



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Highway  
Administration**

**Minnesota Division**

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Ms. Sue Mulvihill  
Deputy Commissioner  
Minnesota Department of Transportation  
395 John Ireland Boulevard  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: MUTCD and proposed state legislation

Dear Ms. Mulvihill:

This letter is in regard to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and proposed state legislation, H.F. 2208 Community Destination Signing Program.

Per 23 C.F.R. 655.603, the MUTCD is adopted by Federal regulation as the national standard for traffic control devices on the nation's highways and streets. Consistent and uniform application of traffic control devices is an important component of a safe and efficient transportation system. 23 C.F.R. 655.603 has been enclosed for your reference.

H.F. 2208 proposes use of Community Wayfinding Signs as a means to direct traffic to retail businesses. Section 2D.50 of the MUTCD addresses Community Wayfinding signs and is clear that these are for "key civic, cultural, visitor, and recreational attractions..." The signs are intended for locations with cultural or community significance and not for establishments whose primary function is retail. Section 2D.50 has been enclosed for your reference.

The only categories of signs that allow businesses to be displayed are:

1. Specific Service signs.
2. Tourist-Oriented Directional signs.

Chapters 2J and 2K provide the requirements for these types of signs. Signs not within one of these categories are considered advertising which is prohibited on traffic control devices in the United States.

For these reasons, H.F. 2208, as currently proposed, is not compliant with the MUTCD and, by reference, 23 C.F.R 655.603. Please let us know if we can provide further clarification.

Sincerely,



Derrell E. Turner  
Division Administrator

Enclosures

WJS/alk

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DMS – #40946 – proposed state legislation MUTCD non-compliant