



October 21, 2004

Rules Docket Clerk  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Dockets Management Facility  
Room PL-401  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

FHWA Docket Number: FHWA-2003-15149 RIN 2125-AE98

Dear Rules Docket Clerk:

On July 30, 2004, FHWA issued a Notice of Proposed Amendment to the MUTCD per the FHWA Docket Number referenced above. The NPA included a 90-day comment period scheduled to conclude on October 28. The docket currently shows that the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices requested an extension of the comment period to February 1, 2005 via letter dated September 28. The docket also shows that the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials requested an extension until March 1, 2005 via letter dated September 30.

The American Traffic Safety Services Association strongly opposes any further extension of the comment period, which would result in further delay in the development and implementation of these important safety regulations. FHWA was first directed by Congress to develop a regulatory action in this area in 1993. We believe that sufficient time, effort, research and outreach have been devoted to this issue and that an extension is unwarranted.

The Regulatory and Warning Signs committee of the National Committee appointed a task force to develop comments on the NPA. That task force has completed its work. It appears to us that sufficient time remains for the National Committee to conclude a review of the committee draft via electronic and telephonic means.

We urge FHWA to retain the October 28 closing date for comments on this docket item.

Sincerely,

*Roger A. Wentz*

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