

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Highway Administration****23 CFR Part 655**

[FHWA Docket No. 95-8, Notice No. 1]

RIN 2125-AD57

**National Standards for Traffic Control Devices; Revision of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)****AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.**ACTION:** Extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA proposes to extend the comment period for a notice of proposed amendments to the MUTCD which was published June 12, 1995, at 60 FR 31008. The original comment period was set to close on September 11, 1995. The proposed extension stems from concern expressed by the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) that the September 11 closing date does not provide sufficient time for appropriate response to the proposed MUTCD changes. The FHWA recognizes that other commenters may be subject to similar time constraints and agrees with the NCUTCD that the comment period should be extended. Therefore, the closing date for comments is changed to March 11, 1996 which will provide the NCUTCD and other interested commenters additional time to evaluate the proposed changes and to submit responses.

**DATES:** Submit written comments on or before March 11, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written, signed comments to FHWA Docket No. 95-8, Federal Highway Administration, Room 4232, HCC-10, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information regarding the notice of proposed amendments or a copy of the proposed text contact Mr. Ernest Huckaby, Office of Highway Safety, (202) 366-9064, Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Room 3419, Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The MUTCD is incorporated by reference in 23 CFR part 655, subpart F, and recognized as the national standard for traffic control on all public roads. As discussed in the June 12, 1995 notice of proposed rulemaking, the FHWA is in the process of rewriting and reformatting the MUTCD. As the effort proceeds, many changes to the MUTCD will be identified. The June 12, 1995 notice of proposed rulemaking invites comments on the proposed changes which the FHWA has identified to date. As other changes are identified or proposed, they will be published in a future rulemaking. These changes affect various parts of the MUTCD and are intended to expedite traffic, promote

uniformity, improve safety and traffic control device application, and provide a clearer understanding of the principles contained in the MUTCD.

As noted, the original comment period for the June 12, 1995 notice of proposed amendments to the MUTCD is set to close on September 11, 1995. The NCUTCD has expressed concern that this closing date does not provide sufficient time to review the proposed changes, consolidate comments, and submit these comments to its member organizations for approval. The NCUTCD only meets in January and June of each year to vote as a full body on proposals and issues relating to the MUTCD. The FHWA recognizes that the issuance of the June 12, 1995 notice did not allow enough time for the proposed changes to be discussed and approved at the regularly scheduled meetings. Therefore, the closing date for comments is changed to March 11, 1996 to allow the NCUTCD and other commenters additional time to respond.

The MUTCD is available for inspection and copying as prescribed in 49 CFR Part 7, appendix D. It may be purchased for \$44.00 from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, Stock No. 050-001-00308-2.

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 315, 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: September 13, 1995.

Rodney E. Slater,

*Federal Highway Administrator.*

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