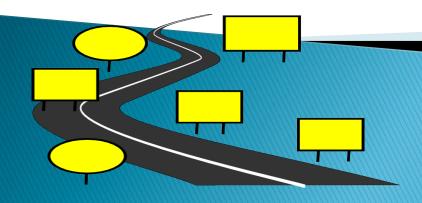






Advice on Your Advisories — Signing Roads the MUTCD Way

Steven C. Strength, PE, PTOE



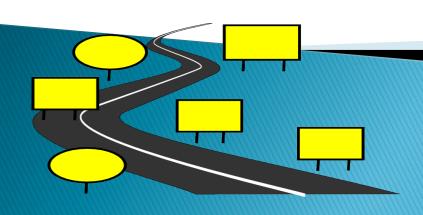
LPESA Spring Conference April 24, 2019





BASED ON: Roads Scholar Course #9

The Road to Better Signing





Who doesn't love a "" good fortune?



But is it a fortune? **





Or just more ADVICE? **





Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

- Federal policy
- All states must adopt
- Set minimums for traffic control devices:
 - Signs
 - Pavement markings
 - Signals, etc.





Functions of Signs

The functions of signs are to provide:

- , and
- _____ information for road users.
- Words, symbols, and arrows are used to convey the messages.









Functions of Signs

- ▶ The functions of signs are to provide:
 - regulation,
 - warning, and
 - guidance information for road users.
- Words, symbols, and arrows are used to convey the messages.









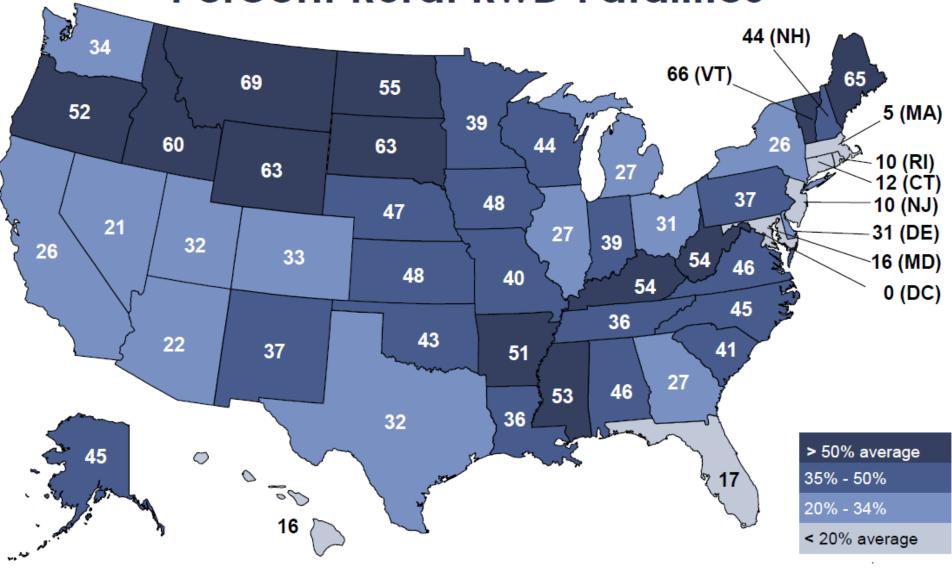
Problem – A National Issue

- One third of all traffic fatalities nationally are related to Rural Roadway Departure
- Major risk factors include curves, high speeds, impact with trees and fixed objects, rollovers, and head-on crashes
- Louisiana is FHWA focus state* for departures

*Greater problem compared to other states



Percent Rural RwD Fatalities









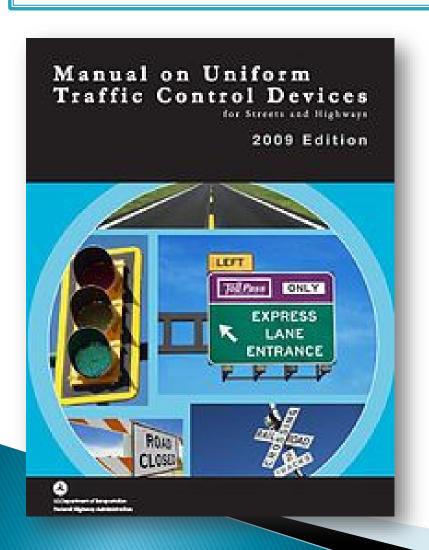
Purpose of Signs

- 1. Positive Warning & Guidance
- 2. Prevent Collisions
- 3. Reduce (Tort) Liability





Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)



- Chapter 1
- Chapter 2
- Chapter 5
- •Retroreflectivity Guidance



Why a Sign?

Convey Messages

- Laws
- Warning
- Guide



Communicate!



