



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

September 13, 2011

CIRCULAR LETTER 2011-14

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT FOR MUTCD COMPLIANCE DATES

COUNTY ENGINEERS/SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS/DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS/MAYORS
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

On August 31, 2011, a Notice of Proposed Amendments (NPA) was published in the Federal Register, proposing to revise most of the target compliance dates contained in Table I-2 (see attached) of the 2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for upgrading existing traffic control devices in the field that do not meet the current MUTCD standards. The deadline for comments to the docket is October 31, 2011. The Federal Register notice, which provides detailed discussion of the FHWA's proposal, can be viewed at:

www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-08-31/pdf/2011-22006.pdf

Mail or hand-deliver comments to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Dockets Management Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20590; submit electronically at www.regulations.gov; or fax comments to (202) 493-2251. All comments should include the docket number that appears in the heading of the NPA document.

While this NPA would impact retroreflectivity compliance dates if adopted as published, the minimum retroreflectivity requirement for regulatory, warning, guide, and street name signs would not change. Therefore, the department recommends that agencies continue to develop sign management or assessment methods and begin replacing non-compliant signs accordingly.

Please contact the Local Policy and Technology Unit at dot.localpolicy@illinois.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darrell Lewis".

Darrell W. Lewis, P. E.
Acting Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

Attachment

Table I-2. Target Compliance Dates Established by the FHWA

2009 MUTCD Section Number(s)	2009 MUTCD Section Title	Specific Provision	Compliance Date
2A.08	<u>Maintaining</u> Minimum Retroreflectivity Levels	Implementation and continued use of an assessment or management method that is designed to maintain traffic <u>regulatory and warning</u> sign retroreflectivity at or above the established minimum levels (<u>see Paragraph 2</u>)	January 22, 2012 (c) <u>2 years from the effective date of this revision of the 2009 MUTCD</u>
2A.08	Minimum Retroreflectivity Levels	Replacement of regulatory, warning, and post-mounted guide (except street name) signs that are identified using the assessment or management method as failing to meet the established minimum levels	January 22, 2015 (c)
2A.08	Minimum Retroreflectivity Levels	Replacement of street name signs and overhead guide signs that are identified using the assessment or management method as failing to meet the established minimum levels.	January 22, 2018 (c)
2A.19	Lateral Offset	Crashworthiness of sign supports on roads with posted speed limit of 50 mph or higher (<u>see Paragraph 2</u>)	January 17, 2013 (a) (<u>date established in the 2000 MUTCD</u>)
2B.03	Size of Regulatory Signs	Increased sign sizes and other 2003 MUTCD revisions to Table 2B-1 (*)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2B.09	YIELD Sign Applications	Changes in YIELD sign application criteria from the 1988 MUTCD to the 2003 MUTCD (*)	January 17, 2011 (a)
2B.10	STOP Sign or YIELD Sign Placement	Signs mounted on the back of STOP or YIELD signs should not obscure shape of STOP sign, with exception for DO NOT ENTER signs (2003 MUTCD Sections 2B.06 and 2B.10) (*)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2B.11	Yield Here To Pedestrians Signs and Stop Here For Pedestrians Signs (R1-5 Series)	New Section 2B.11 in the 2003 MUTCD (*)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2B.13	Speed Limit Sign (R2-1)	Color of changeable message legend of YOUR SPEED legend	December 22, 2013 (b)
2B.26	Reversible Lane Control Signs (R3-9e through R3-9i)	Removal of the R3-9c and R3-9e signs that had been included in the 2000 MUTCD (2003 MUTCD Section 2B.25)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2B.40	ONE WAY Signs (R6-1, R6-2)	New requirements in the 2009 MUTCD for the number and locations of ONE WAY signs (<u>see Paragraphs 4, 9, and 10</u>)	December 31, 2019
2B.55	Photo Enforced Signs and Plaques (R10-18, R10-19P, R10-19aP)	New signs (2003 MUTCD Section 2B.46) (*)	December 22, 2013 (b)

