

MANUAL
ON
**UNIFORM
TRAFFIC
CONTROL
DEVICES**

FOR STREETS AND HIGHWAYS





D6.1—1978

MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

FOR STREETS AND HIGHWAYS

THIS EDITION DEVELOPED WITH THE COOPERATION OF
THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials
Institute of Transportation Engineers
National Committee on Uniform Traffic Laws and Ordinances
National Association of Counties
National League of Cities
National Association of Governors' Highway Safety
Representatives
International Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.
National Electrical Manufacturers Association
American Road and Transportation Builders' Association
International Bridge, Tunnel & Turnpike Association



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CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	1
PART 1—GENERAL PROVISIONS	
Section 1A-1. Purpose of Traffic Control Devices	1A-1
1A-2. Requirements of Traffic Control Devices	1A-1
1A-3. Responsibility for Traffic Control Devices	1A-3
1A-3.1 Placement Authority	1A-3
1A-4. Engineering Study Required	1A-4
1A-5. Meanings of "Shall," "Should" and "May"	1A-4
1A-6. Developing New Standards and Interpretation and Revision of Existing Standards	1A-5
1A-7. Relation to Other Documents	1A-6
1A-8. Color Code	1A-7
1A-9. Definitions of Words and Phrases	1A-8
Part II—SIGNS	
A. Introduction and General Specifications	
Section 2A-1. Function of Signs	2A-1
2A-2. Scope of Sign Standards	2A-1
2A-3. Legal Authority	2A-2
2A-4. Standardization of Application	2A-2
2A-5. Variable Message Signs	2A-3
2A-6. Excessive Use of Signs	2A-3
2A-7. Classification of Signs	2A-4
2A-8. Standardization of Signs	2A-4
2A-9. Design	2A-4
2A-10. Shapes	2A-4
2A-11. Sign Colors	2A-5
2A-12. Dimensions	2A-6
2A-13. Symbols	2A-6
2A-14. Word Messages	2A-6
2A-15. Lettering	2A-7
2A-16. Illumination and Reflectorization	2A-7
2A-17. Means of Illumination	2A-7
2A-18. Means of Reflectorization	2A-7
2A-19. Sign Borders	2A-8
2A-20. Supplemental Beacons	2A-8
2A-21. Standardization of Location	2A-8
2A-22. Overhead Sign Installations	2A-14
2A-23. Height	2A-14
2A-24. Lateral Clearance	2A-15
2A-25. Position of Signs	2A-16
2A-26. Erection	2A-16
2A-27. Posts and Mountings	2A-16
2A-28. Bridges for Sign Supports	2A-16
2A-29. Sign Materials	2A-18
2A-30. Maintenance	2A-18
2A-31. Wrong-Way Traffic Control	2A-18

B. Regulatory Signs

Section 2B-1.	Application of Regulatory Signs.....	2B-1
2B-2.	Classification of Regulatory Signs.....	2B-1
2B-3.	Design of Regulatory Signs.....	2B-1
2B-4.	Stop Sign (R1-1).....	2B-2
2B-5.	Warrants for Stop Sign.....	2B-2
2B-6.	Multiway Stop Signs.....	2B-3
2B-7.	Yield Sign (R1-2).....	2B-4
2B-8.	Warrants for Yield Signs.....	2B-4
2B-9.	Location of Stop Sign and Yield Sign.....	2B-5
2B-10.	Speed Limit Sign (R2-1).....	2B-6
2B-11.	Night Speed Sign (R2-3).....	2B-7
2B-12.	Minimum Speed Sign (R2-4).....	2B-7
2B-13.	Location of Speed Limit Sign.....	2B-8
2B-14.	Sign for Reduced Speed Ahead (R2-5).....	2B-8
2B-15.	Turn Prohibition Signs (R3-1 to 3).....	2B-9
2B-16.	U-Turn Prohibition Sign (R3-4).....	2B-10
2B-17.	Lane-Use Control Signs (R3-5 to 8).....	2B-11
2B-18.	Application of Lane-Use Control Signs at Intersections.....	2B-12
2B-19.	Two-Way Left Turn Only Signs (R3-9a, 9b).....	2B-12
2B-20.	Preferential Lane Signing (R3-10 to 15).....	2B-13
2B-21.	Do Not Pass Sign (R4-1).....	2B-15
2B-22.	Pass With Care Sign (R4-2).....	2B-16
2B-23.	Slower Traffic Keep Right Sign (R4-3).....	2B-16
2B-24.	Signs for Uphill Traffic Lanes (R4-5, R4-6).....	2B-17
2B-25.	Keep Right Sign (R4-7).....	2B-17
2B-26.	Do Not Enter Sign (R5-1).....	2B-19
2B-27.	Wrong Way Sign (R5-9).....	2B-19
2B-28.	Selective Exclusion Signs.....	2B-20
2B-29.	One Way Sign (R6-1, R6-2).....	2B-22
2B-30.	Divided Highway Crossing Sign (R6-3, 3a).....	2B-23
2B-31.	Urban Parking and Stopping Signs (R7 Series).....	2B-23
2B-32.	Placement of Urban Parking Signs.....	2B-26
2B-33.	Parking Prohibition Signs in Rural District (R8-1, 2, 3, 5, 6).....	2B-26
2B-34.	Emergency Parking Signs (R8-4, 7).....	2B-28
2B-35.	Walk on Left and No Hitchhiking Signs (R9-1, 4).....	2B-28
2B-36.	Pedestrian Crossing Signs (R9-2, R9-3).....	2B-29
2B-37.	Traffic Signal Signs (R10-1 to 11).....	2B-30
2B-38.	Keep Off Median Sign (R11-1).....	2B-32
2B-39.	Road Closed Sign (R11-2).....	2B-33
2B-40.	Local Traffic Only Sign (R11-3, R11-4).....	2B-33
2B-41.	Weight Limit Signs (R12-1 to 5).....	2B-34
2B-42.	Weigh Station Signs (R13 Series).....	2B-35
2B-43.	Truck Route Sign (R14-1).....	2B-36
2B-44.	Other Regulatory Signs.....	2B-36

