Rule No.: 941 - 7601 - 00500
Agency: Mississippi Department of Transportation
Agency Effective Date:
Agency Issued Date: May 15, 2005
Secretary of State Authority Date:
Supersedes Rule: 941-7601-00500
Division: Traffic Engineering Division
Rule Title: TRAFFIC CONTROL FOR SCHOOL AREAS

The person to be contacted regarding the proposed rule is: Facility and Records Management Director

Name of person originating the proposed rule: Robert W. Dean, Jr.

Name of supervisor or person who approved the proposed rule: Robert W. Dean, Jr.

Purpose:

Establish a policy for the erection of signs and signals for schools and school crossings as per the current edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and Mississippi Code Annotated, section 63-3-515.

Summary:

Establish a policy for the erection of signs and signals for schools and school crossings as per the current edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and Mississippi Code Annotated, section 63-3-515.

The full text of the proposed rule is:

All cites herein refer to the most current version of the cited document.

1. GENERAL POLICIES

    1.1 All signs and signals shall conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for streets and highways.

    1.2 School speed zone assemblies will be installed upon request at all public schools, and at all private schools that are members of MPSA and/or have a minimum enrollment of 100 students. Also, these facilities shall either have direct access to the MDOT roadway, or be the primary traffic generator for the roadway that connects to the MDOT roadway.

        1.2.1 When requested, "School Traffic Turning" warning signs will be placed at schools that don't meet the above criteria. Engineering studies will determine the need for such signs.

    1.3 At intersections that are impacted significantly by school traffic, appropriate warning signs may be installed.

2. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2.1 Ground-mounted "School", "School Speed Limit", "School Advance", and "When Children are Present", or "When Flashing" signs will be erected by the Department as applicable.

2.2 Where a school speed limit is posted it shall apply only "When Children are Present" or "When Flashing" as posted. At all other times, any other posted speed limit or the statutory speed limit as applicable shall apply.

2.3 A posted school speed limit takes precedence over any other posted speed limit.

2.3.1 School speed zone speed limits will be set no less than 10 MPH below the posted speed limit unless indicated by an engineering study.

2.4 The Department will purchase and attach amber flashers to the school speed limit sign assembly when a school site and the local jurisdiction meet all of the following conditions:

2.4.1 The school property is immediately adjacent to state highway right-of-way.

2.4.2 Driveway(s) to the school intersect a state highway that has been relocated to a point immediately adjacent to the school property or additional through-lanes have been constructed adjacent to the school.

2.4.3 The local jurisdiction obtains an approved permit from the Department, which includes maintenance, payment for electrical power, and operational requirements of the flashers and flasher accessories by the permittee.

2.4.4 The local jurisdiction must submit in writing to the District their capabilities for properly maintaining and operating the flashers and flasher accessories.

3. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LOCAL JURISDICTION

3.1 If the local jurisdiction elects to do so, MDOT will issue a permit for them to attach amber flashers to the school speed limit sign assembly. The flashers shall operate only on school days and at times of special activities during periods as follows:

3.1.1 When children are going to school

3.1.2 When children are leaving school

3.1.3 At noon, if a substantial number of the students leave the school for lunch

3.2 All flasher assembly permits, layouts, wiring diagrams, and proposed equipment lists shall be submitted through the District to the Traffic Signal Engineer for approval.

3.3 All flashers installed under permit shall be maintained and kept in good working condition. The permit holder is responsible for payment for electrical power and maintenance. The permit holder is responsible for such maintenance. Failure to properly maintain and operate the flashers in accordance with the requirements as stated on the permit will result in their removal by the Department.

Sites for the Mississippi Code are available at www.state.ms.us and MUTCD information is available at mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov. Any other publications may be viewed during regular business hours at the MDOT Administration Building.