

LOCAL ROADWAY SIGNING 101



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Presentation Author:

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LOCAL ROADWAY SIGNING — 101

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- MUTCD basics
- Low volume road departures
- Sign color, shape & size
- Sign hierarchy
- Components of roadway
- Vertical & lateral clearance of signs
- Sign offsets
- Sign support & bases
- Clear zones
- Sign inventory
- Sign condition assessment
- Sign policy
- Retroreflectivity

REGISTRATION / FEES \$25 PER PERSON

Register at www.ndltap.org
You must have an account with NDLTAP's Learning Management System to register for this training.

If you have questions about registration, contact the NDLTAP office: 701-328-9855
sandra.baisch@ndsu.edu or
denise.brown.1@ndsu.edu



INSTRUCTOR

Jon Mill graduated from Montana State University in 1970. Mill worked for NDDOT in the Valley City District for 11 years as a construction engineer. He is a Professional Engineer, and also a Professional Land Surveyor. Mill was the Burleigh County Highway Engineer for 29 years, and was a contractor with NDDOT on the 2009 Emergency Relief Flood Damage Inspection.



TARGET AUDIENCE

County, city and township signing personnel

North Dakota State University
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
North Dakota Local Technical Assistance Program (ND LTAP)

www.ndltap.org

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Goal

SAVE LIVES
IT'S WHAT WE DO

MUTCD

*Manual on Uniform
Traffic Control Devices*

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

for Streets and Highways

2009 Edition

NORTH DAKOTA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROADS SIGNING REFERENCE

(As extracted from MUTCD 2009 with revisions dated May 2012)



Produced collaboratively by NDLTAP and SDLTAP in cooperation with North Dakota and South Dakota Departments of Transportation and FHWA North Dakota and South Dakota Divisions

Major funding for publication of this manual in North Dakota was provided by the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund

2012 Edition



Signing Policy

- ▣ June 14, 2014 – Plan deadline
- ▣ Adopted Sign Maintenance System
- ▣ Sign Maintenance Budget
- ▣ Signs are an Asset.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUUbs8xRcQ> – ATSSA Replacement Cycle

There are No Sign Police

- ▣ Jurisdictions will not be cited and/or penalized by any enforcement agency.
- ▣ Citizen Response - Encourage Neighborhood Watch – Users are part of the team.
- ▣ “Enforcement” will come via the legal system. (i.e. claims and suits filed by injured parties - *tort law*)
- ▣ **Tort Claims** - A civil wrong resulting in injury or damage. A Violation of a duty owed to an injured party.



Signing Standards

- Sign offsets & Spacing
- Breakaway Bases (NCHRP 350) or M.A.S.H.
- Color of signs
- Lettering heights
- Sheeting types

Duties of Road Agencies

- ▣ Provide Reasonably Safe Roads
- ▣ Warn of Existing Hazards



Reasonable Person

- ▣ Engineering Study – Engineering Judgement
- ▣ Reasonable expectation
- ▣ Ministerial Duty (i.e., must follow the signing ‘law’ – MUTCD);
Discretionary Duty
- ▣ Roadway Standards
- ▣ Improve what is right and correct what is wrong
- ▣ Minimize signing – right sign at the right place

Uniformity - Trail to Interstate



[illegible]