C. Warning Signs

Section 2C-1.	Application of Warning Signs.....	2C-1
2C-2.	Design of Warning Signs.....	2C-1
2C-3.	Placement of Warning Signs.....	2C-2
2C-4.	Turn Sign (W1-1).....	2C-2a
2C-5.	Curve Sign (W1-2).....	2C-3

	<i>Page</i>
2C-6. Reverse Turn Sign (W1-3).....	2C-3
2C-7. Reverse Curve Sign (W1-4).....	2C-4
2C-8. Winding Road Sign (W1-5).....	2C-4
2C-9. Large Arrow Sign (W1-6, W1-7).....	2C-4
2C-10. Chevron Alignment Sign (W1-8).....	2C-5
2C-11. Cross Road Sign (W2-1).....	2C-6
2C-12. Side Road Sign (W2-2, W2-3).....	2C-6
2C-13. T Symbol Sign (W2-4).....	2C-7
2C-14. Y Symbol Sign (W2-5).....	2C-7
2C-15. Stop Ahead Sign (W3-1).....	2C-8
2C-16. Yield Ahead Sign (W3-2).....	2C-8
2C-17. Signal Ahead Sign (W3-3).....	2C-8
2C-18. Merge Sign (W4-1).....	2C-9
2C-18.1 Added Lane Sign (W4-3).....	2C-9
2C-19. Lane Reduction Transition Signs (W4-2) (W9-1) (W9-2).....	2C-10
2C-20. Road Narrows Sign (W5-1).....	2C-10
2C-21. Narrow Bridge Sign (W5-2).....	2C-11
2C-22. One Lane Bridge Sign (W5-3).....	2C-11
2C-23. Divided Highway (Road) Sign (W6-1).....	2C-12
2C-24. Divided Highway (Road) Ends Sign (W6-2).....	2C-12
2C-25. Two-Way Traffic Sign (W6-3).....	2C-12
2C-26. Hill Sign (W7-1 to 4).....	2C-13
2C-27. Bump and Dip Signs (W8-1, W8-2).....	2C-14
2C-28. Pavement Ends Sign (W8-3).....	2C-15
2C-29. Soft Shoulder Sign (W8-4).....	2C-16
2C-30. Slippery When Wet Sign (W8-5).....	2C-16
2C-31. Advance Crossing Signs (W11 Series).....	2C-16
2C-32. Crossing Signs (W11A Series).....	2C-17
2C-33. Double Arrow Sign (W12-1).....	2C-17
2C-34. Low Clearance Sign (W12-2).....	2C-18
2C-35. Advisory Speed Plate (W13-1).....	2C-18
2C-36. Advisory Exit Speed Signs (W13-2, W13-3).....	2C-19
2C-37. Dead End Signs (W14-1, W14-2).....	2C-20
2C-38. No Passing Zone Sign (W14-3).....	2C-20
2C-39. Limited Sight Distance Sign (W14-4).....	2C-21
2C-40. Playground Sign (W15-1).....	2C-21
2C-41. Other Warning Signs.....	2C-22

D. Guide Signs—Conventional Roads

Section 2D-1. Scope of Conventional Road Guide Sign Standards.....	2D-1
2D-2. Application.....	2D-1
2D-3. Color, ReflectORIZATION, and Illumination.....	2D-1
2D-4. Size of Signs.....	2D-1
2D-5. Lettering Style.....	2D-1
2D-6. Size of Lettering.....	2D-2
2D-7. Amount of Legend.....	2D-2
2D-8. Arrows and Symbols.....	2D-3
2D-9. Numbered Highway Systems.....	2D-3
2D-10. Route Markers and Auxiliary Markers.....	2D-4
2D-11. Design of Route Markers (M1-1 to 7).....	2D-5
2D-12. Design of Route Marker Auxiliaries.....	2D-7
2D-13. Junction Marker (M2-1).....	2D-7

	<i>Page</i>
2D-14. Combination Junction Sign (M2-2).....	2D-8
2D-15. Cardinal Direction Marker (M3-1 to M3-4).....	2D-8
2D-16. Markers for Alternative Routes.....	2D-8
2D-17. Alternate Marker (M4-1, M4-1a).....	2D-9
2D-18. Bypass Marker (M4-2).....	2D-9
2D-19. Business Route Marker (M4-3).....	2D-10
2D-20. Truck Route Marker (M4-4).....	2D-10
2D-21. To Marker (M4-5).....	2D-10
2D-22. End Marker (M4-6).....	2D-10
2D-23. Temporary Marker (M4-7).....	2D-11
2D-24. Detour Marker (M4-8).....	2D-11
2D-25. Detour Sign (M4-9R and 9L).....	2D-11
2D-26. Advance Turn Arrow (M5-1, M5-2).....	2D-12
2D-27. Directional Arrow (M6-1 to M6-7).....	2D-12
2D-28. Route Marker Assemblies.....	2D-12
2D-29. Junction Assembly.....	2D-14
2D-30. Advance Route Turn Assembly.....	2D-14
2D-31. Directional Assembly.....	2D-14
2D-32. Confirming or Reassurance Assemblies.....	2D-19
2D-33. Trailblazers.....	2D-19
2D-34. Destination Signs and Distance Signs.....	2D-19
2D-35. Destination Signs (D1-1 to 3).....	2D-20
2D-36. Location of Destination Signs.....	2D-22
2D-37. Distance Sign (D2-1 to 3).....	2D-22
2D-38. Location of Distance Signs.....	2D-22
2D-39. Street Name Sign (D3).....	2D-23
2D-40. Parking Area Sign (D4-1).....	2D-24
2D-41. Park and Ride Signs (D4-2).....	2D-24
2D-42. Rest Area Signs (D5-1 to 5).....	2D-25
2D-43. Scenic Area Sign (D6-1 to 3).....	2D-26
2D-44. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Signs (D7-1, 2).....	2D-27
2D-45. Weight Station Signing (D8-1 to 3).....	2D-27
2D-46. General Service Signs (D9-1 to 14).....	2D-29
2D-47. Mileposts (D10-1 to 3).....	2D-31
2D-48. Traffic Signal Speed Sign (I1-1).....	2D-32
2D-49. General Information Signs (I Series).....	2D-33
2D-50. Signing of Named Highways.....	2D-35
2D-51. Trail Markers.....	2D-35
2D-52. Crossover Signs (D13-1, D13-2).....	2D-35

