



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

12615 West Keystone Drive * Sun City West, AZ, 85375
Telephone (623)680-9592 * e-mail: ncutcd@aol.com

Item No: 15A.RW.01

NCUTCD Proposal for Changes to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: Regulatory & Warning Signs Committee (RWSTC)

ITEM NUMBER: 15A.RW.01

TOPIC: Movement Prohibition Signs

ORIGIN OF REQUEST: Member of NCUTCD and RW Task Force: Tom Heydel (RWSTC chair), Jim Pline, Robert Weber, Ross Oyen

AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD: Section 2B.18 Movement Prohibition Signs

DEVELOPMENT HISTORY:

- **Date of Action Task Force:** 12/22/2014
- **Approved by Technical Committee:** 1/7/2015
- **Sent to Sponsors:** Spring 2015
- **Date of Action Task Force following sponsor comments:** 5-10-15, revised 5-11-15, revised 6-7-15
- **Approved by Technical Committee following sponsor comments:** 6/17/2015
- **Approved by NCUTCD Council:** 06/19/15

This is a proposal for recommended changes to the MUTCD that have been developed by a technical committee of the NCUTCD. The NCUTCD is distributing it to its sponsoring organizations for review and comment. Sponsor comments will be considered in revising the proposal prior to NCUTCD Council consideration. This proposal does not represent a revision of the MUTCD and does not constitute official MUTCD standards, guidance, or options. If approved by the NCUTCD Council, the recommended changes will be submitted to FHWA for consideration for inclusion in a future MUTCD revision. The MUTCD can be revised only through the federal rulemaking process.

36 **SUMMARY:**

37 Section 2B.18 paragraph 03 and 04 discuss the use of the NO LEFT TURN and NO RIGHT
38 TURN signs and that they be placed either over the roadway or at the left hand corner or right
39 hand corner of the intersection. However the language does not provide clear direction in terms
40 of lane use when using these signs. The photo below depicts a situation where it can be
41 confusing to the driver to see a NO LEFT and NO RIGHT TURN sign at the same tee
42 intersection.



43
44 (inappropriate signing shown above)

45 **DISCUSSION:**

46 What the photo above is trying to depict is that the left lane is for left turns and the right lane is
47 for right turns. Lane use signs and markings is the way to convey this information. Sections
48 2B.19, 2B.20, 2B.21, and 2B.22 provide information on lane use sign applications. For example,
49 an R3-8 sign could be used or a RIGHT LANE MUST TURN RIGHT or LEFT LANE MUST
50 TURN LEFT (R3-7) signs. Pavement markings showing lane use could be used.

51 Accordingly, section 2B.18 needs to be revised so that it is clear that turn prohibitions apply to
52 an approach and not for a specific lane.

53

54 **RECOMMENDED MUTCD CHANGES:**

55 The following presents the proposed changes to the current MUTCD within the context of the
56 current MUTCD language. Proposed additions to the MUTCD are shown in blue underline and
57 proposed deletions from the MUTCD are shown in ~~red strikethrough~~. Changes previously
58 approved by NCUTCD Council (but not yet adopted by FHWA) are shown in green double
59 underline for additions and ~~green double strikethrough~~ for deletions. In some cases, background
60 comments may be provided with the MUTCD text. These comments are indicated by
61 highlighted light blue in brackets.

62 **Section 2B.18 Movement Prohibition Signs (R3-1 through R3-4, R3-18, and R3-27)**

63 **Standard:**

64 01 ~~Except as provided in Paragraphs 11 and 13, where specific movements are prohibited,~~
65 ~~Movement Prohibition signs shall be installed.~~ Movement Prohibition signs shall be
66 installed where specific movements are prohibited at an intersection approach except as
67 provided in Paragraphs 11 and 13.

68 *Guidance:*

69 (xx) Movement Prohibition signs should only be used to prohibit a turn or through movement
70 from an entire approach and should not be used to designate movements that are required or
71 permitted from a specific lane or lanes on a multi-lane approach.

72 02 *Movement Prohibition signs should be placed where they will be most easily seen by road*
73 *users who might be intending to make the movement.*

74 Support:

75 (xx) Sections 2B.19, 2B.20, 2B.21 and 2B.22 contain information regarding lane control signs
76 that indicate the required or permitted movements from individual lanes.

77 *Guidance:*

78 03 *If No Right Turn (R3-1) signs (see Figure 2B-4) are used, at least one should be placed either*
79 *over the roadway or at a right-hand corner of the intersection.*

80 **Figure 2B-4 Movement Prohibition and Lane Control Signs and Plaques**



81 * The diamond symbol may be used instead of the "ONLY" word message. The minimum vehicle occupancy level may vary, such as 2+, 3+, 4+. The words "LANE" or "ONLY" may be used with this sign when appropriate.

