

# Oregon Traffic Control Devices Committee

March 21, 2008

## Meeting Minutes

Springfield City Hall Library

Springfield, Oregon

Members Present: [Cynthia Schmitt](#), Chair, Marion County; [Brian Barnett](#), City of Springfield; [Ed Chastain](#), Vice-Chair, Lane County; [Ed Fischer](#), Secretary, ODOT State Traffic Engineer; [Alan Hageman](#), OSP; [Joel McCarroll](#), ODOT Region 4; [Joseph Marek](#), Clackamas County; [Charles Radosta](#), ITE, Kittelson and Associates

Members Absent: [Robin Lewis](#), City of Bend; [Massoud Saberian](#), City of Lake Oswego

Others Present: Debby Corey, Jan Gipson, Kevin Haas, Katie Johnson, Scott McCanna, Greg Stellmach, ODOT Traffic-Roadway Section; Ann Holder, ODOT Transportation Safety Division; Nick Fortey, FHWA; Steve Gallup, Chris Henry, Tom Larsen, City of Eugene; Orville Gaylor, retired ODOT; Bret Goss, First Call Flagging; Terry Hockett, Kevin Hottmann, City of Salem; Eric Niemeyer, Siskiyou County, California; Jerilyn Wen, Marion County; Eilene Wolven, Washington County

### **Introduction – Approval of Minutes – Additional Agenda Items**



Chairperson Cynthia Schmitt, having been issued her new gavel, called the meeting to order. Members and other attendees introduced themselves. Ed Fischer announced that Massoud Saberian has been selected by the League of Oregon Cities to replace retiring Mike Coleman. Massoud should be at the next meeting. Ed Fischer then moved to accept the January 18, 2008 meeting minutes. Joe Marek seconded and the committee voted unanimously in favor. Ed Chastain and Ed Fischer indicated they had non-agenda items if time allowed after the regular agenda was completed.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Homebuilders' Sign Kiosks**

Ed Fischer reported on the [letter](#) sent out to the League of Oregon Cities ([LOC](#)) and Association of Oregon Counties ([AOC](#)). The letter, signed by Ed for ODOT and Cindy Schmitt for the Committee, reminds all cities and counties not to allow advertising or other type signs that are not in compliance with the MUTCD. This was as decided by the committee in January regarding homebuilders' proposed advertising kiosk signing within the right of way. Ed reported a positive response from the Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors

(OACES). Committee members acknowledged the letter was filtering down to them from the associations and that responses have also been positive in their jurisdictions.

### **Automated Flagger Assistance Devices (AFAD's)**

Scott McCanna asked the committee to reconsider earlier [discussions](#) regarding the rules for the use of these devices that would bring Oregon's policy in line with the Draft 2009 MUTCD [language](#)\* on AFAD's. He referred to existing [special provisions](#) and [standard detail](#) sheets. The change would essentially allow one flagger to operate two AFAD's or one AFAD and one STOP paddle in limited circumstances where the two locations are less than 800 feet apart and the flagger has an unobstructed view of the AFAD's and approaching traffic.

\* Note – to print this document with Scott's markup included: On the print dialogue, you will need to select "document and markup".

Scott noted that ODOT's Qualified Product List/Conditional Use List requires a fail-safe function to prevent two AFAD's from giving conflicting signals. He suggested that crews using AFAD's test the procedure off-road to be sure they are comfortable with it. If they find that it increases safety risks, they should not use the single flagger option and should let Scott know so that appropriate adjustments to policy can be made.



As Scott explained, Oregon currently requires one operator for each AFAD in use. Scott noted that Oregon doesn't yet have an approved training program for AFAD operations as required by the draft MUTCD language. The new policy would also allow use of the AFAD's for periods not longer than three consecutive days.

Ed Fischer noted that the Short Term Traffic Control Handbook would need an update to add the rules about AFAD's.

**Decision:** Ed Fischer moved that the Committee conceptually approve a revision in existing policies regarding operation of AFAD's that matches the proposed language of the draft MUTCD. Joel McCarroll seconded and the committee voted unanimously in favor.

✓ **Action Item** – ODOT will create policy documentation in line with the draft MUTCD, develop a training program for operators, and add the rules about AFAD's to the Short Term Traffic Control Handbook. ODOT will report back to the Committee on what ODOT develops in implementing the concept approved by the Committee.