Regulatory Signs

Figure 5B-1. Regulatory Signs on Low-Volume Roads



R1-1



R1-2



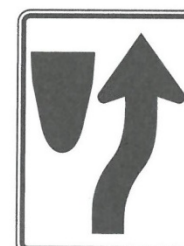
R2-1



R4-1



R4-2



R4-7



R5-1



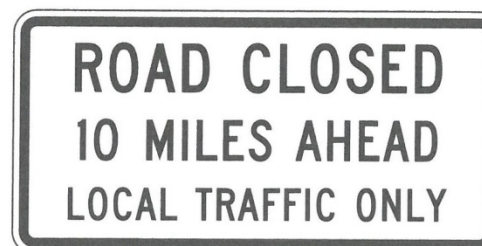
R5-2



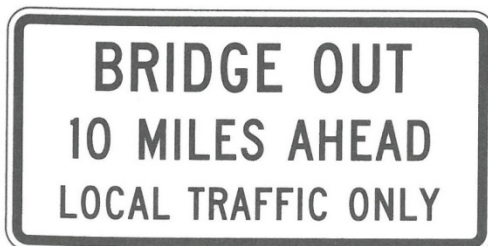
R6-2



R11-2



R11-3a



R11-3b



R11-4



R12-1

Fluorescent Yellow-Green



Shape



Size



Sign Placement

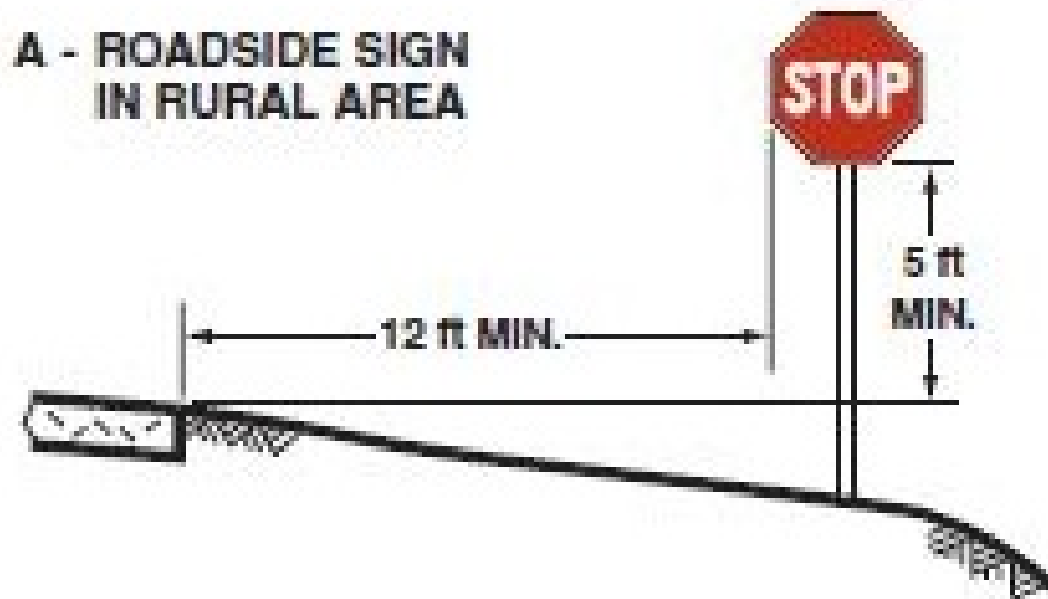


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxe8bRKuhlo> - ATSSA New Signs