E. Guide Signs—Expressway

Section 2E-1. Scope of Expressway Guide Sign Standards.....	2E-1
2E-2. Application.....	2E-1
2E-3. General Standards.....	2E-1
2E-4. Functions of Expressway Guide Signs.....	2E-2
2E-5. Color of Expressway Guide Signs.....	2E-2
2E-6. ReflectORIZATION or Illumination.....	2E-2
2E-7. Size of Expressway Guide Signs.....	2E-2
2E-8. Number of Signs at an Overhead Installation.....	2E-3
2E-9. Amount of Legend on Expressway Guide Signs.....	2E-3
2E-10. Style Of Lettering.....	2E-3
2E-11. Size of Lettering.....	2E-4

	<i>Page</i>
2E-12. Interline and Edge Spacing.....	2E-6
2E-13. Abbreviations.....	2E-6
2E-14. Symbols.....	2E-7
2E-15. Arrows for Interchange Guide Signs.....	2E-7
2E-16. Viewing Factors.....	2E-7
2E-17. Overhead Sign Installations.....	2E-7
2E-18. Urban Expressways.....	2E-8
2E-19. Expressway Guide Sign Classification.....	2E-8
2E-20. Route Markers and Trailblazers.....	2E-9
2E-21. Signs for Intersections at Grade.....	2E-9
2E-22. Uniform Signing by Type of Interchange.....	2E-9
2E-23. Expressway Interchange Classification.....	2E-9
2E-24. Interchange and Exit Numbering.....	2E-10
2E-25. Interchange Guide Signs.....	2E-10
2E-26. Advance Guide Signs (fig. 2-11).....	2E-10
2E-27. Next Exit Supplemental Sign (fig. 2-12).....	2E-12
2E-28. Other Supplemental Signs (fig. 2-12).....	2E-12
2E-29. Exit Direction Signs (fig. 2-13).....	2E-14
2E-30. Gore Signs (fig. 2-14).....	2E-15
2E-31. Sign Spreading and Pull Thru Signs (fig. 2-15, 2-16).....	2E-16
2E-32. Post-Interchange Signs.....	2E-18
2E-33. Distance Signs (fig. 2-17).....	2E-18
2E-34. Interchange Sequence Series Signs (fig. 2-18).....	2E-19
2E-35. Community Interchanges Identification Sign (E8-2, fig. 2-19)....	2E-20
2E-36. Next (X) Exits Area Sign (fig. 2-20).....	2E-21
2E-37. Signing for General Motorist Services (fig. 2-21).....	2E-21
2E-38. Rest and Scenic Areas.....	2E-22
2E-39. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Signs.....	2E-22
2E-40. Milepost Markers.....	2E-22
2E-41. Wrong-Way Traffic Control (fig. 2-22a and 2-22b).....	2E-23
2E-42. Miscellaneous Guide Signs (fig. 2-22).....	2E-26
2E-43. Weigh Station Signing.....	2E-26
2E-44. Special Signing on Expressway Approaches and Connecting Roadways.....	2E-26

F. Guide Signs—Freeways

Section 2F-1. Scope of Freeway Sign Standards.....	2F-1
2F-2. Freeway Signing Principles.....	2F-1
2F-3. General Characteristics of Freeway Signing.....	2F-2
2F-4. Characteristics of Urban Freeway Signing.....	2F-2
2F-5. Characteristics of Rural Freeway Signing.....	2F-3
2F-6. Sign Layouts.....	2F-3
2F-7. Designation of Destinations.....	2F-3
2F-8. Limit on Destination Legends.....	2F-4
2F-9. Routing to a Given Destination.....	2F-4
2F-10. Overhead Sign Installations.....	2F-4
2F-11. Style of Lettering and Legend Spacing.....	2F-4
2F-12. Sign Borders.....	2F-7
2F-13. Color, Reflectorization, and Illumination.....	2F-7
2F-14. Sign Arrows.....	2F-8
2F-15. Viewing Factors.....	2F-8
2F-16. Vertical Clearance.....	2F-8
2F-17. Horizontal Clearance.....	2F-8

