



2025 TMUTCD: Overview and Parts 1, 4, 5, and 9

Karen Lorenzini & Dustin Wiggins

Policy & Standards Branch
TxDOT Traffic Safety Division

12/18/2025

Presentation will start
shortly.

Please ensure your
mic is muted and
camera is off.

Session will be
recorded.



2025 Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD): Overview and Parts 1, 4, 5, and 9

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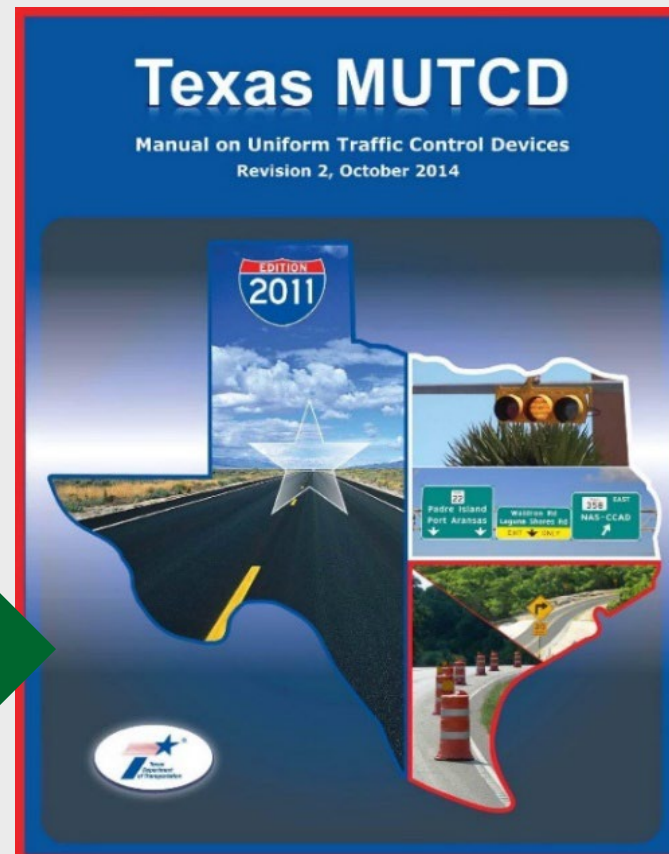
Part 9 | Traffic Control for Bicycle Facilities

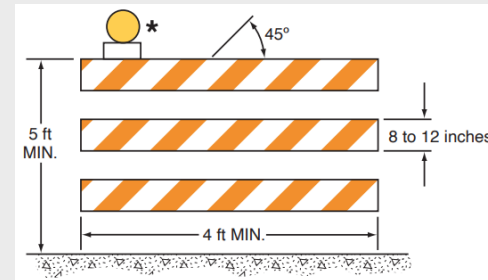
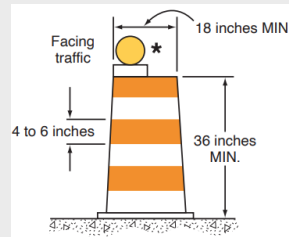
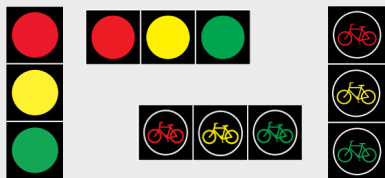
Transition Activities & More Information

Overview

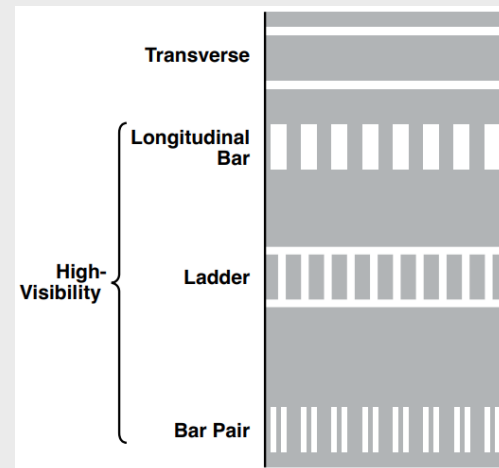
- Why update the TMUTCD?
- Next Steps
- Highlights of Changes
- Where to Get More Info

The 2011 TMUTCD – Revision 2 is the current manual in Texas until the January 18, 2026, effective date of the 2025 TMUTCD.





Traffic Control Devices regulate, warn, or guide traffic.



Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

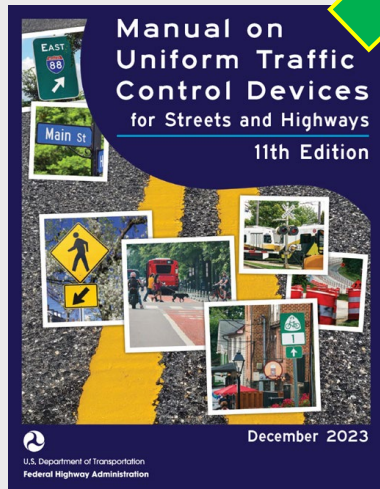
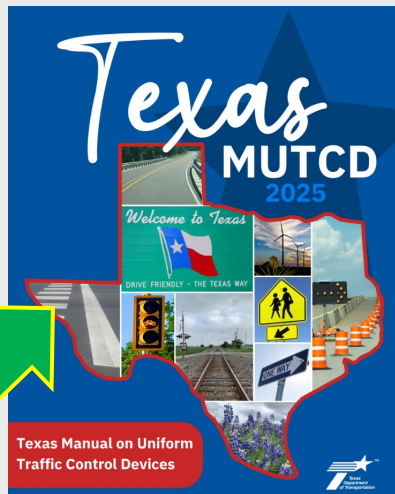
- The TMUTCD **standardizes** all traffic control devices installed on any of these facilities **open to public travel** statewide:
 - Street
 - Highway
 - Pedestrian and bicycle facilities
 - Site roadways