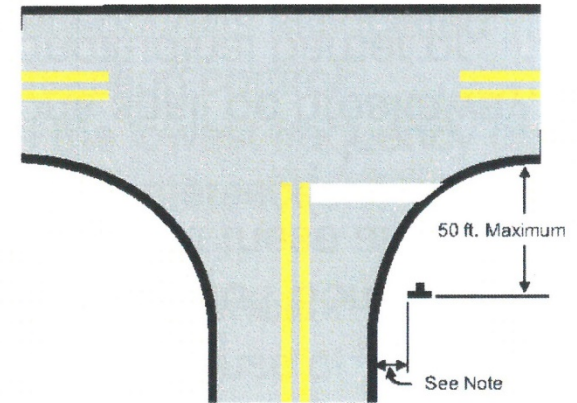
Offset and Height



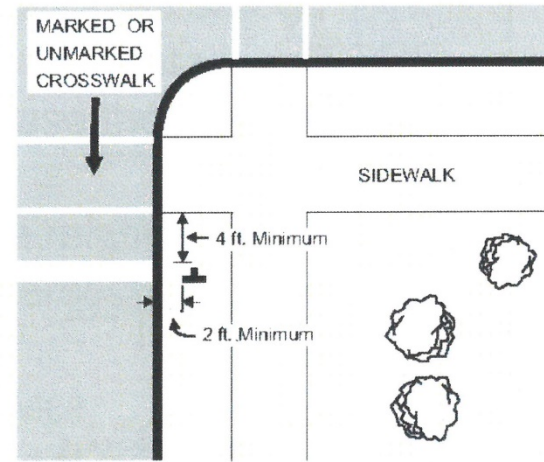
**A - ROADSIDE SIGN
IN RURAL AREA**



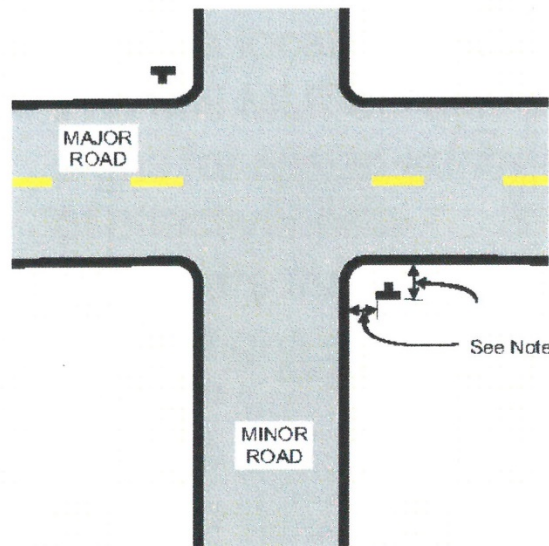
Placement



F - WIDE THROAT INTERSECTION



D - URBAN INTERSECTION



C - MINOR CROSSROAD



Public Participation

(a.k.a., neighborhood watch)

A best practices statement would be:

“The _____ County Highway Department/the City of _____ Public Works Department will repair/replace signs after receipt of notice that a sign has been damaged based on the following schedule:

- High Priority Signs (STOP signs) – within one business day
- Intermediate Priority Signs (Reg., Warning and Guide Signs required by the MN MUTCD) – within 2 scheduled business days
- Lower Priority Signs (All other Regulatory, Warning & Guide signs) – within 3 scheduled business days”

Vandalism



Advisory Speed Plates



Curve or Turn



Clear Zone Concept

- ▣ Clear Zone definition – the obstructed, traversable area provided beyond the edge of the through traveled way for the recovery of errant vehicles
- ▣ “Yellow Book” - stated 30 Ft
- ▣ 1977 AASHTO’s Guide for Selecting, Locating and Designing Traffic Barriers - based on traffic volumes, speed and roadway geometrics



Conspicuity – (to make more noticeable)

Figure 2A-1. Examples of Enhanced Conspicuity for Signs

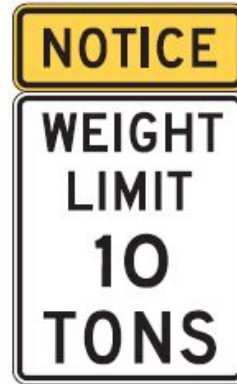
A – W16-15P plaque above a regulatory or warning sign if the regulation or condition is new



B – Red or orange flags above a regulatory, warning, or guide sign



C – W16-18P plaque above a regulatory sign



D – Solid yellow, solid fluorescent yellow, or diagonally striped black and yellow (or black and fluorescent yellow) strip of retroreflective sheeting around a warning sign



E – Vertical retroreflective strip on sign support



F – Supplemental beacon



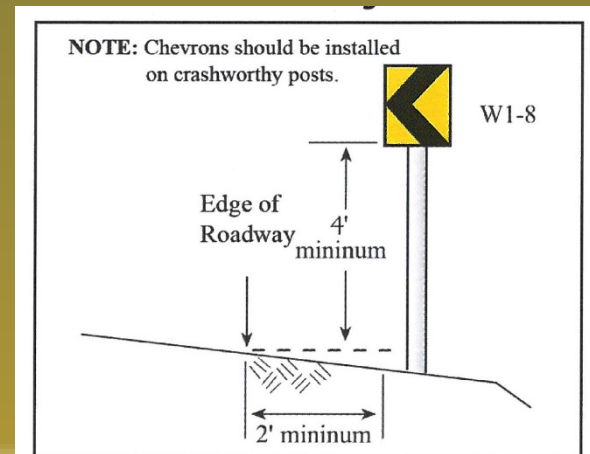
- ❑ Sign Posts
- ❑ Trailers
- ❑ Allowance to better announce a roadway condition