	<i>Page</i>
2F-18. Interchange Classification	2F-9
2F-19. Interchange Exit Numbering (figs. 2-23 through 2-25)	2F-9
2F-20. Interchange Guide Signs	2F-12
2F-21. Post Interchange Signs	2F-13
2F-22. Signing by Class of Interchange	2F-14
2F-23. Interchanges Between Freeways (fig. 2-26 through 2-32)	2F-14
2F-24. Diagrammatic Signs (figs. 2-22, 2-27 through 2-30, 2-33)	2F-15
2F-25. Signing for Interchange Lane Drops (fig. 2-31 through 2-33)	2F-18
2F-26. Cloverleaf (fig. 2-36)	2F-22
2F-27. Cloverleaf with Collector-Distributor Roadways (fig. 2-37)	2F-22
2F-28. Partial Cloverleaf (fig. 2-38)	2F-22
2F-29. Diamond (fig. 2-39)	2F-29
2F-30. Urban Diamond (fig. 2-40)	2F-29
2F-31. Closely Spaced Interchanges (fig. 2-41)	2F-29
2F-32. Minor Interchange (fig. 2-42)	2F-29
2F-33. Signing for General Motorist Services (fig. 2-43)	2F-34
2F-34. Rest and Scenic Area Signs (fig. 2-44)	2F-37
2F-35. Tourist Information and Welcome Centers	2F-38
2F-36. Radio Information Signing	2F-40
2F-37. Carpool Information Signing	2F-41
2F-38. Weigh Station Signing	2F-42
2F-39. Milepost Markers	2F-42
2F-40. Route Markers and Trailblazers (figs. 2-45, 2-46)	2F-42
2F-41. Miscellaneous Freeway Guide Signs	2F-44
2F-42. Signing on Freeway Approaches	2F-44

G. Motorist Service Signing

Section 2G-1. Reserved	
2G-2. Reserved	
2G-3. Reserved	
2G-4. Reserved	
2G-5.1 Application of Specific Service Signs	2G-1
2G-5.2 Logos	2G-1
2G-5.3 Size of Logos and Signs	2G-2
2G-5.4 Size of Lettering	2G-2
2G-5.5 Signing of Interchanges	2G-3
2G-5.6 Signing of Intersections	2G-4
2G-5.7 Guidelines for Specific Service Signing	2G-4
2G-5.8 Signing Policy	2G-6

H. Reserved

I. Reserved

J. Signing for Civil Defense

Section 2J-1. Civil Defense Emergencies	2J-1
2J-2. Design of Civil Defense Signs	2J-1
2J-3. Evacuation Route Marker (CD-1)	2J-2
2J-4. Area Closed Sign (CD-2)	2J-3
2J-5. Traffic Regulation Post Sign (CD-3)	2J-3
2J-6. Emergency Speed Sign (CD-4)	2J-4
2J-7. Road Use Permit Sign (CD-5)	2J-4

	<i>Page</i>
2J-8. Emergency Aid Centers Sign (CD-6).....	2J-5
2J-9. Fallout Shelter Directional Sign (CD-7).....	2J-5

Part III—MARKINGS

A. General Principles

Section 3A-1. Functions and Limitations.....	3A-1
3A-2. Standardization of Application.....	3A-1
3A-3. Materials.....	3A-2
3A-4. Colors.....	3A-2
3A-5. General Principles—Longitudinal Pavement Markings.....	3A-2
3A-6. Widths and Patterns of Longitudinal Lines.....	3A-2
3A-7. Types of Longitudinal Lines.....	3A-3
3A-8. Transverse Markings.....	3A-4
3A-9. Curb Markings.....	3A-4
3A-10. Raised Pavement Markings, ReflectORIZED and Non-reflectORIZED..	3A-4

B. Applications of Pavement and Curb Markings

Section 3B-1. Center Lines.....	3B-1
3B-2. Lane Lines.....	3B-1
3B-3. No-Passing Zone Markings.....	3B-2
3B-4. Application of No-Passing Zone Markings.....	3B-2
3B-5. Warrants for No-Passing Zones at Curves.....	3B-8
3B-6. Pavement Edge Lines.....	3B-8
3B-7. Pavement Marking Extensions Through Intersections or Interchanges.	3B-11
3B-8. Lane Reduction Transitions.....	3B-11
3B-9. Channelizing Line.....	3B-14
3B-10. Median Islands Formed by Pavement Markings.....	3B-14
3B-11. Marking of Interchange Ramps.....	3B-14
3B-12. Combination Lane and Center Line Markings for Unique Applications.	3B-18
3B-13. Approach to an Obstruction.....	3B-18
3B-14. Pavement Markers as Vehicle Positioning Guides with Other Longitudinal Markings.....	3B-20
3B-15. Raised Pavement Markers Supplementing Other Markers.....	3B-20
3B-16. Substituting for Pavement Markings.....	3B-21
3B-17. Stop Lines.....	3B-21
3B-18. Crosswalks and Crosswalk Lines.....	3B-21
3B-19. Parking Space Markings.....	3B-22
3B-20. Pavement Word and Symbol Markings.....	3B-26
3B-21. Curb Markings for Parking Restrictions.....	3B-30
3B-22. Preferential Lane Markings.....	3B-30
3B-23. Speed Measurement Markings.....	3B-30

C. Object Markings

Section 3C-1. Object Marker Design.....	3C-1
3C-1.1 Mounting Height.....	3C-1
3C-2. Objects in the Roadway.....	3C-1
3C-3. Objects Adjacent to the Roadway.....	3C-2
3C-4. End of Roadway.....	3C-2

	<i>Page</i>
D. Delineation	
Section 3D-1. Delineators	3D-1
3D-2. Design	3D-1
3D-3. Curb Markings for Delineation	3D-1
3D-4. Delineator Application	3D-1
3D-5. Delineator Placement and Spacing	3D-2
E. Colored Pavements	
Section 3E-1. Colored Pavements	3E-1
3E-2. Colors	3E-1
F. Barricades and Channelizing Devices	
Section 3F-1. Barricades	3F-1
3F-2. Channelizing Devices	3F-1

