








NCUTCD Bicycle Technical Committee Update

January 2016




January 2016 Meeting

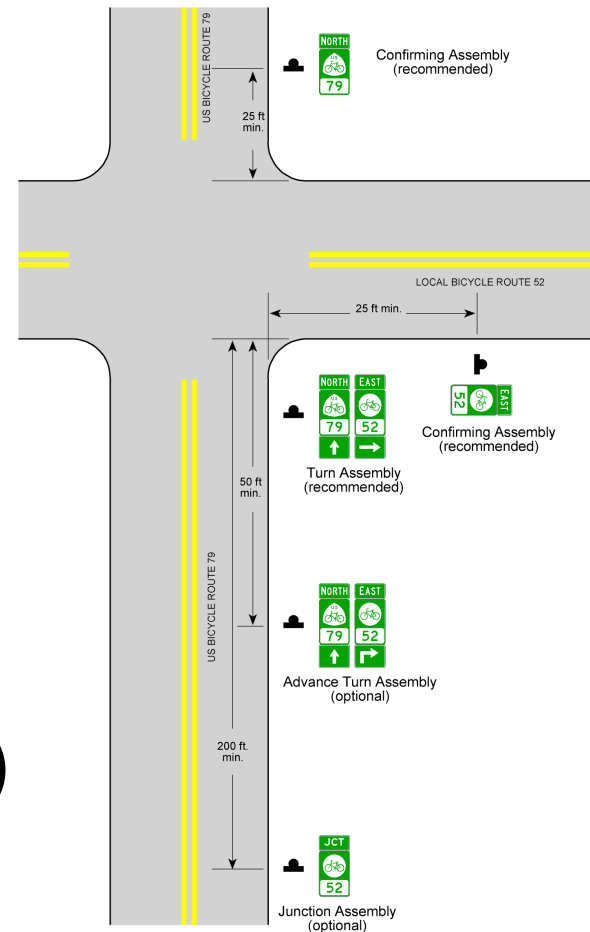
-  NCUTCD meets the week before TRB in Arlington VA (Crystal City)
-  Two bicycle-related items approved:
 -  Signing for Bicycle Routes
 -  Bicycle Service Signs

Signing for Bicycle Routes




-  Current guidelines for highway route signing aren't always affordable for bike routes
-  Full set of guide signs may not be appropriate or needed at intersections
-  Analyzed under NCHRP 20-7(350)

Signing for Bicycle Routes

-  Turn & confirming signs recommended
-  Junction & advance signs optional
-  Agencies can provide guidance by other means (maps, info sheets, websites, etc.)









Bicycle Service Signs





-  Expanding general service signs to bikeways
-  Using reduced-size signs (12" x 12")
-  Research on bicycle repair service sign coming soon



Current Issues

-  Bicyclist Overtaking Signs
-  Replacing "Share The Road"
-  Bicycle Merge Signs
-  Bicycle / Rail Signs
-  Devices for Bikeway Delineation
-  Devices for Separated Bikeway Intersections

Bicyclist Overtaking Signs

-  Many states have laws defining minimum offset for passing bicyclists
-  No uniformity in proposed sign designs
-  Some signs can send wrong message
-  Sign testing to be performed by FHWA in 2016



Replacing "Share The Road"



"Share The Road" plaque added to MUTCD in 1997



No consistent interpretation of "share" by road users







Looking at replacing with "On Road" plaque



Also looking at other signs / devices for these situations








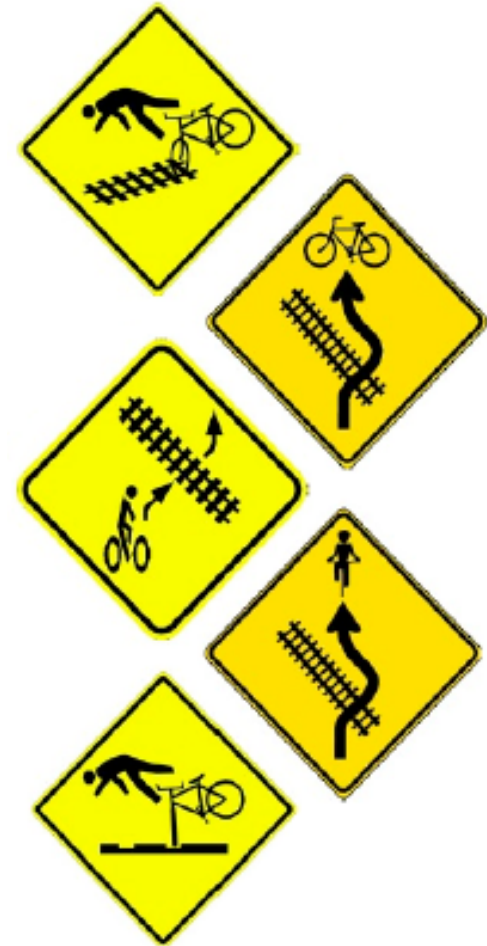
Bicycle Merge Signs

-  Investigating a warning sign where bicyclists must merge with other traffic
-  Bike lane terminations
-  Road work
-  Proposal under development







Bicycle / Rail Signs





-  Need for warning sign to address bicyclist crashes at rail locations
-  Crossings
-  Parallel tracks (streetcar)
-  Wide variety of symbol signs developed
-  Sign testing to be performed by FHWA in 2016



Devices For Bikeway Delineation

-  Increasing number of laterally-separated bikeways installed in US
-  Increasing number of devices and treatments used for separation & delineation
-  Looking into MUTCD content to define terms, devices, treatments
-  Will be analyzing established and newer design references for information

Devices For Separated Bikeway Intersections

-  Devices might reduce conflicts and crashes at intersections
 -  Active devices (beacons, signals, blank-out signs)
 -  Passive devices (standard signs, markings)
-  Research underway

Bicycle Proposals

Completed By NCUTCD



Already sent to FHWA for future MUTCD editions:



Colored bike lanes (Interim Approval)



Bicycle signals (Interim Approval)



Buffered and contraflow bike lanes



Improved bike route signs



'Bicycle boxes' - queueing & turning








Except Bicycles plaque



Work zones on bikeways - typ. applications

MUTCD Schedule

-  FHWA has indefinitely postponed revisions to the MUTCD
-  No action in current Administration
-  OMB now prioritizes rules actions
-  Historically, new Administrations wait on major rulemakings 1-2 years
-  Best unofficial estimate: No MUTCD prior to 2019-2020 or later

MUTCD Request For Comments

 FHWA is asking for input on the future structure and direction of the MUTCD

 Four questions posted

 Deadline: February 18, 2016

 Docket number: FHWA-2015-0028

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=FHWA-2015-0028>