

**North Carolina Department of Transportation
Division of Highways
Transportation Mobility and Safety Division**

**STANDARD PRACTICE
for
SCHOOL CROSSING ASSEMBLIES AT ROUNDABOUTS IN AN ESTABLISHED
SCHOOL ZONE**

A. TOPIC OWNER

[Municipal School Transportation Assistance \(MSTA\)](#)

B. PURPOSE

The 11th Edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) was published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on December 19, 2023 and has been adopted by North Carolina DOT. The 11th Edition of the MUTCD provided a new Option in Section 7B.03, paragraph 9 that allows the installation of a school crossing sign assembly on a roundabout approach under yield control.

This practice provides guidance and uniformity for signing pedestrian crossings when located at a roundabout within an established school zone. This practice is not intended for the use in removal of existing signs; however, when a new project is established for the North Carolina highway system, or when existing signs are in need of replacement, repair or maintenance, conformance with this practice is required.

C. SUPPORT

- Section 7B.03, paragraph 9 of the MUTCD provides an Option for the use of a school crossing sign assembly (S1-1 and W16-7P) on a yield approach of a roundabout given the crosswalk “is at least 20 feet in advance of the yield point at the entrance to a circulatory roadway”.
- Section 7B.03, paragraph 12 of the MUTCD provides an Option for the use of an In-Street School Crossing sign (R1-6b) for school crossings on approaches that are not controlled by a traffic control signal, a pedestrian hybrid beacon, or an emergency-vehicle hybrid beacon.
- Section 2B.20 of the MUTCD provides additional standards and information on the use of In-Street Pedestrian Crossing signs.

- Section 3C.09 of the MUTCD provides an additional standard and guidance on crosswalk markings at a circular intersection.

D. CRITERIA

- Signs shall be designed, located, and erected according to the provisions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), the North Carolina Roadway Standard Drawings, and the criteria presented herein.
- Signing locations must be approved by the appropriate Division Engineer, or designate, having jurisdiction in the county in which the signs are proposed. Any complaints received regarding the usage of signs will be submitted to the requesting agency.
- As described in General Statute 136-30 (a), (b), and (d), the NCDOT has the authority to control all signs within the right of way of the State Highway System.
 - **§ G.S. 136-30. Uniform signs and other traffic control devices on highways, streets, and public vehicular areas.** (a) State Highway System. - The Department of Transportation may number and mark highways in the State highway system. All traffic signs and other traffic control devices placed on a highway in the State highway system must conform to the Uniform Manual. The Department of Transportation shall have the power to control all signs within the right-of-way of highways in the State highway system. The Department of Transportation may erect signs directing persons to roads and places of importance. (b) Municipal Street System. - All traffic signs and other traffic control devices placed on a municipal street system street must conform to the appearance criteria of the Uniform Manual. All traffic control devices placed on a highway that is within the corporate limits of a municipality but is part of the State highway system must be approved by the Department of Transportation. (d) Definition. - As used in this section, the term "Uniform Manual" means the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, published by the United States Department of Transportation, and any supplement to that Manual adopted by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Figure 1 depicts the typical installation of school crossing assembly signing at a roundabout.

FIGURE 1 – TYPICAL PLACMENT OF SCHOOL CROSSING ASSEMBLIES FOR A ROUNDABOUT IN A SCHOOL ZONE