### **Sign Policy & Guidelines Update**

Greg Stellmach presented a handout of [proposed changes](#) to the Sign Policy. The committee approved a new sign (OR4-20) advising drivers "STATE LAW – MOVE OVER OR SLOW DOWN FOR STOPPED EMERGENCY VEHICLES". They also approved new Disabled Parking Sign signing (OR7-8) which removes fine amount and renumbers Sign No OR20-6B. OR20-6C (parallel parking version) was also deleted from the sign policy.



## [SB 1084, "Fill the Boot" Type Pedestrian Activities](#)

Ed Fischer reported to the committee on the new law which makes it legal for authorized groups to be within the roadway as pedestrians while conducting operations such as "Fill the Boot" drives. SB 1084 requires them to post advance warning signs for their activity. He was seeking Committee ideas about wording for the signs that ODOT needs to approve for use by organizations who obtain permits for this kind of activity in the roadway. An administrative rule will be written to flesh out the new law in policy. Ed said that perhaps ODOT needs to come up with a series of signs to describe different types of events. Anyone who has experience with or ideas for signing these events should send sign proposals to him so a decision can be made at a future meeting. The committee had questions in Section 6 of the new law as to implementation dates and what apparent sunset provisions of the law means. Ed said he'd consult with the office of Legislative Counsel to clarify.

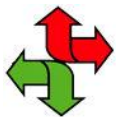


## [Draft 2009 MUTCD Review Subcommittees](#)

Kevin Haas [coordinated](#) a briefing on review to date of the proposed new MUTCD. He said that any road or facility (public or private) that is open to public travel should comply with the new Manual. Kevin reviewed the requirements for states to be in "substantial conformance" with the MUTCD in any state supplements unless state law (or administrative rule implementing state law) dictates otherwise. States may be stricter, but cannot be more lenient. He reviewed updated compliance dates which are mostly 10 years from effective date of the Final Rule. Kevin also went over revisions to Part 1 (General) of the MUTCD, including the exclusive reservation of the color purple for toll facilities, new definitions and revised/expanded abbreviation listing.

Jan Gipson briefed the committee on a very preliminary [review](#) of Part 7 (Schools) and Part 9 (Bicycles). She suggested committee members would like more specific direction of what the committee would like to see out of the subcommittees. Ed said he'd like to get consensus on things that the committee would like to see changed that he can take to the [NCUTCD](#) meeting in July. He'd like to have any proposed additions, deletions, changes to the draft from subcommittees by the May meeting. Kevin asked that anyone who has other issues in Part 7 or 9 to contact Jan so that those parts can be ready for review at the May meeting.

Katie Johnson briefed the committee on [Part 3](#) (Markings). Thus far the only comments have come from Doug Bish and Katie. She has classified her comments as high, medium and low. The most controversial to her is the lane reduction transition depicted in Figure 3B.13, using lane drop markings which are quite different from the way it is now. Anyone with further comments should get in touch with Katie.



Scott McCanna went over his committee membership: Mary Barron, Ed Fischer, Sherri Frank, Anne Holder, Don Morris, Cindy Schmitt, Irene Toews, Don Wence. He said they will be meeting March 27, mid-April and mid-May.

Kevin noted that in Part 8 (RXR), there is a new requirement in the 2009 manual (Section 8B.06) that all grade crossing advance warning signs will have to have a supplemental plaque underneath – either NO SIGNAL or the new SIGNAL AHEAD or indication that there is automated gates there. Railroads will usually have compliance responsibility. He said this also applies to Part 5 (Low Volume). The subcommittee would like the SHALL replaced with SHOULD. Ed Fischer introduced the Parts 4, 8, 10 [handout](#) and he and Eric Niemeyer briefly went over some of the issues listed, including Section 4D.18E's using the steady left-turn YELLOW ARROW signal indication as a flashing left-turn YELLOW ARROW signal indication for permissive left turns. The committee considers this text both redundant and preventing future research.

Greg Stellmach's handout included 20 major comments that the signing committee had for Part 2 (Signs). His comments are well detailed in the [handout](#).

The committee discussed what format was most useful for delineating comments. Members liked the idea of having both the “approved” comments as well as those that don't make the final cut, and having more detail available in an expanded form including who made the comment, priority, etc., and cutting it down to the Section/Page & Line Number/Comment for the final comments going to FHWA.

The committee agreed that a further meeting extending past (and including) lunchtime was going to be needed to get through all the subcommittee comments. They settled on June 6 in Salem.