Part IV—SIGNALS

A. General	
Section 4A-1. Types	4A-1
4A-2. Basis of Installation	4A-1
4A-3. Definitions Relating to Signals	4A-1
B. Traffic Control Signals	
Section 4B-1. General Aspects	4B-1
4B-2. Area of Control	4B-1
4B-3. Advantages and Disadvantages of Traffic Control Signals	4B-1
4B-4. Portable Traffic Control Signals	4B-2
4B-5. Meaning of Signal Indications	4B-2
4B-6. Application of Signal Indications	4B-4
4B-7. Number of Lenses per Signal Face	4B-6
4B-8. Size and Design of Signal Lenses	4B-6
4B-9. Arrangement of Lenses in Signal Faces	4B-8
4B-10. Illumination of Lenses	4B-10
4B-11. Visibility and Shielding of Signal Faces	4B-10
4B-12. Number and Location of Signal Faces	4B-11
4B-13. Height of Signal Faces	4B-13
4B-14. Transverse Location of Traffic Signal Supports and Controller Cabinets	4B-14
4B-15. Vehicle Change Interval	4B-14
4B-16. Unexpected Conflicts During Green or Yellow Interval	4B-15
4B-17. Coordination of Traffic Control Signals	4B-15
4B-18. Flashing Operation of Traffic Control Signals	4B-15
4B-19. Continuity of Operation	4B-16
4B-20. Signal Operation Must Relate to Traffic Flow	4B-16
4B-21. Traffic Signals Near Grade Crossings	4B-17
4B-22. Priority Control of Traffic Signals	4B-17
4B-23. Maintenance of Traffic Control Signals	4B-17
4B-24. Painting	4B-18
4B-25. Vehicle Detectors	4B-18
4B-26. Auxiliary Signs	4B-18
4B-27. Removal of Confusing Advertising Lights	4B-19

C. Warrants

Section 4C-1.	Advance Engineering Data Required.....	4C-1
4C-2.	Warrants for Traffic Signal Installation.....	4C-2
4C-3.	Warrant 1, Minimum Vehicular Volume.....	4C-3
4C-4.	Warrant 2, Interruption of Continuous Traffic.....	4C-4
4C-5.	Warrant 3, Minimum Pedestrian Volume.....	4C-4
4C-6.	Warrant 4, School Crossing.....	4C-5
4C-7.	Warrant 5, Progressive Movement.....	4C-6
4C-8.	Warrant 6, Accident Experience.....	4C-6
4C-9.	Warrant 7, Systems Warrant.....	4C-6
4C-10.	Warrant 8, Combination of Warrants.....	4C-7
4C-10.1	Warrant 9, Four Hour Volumes.....	4C-7
4C-10.2	Warrant 10, Peak Hour Delay.....	4C-7
4C-10.3	Warrant 11, Peak Hour Volume.....	4C-8
4C-11.	Factors Governing Selection of Type of Control.....	4C-8
4C-12.	Pedestrian-Actuated Control.....	4C-9

D. Pedestrian Signals

Section 4D-1.	Pedestrian Signal Indications.....	4D-1
4D-2.	Meaning of Pedestrian Indications.....	4D-1
4D-3.	Applications of Pedestrian Signal Indications.....	4D-1
4D-4.	Design Requirements.....	4D-2
4D-5.	Location.....	4D-4
4D-6.	Detectors.....	4D-4
4D-7.	Pedestrian Intervals and Phases.....	4D-4

E. Other Highway Traffic Signals

Section 4E-1.	Hazard Identification Beacon.....	4E-1
4E-2.	Speed Limit Sign Beacon.....	4E-1
4E-3.	Intersection Control Beacon.....	4E-1
4E-4.	Stop Sign Beacon.....	4E-2
4E-5.	General Design and Operation of Beacons.....	4E-2
4E-6.	Hazard Identification Beacon Location.....	4E-4
4E-7.	Intersection Control Beacon Location.....	4E-4
4E-8.	Lane-use Control Signals.....	4E-4
4E-9.	Meaning of Lane-use Control Signal Indications.....	4E-5
4E-10.	Design of Lane-use Control Signals.....	4E-5
4E-11.	Location of Lane-use Control Signals.....	4E-6
4E-12.	Operation of Lane-use Control Signals.....	4E-6
4E-13.	Traffic Control at Movable Bridges.....	4E-7
4E-14.	Movable Bridge Signals and Gates.....	4E-7
4E-15.	Design of Movable Bridge Signals and Gates.....	4E-8
4E-16.	Location of Movable Bridge Signals and Gates.....	4E-9
4E-17.	Operation of Movable Bridge Signals and Gates.....	4E-10
4E-18.	Traffic Signals for Emergency Vehicle Movements.....	4E-10
4E-19.	Applications of Emergency-Traffic Signals.....	4E-10
4E-20.	Design of Emergency-Traffic Signals.....	4E-10
4E-21.	Operation of Emergency-Traffic Signals.....	4E-11
4E-22.	Traffic Signals at Freeway Entrance Ramps.....	4E-12
4E-23.	Guidelines for Freeway Entrance Ramp Control Signals.....	4E-12
4E-24.	Traffic Signals for One-Lane, Two-Way Facilities.....	4E-13

	<i>Page</i>
4E-25. Applications of One-Lane Bridge or Tunnel Signals.....	4E-13
4E-26. Design of Bridge and Tunnel Signals.....	4E-14
4E-27. Location of Narrow Bridge or Tunnel Signals.....	4E-14
4E-28. Operation of Narrow Bridge or Tunnel Signals.....	4E-15

Part V—ISLANDS

A. General

Section 5A-1. Scope of Island Standards.....	5A-1
5A-2. Legal Authority.....	5A-1
5A-3. Classification and Function.....	5A-1
5A-4. Pedestrian Refuge Islands.....	5A-1
5A-5. Traffic Divisional Islands.....	5A-2
5A-6. Traffic Channelizing Islands.....	5A-2