82 04 *If No Left Turn (R3-2) signs (see Figure 2B-4) are used, at least one should be placed over*
83 *the roadway, at the far left-hand corner of the intersection, on a median, or in conjunction with*
84 *the STOP sign or YIELD sign located on the near right-hand corner.*

85 05 *Except as provided in Item C of Paragraph 9 for signalized locations, if NO TURNS (R3-3)*
86 *signs (see Figure 2B-4) are used, two signs should be used, one at a location specified for a No*
87 *Right Turn sign and one at a location specified for a No Left Turn sign.*

88 06 *If No U-Turn (R3-4) signs (see Figure 2B-4) or combination No U-Turn/No Left Turn (R3-18)*
89 *signs (see Figure 2B-4) are used, at least one should be used at a location specified for No Left*
90 *Turn signs.*

91 Option:

92 07 If both left turns and U-turns are prohibited, the combination No U-Turn/No Left Turn (R3-
93 18) sign (see Figure 2B-4) may be used instead of separate R3-2 and R3-4 signs.

94 *Guidance:*

95 08 *If No Straight Through (R3-27) signs (see Figure 2B-4) are used, at least one should be*
96 *placed either over the roadway or at a location where it can be seen by road users who might be*
97 *intending to travel straight through the intersection.*

98 09 *If turn prohibition signs are installed in conjunction with traffic control signals:*

99 A. *The No Right Turn sign should be installed adjacent to a signal face viewed by road*
100 *users in the right-hand lane.*

101 B. *The No Left Turn (or No U-Turn or combination No U-Turn/No Left Turn) sign should be*
102 *installed adjacent to a signal face viewed by road users in the left-hand lane.*

103 C. *A NO TURNS sign should be placed adjacent to a signal face viewed by all road users on*
104 *that approach, or two signs should be used.*

105 Option:

106 10 If turn prohibition signs are installed in conjunction with traffic control signals, an additional
107 Movement Prohibition sign may be post-mounted to supplement the sign mounted overhead.

108 11 Where ONE WAY signs are used (see Section 2B.40), No Left Turn and No Right Turn signs
109 may be omitted.

110 12 When the movement restriction applies during certain time periods only, the following
111 Movement Prohibition signing alternatives may be used and are listed in order of preference:

112 A. Changeable message signs, especially at signalized intersections.

113 B. Permanently mounted signs incorporating a supplementary legend showing the hours and
114 days during which the prohibition is applicable.

115 C. Portable signs, installed by proper authority, located off the roadway at each corner of the
116 intersection. The portable signs are only to be used during the time that the movement
117 prohibition is applicable.

118 13 Movement Prohibition signs may be omitted at a ramp entrance to an expressway or a
119 channelized intersection where the design is such as to indicate clearly the one-way traffic
120 movement on the ramp or turning lane.

121 **Standard:**

122 14 **The No Left Turn (R3-2) sign, the No U-Turn (R3-4) sign, and the combination No U-**
123 **Turn/No Left Turn (R3-18) sign shall not be used at approaches to roundabouts to prohibit**
124 **drivers from turning left onto the circulatory roadway of a roundabout.**

125 Support:

126 15 At roundabouts, the use of R3-2, R3-4, or R3-18 signs to prohibit left turns onto the
127 circulatory roadway might confuse drivers about the possible legal turning movements around
128 the roundabout. Roundabout Directional Arrow (R6-4 series) signs (see Section 2B.43) and/or
129 ONE WAY (R6-1R or R6-2R) signs are the appropriate signs to indicate the travel direction
130 within a roundabout.

131 **RW TECH COMMITTEE VOTE: Approved 1/7/2015**

132 **For: 26**

133 **Against: 1**

134 **Abstentions: 1**

135 **RW TECH COMMITTEE VOTE FOLLOWING SPONSOR COMMENTS: Approved**
136 **6/17/15**

137 **For: Unanimous**

138 **Against:**

139 **Abstentions:**

140

141 **COUNCIL VOTE: 6/19/15**

142 **For: Unanimous**

143 **Against**

144 **Abstentions**

145 **C:ncutcd/June2015/heydel/Section 2B.18 movement prohibition signing, 11-16-14, revised**
146 **11-17-14, updated 12-21-14, revised 12-22-14, approved by RWSTC 1-8-15 READY FOR**
147 **SPONSORS, revised following sponsor comments 5-10-15, revised 5-11-15, revised 6-17-15,**
148 **approved by council 6-19-15**

149

150

