

December 31, 2020

Nicole R. Nason
Administrator, Federal Highway Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Extension of Comment Period for Docket No. FHWA-2020-0001

Dear Administrator Nason:

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) request that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) extend the comment period for the proposed rulemaking *National Standards for Traffic Control Devices: Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways; Revision* for a period of 60 days beyond the current 90 days from publication currently provided in the docket. This request is not being made lightly, nor to delay implementation of the new MUTCD; rather, it is meant to provide the State Departments of Transportation, local transportation agencies, and other key transportation stakeholders adequate time to provide FHWA a substantive response that will serve as valuable input to the rulemaking process.

The State DOTs and ITE are conducting diligent reviews of the proposed changes and determining the impact those changes would have on their departments and members. Given the unfortunate timing of the rulemaking (four federal holidays fall within the 90 days) and the extensive and detailed changes proposed, AASHTO and ITE are requesting that FHWA provide an additional 60 days commenting time with a revised closing date of May 13, 2020. We believe this additional time will enable the State DOTs, local transportation agencies, ITE, AASHTO, and other key transportation stakeholders to provide FHWA with more comprehensive and substantive comments, ultimately leading to an enhanced rulemaking outcome.

We appreciate your consideration in this matter and we look forward to providing FHWA with a comprehensive response to the MUCTD NPA. If you would like to discuss this issue any further, please contact Jameelah Hayes, AASHTO's Program Manager for Engineering, at jhayes@aaashto.org or 202-624-5266, or ITE Chief Technical Officer Jeff Lindley, at jlindley@ite.org or 202-464-6226.

Sincerely,



Jim Tymon
Executive Director
AASHTO



Jeffrey F. Paniati, P.E.
Executive Director and CEO
ITE