

Introduction

Iowa Traffic Control Devices and Pavement Markings: A Manual for Cities and Counties has been developed to provide state and local transportation agencies with suggestions and examples related to traffic control devices and pavement markings. Both rural and urban applications are included.

The primary source of information for this document is the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*, but many additional references have also been used. A complete listing of these is included in the appendix to this manual, and the reader is invited to consult these references for more in-depth information.

The contents of this manual are not intended to represent standard practice or to imply legal requirements for installation in any particular manner. This document should be used as a supplement to the *MUTCD*, not as a substitute for any requirements contained therein. Engineering judgement should be applied to all decisions regarding traffic control devices and pavement markings.

All references to the *MUTCD* in this manual apply to the millennium edition. The reader should be aware that many millennium revisions are allowed phase-in periods by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), ranging from two to ten years. These extended compliance periods should be considered when making decisions regarding traffic control devices and pavement markings. A new addition to the *MUTCD*, Part 5, "Traffic Control Devices for Low-Volume Roads," also contains valuable recommendations for signing and marking low-volume roads.

This manual is presented in an easy to use three-ring format. Topics included in the complete guide manual may not apply to all jurisdictions and can easily be removed or modified as desired. Desired millennium *MUTCD* sections may be added for quick reference using the divider at the end of this document. Contents may also be available on CD-ROM in the future.

The *MUTCD* can be found at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/>.

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