Chevron signs may be mounted at 4-foot height



Prior to ALL Sign Installations

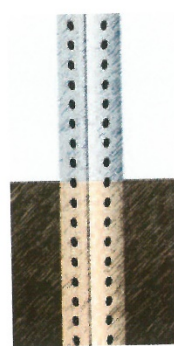


**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

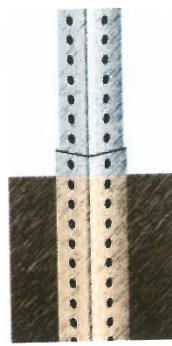




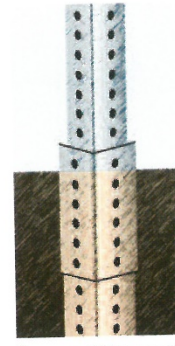
SQUARE TUBE



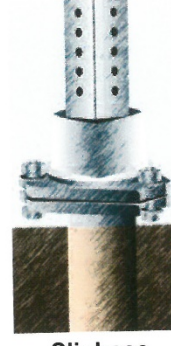
Direct
Installation



Breakaway
Installation



Super Strength
Installation



Slipbase
Installation



08/31/06
14:58:06

IMAGER #0
SESS ID 163

RATE (fps)
LOW: 50
NOR: 500

EXP (usec)
LOW: 1783
NOR: 903

TRIG ■

TMP(°C):53

PLAYING
FRAME 56

Kodak CR2000 Imager COLOR - REV 1.0 - [100.0.0.1 - U] [9600 Baud]



02/16/09

12:34:03

IMAGER #3

SESS ID 101

RATE (fps)

LOW: 50

NOR: 1000

EXP (usec)

LOW: 19983

NOR: 953

TRIG ■

TEMP(°C):19

PLAYING

FRAME 163

Kodak HG2000 Imager COLOR - REV 1.3 - [100.0.0.1 - U] [9600 Baud]

[illegible]

Agency _____ Road Identification _____ Direction _____
Beginning Point _____ Ending Point _____
Date _____ Inspector _____

[illegible]

