

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:** Railroad / Light Rail Transit Technical Committee

**TOPIC:** Revision of signing and marking requirements for grade crossings

**STATUS/DATE OF ACTION:** Send for Sponsor Comment

**TC Drafts:** 06/30/2010

**RR/LRT TC Approval:** 07/01/2010

**Transmitted to Sponsors:** 10/28/2010

**Council Approval:** 01/21/2011

**ORIGIN OF REQUEST:** RR/LRT TC

**AFFECTED SECTIONS OF MUTCD:** 8C.01 Change, 8C.11 Change, Figure 8C-3 Change

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of these changes is to delete an unnecessary sentence and revise the use of LRT signals.

- 1) The description of LRT speeds does not add any useful information. The remaining sentence in the support section has been moved to a different support section to eliminate one of the support sections.
- 2) LRT signal terminology has been revised to be more consistent, and the recommended LRT signal indications have been simplified.

**DISCUSSION**

The proposed changes have been reviewed by the RR/LRT TC. It is recommended that the proposed changes be sent for sponsor comment.

**RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE MUTCD**

**Note:** Existing MUTCD text to be deleted is shown in ~~double-strikethrough-red~~. New text to be added is shown in underline blue.

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**1) Revised Section 8C.01:**

Support:

01 Active traffic control systems inform road users of the approach or presence of rail traffic at grade crossings. These systems include four-quadrant gate systems, automatic gates, flashing-light signals, traffic control signals, actuated blank-out and variable message signs, and other active traffic control devices.

02 When LRT speed is cited in this Part, it refers to the maximum speed at which LRT equipment is permitted to traverse a particular grade crossing.

~~Support:~~

~~15 LRT typically operates through grade crossings in semi-exclusive and mixed-use alignments at speeds between 10 and 65 mph.~~

~~16 When LRT speed is cited in this Part, it refers to the maximum speed at which LRT equipment is permitted to traverse a particular grade crossing.~~

**2) Revised Section 8C.11:**

**Section 8C.11 Use of ~~Traffic Control~~ LRT Signals for Control of LRT Vehicles at Grade Crossings**

Guidance:

01 *LRT movements in semi-exclusive alignments at non-gated grade crossings that are equipped with traffic control signals should be controlled by ~~special~~ LRT signals indications.*

02 *LRT ~~traffic control~~ signals that are used to control LRT movements only should display the signal indications illustrated in Figure 8C-3.*

Support:

03 Section 4D.27 contains information about the use of the LRT signals ~~indications~~ shown in Figure 8C-3 for the control of exclusive bus movements at “queue jumper lanes” and for the control of exclusive bus rapid transit movements on semi-exclusive or mixed-use alignments.

Option:

04 Standard traffic control signals ~~s~~ indications may be used instead of LRT signals to control the movement of LRT vehicles (see Section 8C.10).

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**Existing figure and notes to be revised:**

**Figure 8C-3. Light Rail Transit Signals**

	Three-Lens Signal	Two-Lens Signal
<p><i>SINGLE LRT ROUTE</i></p> 	<p>STOP </p> <p>PREPARE TO STOP  Flashing</p> <p>GO </p>	<p>STOP </p> <p>GO  <sup>(2)</sup></p>
<p><i>TWO LRT ROUTE DIVERSION</i></p> 	  Flashing   <sup>(1)</sup>	   <sup>(1),(2)</sup>
	  Flashing   <sup>(1)</sup>	   <sup>(1),(2)</sup>
<p><i>THREE LRT ROUTE DIVERSION</i></p> 	  Flashing    <sup>(1)</sup>	    <sup>(1),(2)</sup>

Notes:

All aspects (or signal indications) are white.

(1) Could be in single housing.

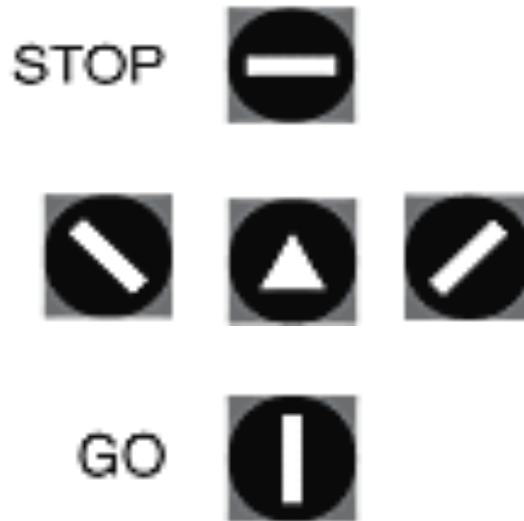
(2) "Go" lens may be used in flashing mode to indicate "prepare to stop".

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100 [Revised figure:](#)

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**Figure 8C-3. Light Rail Signal Aspects**



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Notes:

- (1) [Diagonal bar or triangle may be used to indicate a diverging route, a turn against oncoming traffic, an imminent change of aspect, or other restriction.](#)
- (2) All ~~indications~~ aspects are white.
- (3) [Aspects may be flashed.](#)
- (4) [Two or more aspects may be in a single housing.](#)
- (5) [Aspects may be displayed in any position and in any configuration.](#)

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**DISCUSSION IN RESPONSE TO SPONSOR COMMENTS:**

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VOTE: For:  
Opposed:  
Abstentions: