

# California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

FHWA's MUTCD 2009 Edition, including Revisions 1,2,&3 as amended for use in California.

## 2014 Edition

Revision 9

State of California  
California State Transportation Agency  
Department of Transportation



The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) is approved by the Federal Highway Administrator as the National Standard in accordance with Title 23 U.S. Code, Sections 109(d), 114(a), 217, 315, and 402(a), 23 CFR 655, and 49 CFR 1.48(b)(8), 1.48(b)(33), and 1.48(c)(2).

The California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (California MUTCD) is published by the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and is issued to adopt uniform standards and specifications for all official traffic control devices, in accordance with Section 21400 of the California Vehicle Code.

This manual is current as of the date of publication on the footer page. However, it may be necessary from time to time to modify, change or adopt new standards and specifications for traffic control devices and/or issue errata or editorial changes to the manual. To ensure that the traffic control device practitioner is accessing the most current information regarding traffic control device topics for California, the practitioner is advised to always reference the California MUTCD web site.

The California MUTCD, California Sign Specifications and other publications and related current information is available on the Internet at the following web link:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs>

#### Addresses for Publications Referenced in the California MUTCD

American Automobile Association (AAA)  
1000 AAA Drive  
Heathrow, FL 32746  
calstate.aaa.com  
800-222-4357

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 249  
Washington, DC 20001  
www.transportation.org  
202-624-5800

American National Standards Institute (ANSI)  
1819 L Street, NW, 6th floor  
Washington, DC 20036  
www.ansi.org  
202-293-8020

American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA)  
10003 Derekwood Lane, Suite 210  
Lanham, MD 20706  
www.arema.org  
301-459-3200

California Building Standards Code  
International Conference of Building Officials  
5360 South Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601  
www.icbo.org  
916-263-0916

California Code Publications &  
California Law  
<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes.xhtml>

California Department of Transportation Publications  
Publications Distribution Unit  
1900 Royal Oaks Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95815-3800  
<http://caltrans-opac.ca.gov/publicat.htm>  
916-263-0822

California Vehicle Code  
Department of Motor Vehicles  
Sacramento, California  
<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/pubs.htm>  
800-777-0133

Federal Highway Administration Report Center  
Facsimile number: 814-239-2156  
[report.center@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:report.center@fhwa.dot.gov)

Illuminating Engineering Society (IES)  
120 Wall Street, Floor 17  
New York, NY 10005  
[www.iesna.org](http://www.iesna.org)  
212-248-5000

Institute of Makers of Explosives  
1120 19th Street, NW, Suite 310  
Washington, DC 20036-3605  
[www.ime.org](http://www.ime.org)  
202-429-9280

Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)  
1099 14th Street, NW, Suite 300 West  
Washington, DC 20005-3438  
[www.ite.org](http://www.ite.org)  
202-785-0060

International Organization for Standardization  
1, ch. de la Voie-Creuse  
Case Postale 56  
CH-1211  
Geneva 20, Switzerland  
[www.iso.ch](http://www.iso.ch)  
011-41-22-749-0111

International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA)  
1901 North Moore Street, Suite 808  
Arlington, VA 22209  
[www.safetyequipment.org](http://www.safetyequipment.org)  
703-525-1695

National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)  
120 Park Avenue, 23rd Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
Email: [nacto@nacto.org](mailto:nacto@nacto.org)  
Telephone: 929-276-2286

National Committee on Uniform Traffic Laws and Ordinances (NCUTLO)  
107 South West Street, Suite 110  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
[www.ncutlo.org](http://www.ncutlo.org)

National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)  
1300 North 17th Street, Suite 1752  
Rosslyn, VA 22209  
[www.nema.org](http://www.nema.org)  
703-841-3200

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20210  
[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)  
800-321-6742

Transportation Research Board (TRB)  
The National Academies  
500 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
[www.nas.edu/trb](http://www.nas.edu/trb)  
202-334-2934

U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (The U.S. Access Board)  
1331 F Street, NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20004-1111  
[www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov)  
202-272-0080

## Acknowledgments

The Federal Highway Administration gratefully acknowledges the valuable assistance that it received from the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and its over 200 voluntary members in the development of this Manual.