The Texas MUTCD needed an update because the National MUTCD was updated

- Texas's MUTCD must be in **substantial conformance** with the National MUTCD.
- FHWA grants rare exceptions when satisfactorily justified* by:
 - Specific conflicting State laws
 - Documented engineering study
 - Engineering judgment

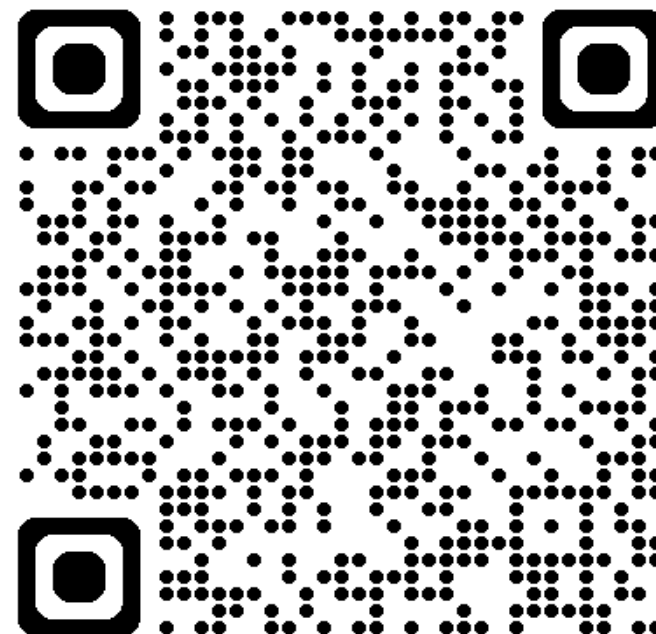
**as determined by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)*



National MUTCD Updates

- Re-organized
- Updated to reflect advances in:
 - Technologies
 - Operational practices
- New Part 5: Considerations for Automated Vehicles
- More considerations for vulnerable road users, including visually impaired pedestrians

For more information:



(MUTCD website)

National to Texas MUTCD Comment Process



Known Errors in the National MUTCD

- FHWA does not allow states to correct **Standard** statements (bold).

Standard:

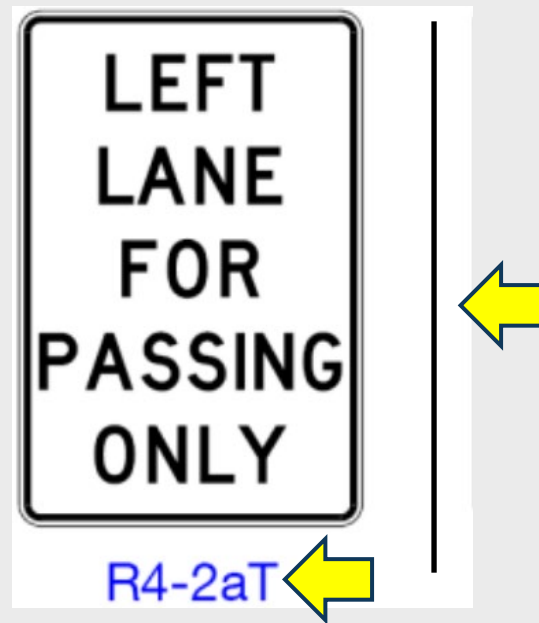
- 23 If displayed on the sign face, the date of fabrication, sign designation, sign size, manufacturer name, or similar maintenance and inventory information shall be completely within the border or inset along the bottom edge of the sign. The letter height or scanning graphic shall not exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ of the width of the border or inset or, if no border is used, shall not exceed 1.75 inch and shall be within 2 inches of the edge of the sign. The color of the lettering within the border shall be the same as the color of the sign background. The color of the lettering or scanning graphic within the inset shall be the same as the color of the sign border. For changeable message signs or blank-out signs, such information, if displayed, shall be embossed in a non-contrasting in the color in the housing of the sign. (See FHWA Known Error 01/24/2025)

 interior

- Other Known Errors will be addressed.
- The TMUTCD includes a list of FHWA-Known Errors as Appendix B.

Texas-specific content

- Text is blue Verdana font
- Sign names end with "T"
- New Sections are "A", "B", etc.
- All edited text and Figures/Tables include a black bar at side



Section 2B.37A LEFT LANE FOR PASSING ONLY Sign (R4 – 2aT)

Option:

- 01 The LEFT LANE FOR PASSING ONLY (R4 – 2aT) sign (see Figure 2B – 10) may be used on multiple lane roadways to direct drivers to stay in the right-hand lane except when passing another vehicle



Final Draft Manual involved:

