



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and
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January 15, 2021

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

Comments submitted electronically to www.regulations.gov

Subject: Extension of Commenting Period for Docket No. FHWA-2020-0001

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) requests an extension of the docket comment period from 90 days to 180 days for the Notice of Proposed Amendments (NPA) that will result in the 11th edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

Alaska DOT&PF has a traffic engineering work group reviewing the proposed changes in order to develop comments and recommendations to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through the federal docket. The traffic engineering work group will produce comments for FHWA that detail how the proposed revisions to the MUTCD will affect Alaskan road users and road authorities.

Our traffic engineering work group is committed to reviewing the 647 numbered items and 784 pages of the proposed changes. A complete, meaningful review of the changes is not possible within the 90 day docket period. The NPA was published with one working day notice, meaning members of the traffic engineering work group were unable to schedule time for this substantial review while continuing to perform their regular professional duties. The NPA was published in the latter half of December, a time when many Alaska DOT&PF employees regularly plan to utilize leave for the holidays. Lastly, this review has been afforded half of the 180 days provided for the less extensive 2009 revision to the MUTCD.

For these reasons, Alaska DOT&PF respectfully requests that the docket period be extended from 90 days to 180 days for the subject NPA. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Matt Walker, P.E., written in a cursive style.

Matt Walker, P.E.
State Traffic & Safety Engineer
Alaska DOT&PF

cc: Carolyn Morehouse, P.E., Chief Engineer, Alaska DOT&PF
Al Fletcher, Pavement, Materials, and Safety Engineer, FHWA Alaska Division

"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."