CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 Table Comparisons (Draft)



The National MUTCD 2023 is published by Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) under 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 655, Subpart F. On December 19, 2023, a Final Rule adopting the National MUTCD 2023 was published in the Federal Register with an effective date of January 18, 2024. States must adopt the National MUTCD as their legal State standard for traffic control devices within two years from the effective date.

Caltrans began the process to review National MUTCD 2023 for adoption in California by soliciting CA MUTCD practitioners statewide to form 10 Subject Matter Expert (SME) Workgroups based on the individual Parts of the MUTCD. Each SME Workgroup conducted weekly/bi-weekly review meetings to discuss changes in the National MUTCD 2023 and compare them with current California MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 to assess potential impacts of adopting these changes in California. SME Workgroup members provided comments and recommendations to Caltrans, to assist with the development of these initial draft documents. Caltrans is preparing the initial draft version of CA MUTCD 2026 to revise California MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 (current) to be in substantial conformance with FHWA's National MUTCD 2023 (11th Edition). Initial draft chapters of CA MUTCD 2026, as they are completed, are being posted on the webpage and open to public for review and providing comments.

This "Table Comparisons" document has been prepared by Caltrans to share the changes that are reflected in CA MUTCD 2026 initial draft version tables, when compared to National MUTCD 2023 tables, as well as current CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 tables (which were based on National MUTCD 2009). This document identifies California specific tables that are incorporated into CA MUTCD 2026 initial draft version and tables that are not incorporated and provides brief explanation, if they aren't incorporated. This document is being provided for ease in comparison, when reviewing CA MUTCD 2026 initial draft.

Though every effort has been made by Caltrans to ensure accuracy of this document, the inherent variances between National MUTCD and California MUTCD, along with moving of contents and reorganization undertaken by FHWA in the National MUTCD 2023, there may be unintentional errors or omissions in this document or some contents may have been overlooked.

Reference documents and information related to California's National MUTCD 2023 review and adoption efforts is available at the following websites:

- National MUTCD 2023 https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/
- California MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/camutcd
- National MUTCD 2023 review (including CA MUTCD 2026 Drafts) https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/camutcd/nmutcd

Table changes reflected in CA MUTCD 2026 initial draft version, when compared to current CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 and National MUTCD 2023, are provided as follows:

- ▶ Blue text, "X" and/or blue rectangle and Blue highlighted text Revisions to National MUTCD 2009 Tables in current CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 that continue to be applicable to National MUTCD 2023 Tables, are being retained and shown with markups with text comments added for explanation.
- Green text and/or green rectangle and Green highlighted text Changes in National MUTCD 2023 Tables, when compared to current CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 Tables (which were based on National MUTCD 2009) are shown with markups and text comments are added for explanation.
- Red text, black text with red strikethrough, "X" and/or red rectangle and Red highlighted text New changes that are being proposed for the National MUTCD 2023 tables or current CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 tables are shown with markups and text comments are added for explanation. These changes are new, some of them are needed due to the changes in National MUTCD 2023, while others are based on current SME Workgroup member reviews and recommendations to improve CA MUTCD.



Table 1A-1. Acceptable Abbreviations

Word Message	Standard Abbreviation	
Afternoon / Evening	PM	
Alternate	ALT	
AM Radio	AM	
Avenue	AVE, AV	
Bicycle	BIKE	
Boulevard	BLVD*	
Bridge	(See Table 1A-2)	
CB Radio	СВ	
Center (as part of a place name)	CTR	
Circle	CIR*	
Civil Defense	CD	
Compressed Natural Gas	CNG	
Court	CT*	
Crossing (other than highway-rail)	X-ING	
Drive	DR*	
East	E	
Electric Vehicle	EV	
Expressway	EXPWY*	
Feet	FT	
FM Radio	FM	
Freeway	FRWY, FWY*	
Friday	FRI	
Hazardous Material	HAZMAT	
High Occupancy Vehicle	HOV	

Word Message	Standard Abbreviation	
Highway	HWY*	
Hospital	HOSP	
Hour(s)	HR, HRS	
Information	INFO	
Inherently Low Emission Vehicle	ILEV	
International	INTL	
Interstate	(See Table 1A-2)	
Junction / Intersection	JCT	
Lane	(See Table 1A-2)	
Liquid Propane Gas	LP-GAS	
Maximum	MAX	
Mile(s)	MI	
Miles Per Hour	MPH	
Minimum	MIN	
Minute(s)	MIN	
Monday	MON	
Morning / Late Night	AM	
Mount	MT	
Mountain	MTN	
National	NATL	
North	N	
Parkway	PKWY*	
Pedestrian	PED	
Place	PL*	