Manual Uniform Traffic Devices (MUTCD):

General Principles

Standards = Shall

Guidance = Should

Options = May

Support= Additional Info



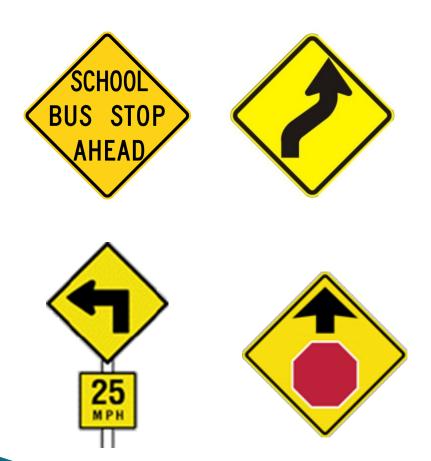
Standard Signs - Warning

B. Warning signs give notice of a situation that might not be readily apparent.



7

Warning Signs



- Used to alert road users to conditions that might call for a reduction of speed or an action in the interest of safety and efficient traffic operations.
- The use of warning signs shall be based on an engineering study or on engineering judgment.
- The use of warning signs should be kept to a minimum as the unnecessary use of warning signs tends to breed disrespect for all signs.



Warning

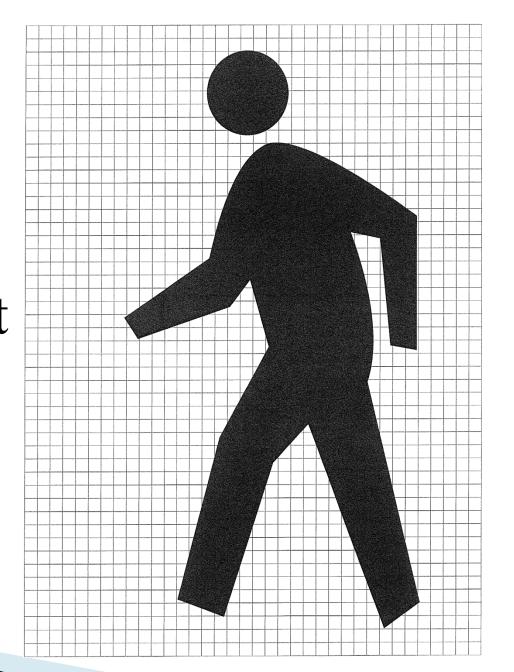
- Diamond shaped unless specifically designated otherwise in the MUTCD
- Black letters on yellow background
- Exceptions:
 - Temporary Traffic Control (Work Zones)
 - Vulnerable Road Users