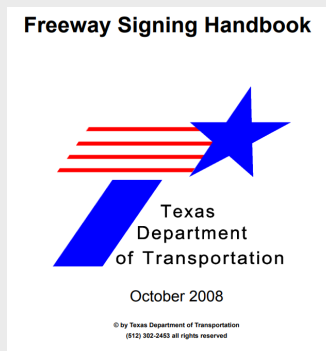
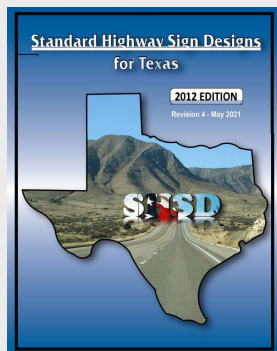
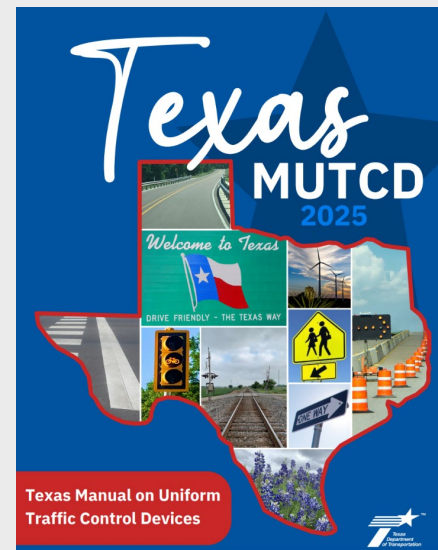
- Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Traffic Safety Division
- FHWA Texas Division
- TMUTCD Technical Committee
 - Other agencies
 - Geographic and size representation
- Texas Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)


TMUTCD Technical Committee

- TxDOT Traffic Safety Division (TRF)
- TxDOT Design Division
- TxDOT Maintenance Division
- TxDOT Metropolitan District Traffic Engineer
- TxDOT Urban District Traffic Engineer
- TxDOT Rural District Traffic Engineer
- TxDOT District Maintenance Director
- FHWA Texas Division
- County
- Toll Authority
- Small City
- Medium City
- Large City

Adoption & Next Steps

- The Texas Transportation Commission adopted the 2025 TMUTCD on November 13, 2025, with an **effective date of January 18, 2026**.
- TxDOT is proceeding to update other manuals, guidance documents, and training.



 Texas Department of Transportation		Traffic Safety Division Standard	
STANDARDS			
FILE: standard.dgn	ON: TxDOT	OK: TxDOT	OK: TxDOT
C: TxDOT	2023	REV: JAW	APPROVED
REVISIONS	DATE	COUNTY	SHEET NO.
# 23			

Updates of General Interest

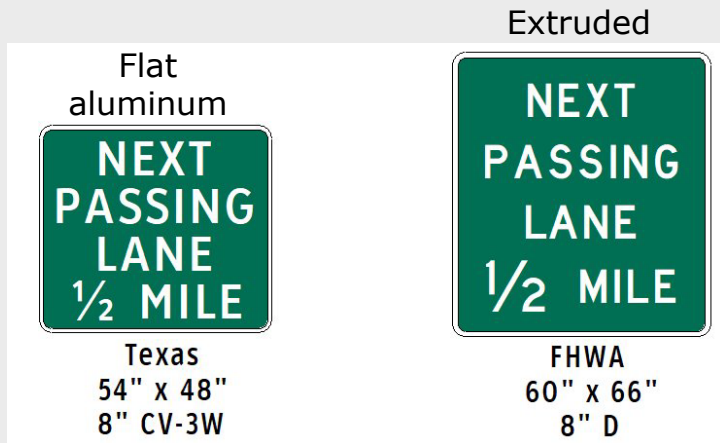
Interim Approvals (IA) Issued under the 2011 TMUTCD – Rev. 2

Description	Terminated Interim Approval	2025 TMUTCD
Clearview font	IA-5	Section 2A.08
Green colored pavement for bike lanes	IA-14	Section 3H.06
Bicycle signal face	IA-16	Chapter 4H
3-section Flashing Yellow Arrow signal face	IA-17	Chapter 4F
Intersection bicycle boxes	IA-18	Section 9E.12
2-stage bicycle turn boxes	IA-20	Section 9E.11
Rectangular rapid flashing beacons	IA-21	Chapter 4L
Red-colored pavement for transit lanes	IA-22	Section 3H.07

Use of Clearview font & Texas sign design practices

- Per TMUTCD Section 2A.08:
Texas will continue to allow the use of Clearview font and Texas-specific sign design **for green, blue, and brown (positive contrast) guide signs.**
- Note: specific sign designs will be detailed in the upcoming update to the Standard Highway Sign Designs for Texas (SHSD) in 2026.

For example:



New Standard Statement in Section 3H.03 Aesthetic Surface Treatment

- Texas generally adopts the national MUTCD's Section 3H without revisions.
- Per direction by US Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary of Transportation in July 2025, TxDOT added a new Standard statement to Section 3H.03 to further clarify restrictions on aesthetic treatments.

2025 TMUTCD

- 10 **Patterns that constitute a purely aesthetic surface treatment for a crosswalk, road, island, or area outside the traveled way shall not be designed to include political or advocacy message of any nature, artwork, or similar features that distract from user safety and traffic control.**

Part 1

General

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

TMUTCD Section(s)	Subject Area	Specific Provision	Compliance Date
2B.64	Weight Limit Signs	Paragraph 6 – Requirement for additional Weight Limit sign with the advisory distance or directional legend in advance of applicable section of highway or structure	January 18, 2029
2C.25	Low Clearance Signs (W12-2)	Paragraph 1 – Required posting of the Low Clearance Advance (W12-2) sign in advance of the structure	January 18, 2029
2C.25	Low Clearance Signs (W12-2a, W12-2b)	Paragraph 18 – Recommended posting of Low Clearance Overhead (W12-2a or 12-2b) signs on an arch or other structure under which the clearance varies greatly	January 18, 2029
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	January 18, 2029
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)	January 18, 2034

Part 4

Highway Traffic

Signals





Chapter 4H: Bicycle Signal Faces

- Separate control of a bicyclist movement
- **ZERO conflicts allowed,**
including turns on red.



Bicycle Signal Face-a signal face that displays only bicycle symbol signal indications, that exclusively controls a bicycle movement from a designated bicycle lane or from a separate facility such as a shared-use path, and that displays signal indications that are applicable only to the bicycle movement.

