

MINNESOTA COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES
MAY 13, 2015 MEETING MINUTES
WATERS EDGE

Members				Guests			
Janelle Anderson	x	Howard Preston					
Chris Byrd		Mark Sehr					
Diane Colton	x	Tom Sohrweide	x				
Tiffany Dagon		Paul St. Martin					
Joe Gustafson	x	Will Stein	x				
Jon Krieg		Scott Thompson	x				
Heather Lott	x						
Tim Plath							
Scott Poska	x						

Explained Absence:

Jon Krieg
Howard Preston
Mark Sehr
Chris Byrd
Tiffany Dagon
Paul St. Martin

Unexplained Absence:

cc:

Susan Groth
Kristi Sebastian

Meeting started at 12:30 PM

Announcements

None

Business from the Floor

None

Corrections to the Minutes

None

Old Business

- 1) **FHWA Updates**.....Will Stein

Janelle spoke with Kevin Sylvester about the timing of the next version of the MUTCD. Initially the notice was to be published by June 2017. Now they are thinking that notice may be published by the end of year but are not sure at this point (50/50 chance).

Janelle is not sure if there is a draft of the MUTCD yet. Peter Buchen will be going to the national committee the third week in June and we should know more after that.

There was some discussion on the [National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices](#) – how is it organized, meeting minutes, etc. Information can be found on their webpage.

Question was asked about when the FHWA’s Standard Signs and Markings publication will be

updated. Currently there are two publications, the 2004 Edition and the 2012 Supplement. According to [the Standard Highway Signs and Markings](#) webpage:

“The contents of the 2012 Supplement will be incorporated into a new edition of *Standard Highway Signs*. This new edition will be released concurrently with the next edition of the MUTCD. This effort is programmed for 2017; however the timeline is subject to change. The new edition of *Standard Highway Signs* will contain the details for all signs and pavement markings in the MUTCD, expanded sign design guidelines, and details for symbolic traffic and lane-control signal indications.”

- 2) Requests for Experimentation UpdateJanelle Anderson
None

New Business

- 1) **Approval of Business Route Guidance**.....Heather Lott
New guidelines for Business Route Signing were approved by the TEO Signing Subcommittee (3/25/15) and the TEO Executive Committee (4/29/15).

- 2) **TEM - Chapter 6 - 2015 Update**.....Heather Lott
<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficeng/publ/tem/index.html>
Chapter 6 has been updated and is now available online. There are a significant number of updates. The biggest ones are in the figures. Changes of note:

- Figure signal drawings added
- Roundabout figure added
- Reduced conflict figure added
- Crossroad signing figures

Pavement marking information is now pulled into the signing chapter. Also new is Appendix A – Supplemental Guide Signs. The appendix is an alphabetical list of traffic generators.

- 3) **“NCUTCD Proposal for Changes to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices” - Edit #1 for review**.Janelle Anderson
Proposal is to change language in the MUTCD from “**private road** open to public travel” to “**site roadways** open to public travel” (SROPT) – See attached.

Discussion included:

- Topic affects a small number of people – not most regular users of the MUTCD.
- Seems strange that site roadways are treated differently. Why treat these differently than a 25 mph public roadway? Why treat differently based on ownership of the road?
- Will they have another category for sign sizes?
- Pavement markings sizes can be smaller because it is less than 25 mph.
- Affects mostly shopping centers, airports, universities, etc.
- Does not include the driving aisles within the parking areas.

Janelle will make some comments from MnDOT. Other comments are welcome.

- 4) **MN MUTCD 2A.23 – Shall vs Should**.....Janelle Anderson
 MN MUTCD says should, Minnesota Statute says shall. MnDOT matches the federal MUTCD as far as guidance goes. The Committee agreed to leave the MN MUTCD as is.

MN MUTCD
2A.23 Median Opening Treatments for Divided Highways with Wide Medians

GUIDANCE:

Where two roadways are separated by a median and the median width at the intersection is 30 feet or more, the intersection **should** be signed as two separate intersections. [Minnesota Statute 169.011, Subd. 36, (b)] (see Figures 2B-12 and 2B-15).

N Rev. 2

Minnesota Statute

Subd. 36. **Intersection.** (a) "Intersection" means the area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines or, if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways which join one another at, or approximately at, right angles or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict.

(b) Where a highway includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such divided highway by an intersecting highway **shall** be regarded as a separate intersection. In the event such intersecting highway also includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of two roadways of such highways shall be regarded as a separate intersection.

Federal MUTCD

Section 2A.23 Median Opening Treatments for Divided Highways with Wide Medians

Guidance:

01 Where divided highways are separated by median widths at the median opening itself of 30 feet or more, median openings **should** be signed as two separate intersections.

5) **Round Robin**

Joe Gustafson

Did we submit comments during rule making for the new MUTCD? It may be easier to comment during the rule making process than doing it afterward. Will Stein agrees – much more difficult to make changes after rules have come out.

Janelle – we will take a good look as soon as notice comes out. Text is generally in the register, figures are not.

There will be no meeting in June.

The next meeting date is Wednesday, July 8, 2015
MnDOT Waters Edge Conference Room 176 from 12:30pm to 3:00pm