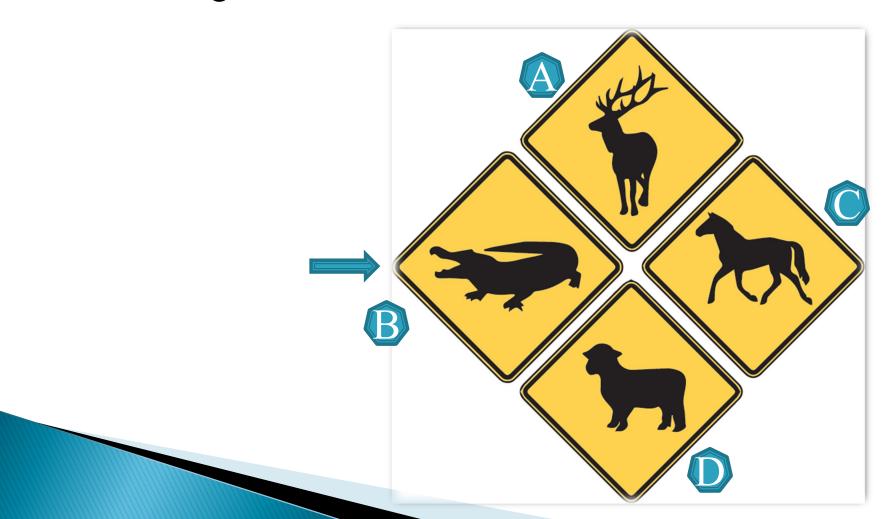




Symbols

Standard symbols must be used as specified by FHWA



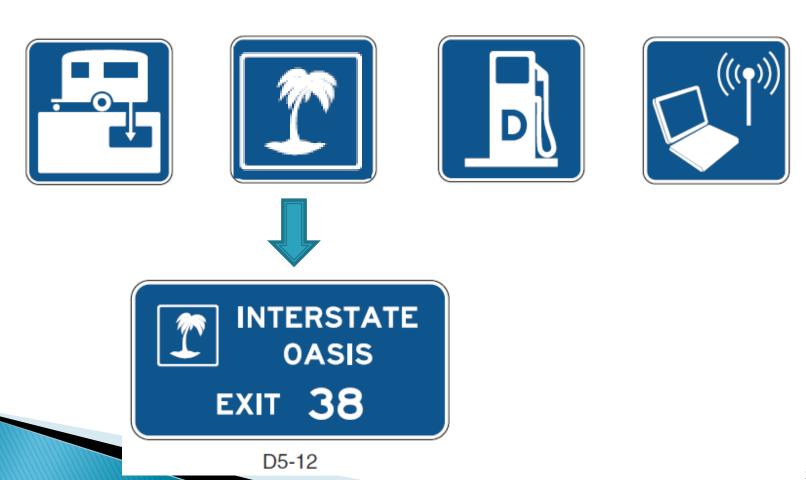






















RS-061 Swimming



RS-017



Pets on Leash



RS-098 Skateboarding



RS-011 Deer Viewing Area



RS-012 Bear Viewing Area



RS-017 Pets on Leash



RS-031 Bus Stop



RS-036 Viewing Area



RS-042 Campfires



RS-080 Point of Interest



RS-090 Fire Extinguisher



RS-099 Rattlesnakes



RS-101 Cans or Bottles



RS-102 Snack Bar



RS-103 Radios



RS-111 Strollers



RS-115 Sea Plane



RS-120 Wood Gathering



RS-122 Walk on Boardwalk



RS-123 Stay on Trail



RS-140 Pick-up Trucks







Sign Placement Techniques

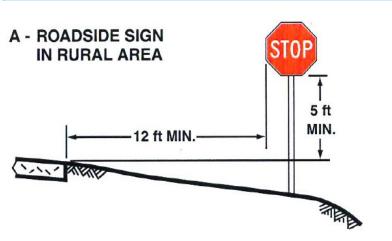


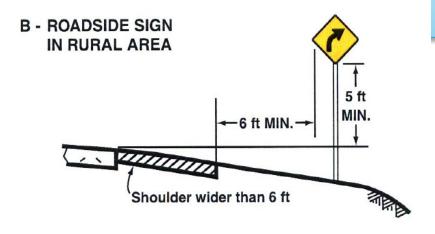
Roadside Signs

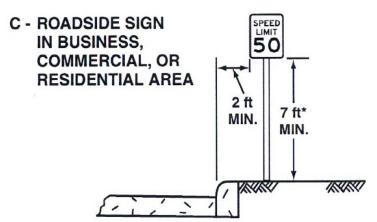
- **Lateral Placement**
- Height
- Longitudinal Placement and Advance Posting Distance

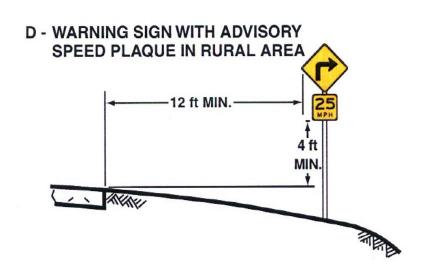


Placement Techniques



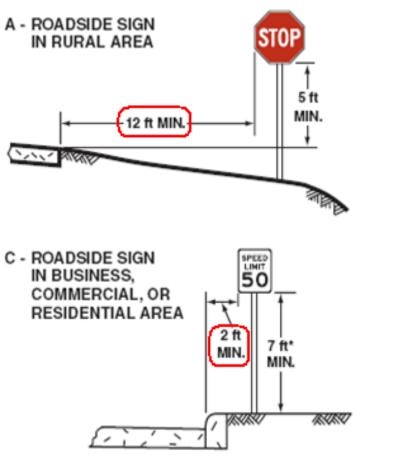




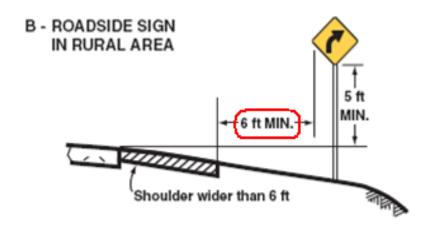


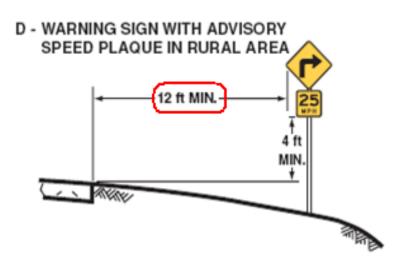
*Where parking or pedestrian movements are likely to occur

Figure 2A-2. Examples of Heights and Lateral Locations of Sign Installations



^{*}Where parking or pedestrian movements are likely to occur





- Placed to provide an adequate Perception Reaction Time
- MUTCD Table 2C-4 show the guidelines for advance warning signs

Do not place too far in advance of the condition because drivers might forget the warning because of other driving distractions

Warning Sign Placement

Advisory Speed Plaque

**Section 2C.08.

05 The Advisory Speed Plaque shall only be used to supplement a warning sign and shall not be installed as a separate sign installation. 06 The advisory speed shall be determined by an engineering study that follows established engineering practices.







Table 2C-4. Guidelines for Advance Placement of Warning Signs

Posted or 85th- Percentile Speed	Advance Placement Distance ¹									
	Condition A: Speed reduction and lane changing in heavy traffic ²	Condition B: Deceleration to the listed advisory speed (mph) for the condition								
		03	10 ⁴	204	304	404	50 ⁴	60 ⁴	70 ⁴	
20 mph	225 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	_	_	_	_	_	_	
25 mph	325 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	N/A ⁵	_	_	_	_	_	
30 mph	460 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	N/A ⁵	_	_	_	_	_	
35 mph	565 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	N/A ⁵	N/A ⁵	_	_	_	_	
40 mph	670 ft	125 ft	100 ft ⁶	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	_	_	_	_	
45 mph	775 ft	175 ft	125 ft	100 ft ⁶	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	_	_	_	
50 mph	885 ft	250 ft	200 ft	175 ft	125 ft	100 ft ⁶	_	_	_	
55 mph	990 ft	325 ft	275 ft	225 ft	200 ft	125 ft	N/A ⁵	_	_	
60 mph	1,100 ft	400 ft	350 ft	325 ft	275 ft	200 ft	100 ft ⁶	_	_	
65 mph	1,200 ft	475 ft	450 ft	400 ft	350 ft	275 ft	200 ft	100 ft ⁶	_	
70 mph	1,250 ft	550 ft	525 ft	500 ft	450 ft	375 ft	275 ft	150 ft	_	
75 mph	1,350 ft	650 ft	625 ft	600 ft	550 ft	475 ft	375 ft	250 ft	100 ft ⁶	

