

MINNESOTA COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES
SEPT. 14, 2016 MEETING MINUTES
WATERS EDGE ROOM 403

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

Explained Absence:

Tom Sohrweide
Chris Byrd
Josie Tayse
Diane Colton

Unexplained Absence:

Mark Sehr

cc:

Kristi Sebastian

Meeting started at 12:35 PM

Announcements

None

Business from the Floor

None

Corrections to the Minutes

Minutes were not attached.

Old Business

1) ***FHWA Updates***

Will Stein

Tech Memo on Hot Lanes.
What is in the current MUTCD is minimal.

Discussion:

The MnPASS Tech Memo on managed lanes is a good guidance.
Heather – Signing and pavement marking parts of the memo will be an appendix.
Figures have been modified
Typical details for pavement markings are included as an attachment.

We have good guidance for pavement markings in the TEM.

RCI Tech Memo - there is inconsistency in the field in signing across the state. The Tech memo will try to bring more consistency.

DDI – there is currently more consistency in the field. The Tech Memo will reinforce that.

Will - Cross walk markings at free rights-Will showed a couple photos of some things being tried:

- There are grooved lines along the cross walk markings for the visually impaired at skewed and/or wider intersections. This helps the visually impaired use their cane to better stay within the crosswalk.
- Option to add LED cross walk signs on both sides of free rights to get drivers' attention.
- MnDOT's Bike/ped guidance is generally not to install crosswalk pavement markings at free rights.

What about a bike lane buffer (question from Melissa Barnes)

- Dave Kirschner (from the MUTCD team) – there is no guidance in the MUTCD, it is up to the road authority. (see attachment 1-email from Dave Kirschner)
- Jon – it depends on the width of the roadway/shoulder

Heather – NCUTCD sent to ITE a list of items for interim approval.

2) ***Requests for Experimentation Update***

Janelle Anderson

Janelle provided a spreadsheet of the current requests to experiment (see Attachment 2). There are three that have yet to be approved or denied:

- Hennepin County - Two stage left turn boxes
- City of St. Paul – Bicycle signal heads used with conflicting vehicle movements
- City of St. Paul – Flashing Blank-Out LRT warning sign for the Green Line LRT (W10-7) for pedestrians.

New Business

1. *Section 2A.19 Standard compliance date language*

Heather Lott

Post-mounted sign and object marker supports shall be crashworthy (breakaway, yielding, or shielded with a longitudinal barrier or crash cushion) if within the clear zone.

Compliance Date: January 17, 2013

The compliance date applies only to those roads with posted or statutory speed limits 50 mph and greater.

There were concerns at the County Engineers Association of MN (CEAM) meeting that the standard in 2A.19 does not apply to roads with a speed limit less than 50 mph. Some argue that only structures on roads with speeds of 50 mph or greater need to be crashworthy.

Discussion:

Mark – Would like additional clarification from FHWA

Will – The road authority has great latitude in defining a clear zone.

Howard – The clear zone definition for AASHTO was originally for high speed roads.

Mark - Will put out a memo to counties and cities regarding language modification.

MCUTCD decision to add: ***All other roads with speed limits less than 50 mph are to comply through attrition.***

2. *Section 2B.39 language*

Heather Lott

Issue: Change shall to should

TABLED – will be discuss at next meeting

STANDARD:

Minnesota has adopted the PEDESTRIANS BICYCLES MOTORIZED BICYCLES NON-MOTORIZED TRAFFIC PROHIBITED (R5-10d) sign which shall be used on all exit ramps from freeways and controlled access expressways. It shall be installed between the DO NOT ENTER (R5-1) sign and the WRONG WAY (R5-1a) sign.

3. **MN only language in 6F.83.1 warning lights**

Ken Johnson

6F.83.1 Warning Lights on STOP Signs

SUPPORT:

Type A warning lights are portable, powered, red, lens-directed, enclosed lights.

STANDARD:

Warning lights shall be in accordance with the current ITE "Purchase Specification for Flashing and Steady-Burn Warning Lights" except except that they shall be red in color.

Warning lights shall flash when placed on STOP signs.

The warning lights shall be maintained according to the Type A Low-Intensity Flashing warning lights standard (see Section 6F.83).

The issue arose at the TEO Exchange meeting. There was some concern over the Minnesota only language in section 6F.83.1. Why is it only Type A lights are allowed on STOP signs – can this section of the MN MUTCD be removed?

Ken is not aware of the history of this – maybe Type B lights were too bright at night?

Some districts are using Type B warning lights on STOP signs with no problems.

Joe – wants the flexibility to use either.

Tom – LED's are super bright

MCUTCD Committee unanimously approved to remove section 6F.83.1 effective immediately.

The update will be reflected in the MN MUTCD at the next official revision.

4. **School Bus Flagger language, Section 7D**

Ken Johnson

Ken provided a draft of Section 7D proposed language changes (see attached).

There are concerns with multi-lane threats to the flagger. Discussion:

- On multi-lane roads add a provision for the use of 2 crossing guards or law enforcement.
- A bus flagger shall not control more than 2 lanes of traffic (including turn lanes).

Language revision suggestions:

- Adult crossing guards shall not over-ride a signal.
- Adult crossing guards shall be visible to all lanes they are controlling, therefore an adult crossing guard shall control no more than 2 lanes of traffic, including turn lanes.

Janelle will ask Melissa to revise the language for multi-lane roads.

5. NCITE Representative on the MCUTCD

Joe Gustafson

Joe does not advocate having an NCITE representative.

The committee discussed the history and morphing of the MCUTCD.

6. Round Robin

Heather

Section 2H.9.1 from the 2005 MN MUTCD needs to be added back in to the current MN MUTCD:

2H.9.1 Recreational or Cultural Interest Guide Signs and Symbol Signs on One Structure.

The committee agreed to add the section back in.

Joe

Flashing Yellow Arrow Signs – supposed to be temporary educational signs – are others taking them down?

Scott

Project for the State. Signing emergency alternative routes in D4 – covering the signs when not in use then uncovering when needed – any ideas? Need something easy that the SP can change

Fold up signs

CMS

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM

Next meeting scheduled for October 12th at Waters Edge is cancelled.