Chapter 4J: Revised Criteria for Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons





Chapter 4L: Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)

- Application
- Design
- Operation

Standard:

- 01 Each RRFB unit shall consist of two rapidly-flashed rectangular-shaped yellow indications, each with an LED-array based pulsing light source. The size of each RRFB indication shall be at least 5 inches wide by at least 2 inches high.



Part 5

Considerations for Automated Vehicles



Part 5: Considerations for Automated Vehicles



- ▶ New part with new provisions:
 - ▷ For agencies that are preparing for driving automation systems
 - ▷ Promotes national uniformity
 - ▷ Provisions are optional; no requirement to fit roads for automation systems



AUTOMATED DRIVING SYSTEMS 2.0: A VISION FOR SAFETY

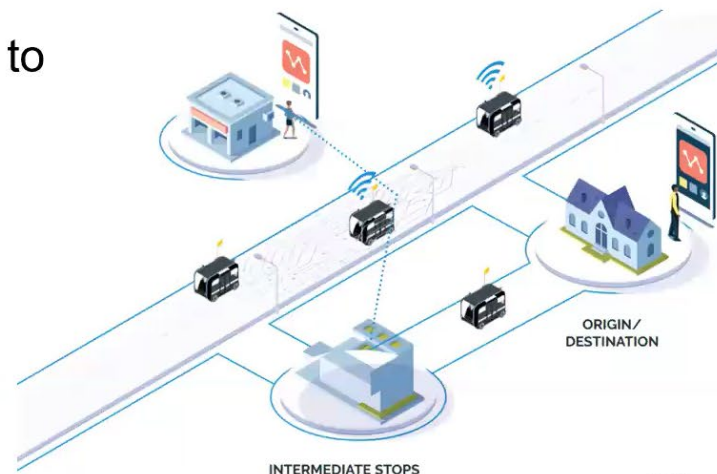


Figure 9
Mobility on Demand Transit Use Case Diagram
Source: FHWA



Part 9

Traffic Control for Bicycle Facilities





Various New Bicycle Signal Signs and Plaques



Bicycles Yield to Peds Sign

- In Texas, the Bicycles Yield to Peds sign is prohibited on roadways and bicycle only paths.
- The Bicycles Yield to Peds sign is limited to shared use paths.



R9-6

Standard:

- 04 **The Bicycles Yield to Peds (R9-6) sign shall not be used at any location where bicycles are required to stop and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.**
- 05 **The Bicycles Yield to Peds (R9-6) sign shall only be allowed on a shared-use path**

Chapters 2C, 9B: SHARE THE ROAD Plaque Removed

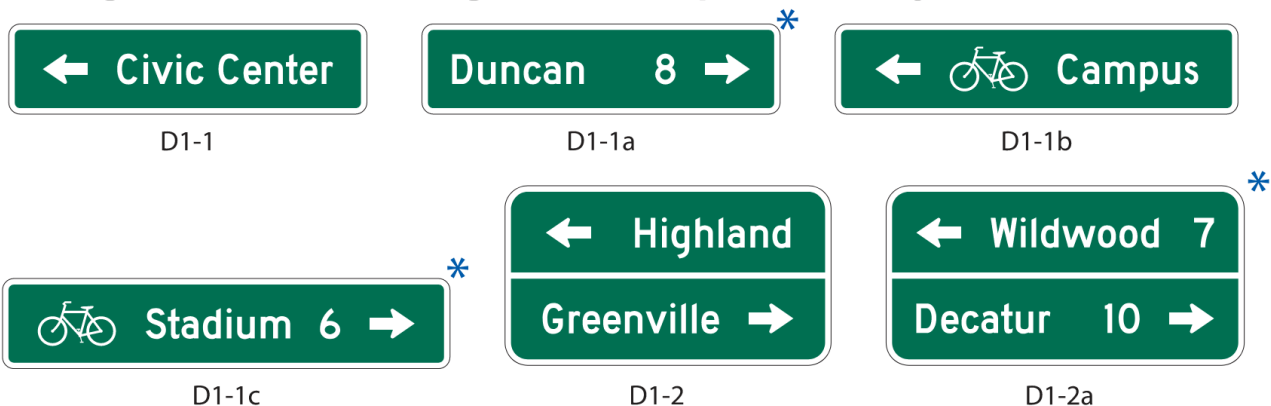


MUTCD 11th Edition removed the SHARE THE ROAD plaque.



