May 27, 2008

CIRCULAR LETTER 2008-07

MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES (MUTCD) COMPLIANCE

COUNTY ENGINEERS/SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS/DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS/MAYORS
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) publishes the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), which contains all national design, application, and placement standards for traffic control devices. The MUTCD is adopted in accordance with Title 23, USC Section 109(d) and Title 23 CFR Part 655.603, and is approved as the national standard. This Manual contains the basic principles that govern the design and use of traffic control devices for all streets and highways open to public travel, regardless of type or class or the agency having jurisdiction. All traffic control devices nationwide must conform to the MUTCD.

States must adopt the MUTCD, along with any supplement that a State may require within two years of issuance by FHWA. The Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/11-301) requires the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to adopt a manual which must be consistent with the national MUTCD and that all traffic control devices must be in accordance with the warrants contained in the manual. To this end, IDOT has adopted the national MUTCD along with a brief Illinois Supplement. The supplement covers items such as route markers, certain school signs, etc. which may be peculiar to Illinois. The supplement is approved by the FHWA as being in substantial conformance with the national MUTCD. In the interest of statewide uniformity, forward requests for interpretations, experimentation, and changes to the MUTCD or the IL Supplement to dot.ilmutcd@illinois.gov. Electronic copies of the MUTCD and IL Supplement are available for download at www.dot.il.gov/mutcd/utcdmanual.html. A CD-ROM containing the MUTCD, IL Supplement, and the Standard Highway Sign Manual is also available by requesting C001 on the attached form.

The purpose of traffic control devices, as well as the principles for their use, is to promote highway safety, consistency, and efficiency by providing for the orderly movement of all road users on streets and highways throughout the nation. Traffic control devices notify road users of regulations, and provide warning and guidance needed for the safe, uniform, and efficient operation of all elements of the traffic stream. The Illinois Vehicle Code (Sections 625 ILCS 5/11-303 and 304) establishes the responsibility for the erection and maintenance of traffic control devices on State highways and on local roads. Various other sections of Chapter
11 of the *Illinois Vehicle Code* deal with specific traffic regulations and control devices.

If you have any questions regarding this Circular Letter, please contact Mr. Kevin Burke in the Bureau of Local Roads and Streets at (217) 785-5048 or kevin.burkeiii@illinois.gov.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Charles J. Ingersoll, P. E.
Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

Attachment
VIDEO/PUBLICATION ORDER FORM

Name _____________________________ Title _____________________________

Agency ________________________________ Phone (____) _________________

Address ____________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
City _______________________________ State ___________ Zip _____________

Publications/CD-ROMs Requested:

# P______ # P______ # P______ # P______ # P______ # P______ # P______
# L ______ # L ______ # L ______ # L ______ # L ______ # L ______
# C ______ # C ______ # C ______ # C ______ # C ______ # C ______ # C ______
FTB ____ FTB ____ FTB ____

Videotapes Requested for Duplication:
Write in the tape numbers of the videotapes you want duplicated. Please send one videotape for each video you want copied. **Reproducible videotapes are limited to tapes V001-V499.**

# V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______
# V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______

Videotapes Requested for Loan:
Loan tapes are limited to a maximum of four tapes per 2 week loan period. Additional requested tapes will be sent after the first order has been returned. **All videotapes in the library are available for loan.**

# V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______
# V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______ # V______

MAIL REQUESTS TO:
Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Local Roads & Streets
Technology Transfer Center - Room 205
2300 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62764
FAX (217)785-7296

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
Order # ________________
Date Rcv’d ________________
Mailed ________________

For a complete listing of material, visit our website at www.dot.il.gov/blr/library.html