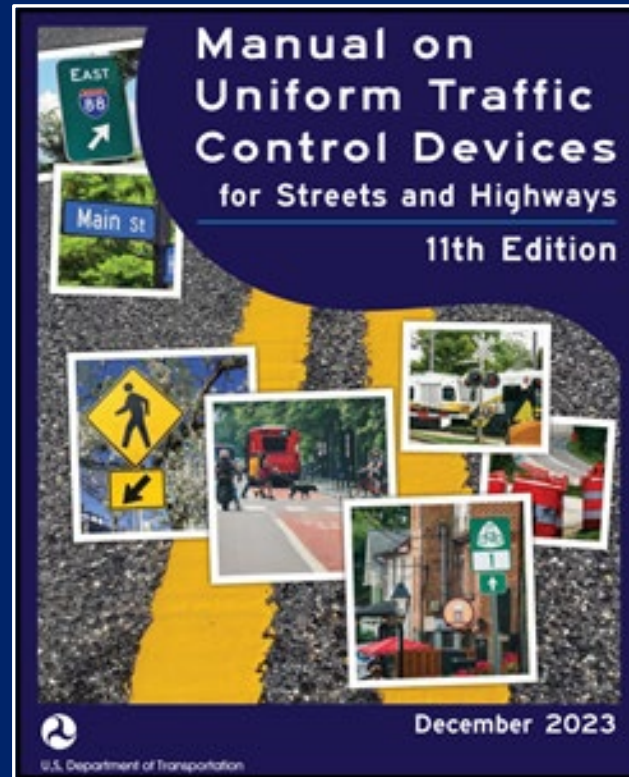


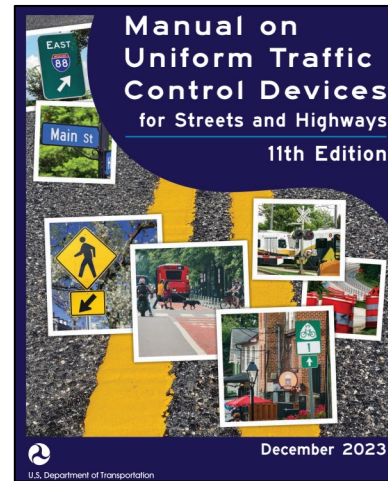
MUTCD UPDATE



STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

FEBRUARY 28, 2024

MUTCD HISTORY



2023



CHANGES BETWEEN 2009 & 2023

Volume: Increased from 864 to 1161 pages

Chapters: General
Signs
Markings
Traffic Signals
~~Low Volume Roads~~ → Integrated elsewhere in MUTCD
Automated Vehicles ← New Chapter
Temporary Traffic Control
School Areas
RR Light Rail & Grade
Bicycle Facilities



MILESTONES

- Dec. 14, 2020: Notice of Proposed Amendments posted
- May 15, 2021: Public comment docket closed
- Dec. 19, 2023: Final Rule published
- Jan. 18, 2024: Final Rule effective
- Jan. 18, 2026: Deadline for agency adoption of v11
- Jan. 2028, 2032... MUTCD v12, v13 to be issued

Source: <https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/>



FEDERAL CONFORMANCE

23 CFR § 655.603 *Standards*: "...Where State...Supplements are required, they shall be in substantial conformance with the national MUTCD. Substantial conformance means that the...**Supplement shall conform as a minimum to the Standard statements** included in the national MUTCD."

MUTCD v11 Chapter 1.C.01 Definitions: "Standard—a statement of **required, mandatory, or specifically prohibitive practice** regarding a traffic control device. **In limited, location-specific cases, the results of a documented engineering study (see Section 1D.03) might indicate a deviation** from one or more requirements of a Standard provision to be appropriate. All Standard statements are labeled, and the text appears in bold type. The verb "shall" is typically used. The verbs "should" and "may" are not used in Standard statements. Standard statements are sometimes modified by Option statements.



PA ADOPTION

67 Pa Code § 212.2 Adoption of Federal standards

(a) *General provisions.* "...Department hereby adopts the MUTCD, as published by the Federal Highway Administration. The MUTCD is adopted in its totality except where this chapter clearly indicates that it is not being adopted, or that additional warrants or criteria are being provided."

