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## National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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### National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices RWSTC RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWING SPONSOR COMMENTS

10 **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: NCUTCD Regulatory/Warning Signs Technical**  
11 **Committee**

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13 **DATE OF ACTION: (TASK FORCE): March 9, 2011**

14 **TASK FORCE: Dan Paddick (chair), Tom Heydel, Ron Lipps, Jim Pline, Andy**  
15 **Ramisch, Roger Wentz, Mark Bott, Scott Kuznicki, Fred Ranck**

16 **RWSTC APPROVAL DATE: 6-22-11**

17 **TRANSMITTAL TO SPONSORS DATE: Fall 2011**

18 **RWSTC APPROVAL DATE FOLLOWING SPONSOR COMMENTS: 1-18-12**

19 **COUNCIL APPROVAL DATE: 1-19-12**

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21 **TOPIC: Section 2C.47 Two-Direction Large Arrow Sign (W1-7)**

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23 **AFFECTED PORTIONS OF MUTCD: Section 2C.47**

#### 24 **BACKGROUND:**

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26 Section 1A.13 of the 2009 MUTCD revised the definition of a "Standard" by adding  
27 a sentence that stated "Standard statements shall not be modified or compromised based  
28 on engineering judgment or engineering study."

29  
30 Because of the strong opposition to this change in the definition, FHWA MUTCD  
31 Team Leader Hari Kalla and NCUTCD Chairperson Lee Billingsley, requested that each  
32 of the Technical Committees review all of the Standard statements in their sections to see  
33 if modifications are necessary in light of the revised definition.

#### 34 35 **DISCUSSION:**

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37 In its review of Section 2C, the Regulatory and Warning Sign Technical Committee  
38 (RWSTC) identified two Standard statements that may need modification. One of these  
39 was the elimination of paragraph 04 in Section 2C.47 which prohibited the use of the  
40 Two-Direction Large Arrow Sign in the center island of a roundabout. This proposed

41 deletion is not directly related to revision of the definition of a Standard in Section 1A.13  
42 but it is a question of whether the Standard is actually needed.

43

44 There is no question that this sign should not be used in the center island of a  
45 roundabout. But, use of the sign would be contrary to the definition of a roundabout  
46 given in Section 1A.13 which is that a roundabout is “a circular intersection with yield  
47 control at the entry, which permits a vehicle on the circulatory roadway to proceed, and  
48 with a deflection of the approaching vehicle counter-clockwise around the central island.”  
49 The RWSTC does not believe that the MUTCD should have to state “do not use a W1-7  
50 sign in the central island of a roundabout.

51

52 The MUTCD provides considerable guidance and numerous examples of proper  
53 signing at roundabouts. See Sections 2B.43, 2B.44, 2B.45, 2C.46 and 2D.38 along with  
54 Figures 2B-20, 2B-21, 2B-22, 2B-23, 2C-9, 2D-8 and 2D-9 for the proper signing at  
55 roundabouts.

56

57 The RWSTC recognizes the need to include some Standard statements to prohibit the  
58 misuse of signs. But the RWSTC does not feel that there is a need to include a Standard  
59 statement for the use of a sign that is so contrary to the definition of a roundabout and all  
60 of the guidance and examples contained in the MUTCD.

61

62 **RECOMMENDATION: Amend Section 2C.47 to delete paragraph 04.**

63

64 **Note: Proposed changes to the MUTCD are shown in underline red and removed**  
65 **text are shown in ~~strikethrough red~~.**

66

67 **RECOMMENDED WORDING:**

68

69 **Section 2C.47 Two-Direction Large Arrow Sign (W1-7)**

70 **Standard:**

71 **01 The Two-Direction Large Arrow (W1-7) sign (see Figure 2C-9) shall be a**  
72 **horizontal rectangle.**

73 **02 If used, it shall be installed on the far side of a T-intersection in line with, and at**  
74 **approximately a right angle to, traffic approaching from the stem of the T-**  
75 **intersection.**

76 **03 The Two-Direction Large Arrow sign shall not be used where there is no change**  
77 **in the direction of travel such as at the beginnings and ends of medians or at center**  
78 **piers.**

79 ~~**04 The Two-Direction Large Arrow sign directing traffic to the left and right shall**~~  
80 ~~**not be used in the central island of a roundabout.**~~

81 *Guidance:*

82 *05 The Two-Direction Large Arrow sign should be visible for a sufficient distance to*  
83 *provide the road user with adequate time to react to the intersection configuration.*

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85 **RWSTC VOTE:**

86 For: 18

87           Opposed: 2  
88           Abstentions: 0

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90 COUNCIL VOTE: Unanimous 37-0-0

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92 C:\NCUTCD\January 2012\agendaItemIV4RWNo4TwoDirectionLargeArrowSection2C47 Revised 1-18-  
93 12, approved by council 1-19-12  
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