¹The distances are adjusted for a sign legibility distance of 180 feet for Condition A. The distances for Condition B have been adjusted for a sign legibility distance of 250 feet, which is appropriate for an alignment warning symbol sign. For Conditions A and B, warning signs with less than 6-inch legend or more than four words, a minimum of 100 feet should be added to the advance placement distance to provide adequate legibility of the warning sign.

² Typical conditions are locations where the road user must use extra time to adjust speed and change lanes in heavy traffic because of a complex driving situation. Typical signs are Merge and Right Lane Ends. The distances are determined by providing the driver a PRT of 14.0 to 14.5 seconds for vehicle maneuvers (2005 AASHTO Policy, Exhibit 3-3, Decision Sight Distance, Avoidance Maneuver E) minus the legibility distance of 180 feet for the appropriate sign.

³ Typical condition is the warning of a potential stop situation. Typical signs are Stop Ahead, Yield Ahead, Signal Ahead, and Intersection Warning signs. The distances are based on the 2005 AASHTO Policy, Exhibit 3-1, Stopping Sight Distance, providing a PRT of 2.5 seconds, a deceleration rate of 11.2 feet/second², minus the sign legibility distance of 180 feet.

⁴ Typical conditions are locations where the road user must decrease speed to maneuver through the warned condition. Typical signs are Turn, Curve, Reverse Turn, or Reverse Curve. The distance is determined by providing a 2.5 second PRT, a vehicle deceleration rate of 10 feet/second², minus the sign legibility distance of 250 feet.

No suggested distances are provided for these speeds, as the placement location is dependent on site conditions and other signing. An alignment warning sign may be placed anywhere from the point of curvature up to 100 feet in advance of the curve. However, the alignment warning sign should be installed in advance of the curve and at least 100 feet from any other signs.

⁶ The minimum advance placement distance is listed as 100 feet to provide adequate spacing between signs.



Table 2C-4. Guidelines for Advance Placement of Warning Signs

Posted or 85th- Percentile Speed	Advance Placement Distance ¹										
	Condition A: Speed reduction - and lane changing in heavy traffic ²	Condition B: Deceleration to the listed advisory speed (mph) for the condition									
		03	10 ⁴	204	304	404	50 ⁴	60 ⁴	704		
20 mph	225 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	_ /	<u> </u>	_	_	_	_		
25 mph	325 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	N/A ⁵		_	_	_	_		
30 mph	460 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵			_	_	_	_		
35 mph	565 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵			_	_	_	_		
40 mph	670 ft	125 ft	100 ft ⁶	100 ft	N/A⁵	_	_	_	_		
45 mph	775 ft	175 ft	125 ft	>100 ft ⁶	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	_		_		
50 mph	885 ft	250 ft	200 ft	175 ft	125 ft	100 ft ⁶	_	-	_		
55 mph	990 ft	325 ft	275 ft	225 ft	200 ft	125 ft	N/A ⁵	_	_		
60 mph	1,100 ft	400 ft	350 ft	325 ft	275 ft	200 ft	100 ft ⁶	_			
65 mph	1,200 ft	475 ft	450 ft	400 ft	350 ft	275 ft	200 ft	100 ft ⁶	_		
70 mph	1,250 ft	550 ft	525 ft	500 ft	450 ft	375 ft	275 ft	150 ft	_		
75 mph	1,350 ft	650 ft	625 ft	600 ft	550 ft	475 ft	375 ft	250 ft	100 ft ⁶		

¹The distances are adjusted for a sign legibility distance of 180 feet for Condition A. The distances for Condition B have been adjusted for a sign legibility distance of 250 feet, which is appropriate for an alignment warning symbol sign. For Conditions A and B, warning signs with less than 6-inch legend or more than four words, a minimum of 100 feet should be added to the advance placement distance to provide adequate legibility of the warning sign.

² Typical conditions are locations where the road user must use extra time to adjust speed and change lanes in heavy traffic because of a complex driving situation. Typical signs are Merge and Right Lane Ends. The distances are determined by providing the driver a PRT of 14.0 to 14.5 seconds for vehicle maneuvers (2005 AASHTO Policy, Exhibit 3-3, Decision Sight Distance, Avoidance Maneuver E) minus the legibility distance of 180 feet for the appropriate sign.

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No suggested distances are provided for these speeds, as the placement location is dependent on site conditions and other signing. An alignment warning sign may be placed anywhere from the point of curvature up to 100 feet in advance of the curve. However, the alignment warning sign should be installed in advance of the curve and at least 100 feet from any other signs.

