National MUTCD 2023 Figure 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 "Figure Comparisons" document has been prepared by Caltrans to share the changes that are reflected in CA MUTCD 2026 initial draft version figures, when compared to National MUTCD 2023 figures, as well as current CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 figures (which were based on National MUTCD 2009). This document identifies California specific figures that are incorporated into CA MUTCD 2026 initial draft version and figures 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.

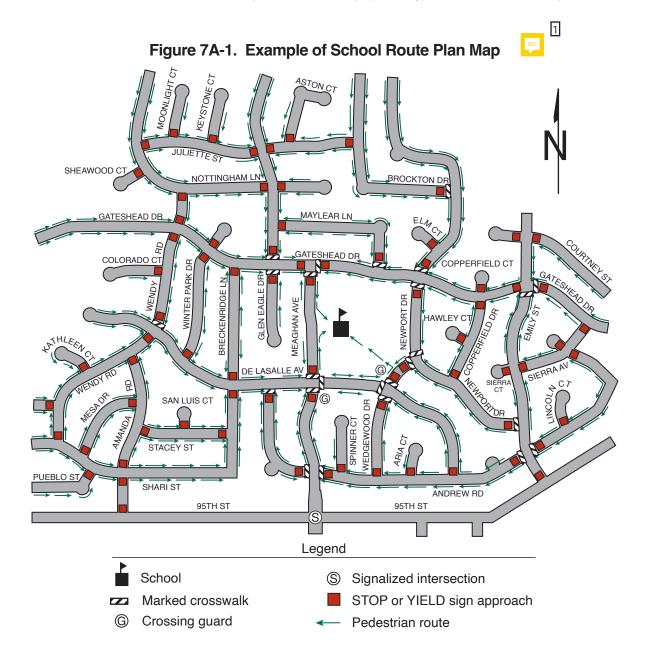
Though every effort has been made by Caltrans to ensure accuracy of this document, the inherent variances between National MUTCD and California MUTCD, along with moving of contents and reorganization undertaken by FHWA in the National MUTCD 2023, there may be unintentional errors or omissions in this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

Figure 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 ___ Revisions to National MUTCD 2009 Figures in current CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 that continue to be applicable to National MUTCD 2023 Figures, are being retained and shown with markups with text comments added for explanation.
- Green text and/or green rectangle and Yellow highlighted text Changes in National MUTCD 2023 Figures, when compared to current CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 Figures (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 New changes that are being proposed for the National MUTCD 2023 figures or current CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 8 figures 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.



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Summary of Comments on NMUTCD 2023 7A Fig (Compare) Comm Pg.pdf

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No change in NMUTCD 2023 Figure, when comparing to CA MUTCD 2014R8 (NMUTCD 2009) Figure. This figure is included in CA MUTCD 2026.