



# National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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Item No: 2015A.RW.01

## NCUTCD Proposal for Changes to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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9 **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:** Regulatory & Warning Signs Committee (RWSTC)

10 **ITEM NUMBER:** 2015A.RW.01

11 **TOPIC:** Movement Prohibition Signs

12 **ORIGIN OF REQUEST:** Member of NCUTCD and RW Task Force: Tom Heydel (RWSTC  
13 chair), Jim Pline, Robert Weber, Ross Oyen

14 **AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD:** Section 2B.18 Movement Prohibition Signs

### 15 **DEVELOPMENT HISTORY:**

- 16 • **Date of Action Task Force: 12/22/2014**
- 17 • **Approved by Technical Committee: 1/7/2015**
- 18 • **Sent to Sponsors: **READY FOR SPONSORS****
- 19 • **Approved by Technical Committee following sponsor comments: 00/00/0000**
- 20 • **Approved by NCUTCD Council: 00/00/0000**
- 21

22 *This is a proposal for recommended changes to the MUTCD that have been developed by*  
23 *a technical committee of the NCUTCD. The NCUTCD is distributing it to its sponsoring*  
24 *organizations for review and comment. Sponsor comments will be considered in revising*  
25 *the proposal prior to NCUTCD Council consideration. This proposal does not represent a*  
26 *revision of the MUTCD and does not constitute official MUTCD standards, guidance, or*  
27 *options. If approved by the NCUTCD Council, the recommended changes will be*  
28 *submitted to FHWA for consideration for inclusion in a future MUTCD revision. The*  
29 *MUTCD can be revised only through the federal rulemaking process.*

### 30 **SUMMARY:**

31 Section 2B.18 paragraph 03 and 04 discuss the use of the NO LEFT TURN and NO RIGHT  
32 TURN signs and that they be placed either over the roadway or at the left hand corner or right  
33 hand corner of the intersection. However the language does not provide clear direction in terms  
34 of lane use when using these signs. The photo below depicts a situation where it can be

35 confusing to the driver to see a NO LEFT and NO RIGHT TURN sign at the same tee  
36 intersection.



37  
38 (inappropriate signing shown above)

39 **DISCUSSION:**

40 What the photo above is trying to depict is that the left lane is for left turns and the right lane is  
41 for right turns. Lane use signs and markings is the way to convey this information. Sections  
42 2B.19, 2B.20, 2B.21, and 2B.22 provide information on lane use sign applications. For example,  
43 an R3-8 sign could be used or a RIGHT LANE MUST TURN RIGHT or LEFT LANE MUST  
44 TURN LEFT (R3-7) signs. Pavement markings showing lane use could be used.

45 Accordingly, section 2B.18 needs to be revised so that it is clear that turn prohibitions apply to  
46 an approach and not for a specific lane.

47

48 **RECOMMENDED MUTCD CHANGES:**

49 The following present the proposed changes to the current MUTCD within the context of the  
50 current MUTCD language. Proposed additions to the MUTCD are shown in blue underline and  
51 proposed deletions from the MUTCD are shown in ~~red strikethrough~~. Changes previously  
52 approved by NCUTCD Council (but not yet adopted by FHWA) are shown in green double  
53 underline for additions and ~~green double strikethrough~~ for deletions. In some cases, background  
54 comments may be provided with the MUTCD text. These comments are indicated by  
55 [highlighted light blue in brackets].

56 **Section 2B.18 Movement Prohibition Signs (R3-1 through R3-4, R3-18, and R3-27)**

57 **Standard:**

58 01 Except as provided in Paragraphs 11 and 13, where specific movements are prohibited,  
59 Movement Prohibition signs shall be installed.

60 *Guidance:*  
 61 02 *Movement Prohibition signs should be placed where they will be most easily seen by road*  
 62 *users who might be intending to make the movement. Movement Prohibition signs should be used*  
 63 *only when the turn prohibition applies to the intersection approach or access point Intersection*  
 64 *Lane Control signs should be used for designating turning movements from a specific lane,*  
 65 *except at signalized intersections.*

66 Support:

67 (xx) Sections 2B.19, 2B.20, 2B.21 and 2B.22 contain information regarding lane control signs  
 68 that indicate permitted turning movements from individual lanes.

69 Guidance:

70 03 *If No Right Turn (R3-1) signs (see Figure 2B-4) are used, at least one should be placed either*  
 71 *over the roadway or at a right-hand corner of the intersection.*

72 **Figure 2B-4 Movement Prohibition and Lane Control Signs and Plaques**



73 \* The diamond symbol may be used instead of the "ONLY" word message. The minimum vehicle occupancy level may vary, such as 2, 3, 4, etc. The words "LANE" or "ONLY" may be used with this sign when appropriate.