Note: The State Fire Marshall's office at 4760 Portland Road NE was later confirmed as the location from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Below is the current subcommittee roster.

Part ~ Description	Primary Contact	Other Committee Members
1 ~ General	Kevin Haas	
2 ~ Signs (reg/warning)	Greg Stellmach	Ed Chastain, Alan Hageman, Kevin Hottman, Joe Marek, Charles Radosta, Julia Wellner
2 ~ Signs (guide/ motorist info)	Greg Stellmach	Brian Barnett (Roundabouts), Ed Chastain, Kevin Hottmann, Robin Lewis (Roundabouts), Joel McCarroll (Interstate), Charles Radosta, Jim Renner
3 ~ Markings	Katie Johnson	Rob Burchfield, Ed Chastain, Angela Kargel, Joel McCarroll, Charles Radosta,
4, 8, 10 ~ Signals, RXR, Light Rail	Gary Obery	Brian Barnett, Dave Foster, Charles Kettenring (Rail), Bill Kloos, Jeff Lannigan, Dave Lanning, Joe Marek, Eric Niemeyer, Charles Radosta, Massoud Saberian, Julia Wellner
5 ~ Low Volume	Kevin Haas	Jon Oshel
6 ~ Work Zones	Scott McCanna	Mary Barron, Ed Fischer, Sherri Frank, Anne Holder, Don Morris, Cindy Schmitt, Irene Toews, Don Wence
7 ~ Schools	Jan Gipson	Rob Burchfield, Ed Chastain, Angela Kargel, Robin Lewis (Safe Routes), Massoud Saberian, Eilene Wolven, Julie Yip
9 ~ Bicycles	Jan Gipson	Mary Barron, Rob Burchfield, Ed Chastain, Rodger Gutierrez, Robin Lewis, Sheila Lyons, Sue Riehl

✓ **Action Item** – Subcommittees will continue reviewing the draft 2009 MUTCD prior to the next meeting and be sure to send comments out to committee members before the June 6 meeting.

## NON-AGENDA ITEMS

### Lane County EmX Bus Transit Lane Signs & Markings.

Ed Chastain brought up the Bus Rapid Transit project he'd talked about at the January meeting. The project includes three bus rapid transit stations. He went over [designs](#) and preliminary [plans](#) for the roadway. The existing two-lane, two-way road with bike lanes will be reconfigured to provide four lanes for vehicles and bike traffic moved behind the curb to a multi-use path. The two center lanes will be designated for BUS ONLY use with the exception of allowing traffic to share the bus lane to make left turns into existing driveways at designated areas. This would involve use of an ampersand pavement marking. He asked for committee support of signs and pavement markings to provide motorists with needed information. The committee was supportive of the plans. Brian Barnett wanted the committee to add both signs and markings to ODOT's signing and striping manuals. Ed Fischer said the striping was probably unique enough that it wouldn't be appropriate in the striping manual. He could agree with approving the signs, but he was not in favor of making the markings a statewide standard.



**Decision:** Brian Barnett moved that the committee adopt and place in ODOT's Sign Manual the LEFT LANE BUS ONLY and the LEFT LANE BUS AND LEFT TURN ONLY signs as shown by Ed Chastain and that the markings be endorsed for the Springfield Bus Rapid Transit project. Charles Radosta seconded and the committee approved unanimously

Ed Fischer reported that Portland is installing "[Bike Boxes](#)". Portland Traffic Engineer Rob Burchfield has asked FHWA for experimental status. Rob would like to do a presentation regarding this to the committee at the next meeting seeking support for these as an experimental project. Without objection, this will be placed on the next agenda.



Brian Barnett reviewed the afternoon agenda including the roundabout tour, the EmX tour and the Greater Oregon Section ITE inaugural meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

## Future Meeting Dates

- May 9, 2008 (Century Hotel, [8185 SW Tualatin-Sherwood Road, Tualatin](#))
- June 6, 2008 (State Fire Marshal's office 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., [4760 Portland Road NE, Salem](#))
- July 18, 2008 (Bend)
- September 19, 2008 \* ([Marion County](#), 5155 Silverton Road, NE., Salem)
- November 21, 2008 \*

*\* The ACTS Transportation Safety [Conference](#) will be held October 20-22 in Canyonville. The committee needs to decide if either the September or November OTCDC meeting will be rescheduled to occur in conjunction with the Safety Conference.*