

## National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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## **NCUTCD Resolution Encouraging MUTCD Final Rule**

- Whereas, The National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) represents 21 sponsoring organizations, and uses a strong consensus-building approach to develop recommendations for traffic control device standards and guides;
- Whereas, The NCUTCD expresses its appreciation to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for publishing a Notice of Proposed Amendments (NPA) for a new edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD);
- Whereas, The NCUTCD expresses its appreciation to FHWA for extending the comment period to allow careful and thorough consideration of the NPA proposals by all stakeholders;
- Whereas, Federal regulation establishes the MUTCD as the national standard for traffic control devices on all streets and highways open to public travel;
- Whereas, The federal rulemaking process is the mechanism for updating the MUTCD and is a process that allows for all perspectives and points of view including all levels of government to be voiced and considered in determining the content of the next edition of the MUTCD;
- Whereas, The MUTCD states that "The purpose of traffic control devices, as well as the principles for their use, is to promote highway safety and efficiency by providing for the orderly movement of all road users on streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel throughout the nation.";
- Whereas, The current MUTCD reflects a now outdated state of the practice that existed more than 11 years ago (when the current 2009 edition was adopted);
- Whereas, There have been a multitude of significant advancements in traffic control device practices over the past 11 years that are not in the 2009 MUTCD, thus in many cases precluding their use on the nation's streets and highways;
- Whereas, Many of those significant advancements can improve highway safety and have been included in the NPA;
- Whereas, Proceeding with the current rulemaking process, culminating in a Final Rule, represents the best path to incorporating those significant advancements in a national standard at the earliest possible date, and thus allowing their use and improving highway safety; and
- Whereas, The NCUTCD supports an examination of the MUTCD scope, structure, process, and content to meet the needs of all users in an equitable manner, but not at the expense of delaying a new edition of the MUTCD; now, therefore, be it
- Resolved, That the NCUTCD encourages the FHWA and the U.S. Department of Transportation to stay the course in obtaining public comment on the NPA and expediting the issuance of a new MUTCD.

Adopted by the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices on March 17, 2021.

Gene Hawkins, NCUTCD Chair

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