B. Design

Section 5B-1. General.....	5B-1
5B-2. Size and Shape.....	5B-1
5B-3. Designation of Island Areas.....	5B-2

C. Approach End Treatment

Section 5C-1. General.....	5C-1
5C-2. Method.....	5C-1

D. Illumination

E. Signs

Section 5E-1. General.....	5E-1
5E-2. Method.....	5E-1

F. Markings

Section 5F-1. General.....	5F-1
5F-2. Application.....	5F-1
5F-3. Colors.....	5F-1
5F-4. Object Markers.....	5F-1
5F-5. Delineators.....	5F-1

Part VI—TRAFFIC CONTROLS FOR STREET AND HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

A. Introduction and General Specifications

Section 6A-1. Need for Standards.....	6A-1
6A-2. Scope.....	6A-1
6A-3. Application of Standards.....	6A-1
6A-4. Responsibility.....	6A-3
6A-5. Fundamental Principles.....	6A-3
6A-6. Training.....	6A-5

B. Signs

Section 6B-1.	Design of Signs.....	6B-1
6B-2.	Illumination and Reflectorization.....	6B-1
6B-3.	Position of Signs.....	6B-2
6B-4.	Erection of Signs.....	6B-2

Regulatory Signs

6B-5.	Authority.....	6B-14
6B-6.	Design.....	6B-14
6B-7.	Application.....	6B-14
6B-8.	Road (Street) Closed Sign (R11-2).....	6B-14
6B-9.	Local Traffic Only Signs (R11-3,4).....	6B-15
6B-10.	Weight Limit Signs (R12-1, 2).....	6B-16
6B-11.	Special Regulatory Signs.....	6B-17

Warning Signs

6B-12.	Function.....	6B-17
6B-13.	Design and Application.....	6B-17
6B-14.	Application of Construction Approach Warning Signs.....	6B-18
6B-15.	Advance Road (Street) Construction Sign (W20-1).....	6B-18
6B-16.	Advance Detour Sign (W20-2).....	6B-19
6B-17.	Advance Road (Street) Closed Sign (W20-3).....	6B-19
6B-18.	Advance One Lane Road Sign (W20-4).....	6B-20
6B-19.	Advance Lane Closed Sign (W20-5).....	6B-20
6B-20.	Advance Flager Sign (W20-7).....	6B-20
6B-21.	Two-Way Traffic Sign (W6-3).....	6B-21
6B-22.	Application of Maintenance and Minor Construction Warning Signs.....	6B-21
6B-23.	Worker Sign (W21-1).....	6B-21
6B-24.	Fresh Oil Sign (W21-2).....	6B-24
6B-25.	Road Machinery Sign (W21-3).....	6B-24
6B-26.	Road Work Sign (W21-4).....	6B-24
6B-27.	Shoulder Work Sign (W21-5).....	6B-24
6B-28.	Survey Crew Sign (W21-6).....	6B-25
6B-29.	Signs for Blasting Areas.....	6B-25
6B-30.	Blasting Zone Sign (W22-1).....	6B-26
6B-31.	Turn Off 2-Way Radio Sign (W22-2).....	6B-26
6B-32.	End Blasting Zone Sign (W22-3).....	6B-26
6B-33.	Other Warning Signs.....	6B-26
6B-34.	Advisory Speed Plate (W13-1).....	6B-27

Guide Signs

6B-35.	Function and Design of Information and Guide Signs.....	6B-27
6B-36.	Length of Construction Sign (G20-1).....	6B-28
6B-37.	End Construction (Road Work) Sign (G20-2).....	6B-28
6B-38.	Detour Signs and Markers (M4-8, 9 and 10).....	6B-28
6B-39.	Pilot Car Sign (G20-4).....	6B-29

C. Barricades and Channelizing Devices

Section 6C-1.	Function	6C-1
6C-2.	Channelization	6C-1
6C-3.	Cone Design	6C-2
6C-4.	Cone Application	6C-3
6C-5.	Vertical Panel-Design and Application	6C-3
6C-6.	Drum Design	6C-4
6C-7.	Drum Application	6C-4
6C-8.	Barricade Design	6C-5
6C-9.	Barricade Application	6C-7
6C-10.	Portable Barrier—Design and Application	6C-8
6C-11.	High Level Warning Device—Design and Application	6C-9

D. Markings

Section 6D-1.	Pavement Markings Application	6D-1
6D-2.	Delineators	6D-2

E. Lighting Devices

Section 6E-1.	Function	6E-1
6E-2.	Floodlights	6E-1
6E-3.	Hazard Identification Beacons (Flashing Electric Lights)	6E-1
6E-4.	Steady Burning Electric Lamps	6E-2
6E-5.	Warning Lights	6E-2
6E-6.	Special Lighting Units	6E-3
6E-7.	Advance Warning Arrow Panels	6E-4
6E-8.	Advance Warning Arrow Panel Application	6E-4
6E-9.	Advance Warning Arrow Panel Specifications	6E-5

F. Control of Traffic Through Work Areas

Section 6F-1.	Function	6F-1
6F-2.	Hand Signaling Devices	6F-1
6F-3.	Flaggers	6F-1
6F-4.	Flagging Procedures	6F-2
6F-5.	Flagger Stations	6F-4
6F-6.	One-Way Traffic Control	6F-4
6F-7.	Flagger Control	6F-5
6F-8.	Flag-Carrying or Official Car	6F-5
6F-9.	Pilot Car	6F-5
6F-10.	Traffic Control Signals	6F-6

