

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**DIVISION OF TRAFFIC OPERATIONS**

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*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

January 6, 2005

Mr. John Fisher, Chairman
California Traffic Control Devices Committee – MS36
P. O. Box 942874, Sacramento, CA-94274-0001

Dear Mr. Fisher,

On May 20, 2004, pursuant to provisions of the California Vehicle Code Section 21400 and the recommendation of the California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC), the California Department of Transportation adopted the Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) 2003 Edition as amended by the MUTCD 2003 California Supplement, to prescribe uniform standards and specifications for all official traffic control devices in California.

Adoption of the MUTCD and California Supplement makes changes in some traffic control devices in California. Most of the traffic control devices placed under the old Caltrans Traffic Manual may remain in place until the end of their useful life. However, the California Traffic Control Devices Committee has recommended that certain devices should be replaced according to specified compliance dates. These traffic control devices along with compliance dates are identified in the attached text. This text will be added to the California Supplement.

All new traffic control device installations in California after May 20, 2004, unless allowed per attached text, should be in accordance with the MUTCD 2003 as amended by the California Supplement.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Johnny Bhullar at (916) 654-7312 or via e-mail at johnny_bhullar@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gerry Meis".

GERRY MEIS

Chief

Office of Signs, Markings & Permits,

Division of Traffic Operations

John Fisher
January 6, 2005
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Attachment: MUTCD 2003 California Supplement – Introduction Amendment.

cc: Devinder Singh, Secretary, CTCDC.
Johnny Bhullar, HQ Traffic Operations

bc: Karla Sutliff, HQ Traffic Operations
Asif Haq, HQ Traffic Operations
John Hoxie, HQ Legal
Tom Persons, HQ Traffic Operations
All Office Chiefs, Traffic Operations
All DDDs for Traffic Operations
Gene Fong, FHWA
Matt Schmitz, FHWA
All CTCDC Members and Alternates

**MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES 2003
CALIFORNIA SUPPLEMENT**

INTRODUCTION

The last paragraph in Introduction part of the MUTCD 2003 California Supplement is deleted and replaced with the following:

Standard:

Unless allowed per the Option below, in cases involving new highway or bikeway construction or reconstruction, the traffic control devices installed (temporary or permanent) shall be in conformance with the MUTCD 2003 and the California Supplement to the MUTCD 2003 before that highway is opened or re-opened to the public for unrestricted travel pursuant to the California Vehicle Code 21401.

Option:

In cases involving new highway or bikeway construction or reconstruction, the traffic control devices installed (temporary or permanent) may be in accordance with pre May 20, 2004 traffic control device standards per the old Caltrans Traffic Manual, if in the judgement of the engineer, incorporating the MUTCD 2003 and the California Supplement standards would impose a significant delay or a significant increase in costs for the project.

Support:

Reconstruction, as used in the Standard and Option topics above, for the purpose of a traffic control device would mean if a particular device is modified in any form or shape or is relocated. If a reconstruction project does not modify or relocate a traffic control device, although encouraged, there would be no obligation to upgrade the traffic control device per MUTCD 2003 and the California Supplement standards.

Standard:

Unless allowed per the option below, non-compliant traffic control devices on existing highways and bikeways shall be brought into compliance with the MUTCD 2003 and the California Supplement as part of the systematic upgrading of substandard traffic control devices (and installation of new required traffic control devices) required pursuant to the California Vehicle Code 21401.

Option:

All traffic control devices on existing highways and bikeways that have become non-compliant per MUTCD 2003 and the California Supplement adopted standards may remain in service through the end of their useful service life, unless identified specifically with a target compliance date per the list that follows.

To limit financial impact on agencies and for fiscal responsibility reasons, existing inventory of non-compliant traffic control devices may continue to be used until these inventories are depleted.

Standard:

The target compliance dates listed in the Introduction part of the MUTCD are deleted and shall not apply in California.