74 04 *If No Left Turn (R3-2) signs (see Figure 2B-4) are used, at least one should be placed over*  
 75 *the roadway, at the far left-hand corner of the intersection, on a median, or in conjunction with*  
 76 *the STOP sign or YIELD sign located on the near right-hand corner.*

77 05 *Except as provided in Item C of Paragraph 9 for signalized locations, if NO TURNS (R3-3)*  
 78 *signs (see Figure 2B-4) are used, two signs should be used, one at a location specified for a No*  
 79 *Right Turn sign and one at a location specified for a No Left Turn sign.*

80 06 *If No U-Turn (R3-4) signs (see Figure 2B-4) or combination No U-Turn/No Left Turn (R3-18)*  
 81 *signs (see Figure 2B-4) are used, at least one should be used at a location specified for No Left*  
 82 *Turn signs.*

83 Option:  
84 07 If both left turns and U-turns are prohibited, the combination No U-Turn/No Left Turn (R3-  
85 18) sign (see [Figure 2B-4](#)) may be used instead of separate R3-2 and R3-4 signs.

86 *Guidance:*  
87 08 *If No Straight Through (R3-27) signs (see [Figure 2B-4](#)) are used, at least one should be*  
88 *placed either over the roadway or at a location where it can be seen by road users who might be*  
89 *intending to travel straight through the intersection.*

90 09 *If turn prohibition signs are installed in conjunction with traffic control signals:*

- 91 A. *The No Right Turn sign should be installed adjacent to a signal face viewed by road*  
92 *users in the right-hand lane.*
- 93 B. *The No Left Turn (or No U-Turn or combination No U-Turn/No Left Turn) sign should be*  
94 *installed adjacent to a signal face viewed by road users in the left-hand lane.*
- 95 C. *A NO TURNS sign should be placed adjacent to a signal face viewed by all road users on*  
96 *that approach, or two signs should be used.*

97 Option:  
98 10 If turn prohibition signs are installed in conjunction with traffic control signals, an additional  
99 Movement Prohibition sign may be post-mounted to supplement the sign mounted overhead.

100 11 Where ONE WAY signs are used (see [Section 2B.40](#)), No Left Turn and No Right Turn signs  
101 may be omitted.

102 12 When the movement restriction applies during certain time periods only, the following  
103 Movement Prohibition signing alternatives may be used and are listed in order of preference:

- 104 A. Changeable message signs, especially at signalized intersections.
- 105 B. Permanently mounted signs incorporating a supplementary legend showing the hours and  
106 days during which the prohibition is applicable.
- 107 C. Portable signs, installed by proper authority, located off the roadway at each corner of the  
108 intersection. The portable signs are only to be used during the time that the movement  
109 prohibition is applicable.

110 13 Movement Prohibition signs may be omitted at a ramp entrance to an expressway or a  
111 channelized intersection where the design is such as to indicate clearly the one-way traffic  
112 movement on the ramp or turning lane.

113 **Standard:**

114 14 **The No Left Turn (R3-2) sign, the No U-Turn (R3-4) sign, and the combination No U-**  
115 **Turn/No Left Turn (R3-18) sign shall not be used at approaches to roundabouts to prohibit**  
116 **drivers from turning left onto the circulatory roadway of a roundabout.**

117 Support:  
118 15 At roundabouts, the use of R3-2, R3-4, or R3-18 signs to prohibit left turns onto the  
119 circulatory roadway might confuse drivers about the possible legal turning movements around  
120 the roundabout. Roundabout Directional Arrow (R6-4 series) signs (see Section 2B.43) and/or  
121 ONE WAY (R6-1R or R6-2R) signs are the appropriate signs to indicate the travel direction  
122 within a roundabout.

123 **RW TECH COMMITTEE VOTE: Approved 1/7/2015**

124 **For: 26**

125 **Against: 1**

126 **Abstentions: 1**

127 **RW TECH COMMITTEE VOTE FOLLOWING SPONSOR COMMENTS:**

128 **For:**

129 **Against:**

130 **Abstentions:**

131

132 **COUNCIL VOTE:**

133 **For**

134 **Against**

135 **Abstentions**

136 **C:ncutcd/January 2015/heydel/section 2B.18 movement prohibition signing, 11-16-14,**  
137 **revised 11-17-14, updated 12-21-14, revised 12-22-14, approved by RWSTC 1-8-15**

138 **READY FOR SPONSORS**

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