

15 Riverside Parkway  
Suite 100  
Fredericksburg, VA 22406

May 22, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary, United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

We write on behalf of the organizations listed below to urge the United States Department of Transportation / Federal Highway Administration (USDOT / FHWA) to proceed immediately to update the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD or Manual) and to establish a schedule for future periodic updates.

The Manual was initially developed by a joint committee of the American Association of State Highway Officials (AASHO, now AASHTO) and the National Conference on Street and Highway Safety in 1935. The FHWA assumed responsibility for the Manual in 1971 around the time that the 1971 version was published. Thus, FHWA has had stewardship of this important document for almost 50 years.

Prior to 2010, MUTCD rulemaking was classified as "non-significant". At that time, the important technical updates to the MUTCD were reclassified as "significant," and consequently the more extensive Administration review and clearance process has become not only a stumbling block but a barrier to updating the document. Returning MUTCD updates to their prior "non-significant" rulemaking classification would seem to be a beneficial regulatory reform measure that could streamline the production of the Manual.

Since the issuance of the 2009 version of the Manual, much practical research as well as thoughtful consideration by experienced traffic and safety engineers has resulted in recommendations to improve the document and the safe and efficient operation of our roadways. And, the emergence of Connected and Automated Vehicle technologies requires that the Manual be adapted to the needs of these vehicles. This need is evidenced by the numerous references to the MUTCD made in response to FHWA's January 18, 2018 Request for Information (RFI) on Integration of Automated Driving Systems (ADS) Into the Highway Transportation System. Even organizations that represent automakers commented on this item in response to RFI Question 10.

We urge the Department to act expeditiously on this request and stand ready to work with and support FHWA's MUTCD team in updating the Manual.

Sincerely,

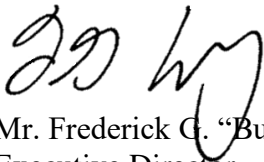
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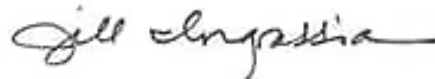
Mr. Roger A. Wentz  
President & CEO  
American Traffic Safety Services Association



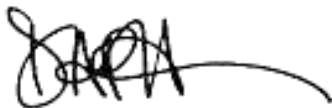
Mr. Jeffrey F. Paniati, P.E. (F)  
Executive Director and CEO  
Institute of Transportation Engineers



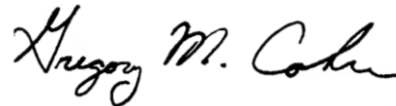
Mr. Frederick G. "Bud" Wright  
Executive Director  
American Association of State Highway  
and Transportation Officials



Mrs. Jill Ingrassia  
Managing Director, Government  
Relations and Traffic Safety Advocacy  
AAA Public Affairs



Mrs. Deborah A.P. Hersman  
President & CEO  
National Safety Council



Mr. Gregory M. Cohen  
President & CEO  
American Highway Users Alliance



Mr. David A. Raymond  
President & CEO  
American Council of Engineering Companies