

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

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

Institute of Makers of Explosives
1120 19th Street, NW, Suite 310
Washington, DC 20036-3605
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
202-785-0060

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

International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA)
1901 North Moore Street, Suite 808
Arlington, VA 22209
www.safetysafetyequipment.org
703-525-1695

National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)
120 Park Avenue, 23rd Floor
New York, NY 10017
Email: 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

National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
1300 North 17th Street, Suite 1752
Rosslyn, VA 22209
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
800-321-6742

Transportation Research Board (TRB)
The National Academies
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
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
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
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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 11th 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 11th Edition (2023) of the National MUTCD. Caltrans is currently reviewing the 11th 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 A. Carpenter

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

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.

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



TO (via email):

Rachel Carpenter, Chief Safety Officer, Caltrans

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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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 11th 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 11th Edition (2023) of the National MUTCD. Caltrans is currently reviewing the 11th 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
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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

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Adriana Surfas, Acting Chief of Staff, Maintenance and Operations, Caltrans
Daniel Rubinstein, Chief of Staff, Division of Safety Programs, Caltrans