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Table 2C-4. Guidelines for Advance Placement of Warning Signs

	Ι			Advance	Diagonant D	istanas1					
Destad		Advance Placement Distance ¹									
Posted or 85th-	Condition A: Speed reduction –	Condition B: Deceleration to the listed advisory speed (mph) for the condition									
Percentile Speed	and lane changing in heavy traffic ²	03	104	204	304	40 ⁴	50 ⁴	60⁴	704		
20 mph	225 ft	100 ft ⁴	N/A ⁵	_	_	_	_	_	_		
25 mph	325 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A⁵	N/A ⁵	_	_		_	_		
30 mph	460 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	N/A ⁵	_			_	_		
35 mph	565 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	N/A⁵	N/A5			_	_		
40 mph	670 ft	125 ft	100 ft ⁶	100 40	N/A ⁵	_		_	_		
45 mph	775 ft	175 ft	125 ft	≥100 ft ⁶	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵		_	_		
50 mph	885 ft	250 ft	200 ft	175 ft	125 ft	100 ft ⁶	_	_	_		
55 mph	990 ft	325 ft	275 ft	225 ft	200 ft	125 ft	N/A ⁵	_	_		
60 mph	1,100 ft	400 ft	350 ft	325 ft	275 ft	200 ft	100 ft ⁶	_			
65 mph	1,200 ft	475 ft	450 ft	400 ft	350 ft	275 ft	200 ft	100 ft ⁶	_		
70 mph	1,250 ft	550 f	525 ft	500 ft	450 ft	375 ft	275 ft	150 ft	_		
75 mph	1,350 ft	650/t	625 ft	600 ft	550 ft	475 ft	375 ft	250 ft	100 ft ⁶		

¹ The distances are adjusted for a sign legibility distance of 180 feet for Condition A. The distances for Condition B have been adjusted for a sign legibility distance of 250 feet, which is appropriate for an alignment warning symbol sign. For Conditions A and B, warning signs with less than 6-inch legend or more than four words, a minimum of 100 feet should be added to the advance placement distance to provide adequate legibility of the warning sign.

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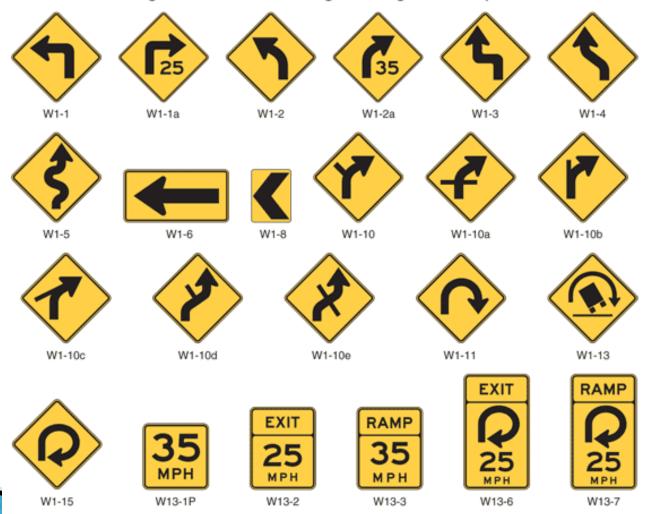
⁶ The minimum advance placement distance is listed as 100 feet to provide adequate spacing between signs.

Horizontal Alignment Signs

- ▶ Shall be used in advance of horizontal curves:
 - on freeways,
 - on expressways, and
 - on roadways with more than 1,000 AADT

Horizontal Alignment Signs

Figure 2C-1. Horizontal Alignment Signs and Plaques



Note: Turn arrows and reverse turn arrows may be substituted for the curve arrows and reverse curve arrows on the W1-10 series signs where appropriate.

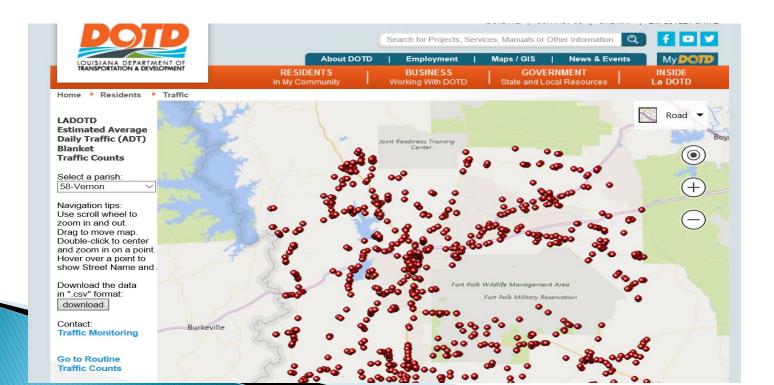


Proper signing for curves

- Traffic volume of the roadway
- Speed limit of the roadway, or prevailing speed on the approach
- Proper advisory speed for the curve
- Difference between prevailing speed and advisory speed.

