway system are such that overhead signs have value at many locations. The factors to be considered for the installation of overhead sign displays are not definable in specific numerical terms.

Option:

The following conditions (not in priority order) may be considered in an engineering study to determine if overhead signs would be beneficial:

- A. Traffic volume at or near capacity;
- B. Complex interchange design;
- C. Three or more lanes in each direction;
- D. Restricted sight distance;

- E. Closely spaced interchanges;
- F. Multi-lane exits;
- G. Large percentage of trucks;
- H. Street lighting background;
- I. High-speed traffic;
- J. Consistency of sign message location through a series of interchanges;
- K. Insufficient space for ground-mounted signs;
- L. Junction of two freeways; and
- M. Left exit ramps.

Over-crossing structures may serve for the support of overhead signs, and under some circumstances, may be the only practical solution that will provide adequate viewing distance. Use of such structures as sign supports may eliminate the need for the foundations and sign supports along the roadside.

Section 2A.18 Mounting Height

Support:

The provisions of this Section apply unless specifically stated otherwise for a particular sign elsewhere in this Manual.

Standard:

Signs installed at the side of the road in rural districts shall be at least 1.5 m (5 ft), measured from the bottom of the sign to the near edge of the pavement.

Where parking or pedestrian movements occur, the clearance to the bottom of the sign shall be at least 2.1 m (7 ft).

Directional signs on freeways and expressways shall be installed with a minimum height of 2.1 m (7 ft). If a secondary sign is mounted below another sign, the major sign shall be installed at least 2.4 m (8 ft) and the secondary sign at least 1.5 m (5 ft) above the level of the pavement edge. All route signs, warning signs, and regulatory signs on freeways and expressways shall be at least 2.1 m (7 ft) above the level of the pavement edge.

Option:

The height to the bottom of a secondary sign mounted below another sign may be 0.3 m (1 ft) less than the height specified above.

Where signs are placed 9 m (30 ft) or more from the edge of the traveled way, the height to the bottom of such signs may be 1.5 m (5 ft) above the level of the pavement edge.

A route sign assembly consisting of a route sign and auxiliary signs (see Section 2D.27) may be treated as a single sign for the purposes of this Section.

The mounting height may be adjusted when supports are located near the edge of the right-of-way on a steep backslope.

Support:

Without this flexibility regarding steep backslopes, some agencies might decide to relocate the sign closer to the road, which might be less desirable.

Standard:

Overhead mounted signs shall provide a vertical clearance of not less than 5.2 m (17 ft) to the sign, light fixture, or sign bridge, over the entire width of the pavement and shoulders except where a lesser vertical clearance is used for the design of other structures.

Option:

If the vertical clearance of other structures is less than 4.9 m (16 ft), the vertical clearance to overhead sign structures or supports may be as low as 0.3 m (1 ft) higher than the vertical clearance of the other structures.

In special cases it may be necessary to reduce the clearance to overhead signs because of substandard dimensions in tunnels and other major structures such as double-deck bridges.

Support:

Figure 2A-1 illustrates some examples of the mounting height requirements contained in this Section.

Section 2A.19 Lateral Offset

Standard:

For overhead sign supports, the minimum lateral offset from the edge of the shoulder (or if no shoulder exists, from the edge of the pavement) to the near edge of overhead sign supports (cantilever or sign bridges) shall be 1.8 m (6 ft). Overhead sign supports shall have a barrier or crash cushion to shield them if they are within the clear zone.

Ground-mounted sign supports shall be breakaway, yielding, or shielded with a longitudinal barrier or crash cushion if within the clear zone.

Guidance:

For ground-mounted signs, the minimum lateral offset should be 3.7 m (12 ft) from the edge of the traveled way. If a shoulder wider than 1.8 m (6 ft) exists, the minimum lateral offset for ground-mounted signs should be 1.8 m (6 ft) from the edge of the shoulder.

Support:

The minimum lateral offset is intended to keep trucks and cars that use the shoulders from striking the signs or supports.

Guidance:

All supports should be located as far as practical from the edge of the shoulder. Advantage should be taken to place signs behind existing roadside barriers, on over-crossing structures, or other locations that minimize the exposure of the traffic to sign supports.

Option:

Where permitted, signs may be placed on existing supports used for other purposes, such as highway traffic signal supports, highway lighting supports, and utility poles.

Standard:

If signs are placed on existing supports, they shall meet other placement criteria contained in this Manual.

Option:

Lesser lateral offsets may be used on connecting roadways or ramps at interchanges, but not less than 1.8 m (6 ft) from the edge of the traveled way.

In areas where lateral offsets are limited, a minimum lateral offset of 0.6 m (2 ft) may be used.

A minimum offset of 0.3 m (1 ft) from the face of the curb may be used in urban areas where sidewalk width is limited or where existing poles are close to the curb.

