



**California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC)
Agenda Item Report**



Meeting Date: May 7, 2026 Item Number: 26-05	From: Kathryn Kleinschmidt, Caltrans
Sponsored By: Devang Vora, Caltrans	Presented By: Kathryn Kleinschmidt, Caltrans
Description: Caltrans District 5 requests CTCDC approval for a new word message sign "DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS".	

Recommendation:

Motion by committee to recommend inclusion of the proposed "DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS" sign in a new CA MUTCD Section 2C.104(CA) "DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS Sign".

Background:

The intersection of SR 156 and Bixby Road is a newly constructed multilane roundabout in San Benito County. Multilane roundabouts on State Highways in California are currently designed with the anticipation that large trucks might claim both lanes while circulating through the roundabout. The language in Section 405.10 of the California Highway Design Manual (HDM) states, "Roundabouts with multilane entries or circulating lanes should be designed with the understanding that most truck drivers will not stay within the lane lines." The only exception to this is a turbo roundabout, one of which is located at the intersection of SR 25 and SR 156, around 6 miles to the east of the Bixby roundabout. Turbo roundabouts require trucks to stay in their own lane on entry and while circulating through the roundabout.

Motorists at a non-turbo multilane roundabout are often unaware that large trucks might off-track into their lane, which can result in sideswipe crashes if the motorists is attempting to pass a large truck in the roundabout. Some states including Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Montana, Wisconsin, and Oregon have passed laws giving the right-of-way to trucks while circulating multilane roundabouts and have developed signs informing drivers of this rule. No such law exists in California, so if a crash occurs in a California roundabout due to off-tracking, the semi-truck driver would be cited.

To help reduce the potential for sideswipe crashes in roundabouts due to off-tracking trucks, it is proposed to include a new sign in the CA MUTCD warning drivers not to drive beside trucks in a roundabout. The proposed "DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS" sign is modeled after a regulatory sign in Oregon (OR4-22). Section 811.292 of the Oregon Vehicle Code says that a motorist commits a failure to yield offense if they overtake, pass, or drive alongside a commercial motor vehicle in a roundabout; and Section 810.247 requires a road authority to place signs prior to each multilane



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roundabout warning drivers of the hazard of driving next to a commercial motor vehicle.

Since California does not have any law that prohibits motorists from driving beside a truck in a multilane roundabout, the proposed “DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS” sign in California must be a warning sign, not a regulatory sign. The addition of this sign would not change current California law, and truck drivers would still be cited if they caused a crash by off-tracking out of their lane. However, adding this sign at the Bixby roundabout and other multilane roundabouts in California may reduce the number of sideswipe crashes between commercial vehicles and unsuspecting motorists.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Proposed New Section 2C.104(CA)

Attachment B – Oregon DOT's OR4-22 Sign and Proposed SW61 (CA) Sign

Attachment C – Trucks Off-Tracking at Bixby Roundabout

Attachment D – Proposed SW61 (CA) sign to be added to Table 2C-1 (CA)



ATTACHMENT A

Attachment A – Proposed New Section 2C.104(CA)

Proposal:

Note:

Black text is consistent with the Federal MUTCD.

Blue text is current text as amended for use in California.

~~Struck out blue~~ text is to be deleted from the CA MUTCD.

Red text is newly proposed text.

CHAPTER 2C. WARNING SIGNS AND OBJECT MARKERS

Add New Section to Chapter 2C:

Section 2C.104(CA) DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS Sign (SW61(CA))

Option:

⁰¹ The DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS (SW61(CA)) sign (see Figure 2C-6(CA)) may be used in advance of a multilane roundabout where there is potential for commercial vehicle off-tracking.

⁰² The DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS sign may be installed alone on the approach to a multilane roundabout or mounted below another sign, such as an Intersection Lane Control (R3-8 series) sign, as a supplementary plaque on the same post.

Add New Sign to Figure 2C-6(CA):

Figure 2C-6(CA). California Miscellaneous Warning Signs



W20(CA)



W20A(CA)



W31(CA)



W34C(CA)



SW33(CA)



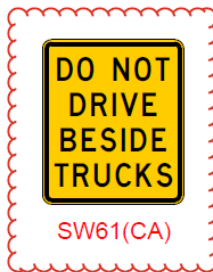
SW37(CA)



SW48(CA)



SW48-1P(CA)



SW61(CA)