Finding ADT

- ▶ Go to dotd.la.gov
- Search "Traffic Counts"
- Select "Blanket Counts" for your parish
- Select "Download the data in csv format"



Finding ADT

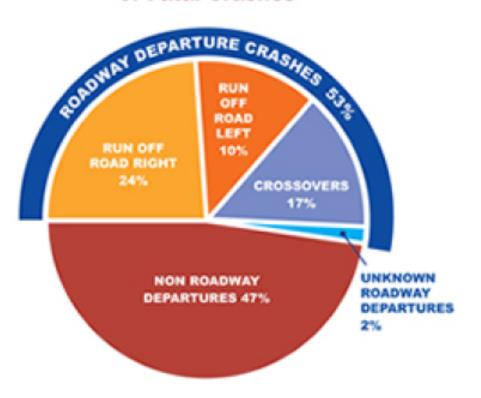
PARISH_N			LRS_LOG								LONGITU
AME	STREET_NAME	LRS_ID	MILE	YEAR1	YEAR2	YEAR3	ADT1	ADT2	ADT3 I	LATITUDE [DE
Acadia	Basile Eunice Hwy	012-10-2-010	7.569	2007	1986		6124	2813		30.48118	-92.6177
Acadia	Basile Eunice Hwy	012-10-1-010	0.018	3 2006	1986		5972	3455		30.48103	-92.6174
Acadia	Belton St	3.99005E+16	5 0.004	2006	1986	1981	469	283	299	30.48098	-92.6069
Acadia	Paul Bellon Rd	1.90352E+15	5 0.201	L 2006	1986	1981	532	376	566	30.48005	-92.5962
Acadia				2006	1986	1981	360	231	271	30.47683	-92.5966
Acadia	Miguel Rd	1.90283E+15	0.212	2 2006	1986	1981	151	69	62	30.47707	-92.5934
Acadia	Alfa Romeo Rd	1.90026E+15	3.803	3 2006	1986	1981	434	278	294	30.47968	-92.5897
Acadia	Basile Eunice Hwy	012-10-2-010	5.641	L 2006	i		6587			30.48052	-92.5854
Acadia	Evangeline Hwy	201-03-1-010	10.876	2006			903			30.47943	-92.5813
Acadia	Basile Eunice Hwy	012-10-1-010	2.264	1 2006			6140			30.48057	-92.5798
Acadia	Bryan Perrodin Loop	1.90071E+15	0.058	3 2006	1986	1981	42	14	20	30.4797	-92.5728
Acadia	Bryan Perrodin Loop	1.90071E+15	5 1.71	L 2006	1986	1981	37	27	43	30.48	-92.56

Proper signing for curves

Reasons for the new requirements

Roadway Departure Safety Concerns

An emphasis area for the FHWA to reduce fatalities & crash severity Roadway Departure Crashes
Account for 53 Percent
of Fatal Crashes



Source: FHWA Office of Safety



Figure 2C-2. Example of Warning Signs for a Turn

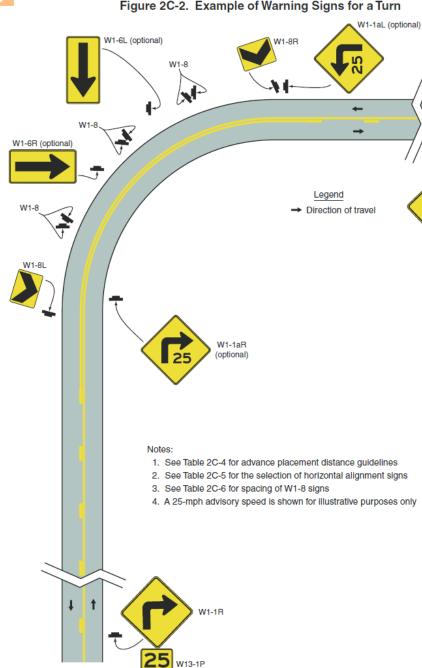


Table 2C-5. Horizontal Alignment Sign Selection

Type of Havizantal	Difference Between Speed Limit and Advisory Speed							
Type of Horizontal Alignment Sign	5 mph 10 mph		15 mph	20 mph	25 mph or more			
Turn (W1-1), Curve (W1-2), Reverse Turn (W1-3), Reverse Curve (W1-4), Winding Road (W1-5), and Combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection (W10-1) (see Section 2C.07 to determine which sign to use)	Recommended	Required	Required	Required	Required			
Advisory Speed Plaque (W13-1P)	Recommended	Required	Required	Required	Required			
Chevrons (W1-8) and/or One Direction Large Arrow (W1-6)	Optional	Recommended	Required	Required	Required			
Exit Speed (W13-2) and Ramp Speed (W13-3) on exit ramp	Optional	Optional	Recommended	Required	Required			

Note: Required means that the sign and/or plaque shall be used, recommended means that the sign and/or plaque should be used, and optional means that the sign and/or plaque may be used.

See Section 2C.06 for roadways with less than 1,000 ADT.

Figure 2C-2. Example of Warning Signs for a Turn

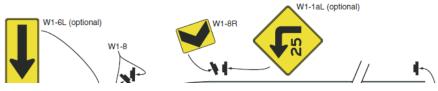


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Advisory Speed Plaque (W13-1P)	Recommended	Required	Required	Required	Required			
Chevrons (W1-8) and/or One Direction Large Arrow (W1-6)	Optional	Recommended	Required	Required	Required			
Exit Speed (W13-2) and Ramp Speed (W13-3) on exit ramp	Optional	Optional	Recommended	Required	Required			

Note: Required means that the sign and/or plaque shall be used, recommended means that the sign and/or plaque should be used, and optional means that the sign and/or plaque may be used.