Support:

Figures 2A-1 and 2A-2 illustrate some examples of the lateral offset requirements contained in this Section.

Section 2A.20 Orientation

Guidance:

Unless otherwise stated in this Manual, signs should be vertically mounted at right angles to the direction of, and facing, the traffic that they are intended to serve.

Where mirror reflection from the sign face is encountered to such a degree as to reduce legibility, the sign should be turned slightly away from the road. Signs that are placed 9 m (30 ft) or more from the pavement edge should be turned toward the road. On curved alignments, the angle of placement should be determined by the direction of approaching traffic rather than by the roadway edge at the point where the sign is located.

Option:

On grades, sign faces may be tilted forward or back from the vertical position to improve the viewing angle.

Section 2A.21 Posts and Mountings

Standard:

Sign posts, foundations, and mountings shall be so constructed as to hold signs in a proper and permanent position, and to resist swaying in the wind or displacement by vandalism.

Support:

The latest edition of AASHTO's "Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaires, and Traffic Signals" contains additional information regarding posts and mounting (see Page i for AASHTO's address).

Option:

Where engineering judgment indicates a need to draw attention to the sign during nighttime conditions, a strip of retroreflective material may be used on regulatory and warning sign supports.

Standard:

If a strip of retroreflective material is used on the sign support, it shall be at least 50 mm (2 in) in width, it shall be placed for the full length of the support from the sign to within 0.6 m (2 ft) above the edge of the roadway, and its color shall match the background color of the sign, except that the color of the strip for the YIELD and DO NOT ENTER signs shall be red.

Section 2A.22 Maintenance**Guidance:**

Maintenance activities should consider proper position, cleanliness, legibility, and daytime and nighttime visibility (see Section 2A.09). Damaged or deteriorated signs should be replaced.

To assure adequate maintenance, a schedule for inspecting (both day and night), cleaning, and replacing signs should be established. Employees of highway, law enforcement, and other public agencies whose duties require that they travel on the roadways should be encouraged to report any damaged, deteriorated, or obscured signs at the first opportunity.

Steps should be taken to see that weeds, trees, shrubbery, and construction, maintenance, and utility materials and equipment do not obscure the face of any sign.

A regular schedule of replacement of lighting elements for illuminated signs should be maintained.

Section 2A.23 Median Opening Treatments for Divided Highways with Wide Medians**Guidance:**

Where divided highways are separated by median widths at the median opening itself of 9 m (30 ft) or more, median openings should be signed as two separate intersections.

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CHAPTER 2B. REGULATORY SIGNS

Section 2B.01 Application of Regulatory Signs

Standard:

Regulatory signs shall be used to inform road users of selected traffic laws or regulations and indicate the applicability of the legal requirements.

Regulatory signs shall be installed at or near where the regulations apply. The signs shall clearly indicate the requirements imposed by the regulations and shall be designed and installed to provide adequate visibility and legibility in order to obtain compliance.

Regulatory signs shall be retroreflective or illuminated to show the same shape and similar color by both day and night, unless specifically stated otherwise in the text discussion of a particular sign or group of signs (see Section 2A.08).

The requirements for sign illumination shall not be considered to be satisfied by street, highway, or strobe lighting.

Section 2B.02 Design of Regulatory Signs

Support:

Most regulatory signs are rectangular, with the longer dimension vertical. The shapes and colors of regulatory signs are listed in Tables 2A-4 and 2A-5, respectively. Exceptions are specifically noted in the following Sections.

The use of educational plaques to supplement symbol signs is described in Section 2A.13.

Guidance:

Changeable message signs displaying a regulatory message incorporating a prohibitory message that includes a red circle and slash on a static sign should display a red symbol that approximates the same red circle and slash as closely as possible.

Section 2B.03 Size of Regulatory Signs

Standard:

The sizes for regulatory signs shall be as shown in Table 2B-1.

Guidance:

The Freeway and Expressway sizes should be used for higher-speed applications to provide larger signs for increased visibility and recognition.

Option:

The Minimum size may be used on low-speed roadways where the reduced legend size would be adequate for the regulation or where physical conditions preclude the use of the other sizes.

The Oversized size may be used for those special applications where speed, volume, or other factors result in conditions where increased emphasis, improved recognition, or increased legibility would be desirable.

Signs larger than those shown in Table 2B-1 may be used (see Section 2A.12).

Section 2B.04 STOP Sign (R1-1)

Standard:

When a sign is used to indicate that traffic is always required to stop, a STOP (R1-1) sign (see Figure 2B-1) shall be used.

The STOP sign shall be an octagon with a white legend and border on a red background. Secondary legends shall not be used on STOP sign faces. If appropriate, a supplemental plaque (R1-3 or R1-4) shall be used to display a secondary legend. Such plaques (see Figure 2B-1) shall have a white legend and border on a red background. If the number of approach legs controlled by STOP signs at an intersection is three or more, the numeral on the supplemental plaque, if used, shall correspond to the actual number of legs controlled by STOP signs.

