January 6, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Fisher,


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,

GERRY MEIS
Chief
Office of Signs, Markings & Permits,
Division of Traffic Operations

"Caltrans improves mobility across California"
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

"Caltrans improves mobility across California"
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CA Code</th>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Comment</th>
<th>Target Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R16B</td>
<td>NO RIGHT TURN word message sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD R3-1 No Right Turn symbol sign</td>
<td>January 1, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>New Signage/Implementation</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R17B</td>
<td>NO LEFT TURN word message sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD R3-2 No Left Turn symbol sign</td>
<td>January 1, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R19</td>
<td>NO LEFT OR U TURN word message sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD R3-18 No Left or U Turn symbol sign</td>
<td>January 1, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R34A</td>
<td>No U TURN word message sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD R3-4 No U Turn symbol sign</td>
<td>January 1, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR2-M</td>
<td>SPEED LIMIT 35 mph 56 km/h sign</td>
<td>1976 Metric sign never implemented</td>
<td>January 1, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR3-M</td>
<td>END 35 mph 56 km/h SPEED LIMIT sign</td>
<td>1976 Metric sign never implemented</td>
<td>January 1, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR24-1</td>
<td>STOP ON RED SIGNAL word message sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD R10-6 STOP HERE ON RED with arrow sign</td>
<td>January 1, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR31</td>
<td>SCHOOL STOP CROSSING round shape Paddle</td>
<td>Use CA Code C28A octagon shape Paddle</td>
<td>January 1, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR36</td>
<td>CLOSED Red on White octagon shape sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD R11-2 ROAD CLOSED sign</td>
<td>January 1, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W54</td>
<td>Pedestrian Crossing Symbol with crosswalk lines</td>
<td>Use MUTCD W11-2 Pedestrian Crossing symbol without crosswalk lines &amp; W16-7P diagonal downward pointing arrow plaque</td>
<td>January 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W66</td>
<td>School Crossing Symbol with crosswalk lines</td>
<td>Use MUTCD S1-1 School Crossing symbol without crosswalk lines &amp; W16-7P diagonal downward pointing arrow plaque</td>
<td>January 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W66A</td>
<td>SCHOOL XING word message sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD S1-1 School Crossing symbol without crosswalk lines &amp; W16-7P diagonal downward pointing arrow plaque</td>
<td>January 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW1-1</td>
<td>TRAFFIC FROM RIGHT(LEFT) DOES NOT STOP with arrow sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD W4-4P CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP plaque without the arrow</td>
<td>January 1, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW6-M</td>
<td>40 mph - 64 km/h sign</td>
<td>1976 Metric sign never implemented</td>
<td>January 1, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW18-2.1</td>
<td>VERTICAL CLEARANCE FT. IN.</td>
<td>Use MUTCD W12-2 Low Clearance sign or W12-2P rectangular plaque</td>
<td>January 1, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW25</td>
<td>School Symbol - SCHOOL XING with crosswalk lines</td>
<td>Use MUTCD S1-1 School Crossing symbol without crosswalk lines &amp; W16-7P diagonal downward pointing arrow plaque</td>
<td>January 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW27</td>
<td>Skewed RR Crossing symbol with Motorcycle symbol sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD W10-12 Skewed Crossing symbol sign</td>
<td>January 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW27-1</td>
<td>Skewed RR Crossing symbol with Motorcycle &amp; Bike symbol sign</td>
<td>Use MUTCD W10-12 Skewed Crossing symbol sign</td>
<td>January 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW28</td>
<td>STEEL DECK with Motorcycle symbol sign</td>
<td>Use modified CA Code SW28 STEEL BRIDGE DECK word message sign</td>
<td>January 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW72-M</td>
<td>EXIT 30 mph 48 km/h sign</td>
<td>1976 Metric sign never implemented</td>
<td>January 1, 2007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

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

CA Code SW2-M Black/Yellow  January 1, 2010

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