See Section 2C.06 for roadways with less than 1,000 ADT.



Table 2C-4. Guidelines for Advance Placement of Warning Signs

				Advand	ce l	Placement D	istance ¹			
Posted or 85th-	Condition A: Speed reduction	CONDIDOR D. Deceleration to the fisted advisory speed inform for the condition								
Percentile Speed	and lane changing in heavy traffic ²	O ³	104	204		304	404	50 ⁴	60 ⁴	70 ⁴
20 mph	225 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	\		_	_	_		_
25 mph	325 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	N/A ⁵		_	_	_		_
30 mph	460 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	N/A ⁵		_	_	_		<u> </u>
35 mph	565 ft	100 ft ⁶	N/A ⁵	N/A ⁵		N/A ⁵	_	_		_
40 mph	670 ft	125 ft	100 ft ⁶	100 ft ⁶		N/A ⁵	-/	_	25	_
45 mph	775 ft	175 ft	125 ft	100 ft ⁶		100 ft ⁶	NI-A6	_	МРН	
50 mph	885 ft	250 ft	200 ft	175 ft		10511	100 ft ⁶	_	_	_
55 mph	990 ft	325 ft	275 ft	225 ft		200 ft	125 ft	N/A ⁵	_	_
60 mph	1,100 ft	400 ft	350 It	325 it	F	275 ft	200 ft	100 ft ⁶	1	_
65 mph	1,200 ft	475 ft	450 ft	400 ft		350 ft	275 ft	200 ft	100 ft ⁶	_
70 mph	1,250 ft	550 ft	525 ft	500 ft		450 ft	375 ft	275 ft	150 ft	_
75 mph	1,350 ft	650 ft	625 ft	600 #		550 ft	475 ft	375 ft	250 ft	100 ft ⁶

¹ The distances are adjusted for a sign legibility distance of 180 feet for Condition A. The distances for Condition B have been adjusted for a sign legibility distance of 250 feet, which is appropriate for an alignment warning symbol sign. For Conditions A and B, warning signs with less than 6-inch legend or more than four words, a minimum of 100 feet should be added to the advance placement distance to provide adequate legibility of the warning sign.

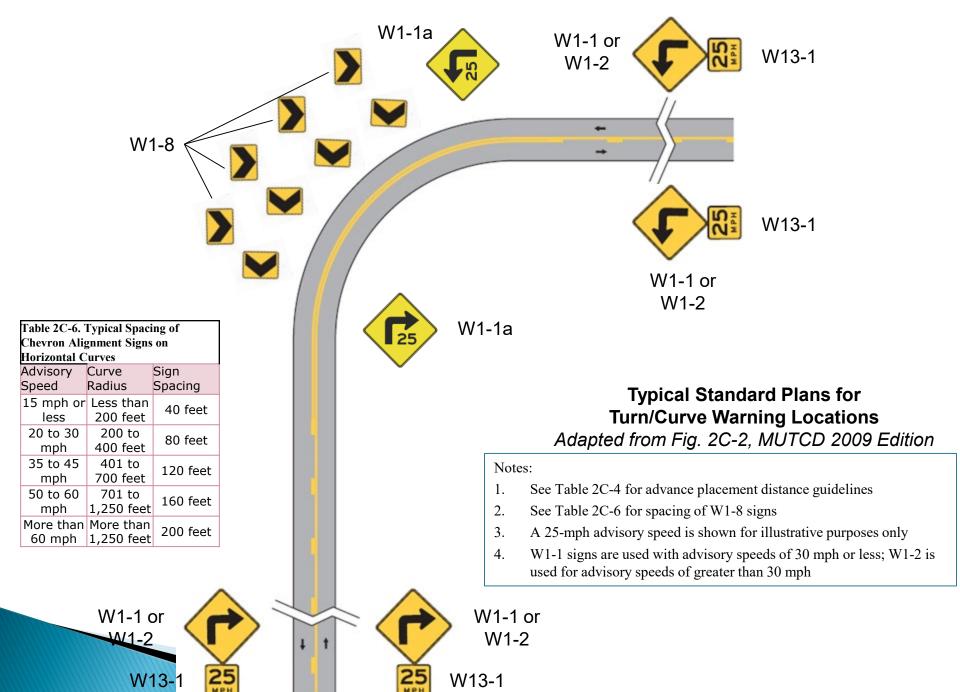
² Typical conditions are locations where the road user must use extra time to adjust speed and change lanes in heavy traffic because of a complex driving situation. Typical signs are Merge and Right Lane Ends. The distances are determined by providing the driver a PRT of 14.0 to 14.5 seconds for vehicle maneuvers (2005 AASHTO Policy, Exhibit 3-3, Decision Sight Distance, Avoidance Maneuver E) minus the legibility distance of 180 feet for the appropriate sign.

³ Typical condition is the warning of a potential stop situation. Typical signs are Stop Ahead, Yield Ahead, Signal Ahead, and Intersection Warning signs. The distances are based on the 2005 AASHTO Policy, Exhibit 3-1, Stopping Sight Distance, providing a PRT of 2.5 seconds, a deceleration rate of 11.2 feet/second², minus the sign legibility distance of 180 feet.