At intersections where all approaches are controlled by STOP signs (see Section 2B.07), a supplemental plaque (R1-3 or R1-4) shall be mounted below each STOP sign.

Option:

The ALL WAY (R1-4) supplemental plaque may be used instead of the 4-WAY (R1-3) supplemental plaque.

Support:

The design and application of Stop Beacons are described in Section 4K.05.

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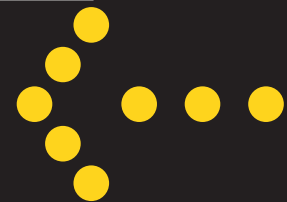
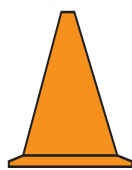
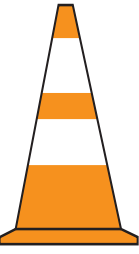
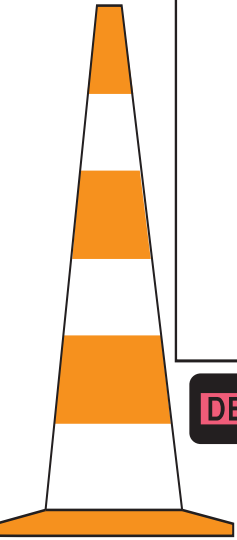
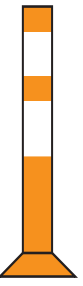
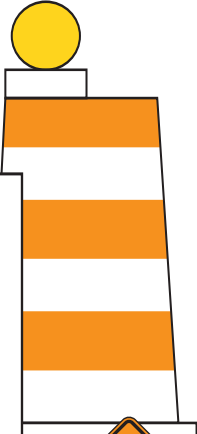
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Part 6 Temporary Traffic Control



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration



CHAPTER 6F. TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL ZONE DEVICES

Section 6F.01 Types of Devices

Support:

Whenever the acronym “TTC” is used in this Chapter, it refers to “temporary traffic control”.

Standard:

The needs and control of all road users (motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians within the highway, including persons with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Title II, Paragraph 35.130) through a TTC zone shall be an essential part of highway construction, utility work, maintenance operations, and the management of traffic incidents.

Guidance:

The design and application of TTC devices used in TTC zones should consider the needs of all road users (motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians), including those with disabilities.

Support:

FHWA policy requires that all roadside appurtenances such as traffic barriers, barrier terminals and crash cushions, bridge railings, sign and light pole supports, and work zone hardware used on the National Highway System meet the crashworthy performance criteria contained in the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 350, “Recommended Procedures for the Safety Performance Evaluation of Highway Features”. The FHWA website at “http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/roadside_hardwre.htm” identifies all such hardware and includes copies of FHWA acceptance letters for each of them. In the case of proprietary items, links are provided to manufacturers' websites as a source of detailed information on specific devices. The website also contains an “Ask the Experts” section where questions on roadside design issues can be addressed. State Departments of Transportation and local agencies might also have expanded the NCHRP Report 350 crashworthy criteria to apply to other highways in addition to the National Highway System.

Crashworthiness and crash testing information on devices described in Part 6 are found in AASHTO’s “Roadside Design Guide” (see Section 1A.11).

As stated in Definition 17 in Section 1A.13, “crashworthy” is a characteristic of a roadside appurtenance that has been successfully crash tested in accordance with a national standard such as the National Cooperative Highway Research Program Report 350, “Recommended Procedures for the Safety Performance Evaluation of Highway Features.”

Standard:

Traffic control devices shall be defined as all signs, signals, markings, and other devices used to regulate, warn, or guide road users, placed on, over, or adjacent to a street, highway, pedestrian facility, or bikeway by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction.

All traffic control devices used on street and highway construction, maintenance, utility, or incident management operations shall conform to the applicable provisions of this Manual.

Section 6F.02 General Characteristics of Signs

Support:

TTC zone signs convey both general and specific messages by means of words or symbols and have the same three categories as all road user signs: regulatory, warning, and guide.

Standard:

The colors for regulatory signs shall follow the Standards for regulatory signs in Table 2A-5 and Chapter 2B. Warning signs in TTC zones shall have a black legend and border on an orange background, except for the Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Advance Warning (W10-1) sign which shall have a black legend and border on a yellow background, and except for signs that are permitted in Parts 2 or 7 to have fluorescent yellow-green backgrounds. Colors for guide signs shall follow the Standards in Table 2A-5 and Chapter 2D, except for guide signs as noted in Section 6F.50. |Rev. 2

Option:

Where the color orange is required, fluorescent red-orange or fluorescent yellow-orange colors may also be used.

Support:

The fluorescent versions of orange provide higher conspicuity than standard orange, especially during twilight.