(b) *Modification of Federal statutes, regulations or provisions.* "...if the MUTCD is amended or modified by the Federal Highway Administration, the amendment will take effect on the effective date specified by the Federal Highway Administration unless the Department publishes a notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* stating that the amendment or modification will not apply."

NOTE: [PA Bulletin notice was posted Jan. 6, 2024 \(Click for link\)](#)



GENERAL COMPLIANCE DATES

After the effective date of a new edition of the MUTCD or a revision thereto, or after the adoption thereof by the State, whichever occurs later, new or reconstructed devices installed shall comply with the new edition.

A non-compliant traffic control device that is being replaced or refurbished because it is damaged, missing, or no longer serviceable (see definition in Section 1C.02) for any reason shall be replaced with a compliant device, except as provided for in Paragraph 13 of this Section.

Option:

- A non-compliant traffic control device may be replaced in kind when engineering judgment indicates it is more appropriate because:
- One compliant device in the midst of a series of adjacent non-compliant devices would be confusing to road users, and/or
- The schedule for replacement of the whole series of non-compliant devices will result in achieving timely compliance with the MUTCD.

Source: MUTCD v11 Chapter 1.B.03



SPECIFIC COMPLIANCE DATES

Table 1B-1. Target Compliance Dates Established by the FHWA

MUTCD Section(s)	Subject Area	Specific Provision	Compliance Date
2B.64	Weight Limit Signs	Paragraph 14 - requirement for additional Weight Limit sign with the advisory distance or directional legend in advance of applicable section of highway or structure	5 years from the effective date of this edition of the MUTCD
2C.25	Low Clearance Signs (W12-2)	Paragraph 1 - Required posting of the Low Clearance Advance (W12-2) sign in advance of the structure	5 years from the effective date of this edition of the MUTCD
2C.25	Low Clearance Signs (W12-2a, W12-2b)	Paragraph 8 - Recommended posting of Low Clearance Overhead (W12-2a or 12-2b) signs on an arch or other structure under which the clearance varies greatly	5 years from the effective date of this edition of the MUTCD
3A.05	Maintaining Minimum Retroreflectivity	Implementation and continued use of a method that is designed to maintain retroreflectivity of longitudinal pavement markings (see Paragraph 1 of Section 3A.05)	September 6, 2026
8B.16	High-Profile Grade Crossings	Paragraphs 3 and 7 - Recommended installation of Low Ground Clearance and/or Vehicle Exclusion signs and detour signs for vehicles with low ground clearances that might hang up on high-profile grade crossings at locations with a known history	5 years from the effective date of this edition of the MUTCD
8D.09 through 8D.12	Highway Traffic Signals at or Near Grade Crossings	Assessment and determination of appropriate treatment to achieve compliance (preemption, movement prohibition, pre-signals, queue cutter signals)	10 years from the effective date of this edition of the MUTCD

Source: MUTCD v11



RR PREEMPTION EXAMPLE



PA 54 Danville



NOTABLE CHANGES

Experimentation

Adds new process, streamlining option

Vulnerable Road Users

Revises type, size and location of TCD for VRU such as bikes & peds

Aesthetic Pvmt. Markings

Clarifies requirements such as appropriate colors and patterns

Crash Data

Allows application of locally-applied data

Technology

Clarifies electronic TCD applications



ACTION PLAN

Steering Committee

- HSTO and PA Turnpike managers + DTE delegate

Seven (7) Technical Work Groups – per MUTCD Chapter

- HSTO managers + the following as appropriate:
 - PA Turnpike staff
 - Subject matter experts; e.g. Bike/Ped Coordinator
 - LTAP
 - Major City Engineers



STEERING COMMITTEE ROLES

Ensure compliance with federal requirements

Review 67 Pa Code § 212 for conformance

Recommend Publication 212 format

Assign subject matter experts to champion policy changes

Provide technical assistance to the subject matter experts

Review and track changes to pubs, standards, and forms



WORK GROUP ROLES

Review MUTCD changes

Collaborate with key public and private stakeholders

Estimate resource impacts

Recommend changes to PA pubs, standards, and forms

Report to Steering Committee



QUESTIONS?

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