2C.04	Size of Warning Signs	New sizes in the 2003 MUTCD for the W1 Series arrow signs, the W12-2a low clearance signs, the W7 Series runaway truck signs, and the W10-1 advance grade crossing sign (*)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.06 through 2C.14	Horizontal Alignment Warning Signs	Revised requirements in the 2009 MUTCD regarding the use of various horizontal alignment signs (see Table 2C-5)	December 31, 2019
2C.13	Truck Rollover Warning Sign (W1-13)	New W1-13 sign (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.11)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.20	NARROW BRIDGE Sign (W5-2)	Elimination of symbol sign (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.16)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.30	PAVEMENT ENDS Sign (W8-3)	Removal of symbol sign (2000 MUTCD Section 2C.23)	January 17, 2011 (a)
2C.38	Reduced Speed Limit Ahead Signs (W3-5, W3-5a)	Removal of R2-5 Series Reduced Speed Ahead signs and use of W3-5 or W3-5a warning signs instead (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.30)	December 22, 2018 (b)
2C.40	Merge Signs (W4-1, W4-5)	New Entering Roadway Merge sign (W4-5) (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.31)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.41	Added Lane Signs (W4-3, W4-6)	New Entering Roadway Added Lane sign (W4-6) (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.32)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.42	Lane Ends Signs (W4-2, W9-1, W9-2)	New design of W4-2 sign (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.33)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.46	Intersection Warning Signs (W2-1 through W2-8)	New design of Circular Intersection (W2-6) sign (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.37)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.49	Vehicular Traffic Warning Signs	New symbol signs W11-1, W11-5, W11-5a, W11-6, W11-11, and W11-14 (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.40)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.50	Non-Vehicular Warning Signs	Elimination of crosswalk lines from crossing signs and use of diagonal downward pointing arrow (W16-7P) supplemental plaque if at the crossing (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.41)	January 17, 2011 (a)(b)
2C.61	Photo-Enforced Plaque (W16-10P)	New plaque (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.53) (*)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.63	Object Marker Design and Placement Height	Width of stripes on Type 3 striped marker (2003 MUTCD Section 3C.01)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2D.43	Street Name Signs (D3-1 or D3-1a)	6-inch letter height for lettering on post-mounted Street Name signs (except on multi-lane streets with speed limits greater than 40 mph) (2000 MUTCD Section 2D.38)	January 9, 2012 (a)
2D.43	Street Name Signs (D3-1 or D3-1a)	8-inch letter height on post-mounted signs on multi-lane streets with speed limits greater than 40 mph and 12-inch letter height on overhead signs (2003 MUTCD Section 2D.38)	December 22, 2018 (b)

2D.44	Advance Street Name Signs (D3-2)	Requirements of new Section 2D.39 in the 2003 MUTCD-	December 22, 2018 (b)
2D.45	Signing on Conventional Roads on Approaches to Interchanges	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD for multi-lane approaches to interchanges to have guide signs to identify which direction of turn is to be made for access to each direction of the freeway or expressway	December 31, 2019
2E.31, 2E.33, and 2E.36	Plaques for Left-Hand Exits	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD to use E1-5aP and E1-5bP plaques for left-hand exits	December 31, 2014
2G.01 through 2G.07	Regulatory Signs for Preferential Lanes	Requirements for regulatory signs for preferential lanes (2003 MUTCD Sections 2B.26 through 2B.28) (*)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2G.11 through 2G.15	Preferential Lane Guide Signs	New Section 2E.59 in the 2003 MUTCD (*)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2H.02, 2H.03	Reference Location Signs, Intermediate Reference Location Signs, and Enhanced Reference Location Signs	Location and spacing of Reference Location signs and design of Intermediate Reference Location signs (2003 MUTCD Sections 2D.46 and 2E.54)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2I.07	Radio Information Signing	New Channel 9 Monitored (D12-3) sign (2003 MUTCD Section 2D.45)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2I.08	TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 Signs (D12-5 and D12-5a)	New TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 Sign (D12-5) (2003 MUTCD Section 2D.45)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2J.05	Size of Lettering	Minimum height of letters and numerals on Specific Service signs (2000 MUTCD Section 2F.05)	January 17, 2011 (a)
2N.03	Evacuation Route Signs (EM-1 and EM-1a)	New design and size of EM-1 sign (2003 MUTCD Section 2I.03)	December 22, 2018 (b)
3B.04, 3B.05	White Longitudinal Pavement Markings	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD for dotted lane lines for dropped lanes and for acceleration, deceleration, and auxiliary lanes	December 31, 2016 or resurfacing, whichever occurs first
3B.18	Crosswalk Markings	Gap between transverse lines of a crosswalk (2003 MUTCD Section 3B.17)	December 22, 2013 (b)
4D.01	General	Location of signalized midblock crosswalks	December 22, 2013 (b)
4D.26	Yellow Change and Red Clearance Intervals	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD that durations of yellow change and red clearance intervals shall be determined using engineering practices (see Paragraphs 3 and 6)	December 31, 2014 5 years from the effective date of this revision of the 2009 MUTCD , or when timing adjustments are made to the individual intersection and/or corridor, whichever occurs first