⁴ Typical conditions are locations where the road user must decrease speed to maneuver through the warned condition. Typical signs are Turn, Curve, Reverse Turn, or Reverse Curve. The distance is determined by providing a 2.5 second PRT, a vehicle deceleration rate of 10 feet/second², minus the sign legibility distance of 250 feet.

⁵ No suggested distances are provided for these speeds, as the placement location is dependent on site conditions and other signing. An alignment warning sign may be placed anywhere from the point of curvature up to 100 feet in advance of the curve. However, the alignment warning sign should be installed in advance of the curve and at least 100 feet from any other signs.

⁶ The minimum advance placement distance is listed as 100 feet to provide adequate spacing between signs.



What's wrong with this picture?



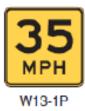
"New" Requirements for Horizontal Alignment Signs

Sign Type

Advance Warning



Advisory Speed



Large Arrow, Chevrons





W1-8

Exit Ramp signs





Inputs to Table 2C-5

Speed

Speed Limit



Advisory Speed



Difference between the two

Speed Limit

- ▶ Table: "Speed Limit"
- Text: "Posted, Statutory, or 85th Percentile, whichever is higher, or the prevailing speed"
- Agency policy?

Advisory Speed

- Established engineering practices
- Accelerometer (side friction)
- factors)
- Design speed equation
- Traditional ball bank indicator



Source: Rieker Electronics, Inc. & R.Seyfried, J. Pline



source: R. Seyfried

New Ball Bank Indicator Criteria

- ▶ 16 degrees: 20 mph or less
- ▶ 14 degrees: 25 to 30 mph
- ▶ 12 degrees: 35 mph or more

Photo credit: R. Seyfried



Table 2C-5 "Shall"s

Table 2C-5. Horizontal Alignment Sign Selection

Type of Harizantal	Difference Between Speed Limit and Advisory Speed							
Type of Horizontal Alignment Sign	5 mph 10 mph 15 mph		20 mph	25 mph or more				
Turn (W1-1), Curve (W1-2), Reverse Turn (W1-3), Reverse Curve (W1-4), Winding Road (W1-5), and Combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection (W10-1) (see Section 2C.07 to determine which sign to use)	Recommended	Required	Required	Required	Required			
Advisory Speed Plaque (W13-1P)	Recommended	Required	Required	Required	Required			
Chevrons (W1-8) and/or One Direction Large Arrow (W1-6)	Optional	Recommended	Required	Required	Required			
Exit Speed (W13-2) and Ramp Speed (W13-3) on exit ramp	Optional	Optional	Recommended	Required	Required			

Note: Required means that the sign and/or plaque shall be used, recommended means that the sign and/or plaque should be used, and optional means that the sign and/or plaque may be used.

Table 2C-5 "Should"s

Table 2C-5. Horizontal Alignment Sign Selection

Type of Herizontal	Difference Between Speed Limit and Advisory Speed								
Type of Horizontal Alignment Sign	5 mph 10 mph		15 mph	20 mph	25 mph or more				
Turn (W1-1), Curve (W1- 2), Reverse Turn (W1-3), Reverse Curve (W1-4), Winding Road (W1-5), and Combination Horizontal Alignment/Intersection (W10-1) (see Section 2C.07 to determine which sign to use)	Recommended	Required	Required	Required	Required				
Advisory Speed Plaque (W13-1P)	Recommended	Required	Required	Required	Required				
Chevrons (W1-8) and/or One Direction Large Arrow (W1-6)	Optional	Recommended	Required	Required	Required				
Exit Speed (W13-2) and Ramp Speed (W13-3) on exit ramp	Optional	Optional	Recommended	Required	Required				

Note: Required means that the sign and/or plaque shall be used, recommended means that the sign and/or plaque should be used, and optional means that the sign and/or plaque may be used.



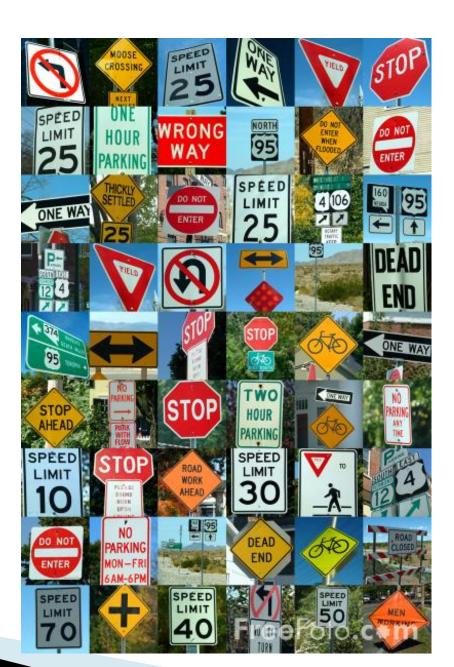
Louisiana Local Road Traffic Sign Handbook for Parishes and Small Communities







Sign Inventory



Too Much Information?



Any Questions?



No Conflicting Messages

No Confusing Information



Any Questions?



Please fill out your EVALUATIONS!



Steven C. Strength, PE, PTOE, LA LTAP Center (225) 767-9118 DESTINATION ZERO

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