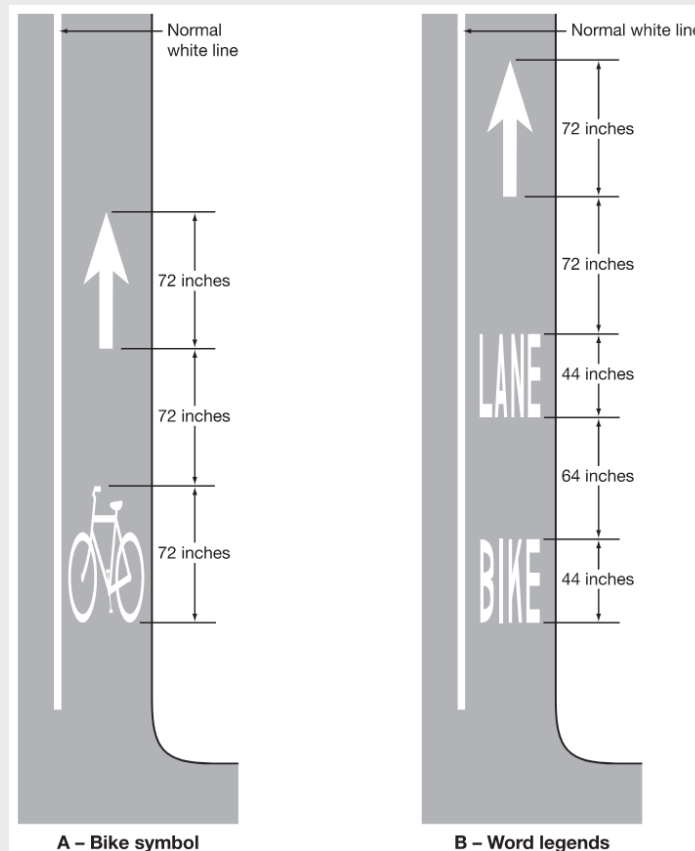
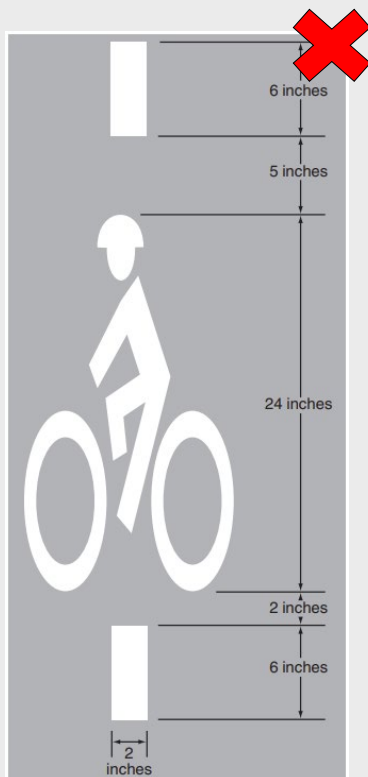
Guide Signs and Plaques for Bicycle Facilities

Figure 9D-1. Guide Signs and Plaques for Bicycle Facilities



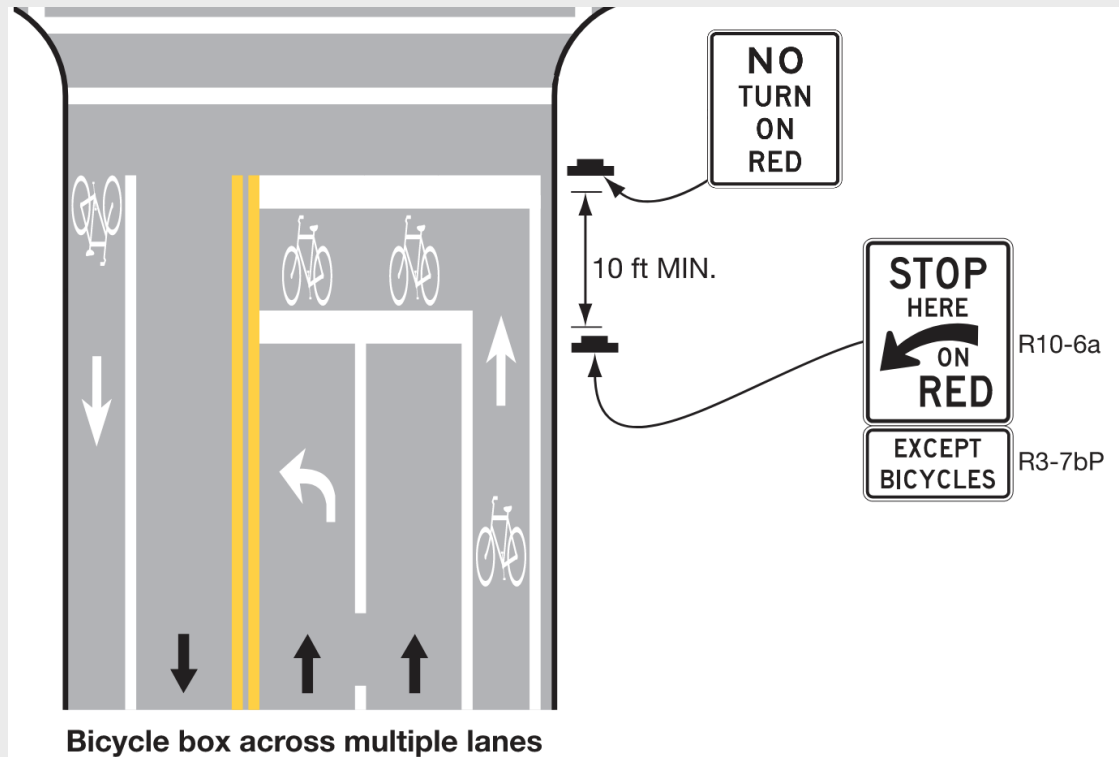
* The D1 series signs that include both arrows and distances shall not be installed on state-maintained highways or right-of-way. If used, the D1 series signs that includes high arrows and distances may be installed on a state-maintained bikeway or shared-use path if they are oriented away from and not visible to operators of motor vehicles.

Pavement Markings for Bicycle Lanes



Intersection Bicycle Box

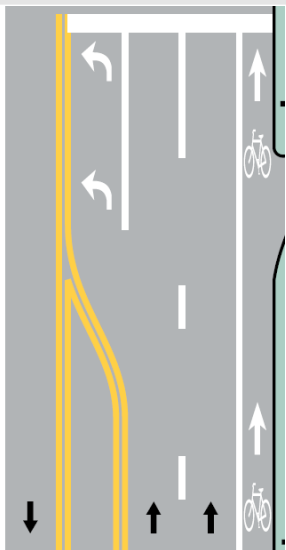
- Method to allow bicycles to queue at an intersection approach before entering the intersection.
- Turns on red prohibited from lane with bicycles in front.



