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Mingus Mapps Commissioner Millicent D. Williams Director

CITY ENGINEER AND CITY TRAFFIC ENGINEER MEMORANDUM

Number	Supersedes	Effective Date	Cancellation Date
WC-006		July 1, 2024	(n/a)
Subject		Issuer	
ADA Curb Ramp Construction and Accessible Pedestrian Signal (APS) at Signalized Intersections		Wendy Cawley, P.E., City Traffic Engineer <i>Wendy Cawley</i> Todd Liles, P.E., City Engineer <i>Todd Liles</i>	

Purpose

This memo summarizes the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) plan to formally adopt the 11th edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and how the changes to existing practices will be incorporated into the design, construction, and inspection of curb ramps and push buttons at signalized intersections.

Background

In 2009, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) released the 10th edition of the MUTCD, which defines the standards used by road managers nationwide to install and maintain traffic control devices on all streets, highways, pedestrian and bicycle facilities. In December 2011, Oregon officially adopted the 10th edition of the MUTCD by Oregon Administrative Rule 734-020-0005. The 10th edition of the MUTCD with Oregon Supplement is considered the standard for all traffic control devices used on roads and highways in Oregon open to public travel.

In December 2023, the 11th edition of the MUTCD was released by the FHWA which initiated Oregon’s process of adopting this new federal standard and writing the Oregon Supplement.

Implementation

23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 655.603 allows Oregon until January 2026 to adopt the 11th edition of the MUTCD with Oregon supplement. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is traditionally tasked with authoring the Oregon supplements in partnership with local agencies. PBOT is an active partner working with ODOT on crafting language within the supplement. Oregon is scheduled to adopt the 11th edition of the MUTCD in January 2026, at which point PBOT will adopt the 11th edition of the MUTCD with Oregon Supplement.



The Portland Bureau of Transportation fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the ADA Title II, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For accommodations, complaints and information, call (503) 823-5185, City TTY (503) 823-6868, or use Oregon Relay Service: 711.

In the interim, while PBOT waits for Oregon to formally adopt the 11th edition of the MUTCD, all projects involving curb ramp construction at signalized intersections that are in design or in construction will continue to meet the criteria established in the 10th edition of the MUTCD with no immediate change to the existing project scopes. **Projects not yet in design as of July 1st, 2024 shall have the project scope assessed against the 11th edition of the MUTCD to avoid potential future rework.**

ADA curb ramps at signalized intersections will continue to be designed and constructed to meet the criteria established in the PBOT ADA Curb Ramp Design Report and will continue to be inspected using the methodology established in the PBOT ADA Curb Ramp Inspection Manual. Both aforementioned documents are in alignment with the federal standards established in the 11th edition of the MUTCD as well as the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

PBOT Signals & Street Lighting (SSL) is working closely with our partners at ODOT throughout the implementation process. Any questions should be directed to Tom Bennett and/or Charles Radosta.

References

- PBOT ADA Curb Ramp Inspection Manual (09/17/2021)
 - <https://www.portland.gov/transportation/engineering/documents/ada-curb-ramp-inspection-manual-0/download>
- PBOT ADA Curb Ramp Design Report (04/03/2024)
 - <https://www.portland.gov/transportation/engineering/documents/curb-ramp-design-report-form-1/download>
- MUTCD 10th Edition (2009) with Oregon Supplement (2011)
 - <https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/2009r1r2r3/mutcd2009r1r2r3edition.pdf>
 - https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Engineering/Documents_TrafficStandards/MUTCD-OR-Supplement.pdf
- MUTCD 11th Edition (2023)
 - https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/11th_Edition/mutcd11thedition.pdf
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
 - <https://www.ada.gov/law-and-regs/design-standards/2010-stds/>
- 23 CFR 655.603
 - <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-23/chapter-I/subchapter-G/part-655/subpart-F/section-655.603>