G. Expressways and Limited Access Facilities

Section 6G-1.	Application of Standards	6G-1
6G-2.	Problem Areas	6G-1
6G-3.	Signs	6G-2
6G-4.	Barricades and Channelization	6G-2
6G-5.	Lighting Devices	6G-3
6G-6.	Control of Traffic	6G-3

Part VII—TRAFFIC CONTROLS FOR SCHOOL AREAS

A. General

Section 7A-1.	Need for Standards.....	7A-1
7A-2.	School Routes and Established School Crossings.....	7A-3
7A-3.	School Crossing Control Criteria.....	7A-3
7A-4.	Scope.....	7A-4
7A-5.	Application of Standards.....	7A-4
7A-6.	Engineering Study Required.....	7A-4
7A-7.	Maintenance of Traffic Control Devices.....	7A-4
7A-8.	Legal Authority.....	7A-4
7A-9.	Removal of Confusing Advertising.....	7A-5
7A-10.	Meaning of "Shall," "Should" and "May".....	7A-5

B. Signs

Section 7B-1.	Design of Signs.....	7B-1
7B-2.	Dimensions.....	7B-1
7B-3.	Lettering.....	7B-1
7B-4.	Sign Borders.....	7B-1
7B-5.	Illumination and Reflectorization.....	7B-2
7B-6.	Position of Signs.....	7B-2
7B-7.	Height of Signs.....	7B-2
7B-8.	Erection of Signs.....	7B-2
7B-9.	School Advance Sign (S1-1).....	7B-2
7B-10.	School Crossing Sign (S2-1).....	7B-3
7B-11.	School Bus Stop Ahead Sign (S3-1).....	7B-3
7B-12.	School Speed Limit Signs (S4-1, S4-2, S4-3, S4-4).....	7B-4
7B-13.	Parking and Stopping Signs (R7 Series).....	7B-5

C. Markings

Section 7C-1.	Functions and Limitations of Markings.....	7C-1
7C-2.	Standardization.....	7C-1
7C-3.	Crosswalk Lines.....	7C-1
7C-4.	Stop Lines.....	7C-2
7C-5.	Curb Markings for Parking Restrictions.....	7C-2
7C-6.	Word and Symbol Markings.....	7C-2

D. School Area Traffic Signals

Section 7D-1.	Definition.....	7D-1
7D-2.	Advantages and Disadvantages.....	7D-1
7D-3.	Standardization.....	7D-1
7D-4.	Warrants.....	7D-2
7D-5.	Meaning of Signal Indications.....	7D-2
7D-6.	Intersection and Non-Intersection Installations.....	7D-4

	<i>Page</i>
7D-7. Controllers	7D-5
7D-8. Pedestrian Detectors.....	7D-5
7D-9. Operation of Pedestrian Signals.....	7D-5
7D-10. Coordination with Adjacent Signals.....	7D-7
7D-11. Vehicle Change Interval.....	7D-7
7D-12. Location and Placement.....	7D-7
7D-13. Visibility, Number, and Location of Signal Faces.....	7D-7
7D-14. Height of Signal Faces.....	7D-9
7D-15. Transverse Location of Traffic Signal Supports and Controller Cabinets	7D-9
7D-16. Portable Traffic Control Signals.....	7D-9
7D-17. Area of Control.....	7D-10
7D-18. Design Requirements for School Signal Indications.....	7D-10
7D-19. Number of Lenses per Signal Face.....	7D-10
7D-20. Size and Design of Signal Lenses.....	7D-10
7D-21. Arrangement of Lenses in Signal Faces.....	7D-10
7D-22. Illumination of Lenses in Vehicular Signal Faces.....	7D-11
7D-23. Pedestrian Indications.....	7D-11
7D-24. Speed Limit Sign Beacon.....	7D-12
7D-25. School Crossings at Existing Signal Installations.....	7D-12
7D-26. Signal Indications.....	7D-12
7D-27. Signal Control.....	7D-12
7D-28. Signal Operation.....	7D-13

E. Crossing Supervision

Section 7E-1. Types of Crossing Supervision.....	7E-1
7E-2. Adult Guards.....	7E-1
7E-3. Legal Authority for Adult Guards.....	7E-1
7E-4. Choice of Adult Guards.....	7E-1
7E-5. Uniform of Adult Guards.....	7E-2
7E-6. Operating Procedures for Adult Guards.....	7E-2
7E-7. Police Officers.....	7E-2
7E-8. Student Patrols.....	7E-2
7E-9. Legal Authority for Student Patrols.....	7E-2
7E-10. Choice of Student Patrols.....	7E-2
7E-11. Operating Procedures for Student Patrols.....	7E-3

F. Grade Separated Crossings

Section 7F-1. Function.....	7F-1
7F-2. Types of Grade Separated Crossings.....	7F-1
7F-3. Criteria for Use of Grade Separated Crossings.....	7F-1

Part VIII—TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEMS FOR RAILROAD-HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSINGS

A. General

Section 8A-1. Functions.....	8A-1
8A-2. Use of Standard Devices.....	8A-1

	<i>Page</i>
8A-3. Uniform Provisions.....	8A-1
8A-4. Crossing Closure.....	8A-2
8A-5. Traffic Controls During Construction and Maintenance.....	8A-2
 B. Signs and Markings	
Section 8B-1. Purpose.....	8B-1
8B-2. Railroad Crossing (Crossbuck) Sign (R15-1, 2).....	8B-1
8B-3. Railroad Advance Warning Sign (W10-1, 2, 3, 4).....	8B-3
8B-4. Pavement Markings.....	8B-5
8B-5. Illumination at Grade Crossings.....	8B-5
8B-6. Exempt Crossing Signs (R15-3, W10-1a).....	8B-5
8B-7. Turn Restrictions.....	8B-6
8B-8. Do Not Stop on Tracks Sign (R8-8).....	8B-6
8B-9. STOP Signs at Grade Crossings (R1-1, W3-1).....	8B-7
 C. Signals and Grates	
Section 8C-1. Purpose and Meaning.....	8C-1
8C-2. Flashing Light Signal—Post Mounted.....	8C-1
8C-3. Flashing Light Signal—Cantilever Supported.....	8C-2
8C-4. Automatic Gate.....	8C-3
8C-5. Train Detection.....	8C-5
8C-6. Traffic Signals at or Near Grade Crossings (fig. 8-8).....	8C-7
8C-7. Component Details.....	8C-9
 D. Systems and Devices	
Section 8D-1. Selection of Systems and Devices.....	8D-1