Part 9: Different Types of Bicycle Lanes

Bicycle Lane

Section 9E.01
Single Stripe



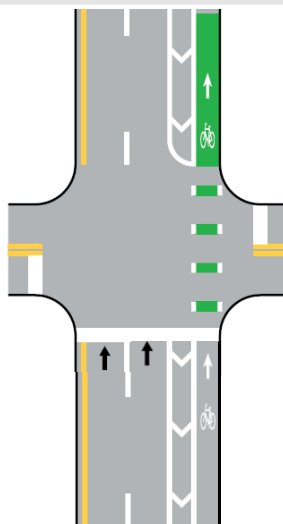
Counter Flow Bicycle Lane

Section 9E.08
No Buffer



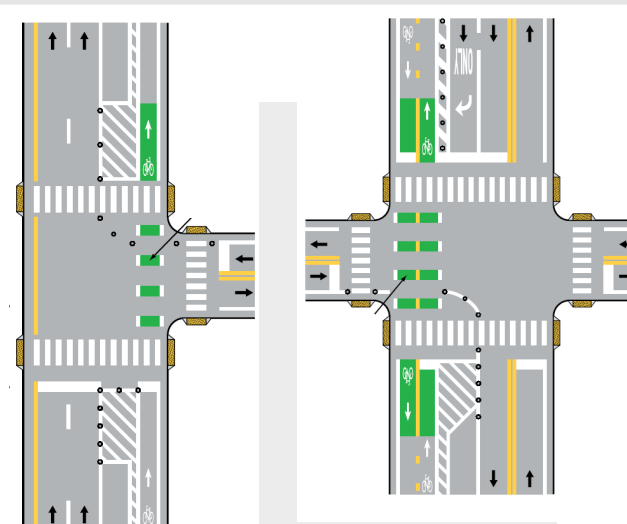
Buffer-Separated Bicycle Lane

Section 9E.06
• PM separation



Separated Bicycle Lane

Section 9E.07
• PM separation
• Physical separation: Delineator, parked cars, curb, median



Chapter 9E: Prohibition of Turns | Separated Bicycle Lanes

Section 9E.07 Separated Bicycle Lanes

Standard:

- 12 Turns on red shall be prohibited across separated bicycle lanes while bicyclists are allowed to proceed through the intersection.

Support:

- 12 Additional information on signals for bicycle facilities is found in Chapter 4H.



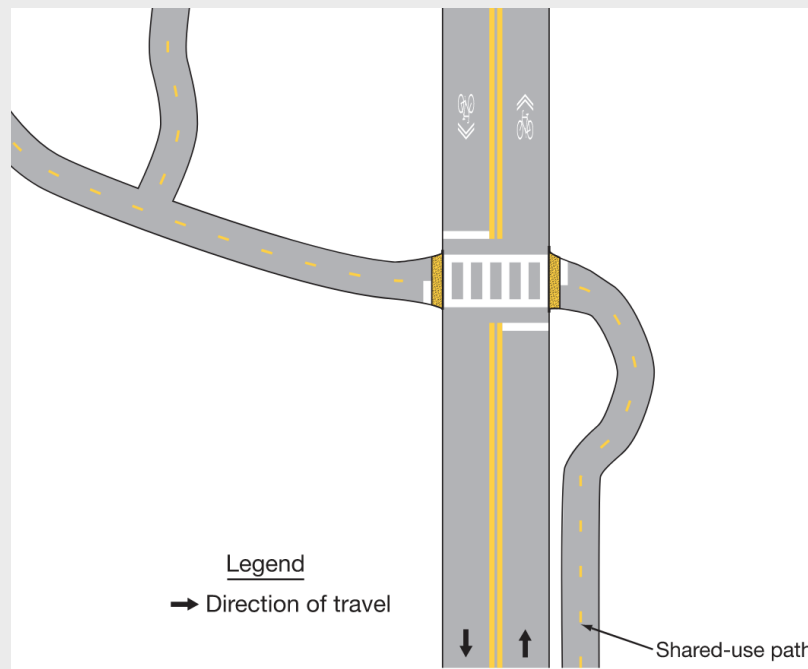
**If Bicycles in a
SEPARATED Lane are
Allowed to Proceed**



Walk

**Left & Right
Turns on Red are
PROHIBITED
Across Them**

Crossing at a Shared Use Path

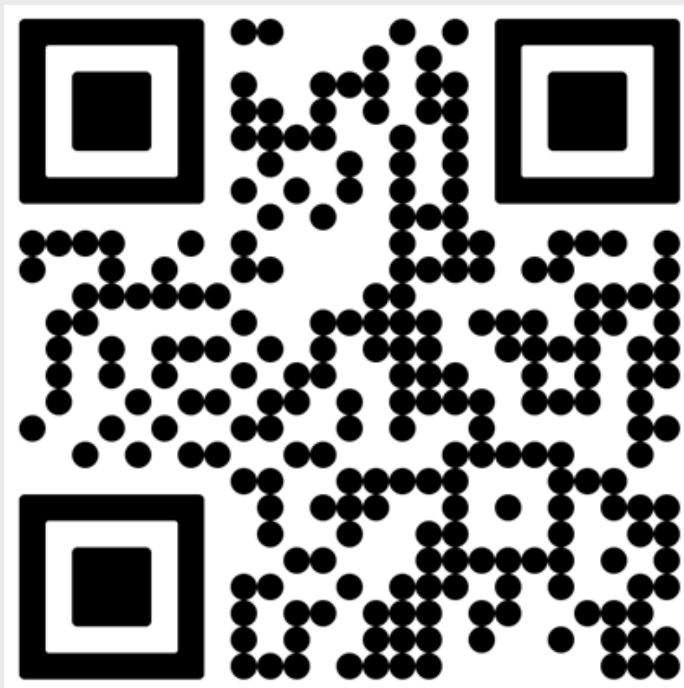


Standard:

