

Federal Highway Administration
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Serious concerns about the MUTCD in its current form

Dear Acting Administrator Pollack and Secretary Buttigieg:

I write, as a supporter of America Walks, and a person who cares very deeply about my community, York County, South Carolina, to raise serious concerns about the current draft MUTCD under revision by the agency. The MUTCD, a valuable technical document, has acted as a major obstacle to the kind of humane, activity-supporting street level changes that are needed in my community and others across the United States. This can change.

Grassroots advocates like myself have valuable local knowledge that is too often brushed aside by traffic engineers who rely on the rule-bound dictates of the MUTCD rather than using that as a guide.

Much of the current MUTCD guidance is outdated, not based on solid data, and focused on vehicle throughput through intersections rather than person/freight throughput.

I join America Walks and other groups to ask that U.S. DOT perform a comprehensive overhaul of the MUTCD, centering safety and equity. We need a rule book that is designed to support healthier safer communities, one that:

- Ensures every urban and suburban signalized intersection has basic pedestrian infrastructure, like curb ramps, pedestrian signal heads that display “Walk” and “Don’t Walk” messages and crosswalks.
- Gives local residents a voice in what kind of infrastructure is needed.
- Gives engineers flexibility to design urban streets that are safe enough for children to navigate.
- **Supports continuous bike/ped infrastructure on collector and arterial roads.**

I join America Walks in asking that FHWA reframe and rewrite the MUTCD, creating a path for guidance that more closely aligns with the equity, safety, and sustainability goals of American cities, as well as those of the Biden Administration.

Thank you,

Steve Yaffe