Part IX—TRAFFIC CONTROLS FOR BICYCLE FACILITIES

A. General	
Section 9A-1. Requirements for Bicyclist Traffic Control Devices.....	9A-1
9A-2. Scope.....	9A-1
9A-3. Definitions Relating to Bicycles.....	9A-2
9A-4. Standardization of Devices.....	9A-2
9A-5. Maintenance.....	9A-2
9A-6. Legal Authority.....	9A-2
9A-7. Meanings of "Shall," "Should," and "May".....	9A-3
9A-8. Relation to Other Documents.....	9A-3
9A-9. Colors.....	9A-3
 B. Signs	
Section 9B-1. Application of Signs.....	9B-1
9B-2. Location and Position.....	9B-1
9B-3. Design.....	9B-1
9B-4. Regulatory Signs.....	9B-2
9B-5. Bicycle Prohibition Sign (R5-6).....	9B-2
9B-6. Motor Vehicle Prohibition Sign (R5-3).....	9B-2
9B-7. Bicycle Restriction Signs (R9-5 & 6).....	9B-3

	<i>Page</i>
9B-8. Designated Lane Signs (R3-10 & 11).....	9B-4
9B-9. Travelpath Restriction Signs (R9-7).....	9B-4
9B-10. STOP and YIELD Signs (R1-1, 2).....	9B-5
9B-11. No Parking Signs (R7-9, & 9a).....	9B-5
9B-12. Lane-Use Control Signs (R3-7, R4-4).....	9B-6
9B-13. Warning Signs.....	9B-6
9B-14. Bicycle Crossing Sign (W11-1).....	9B-6
9B-15. Hazardous Condition Sign (W8-10).....	9B-6
9B-16. Turn and Curve Signs (W1-1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7).....	9B-7
9B-17. Intersection Signs (W2-1, 2, 3, 4, 5).....	9B-8
9B-18. Other Warning Signs.....	9B-9
9B-19. Guide Signs.....	9B-10
9B-20. Bicycle Route Sign (D11-1).....	9B-10
9B-21. Bicycle Route Marker (M1-8).....	9B-10
9B-22. Supplemental Plaques for Route Signs and Route Markers.....	9B-13
9B-23. Bicycle Parking Area Sign (D4-3).....	9B-14
C. Markings	
Section 9C-1. Functions and Limitations of Markings.....	9C-1
9C-2. General Principles.....	9C-1
9C-3. Marking Patterns and Colors.....	9C-1
9C-4. Marking of Designated Bikeways.....	9C-5
9C-5. Word Messages and Symbols Applied to the Pavement.....	9C-5
9C-6. Object Markings on Bicycle Trails.....	9C-5
D. Signals	
Section 9D-1. Application.....	9D-1
9D-2. Visibility Requirements.....	9D-1
9D-3. Signal Operation for Bicycles.....	9D-1

MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

INTRODUCTION

Traffic control devices are all signs, signals, markings, and devices placed on, over, or adjacent to a street or highway by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction to regulate, warn, or guide traffic.

The need for high uniform standards was recognized long ago. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials published a manual for rural highways in 1927 and the National Conference on Street and Highway Safety published a manual for urban streets in 1929. But the necessity for unification of the standards applicable to different classes of road and street systems was obvious. To meet this need, a joint committee of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials and the National Conference on Street and Highway Safety developed, and published in 1935, the original edition of this Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices. That committee, though changed from time to time in organization and personnel, has been in continuous existence and has been responsible for periodic revisions of the Manual, including this 1978 edition. In 1972, the Committee's name was formally changed to the National Advisory Committee (NAC) on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

In the preparation of this Manual, the National Advisory Committee has utilized its Executive Committee and its Technical Subcommittees and draws on the talents of persons in addition to its formal membership in the conduct of its work. All National Advisory Committee members and members of its subcommittees serve on a voluntary basis giving freely of their time in the Manual deliberations, both in technical subcommittee work in their home areas and at the formal meetings held each year.

Staff for the National Advisory Committee is provided by the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation. Correspondence should be addressed to the Executive Director, National Advisory Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, Federal Highway Administration, Washington, D.C. 20590.

1978 Edition

Approved Revisions

This Edition of the Manual incorporates all revisions which have been approved through official rulings issued by the Federal Highway Administrator. Most of these rulings have been previously published and widely distributed in addenda to the 1971 Manual ("MUTCD Official Rulings on Requests," Volumes I-VIII).

Symbols and Additions

This edition of the Manual continues the trend set in the previous editions toward broader use of symbols as alternatives to word messages. Also, several additions have been made to the Manual as a result of reorganization of material and the necessity for expanded treatment of some topics. These additions are traffic controls for railroad grade crossings (Part VIII) and bicycle facilities (Part IX).

Implementation

It is expected that basic uniformity will be obtained in the visible features and functioning of traffic control devices on all highways in accordance with this Manual. Implementation of standards contained in this Manual on all highways open to public travel will be governed by Federal directive.