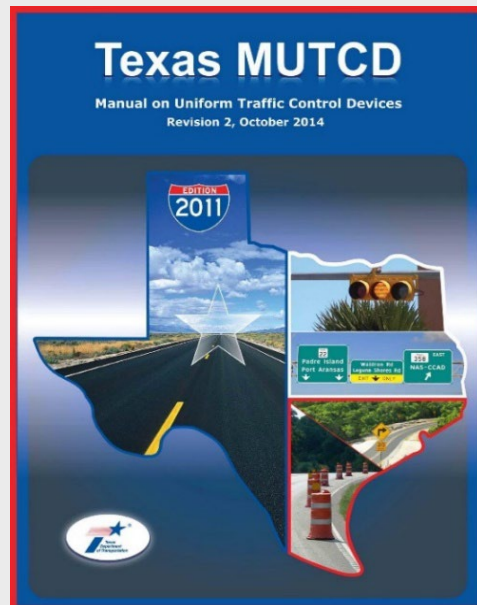
- 05 Where a shared-use path crosses a roadway, crosswalk markings shall be used

**For even more
details, see List of
Revisions Memo**

**TMUTCD web page
on TxDOT.gov**



Reminder



**The 2011 TMUTCD
– Revision 2 is the
current manual in
Texas until the
January 18, 2026,
effective date of
the 2025 TMUTCD.**



2025 TMUTCD Phased Implementation*

Date	Transition Activity
July 3, 2025	TxDOT posted the draft TMUTCD on the TxDOT.gov TMUTCD website
November 13, 2025	The Texas Transportation Commission adopted the 2025 TMUTCD, effective January 18, 2026.
January 18, 2026	2025 TMUTCD effective date, deadline mandated by FHWA.
January 18, 2026 – June 30, 2026	<p>All projects letting during this period should comply with the 2025 TMUTCD.</p> <p>At the discretion of the District Engineer, to minimize impacts to scope, schedule, or budget late in the design process, traffic control devices may conform to the 2011 TMUTCD – Revision 2.</p> <p>All Districts are encouraged to use the 2025 TMUTCD as soon as possible after the effective date.</p>
On and after July 1, 2026	All projects letting on or after this date shall comply with the 2025 TMUTCD.

*Applies to new construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, or maintenance projects and maintenance activities. Non-compliant devices on existing facilities shall be brought into compliance as part of replacement/maintenance/upgrading activities. Traffic control devices (TCDs) purchased or contracted for purchase prior to the effective date (January 18, 2026) of the 2025 TMUTCD may be installed if they conform to the 2011 TMUTCD - Revision 2.

2025 TMUTCD Phased Implementation Table – at the front



CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to the provisions of Transportation Code, § 544.001, I certify that this 2025 Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD), which contains standards for a uniform system of traffic control devices, is in accordance with the provisions contained in a Minute Order passed by the Texas Transportation Commission on November 13, 2025.

This Manual, with any subsequent revisions, shall apply to all traffic control devices installed upon the highways, roads, and streets of this State. Compliance of all traffic control devices on projects opening to public travel on or after January 18, 2026, is strongly encouraged. Table 1 below directs a phased transition from the current 2011 TMUTCD – Revision 2, to the proposed 2025 TMUTCD.

Table 1: 2025 TMUTCD Phased Implementation*

Date	Transition Activity
July 3, 2025	TxDOT posted the draft TMUTCD on the TxDOT.gov TMUTCD website
November 13, 2025	TxDOT requests that the Texas Transportation Commission adopt the 2025 TMUTCD on this date, effective January 18, 2026.
January 18, 2026	2025 TMUTCD effective date, deadline mandated by FHWA.
January 18, 2026 – June 30, 2026	All projects letting during this period <i>should</i> comply with the 2025 TMUTCD. At the discretion of the jurisdiction, to minimize impacts to scope, schedule, or budget late in the design process, traffic control devices may conform to the 2011 TMUTCD – Revision 2. All jurisdictions are encouraged to use the 2025 TMUTCD as soon as possible after the effective date.
On and after July 1, 2026	All projects letting on or after this date <i>shall</i> comply with the 2025 TMUTCD.

*Applies to new construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, or maintenance projects and maintenance activities. Non-compliant devices on existing facilities shall be brought into compliance as part of replacement/maintenance/upgrading activities. Traffic control devices (TCDs) purchased or contracted for purchase prior to the effective date (January 18, 2026) of the 2025 TMUTCD may be installed if they conform to the 2011 TMUTCD – Revision 2.

Traffic control devices (TCDs) not previously required but which are required by new standards in this Manual shall be installed by the date indicated in Table 1B-1 "Target Compliance Dates Established by the FHWA" in the 2025 TMUTCD.

This 2025 Manual cancels and supersedes the 2011 Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices - Revision 2, as amended, and all previous editions thereof.

Official Rulings on Requests for Interpretation, Experimentations, and Changes to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

for Streets and Highways, 11th Edition, with which this Manual is correlated, may be used as interim standards in the State of Texas, pending incorporation in this Manual as "Revisions".

Designed by:



DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Marc D. Williams, P.E.