4D.31	Flashing Operation— Transition Out of Flashing Mode	Duration of steady red clearance interval in change from red-red flashing mode to steady (stop-and-go) mode (2003 MUTCD Section 4D.12)	December 22, 2013 (b)
4E.06	Pedestrian Intervals and Signal Phases	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD that the pedestrian change interval shall not extend into the red clearance interval and shall be followed by a buffer interval of at least 3 seconds (see Paragraph 4)	December 31, 2014 5 years from the effective date of this revision of the 2009 MUTCD , or when timing adjustments are made to the individual intersection and/or corridor, whichever occurs first
4E.07	Countdown-Pedestrian Signals	Pedestrian countdown hardware requirements	December 22, 2013 (b)
5C.05	NARROW BRIDGE Sign (W5-2)	Elimination of symbol sign	December 22, 2013 (b)
6D.03*	Worker Safety Considerations	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD that all workers within the right-of-way shall wear high-visibility apparel (see Paragraphs 4, 6, and 7)	December 31, 2011
6E.02*	High-Visibility Safety Apparel	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD that all flaggers within the right-of-way shall wear high-visibility apparel	December 31, 2011
7B.11	School Advance-Crossing Assembly	Use of AHEAD (W16-9P) plaque or distance plaque (W16-2P or W16-2aP) (2000 MUTCD Section 7B.08)	January 17, 2011 (a)
7B.12	School Crossing-Assembly	Elimination of crosswalk lines from crossing signs and use of diagonal downward pointing arrow (W16-7P) supplemental plaque (2000 MUTCD Sections 7B.08 and 7B.09)	January 17, 2011 (a)
7B.16	Reduced School Speed Limit Ahead Sign (S4-5, S4-5a)	Removal of R2-5 Series Reduced Speed Ahead signs and use of S4-5 or S4-5a warning signs instead (2003 MUTCD Section 7B.12)	December 22, 2018 (b)
7D.04*	Uniform of Adult Crossing Guards	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD for high-visibility apparel for adult crossing guards	December 31, 2011
8B.03, 8B.04	Grade Crossing (Crossbuck) Signs (R15-1) and Number of Tracks Plaque (R15-2P) at Active and Passive Grade Crossings Supports	Retroreflective strip on Crossbuck sign and support (2000 MUTCD Section 8B.02) (*) (see Paragraph 7 in Section 8B.03 and Paragraphs 15 and 18 in Section 8B.04)	January 17, 2011 (a) December 31, 2019

8B.04	Crossbuck Assemblies with YIELD or STOP Signs at Passive Grade Crossings	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD for the use of STOP or YIELD signs with Crossbuck signs at passive grade crossings	December 31, 2019
8B.19 and 8C.02 through 8C.05	LRT Approaching-Activated Blank-Out Warning Sign, Flashing Light Signals, and Automatic Gates	Automatic gates, flashing light signals, and blank-out signs at highway-LRT crossings per Part 10 of the 2000 MUTCD (*)	January 17, 2011 (a)
8C.09	Traffic Control Signals at or Near Highway-Rail Grade Crossings	Pre-signals (2003 MUTCD Section 8D.07)	December 22, 2013 (b)
8C.12	Grade Crossings Within or In Close Proximity to Circular Intersections	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD for study of grade crossings near roundabouts	December 31, 2014
9B.18	Bicycle Warning and Combined Bicycle/Pedestrian Signs (W11-1 and W11-15)	Elimination of crosswalk lines from crossing signs and use of diagonal downward pointing arrow (W16-7P) supplemental plaque if at the crossing (2000 MUTCD Section 9B.15)	January 17, 2011 (a)

* MUTCD requirement is a result of a congressional mandate.

Notes: All compliance dates occurring after January 31, 2011 that were previously published in the MUTCD and that do not appear in this table have been deleted.

Unless otherwise noted, dates are as established in the Final Rule for the 2009 MUTCD.

(a) Date established in the Final Rule for the 2000 MUTCD

(b) Date established in the Final Rule for the 2003 MUTCD

(c) Date established in the Final Rule for Revision 2 of the 2003 MUTCD

(*) Provisions may have been revised in the 2009 MUTCD