Caltrans gratefully acknowledges the participation from the following contributors for providing invaluable time, support, guidance and direction in the development of this Manual:

- Federal Highway Administration's California Division
- California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC) members;
- Staff from various cities and counties in California who participated in CTCDC meetings
- Caltrans headquarters' and districts' staff

Information regarding the California portion (blue text and/or blue border line) of this Manual can be obtained by writing to:

State of California  
Department of Transportation,  
Chief, Division of Traffic Operations, MS-36  
1120 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

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The California MUTCD is available on the Caltrans Web Page at:  
<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/camutcd>

## California Department of Transportation

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF SAFETY PROGRAMS  
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April 1, 2025

Mr. Robert W. Bronkall, Chair  
California Traffic Control Devices Committee  
County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) Representative  
County Surveyor, Humboldt County Public Works  
3033 H Street, Room 17  
Eureka, CA 95501

Dear Mr. Bronkall:

Effective April 1, 2025, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is updating the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) 2014 Revision 8 to provide uniform standards and specifications for all official traffic control devices in California. This action was taken pursuant to the provisions of California Vehicle Code Section 21400 and the recommendations of the California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC).

Caltrans has received a letter dated April 1, 2025, from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) confirming substantial conformance of the CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 9 edition with the 2009 Edition of the National Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for Streets and Highways, Revisions 1, 2 and 3, as required by title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, section 655.603(b)(1).

Caltrans is aware of FHWA's final rule adopting 11<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) of the National MUTCD, which was published in the Federal Register on December 19, 2023 with an effective date of January 18, 2024. This proposed CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 9 does not include changes incorporated in FHWA's 11<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) of the National MUTCD. Caltrans is currently reviewing the 11<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) of the National MUTCD and plans to revise CA MUTCD in a separate effort, on or before January 18, 2026 (within 2 years of the effective date of final rule), as allowed by title 23 CFR section 655.603(b)(3).

CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 9 includes policy revisions addressing nine specific California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC) recommendations to Caltrans since January 11, 2024. A list of these nine CTCDC recommendations, constituting policy revisions in Revision 9, is attached. CA MUTCD Revision 9 will be available on the Internet at <<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/camutcd>>.

Mr. Robert W. Bronkall, Chair, California Traffic Control Devices Committee  
April 1, 2025  
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The Division of Safety Programs is grateful to the CTCDC members for providing invaluable time, support, guidance, and direction in the development of this version of CA MUTCD.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Gurinderpal (Johnny) Bhullar, CA MUTCD Editor, at (916) 662-2397, or by email at <johnny.bhullar@dot.ca.gov>.

Sincerely,



Rachel Carpenter  
Chief Safety Officer

Attachments:

1. CA MUTCD Revision 9 Change List

c: Janice Benton, Deputy Director, Maintenance and Operations, Caltrans  
Shaila Chowdhury, Deputy Division Chief, Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans  
Amjad Obeid, Chief, Office of Safety Systems and Devices, Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans  
Gurinderpal (Johnny) Bhullar, CA MUTCD Editor, Office of Safety Systems and Devices, Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans  
Timothy Kong, CTCDC Executive Secretary, Office of Safety Systems and Devices, Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans  
Adriana Surfas, Acting Chief of Staff, Maintenance and Operations, Caltrans  
Daniel Rubinstein, Chief of Staff, Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans  
Hector Santiago, Technical Services Director, California Division, Federal Highway Administration  
Jason Welday, CTCDC Vice Chair, Director of Engineering Services, City Engineer, City of Rancho Cucamonga  
CTCDC Members





California Division

April 1, 2025

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 498-5001  
[HDACA@dot.gov](mailto:HDACA@dot.gov)

In Reply Refer To:  
HDA-CA

Ms. Rachel Carpenter  
Chief Safety Officer  
California Department of Transportation  
1120 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE ONLY**

SUBJECT: 2014 CA MUTCD Revision 9 Substantial Conformance with 2009 National MUTCD.

Dear Ms. Carpenter,

This letter is in response to your March 7, 2025, letter requesting the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to find the 2014 California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA-MUTCD) Revision 9 in substantial conformance with the current 2009 Edition of the National Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for Streets and Highways, Revisions 1, 2 and 3.