Executive Director

2025 TMUTCD Phased Implementation Table – at the front



Table 1: 2025 TMUTCD Phased Implementation*

Date	Transition Activity
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January 18, 2026 – June 30, 2026	All projects letting during this period should comply with the 2025 TMUTCD. At the discretion of the District Engineer, to minimize impacts to scope, schedule, or budget late in the design process, traffic control devices may conform to the 2011 TMUTCD – Revision 2. All Districts are encouraged to use the 2025 TMUTCD as soon as possible after the effective date.
On and after July 1, 2026	All projects letting on or after this date shall comply with the 2025 TMUTCD.

Pursuant to the provisions of the 2025 Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, the Commission on November 13, 2025, adopted the 2025 TMUTCD, effective January 18, 2026.

This Manual, with any amendments, shall be installed upon the high-traffic control devices. The 2025 TMUTCD, is strongly encouraged for all projects. The current 2011 TMUTCD may be installed.

Table 1B-1

Date
July 3, 2025
November 13, 2025
January 18, 2026
January 18, 2026 – June 30, 2026
On and after July 1, 2026

On and after July 1, 2026

*Applies to new construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, or maintenance projects and maintenance activities. Non-compliant devices on existing facilities shall be brought into compliance as part of replacement/maintenance/ upgrading activities. Traffic control devices (TCDs) purchased or contracted for purchase prior to the effective date (January 18, 2026) of the 2025 TMUTCD may be installed if they conform to the 2011 TMUTCD – Revision 2.

Traffic control devices (TCDs) not previously required but which are required by new standards in this Manual shall be installed by the date indicated in Table 1B-1 "Target Compliance Dates Established by the FHWA" in the 2025 TMUTCD.

The 2025 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices – Revision 2

Official findings on the U.S. Department of Transportation

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Traffic control devices (TCDs) not previously required but which are required by new standards in this Manual shall be installed by the date indicated in Table 1B-1 "Target Compliance Dates Established by the FHWA" in the 2025 TMUTCD.

2025 TMUTCD phased implementation: Example #1

**2025 TMUTCD
effective date:
January 18,
2026**

Project letting:

**Should comply:
January 18, 2026 –
June 30, 2026**

**Shall comply:
On and after
July 1, 2026**

The El Paso District (ELP) has an on-going multi-year construction project that let in October 2025.

Does ELP have to change order traffic control devices (TCDs) to conform to the 2025 TMUTCD?

Considerations:

- Do the TCDs in the plan set conform to the 2011 TMUTCD - Revision 2?
- Does change-ordering the TCDs to conform to the 2025 TMUTCD result in an unacceptable project delay or cost to the State?

2025 TMUTCD phased implementation: Example #2

**2025 TMUTCD
effective date:
January 18,
2026**

Project letting:

**Should comply:
January 18, 2026 –
June 30, 2026**

**Shall comply:
On and after
July 1, 2026**

The Tyler District (TYL) has a project letting in February 2026 and on tight schedule to open to the public by June 30, 2026.

Does TYL have to change order traffic control devices (TCDs) to conform to the 2025 TMUTCD?

Considerations:

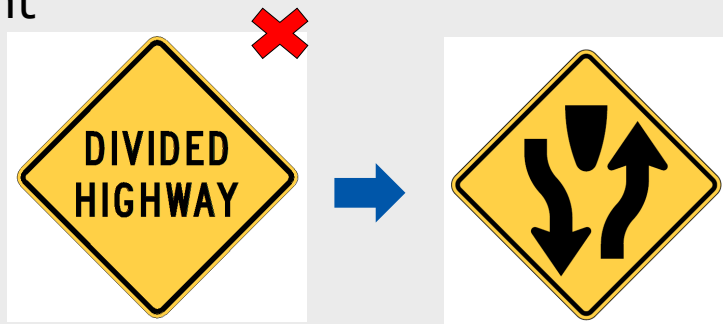
- Do the TCDs in the plan set conform to the 2011 TMUTCD - Revision 2?
- Does change-ordering the TCDs to conform to the 2025 TMUTCD result in an unacceptable project delay or cost to the State?

2025 TMUTCD phased implementation: Example #3

The Pharr District (PHR) noted a non-compliant sign during a regular sign inspection.

Does PHR have to replace this sign with one that conforms to the 2025 TMUTCD?

Considerations:



- Is the sign one of those in Table 1B-1: Targeted Compliance date?
- Is the sign serviceable? See the 2025 TMUTCD Section 1B.03 and the note at the bottom of the TMUTCD phased implementation table:

*Applies to new construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, or maintenance projects and maintenance activities. **Non-compliant devices on existing facilities shall be brought into compliance as part of replacement/maintenance/upgrading activities.** Traffic control devices (TCDs) purchased or contracted for purchase prior to the effective date (January 18, 2026) of the 2025 TMUTCD may be installed if they conform to the 2011 TMUTCD - Revision 2.

2025 TMUTCD phased implementation: Example #4

The Abilene District (ABL) has signs in stock purchased prior to January 18, 2026, for its maintenance crew to replace existing, damaged signs. A few signs do not conform to the new 2025 TMUTCD.

Can ABL use the non-conforming signs?

Considerations:

- Do the signs conform to the 2011 TMUTCD - Revision 2?
- See the note at the bottom of the TMUTCD phased implementation table:



*Applies to new construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, or maintenance projects and maintenance activities. Non-compliant devices on existing facilities shall be brought into compliance as part of replacement/maintenance/upgrading activities. Traffic control devices (TCDs) purchased or contracted for purchase prior to the effective date (January 18, 2026) of the 2025 TMUTCD may be installed if they conform to the 2011 TMUTCD - Revision 2.

Questions

TMUTCD & Additional Related Information

