

**North Carolina Department of Transportation  
Division of Highways  
Traffic Engineering and Safety Systems Branch**

**STANDARD PRACTICE  
for  
Slower Traffic Keep Right Signing**

It is the standard practice of NCDOT, based on G.S. 20-146(e), to install "Slower Traffic Keep Right" (R4-3) regulatory signs, based on engineering judgement. The signs shall be located and erected according to the standards of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices(MUTCD), the North Carolina Supplement to the MUTCD, and the North Carolina Roadway Standard Drawings.

**CRITERIA**

Signs are restricted to multi-lane facilities with full control of access at locations where motorists tend to drive in the left lane(s) at less than the posted speed limit and impede the flow of traffic.

- Signs are not to be used on an approach to an interchange, through an interchange area, or in high volume urban areas where there is a capacity deficiency.
- Signs are not to be used on roadway facilities if there are other lane restrictions in place, on roadways under construction, or on facilities with poor roadway pavement conditions that affects the ride-ability of the travel lanes.
- Signs are to be installed on the median side of the highway and behind existing guardrail, when possible.

Signs are to be placed at three (3) to five (5) mile intervals.

- Signs shall conform to the attached NCDOT approved Standards

Note: For "Slower Traffic Keep Right" signing, pavement marking and other countermeasures see TEPPL Topic K-1 ( Keep Right Except to Pass)

**G.S. 20-146. Drive on right side of highway; exceptions. (e)**

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, when appropriate signs have been posted, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle over and upon the inside lane, next to the median of any dual-lane highway at a speed less than the posted speed limit when the operation of said motor vehicle over and upon said inside lane shall impede the steady flow of traffic except when preparing for a left turn. "Appropriate signs" as used herein shall be construed as including "**Slower Traffic Keep Right**" or designations of similar import.