The following traffic control devices on existing highways that are non-compliant per the MUTCD 2003 and the California Supplement have been singled out for specific target compliance dates by the California Traffic Control Devices Committee and California Department of Transportation. The target compliance dates for these devices shall be as follows:

CA Code	Title/Description	Comment	Target Date
R16B	NO RIGHT TURN word message sign	Use MUTCD R3-1 No Right Turn symbol sign	January 1, 2010

R17B	NO LEFT TURN word message sign	Use MUTCD R3-2 No Left Turn symbol sign	January 1, 2010
R19	NO LEFT OR U TURN word message sign	Use MUTCD R3-18 No Left or U Turn symbol sign	January 1, 2010
R34A	No U TURN word message sign	Use MUTCD R3-4 No U Turn symbol sign	January 1, 2010
SR2-M	SPEED LIMIT 35 mph 56 km/h sign	1976 Metric sign never implemented	January 1, 2007
SR3-M	END 35 mph 56 km/h SPEED LIMIT sign	1976 Metric sign never implemented	January 1, 2007
SR24-1	STOP ON RED SIGNAL word message sign	Use MUTCD R10-6 STOP HERE ON RED with arrow sign	January 1, 2010
SR31	SCHOOL STOP CROSSING round shape Paddle	Use CA Code C28A octagon shape Paddle	January 1, 2010
SR36	CLOSED Red on White octagon shape sign	Use MUTCD R11-2 ROAD CLOSED sign	January 1, 2010
W54	Pedestrian Crossing Symbol with crosswalk lines	Use MUTCD W11-2 Pedestrian Crossing symbol without crosswalk lines & W16-7P diagonal downward pointing arrow plaque	January 1, 2011
W66	School Crossing Symbol with crosswalk lines	Use MUTCD S1-1 School Crossing symbol without crosswalk lines & W16-7P diagonal downward pointing arrow plaque	January 1, 2011
W66A	SCHOOL XING word message sign	Use MUTCD S1-1 School Crossing symbol without crosswalk lines & W16-7P diagonal downward pointing arrow plaque	January 1, 2011
SW1-1	TRAFFIC FROM RIGHT(LEFT) DOES NOT STOP with arrow sign	Use MUTCD W4-4P CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP plaque without the arrow	January 1, 2007
SW6-M	40 mph - 64 km/h sign	1976 Metric sign never implemented	January 1, 2007
SW18-2.1	VERTICAL CLEARANCE ___ FT. ___ IN.	Use MUTCD W12-2 Low Clearance sign or W12-2P rectangular plaque	January 1, 2010
SW25	School Symbol - SCHOOL XING with crosswalk lines	Use MUTCD S1-1 School Crossing symbol without crosswalk lines & W16-7P diagonal downward pointing arrow plaque	January 1, 2011
SW27	Skewed RR Crossing symbol with Motorcycle symbol sign	Use MUTCD W10-12 Skewed Crossing symbol sign	January 1, 2015
SW27-1	Skewed RR Crossing symbol with Motorcycle & Bike symbol sign	Use MUTCD W10-12 Skewed Crossing symbol sign	January 1, 2015
SW28	STEEL DECK with Motorcycle symbol sign	Use modified CA Code SW28 STEEL BRIDGE DECK word message sign	January 1, 2015
SW72-M	EXIT 30 mph 48 km/h sign	1976 Metric sign never implemented	January 1, 2007

Figure I-101 California Signs with Target Compliance Dates



CA Code R16B
Black/White
January 1, 2010



CA Code R17B
Black/White
January 1, 2010



CA Code R19
Black/White
January 1, 2010



CA Code R34A
Black/White
January 1, 2010



CA Code SR2-M
Black/White
January 1, 2007



CA Code SR3-M
Black/White
January 1, 2007



CA Code SR24-1
Black/White
January 1, 2010



CA Code SR31
White/Red
January 1, 2010



CA Code SR36
Red & White/White
January 1, 2010



CA Code W54
Black/Yellow
January 1, 2011



CA Code W66
Black/Yellow
January 1, 2011



CA Code W66A
Black/Yellow
January 1, 2011



January 1, 2007



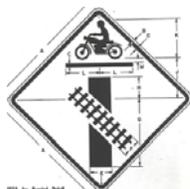
CA Code SW6-M
Black/Yellow
January 1, 2007



CA Code SW18-1
January 1, 2010



CA Code SW25
Black/Yellow
January 1, 2011



CA Code SW27
Black/Yellow
January 1, 2015



CA Code SW27-1
Black/Yellow
January 1, 2015



CA Code SW28
Black/Yellow
January 1, 2015



CA Code SW72-M
Black/Yellow
January 1, 2007