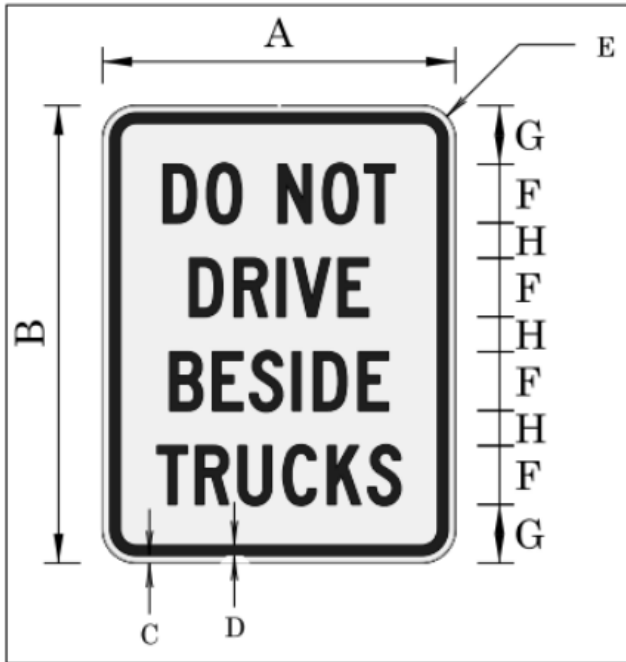


ATTACHMENT B

Attachment B – Oregon DOT's OR4-22 Sign and Proposed SW61(CA) Sign

OR4-22

Figure 19: OR4-22 (DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS) Detail



Proposed SW61(CA) Sign:



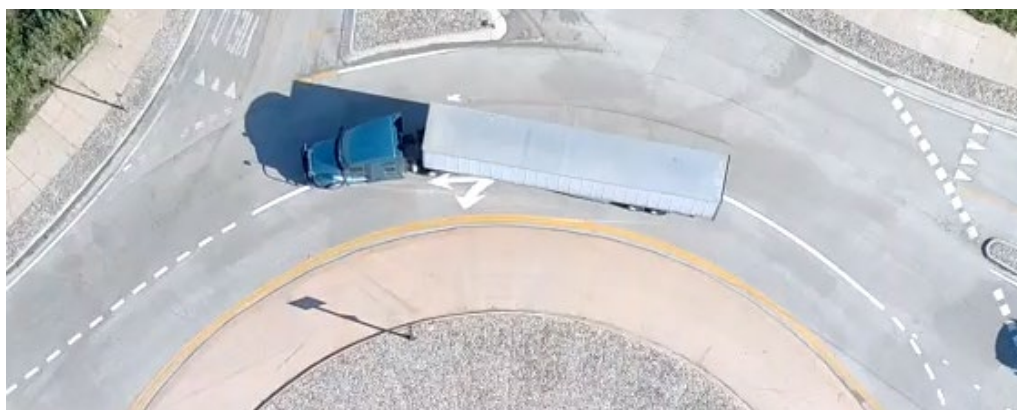
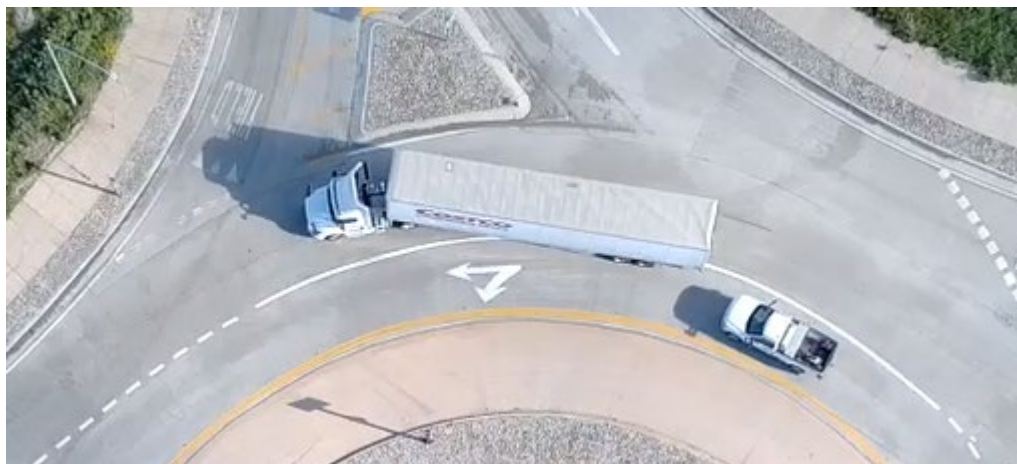
2.25" Radius, 0.88" Border, 0.63" Indent, Black on, Yellow;
"DO NOT", D: "DRIVE", D: "BESIDE", D: "TRUCKS", D:



ATTACHMENT C

Attachment C – Trucks Off-Tracking at Bixby Roundabout

Drone footage was taken at the Bixby roundabout on 3/9/2026. The photos below are snapshots from the videos that were taken that show commercial vehicles off tracking in the roundabout:





ATTACHMENT D

Attachment D – Proposed SW61(CA) sign to be added to Table 2C-1(CA)

Table 2C-1(CA). California Warning Sign and Plaque Sizes

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road		Expressway	Freeway	Minimum	Oversized
			Single Lane	Multi-Lane				
SENIOR	SW50-2P(CA)	2C.55	24 x 8	24 x 8	24 x 8	—	—	—
WATCH FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT	SW58(CA)	2C.54	36 x 36	36 x 36	54 x 48	54 x 48	—	—
DO NOT DRIVE BESIDE TRUCKS	SW61(CA)	2C.104(CA)	30 x 36	30 x 36	36 x 42	—	—	—