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MAY 12, 2021

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

RE: Comments and Recommended Changes for the Notice of Proposed Amendment FHWA-2020-0001-0001 – Draft 11th Edition of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

Dear Acting Administrator Pollack:

The City of Atlanta Department of Transportation respectfully offers individual section and line comments and recommendations on the proposed draft of the 11th Edition of the MUTCD, to advance the adoption of a manual that adds new traffic control devices, and offers improved flexibility to local agencies to design, operate, and maintain their transportation systems.

The City of Atlanta encourages FHWA to consider these comments and issue the 11th Edition of the MUTCD as soon as practicable, and then shortly thereafter begin the process to perform a major overhaul of the MUTCD. While the 11th Edition MUTCD will still have notable shortcomings in practitioner usability, as well as language bias embedded due to the history of the document, a full rewrite of the manual must be started soon after the adoption of the 11th Edition, to begin the creation of a comprehensive safety-based guidance and standards manual, as stated in our letter dated March 11, 2021 under FHWA-2020-0001-0250.

As stated in the prior letter, we take very seriously our charge and goals for making Atlanta's streets safer for all with our Vision Zero program. The MUTCD should allow sufficient flexibility to fit our local context to prioritize safety for the most vulnerable users of our roads. The comments that follow are based in that framework.

The MUTCD needs to provide multimodal standards and guidance in urban settings to support cost-effective, sustainable, and equitable city street design with traffic control devices that improve safety and accessibility for all road users. **We respectfully request that FHWA incorporate the recommended revisions and address the comments submitted, creating an MUTCD document that more closely aligns with the equity, safety, and sustainability goals of Atlanta, as well as those of the Biden Administration and Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg.** The City of Atlanta Department of Transportation stands ready to work with you on these issues going forward.

Thank you,

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A blue ink signature of Josh Rowan.
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Josh Rowan, Commissioner
City of Atlanta Department of Transportation