Per Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations [23 CFR 655.603(b)(1)], FHWA has reviewed the 2014 CA MUTCD Revision 9 and found the proposed revisions to be in substantial conformance with the 2009 National MUTCD.

We would like to commend the efforts of Johnny Bhullar, Mario Lozano-Cisneros and Timothy Wong for their hard work and diligence to ensure the proposed devices meet federal requirements. We look forward to continuing working with Caltrans, local public agencies, and the California Traffic Control Devices Committee on needed revisions to the CA MUTCD. This effort results in traffic control devices that enhance the safety of California's roadways for all road users. We commend the effort that Caltrans' Office of Safety Systems and Devices devotes to achieve this objective.



If you have any questions, please contact Steve Pyburn, Design Program Manager, at (916) 498-5057 or [Steve.Pyburn@dot.gov](mailto:Steve.Pyburn@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

HECTOR W SANTIAGO

Digitally signed by  
HECTOR W SANTIAGO  
Date: 2025.04.01  
10:10:34 -0700

Hector Santiago  
Director, Technical Services  
Federal Highway Administration

Enclosures:

Attachment A: Caltrans' Request for Substantial Conformance, 2014 CA MUTCD Revision 9

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TO (via email):

Rachel Carpenter, Chief Safety Officer, Caltrans

[rachel.carpenter@dot.ca.gov](mailto:rachel.carpenter@dot.ca.gov)

CC (via email):

Amjad Obeid, Office of Safety Systems and Devices, Caltrans

Johnny Bhullar, Office of Safety Systems and Devices, Caltrans

Mario Lozano-Cisneros, Office of Safety Systems and Devices, Caltrans

Timothy Kong, Office of Safety Programs, Caltrans

Hector Santiago, Director, Technical Services, FHWA

Steve Pyburn, Design Program Manager, FHWA

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## California Department of Transportation

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF SAFETY PROGRAMS  
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March 10, 2025

Mr. Hector Santiago, Technical Services Director  
California Division  
Federal Highway Administration  
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Santiago:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) requests the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) California Division to find the 2014 California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) Revision 9 to be in substantial conformance with the 2009 Edition of the National Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for Streets and Highways, Revisions 1, 2, and 3, as required by title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, section 655.603(b)(1).

Caltrans is aware of FHWA's final rule adopting 11<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) of the National MUTCD, which was published in the Federal Register on December 19, 2023 with an effective date of January 18, 2024. This proposed CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 9 does not include changes incorporated in FHWA's 11<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) of the National MUTCD. Caltrans is currently reviewing the 11<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) of the National MUTCD and plans to revise CA MUTCD in a separate effort, on or before January 18, 2026 (within 2 years of the effective date of final rule), as allowed by title 23 CFR section 655.603(b)(3).

CA MUTCD 2014 Revision 9 includes policy revisions addressing nine specific California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC) recommendations to Caltrans since January 11, 2024. A list of these nine CTCDC recommendations, constituting policy revisions in Revision 9, is attached. CA MUTCD Revision 9 will be available on the Internet at <<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/safety-programs/camutcd>> after FHWA's response on substantial conformance finding has been received by Caltrans.

Caltrans would like to acknowledge the efforts of Steve Pyburn of your office for working in partnership with Johnny Bhullar and Timothy Kong of Caltrans' Division of Safety Programs in reviewing the draft revision of the CA MUTCD Revision 9. An electronic version of the detailed revisions has been provided to Steve Pyburn.

"Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment"

Mr. Santiago, Technical Services Director  
March 10, 2025  
Page 2

Please provide your response on substantial conformance finding to Johnny Bhullar, Editor of CA MUTCD by email at <johnny.bhullar@dot.ca.gov>. If you have any questions, please contact Johnny at (916) 662-2397.

Sincerely,

*Rachel A. Carpenter*  
Rachel Carpenter  
Chief Safety Officer

Attachments:

1. CA MUTCD Revision 9 Change List

c: Janice Benton, Deputy Director, Maintenance and Operations, Caltrans  
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Johnny Bhullar, CA MUTCD Editor, Office of Safety Systems and Devices, Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans  
Adriana Surfas, Acting Chief of Staff, Maintenance and Operations, Caltrans  
Daniel Rubinstein, Chief of Staff, Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans