



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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February 8, 1991

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

THOMAS J. HARRELSON
SECRETARY

WILLIAM G. MARLEY, JR., P.E.
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Division Engineers

FROM: D. W. Bailey, P.E. *DW Bailey*
Chief Engineer - Operations

J. M. Lynch, P.E. *JML*
State Traffic Engineer

SUBJECT: Usage of "School Bus Stop Ahead" Signs

Traffic Engineering Branch now approves the use of "School Bus Stop Ahead" (S3-1) signs when used in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The manual states that this sign is intended for use in advance of locations where a school bus, when stopped to pick up or discharge passengers, is not visible for a distance of 500 feet in advance. See the manual for further explanation.

A decision had been made several years ago at a Traffic Services Supervisors' meeting not to use this sign. It was felt that since school bus stops were changed to different locations every year, it would be difficult to keep this sign erected properly. This decision has now been rescinded.

Also, the Federal Highway Administration is now considering designs for a new symbol sign. Any new symbol sign, if approved, will appear in the next edition of the MUTCD.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let us know.

DWB/JML/WJW:wjw

cc: Mr. J. T. Peacock, Jr., P.E.
Mr. C. C. Sessoms, Jr., P.E.
Mr. N. C. Crowe, Jr., P.E.
Area Traffic Engineers