Word Message	Standard Abbreviation	
Pounds	LBS	
Road	RD*	
Saint	ST	
Saturday	SAT	
South	S	
State, county, or other non-US or non-Interstate numbered route	(See Table 1A-2)	
Street	ST*	
Sunday	SUN	
Telephone	PHONE	
Temporary	TEMP	
Terrace	TER*	
Thursday	THURS	
Thruway	THWY*	
Tons of Weight	Т	
Trail	TR*	
Tuesday	TUES	
Turnpike	TPK*	
Two-Way Intersection	2-WAY	
US Numbered Route	US	
Wednesday	WED	
West	W	

^{*}This abbreviation shall not be used for any application other than the name of a roadway.

Summary of Comments on CA MUTCD Rev 8

Page: 1

Number: 1 Author: s116730Subject: Sticky Note Refer to NMUTCD 2023 Table 1D-1

Date: 6/6/2024 7:45:47 AM

Table 1A-2. Abbreviations That Shall be Used Only on Portable Changeable Message Signs

Word Message	Standard Abbreviation	Prompt Word That Should Precede the Abbreviation	Prompt Word That Should Follow the Abbreviation
Access	ACCS		Road
Ahead	AHD	Fog	_
Blocked	BLKD	Lane	_
Bridge	BR*	[Name]	_
Cannot	CANT		_
Center	CNTR	_	Lane
Chemical	CHEM		Spill
Condition	COND	Traffic	——————————————————————————————————————
Congested	CONG	Traffic	_
Construction	CONST	—	Ahead
	XING	_	Alleau
Crossing Do Not	DONT	_	
Downtown	DWNTN	_	Traffic
Eastbound	E-BND	_	
Emergency	EMER	_	_
Entrance, Enter	ENT	_	
Exit	EX	Next	_
Express	EXP	_	Lane
Frontage	FRNTG	_	Road
Hazardous	HAZ	_	Driving
Highway-Rail Grade Crossing	RR XING	_	
Interstate	-*	_	[Number]
It Is	ITS		[realiser]
_ane	LN	[Roadway Name]*,Right, Left, Center	
		[hoadway Name] ,hight, Left, Center	
Left	LFT	_	
Local	LOC	_	Traffic
Lower	LWR	_	Level
Maintenance	MAINT	_	_
Major	MAJ	_	Accident
Minor	MNR		Accident
Normal	NORM	_	_
Northbound	N-BND	_	_
Oversized	OVRSZ	_	Load
Parking	PKING	_	_
Pavement	PVMT	Wet	_
Prepare	PREP		To Stop
Quality	QLTY	Air	_
Right	RT	Keep, Next	
Right	RT	Neep, Next	
nigni. Roadwork	RDWK	_	Lane
			Ahead, [Distance]
Route	RT, RTE	Best	
Service	SERV	_	
Shoulder	SHLDR	_	_
Slippery	SLIP		
Southbound	S-BND	_	_
Speed	SPD	_	_
State, county, or other non-US or non-Interstate numbered route	[Route Abbreviation determined by highway agency]**	_	[Number]
Tires With Lugs	LUGS	_	_
Traffic	TRAF		_
Travelers	TRVLRS	_	
Two-Wheeled Vehicles	CYCLES	_	_
Upper	UPR	_	Level
Vehicle(s)	VEH, VEHS	_	_
Warning	WARN	_	
Westbound	W-BND	_	_
Will Not	WONT		

^{*} This abbreviation, when accompanied by the prompt word, may be used on traffic control devices other than portable changeable message signs.

^{**} A space and no dash shall be placed between the abbreviation and the number of the route.

Number: 1 Author: s116730Subject: Sticky Note Refer to NMUTCD 2023 Table 1D-2

Date: 6/6/2024 7:46:28 AM

1

Table 1A-3. Unacceptable Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Intended Word	Common Misinterpretation	
ACC	Accident	Access (Road)	
CLRS	Clears Colors		
DLY	Delay	Daily	
FDR	Feeder	Federal	
L	Left	Lane (Merge)	
LT	Light (Traffic)	Left	
PARK	Parking	Park	
POLL	Pollution (Index)	Poll	
RED	Reduce	Red	
STAD	Stadium	Standard	
WRNG	Warning	Wrong	

Number: 1 Author: s116730Subject: Sticky Note Refer to NMUTCD 2023 Table 1D-3

Date: 6/6/2024 7:46:43 AM