

Minutes: Minnesota Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

April 28, 2021 1:00 – 3:00

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendance

- Diane Colton, MnDOT
- Joe Gustafson, Washington County
- Tiffany Kautz, MnDOT
- Jon Krieg, Hennepin County
- Tim Plath, City of Eagan
- Howard Preston
- Ron Rauchle, MnDOT
- Mark Sehr, Rock County
- Tom Sohrweide, SEH
- Scott Thompson, MnDOT
- Josie Tayse, MnDOT
- HunWen Westman, City of St. Paul

Guests

- Rashmi Brewer, MnDOT

I. Membership Update/Introductions – Tiffany Kautz

II. Corrections/Updates to the Minutes – Tiffany Kautz

Corrected date from April 12 to April 14, 2021.

Corrected Mark Sehr, Rock County.

Motion to approve the minutes made by Howard Preston, seconded by Jon Krieg.

VOTE: Motion passed.

A. Comments on NPA for MCUTCD spreadsheet.

Motion to approve comments on lines 38-42 made by Howard Preston, seconded by Tom Sohrweide.

VOTE: Motion passed.

Motion to approve comment on line 24 regarding Merge with Arrow sign made by Scott Thompson, seconded by Howard Preston.

VOTE: Motion passed.

III. MN MUTCD Revision Update/Timeline, Revision 9 – Diane Colton

No updates

A. Current list:

1. Appendix C – remove Appendix C and all references to it from the MN MUTCD.
2. Figure 2M-12 – remove (was supposed to have been removed in Rev 8).
3. 2C.12 – review One-Direction Large Arrow language.

IV. Request for Experimentation Update – Tiffany Kautz

No Updates

V. Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting – Tiffany Kautz

None

VI. NPA Update/Timeline

- A. Additional Items to Review? None
- B. Topics from the City Engineers Association.

VII. NPA Topics for Discussion – Tiffany Kautz

- A. Section 2B.66- Weight limit Signs, Page 112, Line 32 – Tim Plath

The NPA proposes to move advance advisory weight limit signing with distance ahead plaques from a Guidance (recommended) to a Standard (required) which will create a financial burden on roadway authorities, especially smaller, local road authorities.

31 **Standard:**

32 **If used, the Weight Limit sign (see Figure 2B-29), with an advisory distance ahead legend, shall be**
33 **located in advance of the applicable section of highway or structure so that prohibited vehicles can**
34 **detour or turn around prior to the limit zone. Revised to incorporate Guidance below**

The FHWA properly acknowledges the proposed requirement of installing advisory signs with distance ahead plaques is a substantive revision that will have quantifiable economic impacts to road authorities, but concludes the benefits of the proposed change will be greater than the proposed costs. However, the FHWA arrives at this conclusion while stating the benefits of the change cannot be quantified. Further, the FHWA cost/benefit analysis places significant focus on weight limits at bridge locations and does not consider scenarios of weight limits being placed on linear roadway segments (*Assessment of Economic Impacts of Notice of Proposed Amendment*, FHWA, September 2020, pp. 25-26).

Although the benefits of this proposed revision cannot be quantified, FHWA believes that the benefits exceed the costs. FHWA seeks comment on this conclusion and any supporting information that could be used to quantify the benefits of this provision.

Tim: My suggested comment is, "The installation of advance advisory weight limit signing with distance ahead plaques should remain as Guidance, not a Standard, since requiring the

installation of the advisory signs will result in costs to roadway authorities for which the benefits cannot be quantified."

Discussion:

- What was written in the NPA explanation of the change doesn't match the change in the document.
- Need to clarify that the language being proposed doesn't seem to match the NPA explanation.
- We're okay with the write up because it says, "if used".

Motion to make a comment on this made by Joe Gustafson, seconded by Tim Plath.

VOTE: Motion passed

- Tiffany entered a comment on the spreadsheet.

Vote to approve the comment made on line 43 made by Tim Plath, seconded by Joe Gustafson. Note that comment will be sent with the minutes for closer review.

VOTE: Motion passed

VIII. Future Meeting

IX. Next Meeting

Next meeting is on May 12, 2021.

X. Round Robin

None

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Jon Kreig, seconded by Howard Preston.

VOTE: Motion passed

XI. Future agenda items (to be discussed after NPA):

Modification to 2D.29 – Tiffany Kautz, Josie Tayse

Add an exception (to 1st Standard, 1st paragraph) for signed township route and (maybe) National Forrest routes.

2I.5.1 Public Water Access Signs – Tiffany Kautz, Josie Tayse

Working with DNR to establish guidelines regarding sign placement. Tiffany and Josie talking with DNR about this section.

2C.27 Low Clearance Signs – HunWen Westman

- First Option in MN MUTCD states "The Low Clearance sign **should** be installed on **and** in advance of the structure. If a sign is placed on the structure, it **should** be a rectangular shape....."
- MUTCD states "The Low Clearance sign **may** be installed on **or** in advance of the structure. If a sign is placed on the structure, it **may** be a rectangular shape....."

2B.13 Speed Limit Sign (R2-1)-Tiffany Kautz

Add in Option for Citywide signs.