

A SAFETY UPDATE...

From the Federal Highway Administration – New Jersey Division Office



Volume 2

Winter 2005

Guest Speaker...New Jersey's Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan

By: Patricia Ott, Director, Division of Traffic Engineering & Safety, NJDOT

The Safety Management Task Force (SMTF) coordinated through the NJ Department of Transportation (NJDOT), is currently putting together a plan that puts forth strategies in the 3Es, engineering, education and enforcement, to help reduce crashes and deaths on NJ roadways. Extensive crash data analysis has helped identify the New Jersey's emphasis areas, which include improving the design and operation of intersections, curbing aggressive driving, reducing impaired driving, increasing driver safety awareness, to name just a few. Each emphasis area will incorporate background and statistical information to understand the problem, a set of strategies to assist in mitigating the problem area, performance indicators to measure the success of the strategies, and the implementation plan for the strategies. The plan will be completed shortly and available for your use to implement strategies at the local level.

SMTF members include NJDOT, FHWA, NJTPA, DVRPC, SJTPO, State Police, State Chiefs of Police, NJ State Safety Council, Federal Motor Carrier, NJTA, SJTA, DHTS, MVC and Rutgers University.

MUTCD News

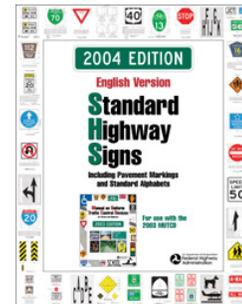
Standard Highway Signs: The 2004 edition of the Standard Highway Signs (SHS) Book is now available (dated December 2004). The SHS book is the companion document to the 2003 edition of the MUTCD and contains layout details for designing signs.

Interim Approvals: Section 1A.10 of the 2003 edition of the MUTCD contains a new provision authorizing the Federal Highway Administration to issue Interim Approvals. Such approvals allow the interim use, pending official rulemaking, of a new traffic control device, a revision to the application or manner of use of an existing traffic control device, or a provision not specifically described in the MUTCD. Interim Approvals that have been issued by FHWA include:

- Use of Automated Flagger Assistance Devices in Temporary Traffic Control Zones
- Use of Clearview Font for Positive Contrast Legends on Guide Signs
- Optional use of wayside horn system at highway-rail grade crossings
- Optional use of retroreflective borders on traffic signal backplates

Pocket Guide to Improve Traffic Control and Mobility for Our Older Population: The goal of this pocket guide is to assist transportation professionals in making decisions about the use of traffic control devices, taking into account the unique needs of our nation's increasingly elderly population.

For additional information, please visit <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov>.



A Technology Update...Roadside Design

The nested rail system as illustrated in the detail below eliminates the need for a post where guide rail crosses minor structures or culverts with limited cover while still meeting current design standards.

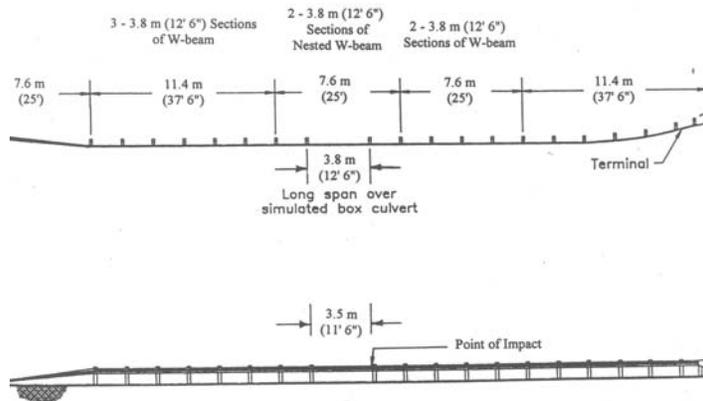
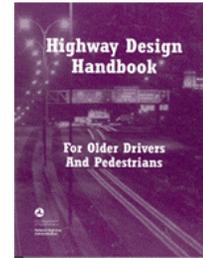


FIGURE 5. NESTING OF W-BEAM RAIL FOR LEFT OUT POST

Upcoming Events

Older Driver
Design Workshop



May 11, 2005
Trenton, NJ

Contact:
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PEDSAFE

Pedestrian Safety Guide and Countermeasure Selection System

The Pedestrian Safety Guide and Countermeasure Selection System is intended to provide practitioners with the latest information available for improving the safety and mobility of those who walk. The online tools provide the user with a list of possible engineering, education, or enforcement treatments to improve pedestrian safety and/or mobility based on user input about a specific location.

For additional information, visit <http://www.walkinginfo.org/pedsafe/>.

12 MONTHS OF TRAFFIC SAFETY UPDATE



Copies of the print materials can be downloaded from <http://mvc.nj.gov>.

The 12 Months of Traffic Safety Public Outreach Campaign is well underway. Informational brochures and posters have been developed for January, February, and March, as shown to the left. These materials are being disseminated throughout the state to such venues as AAA offices, MVC offices and inspection stations, legislators, insurance companies, police and various other traffic safety organizations. Please help us spread the word by disseminating these materials throughout your community. To receive copies of the monthly brochures, email nj.safety@fhwa.dot.gov.

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