Page ____ of ____



<http://my.acquisign.com>



Truck and Shop Inventories

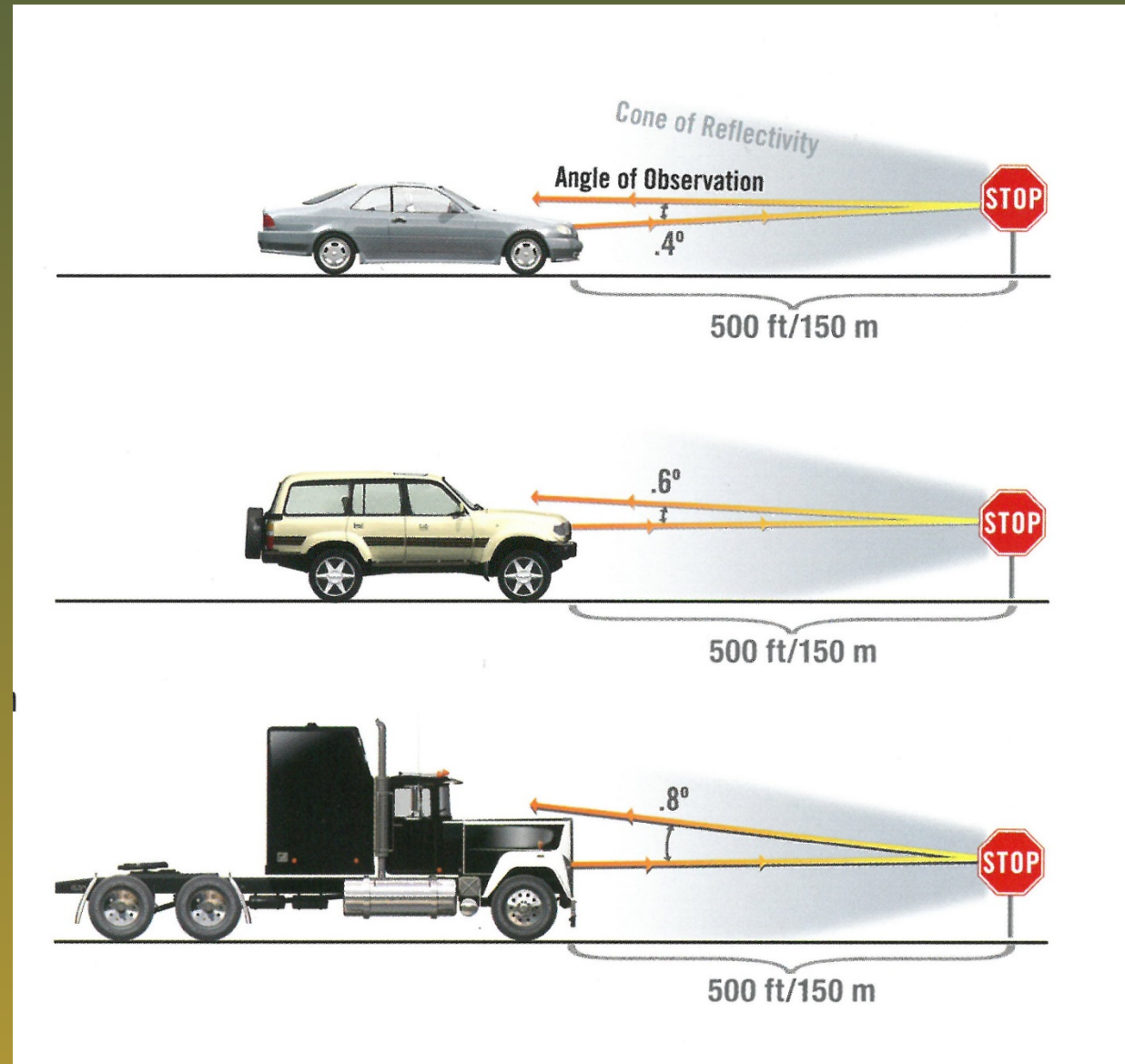


Retroreflectivity



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lw_pOtwIWY - ATSSA Retroreflectivity

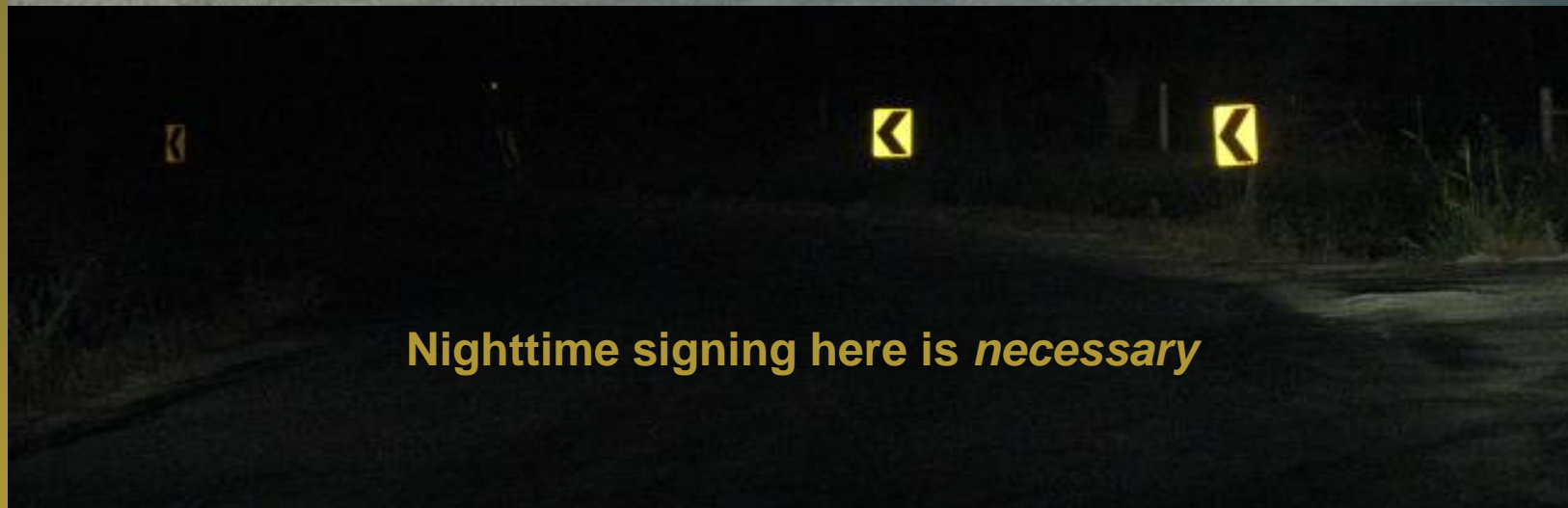
Vehicle Observation Angles



Retroreflective Signs

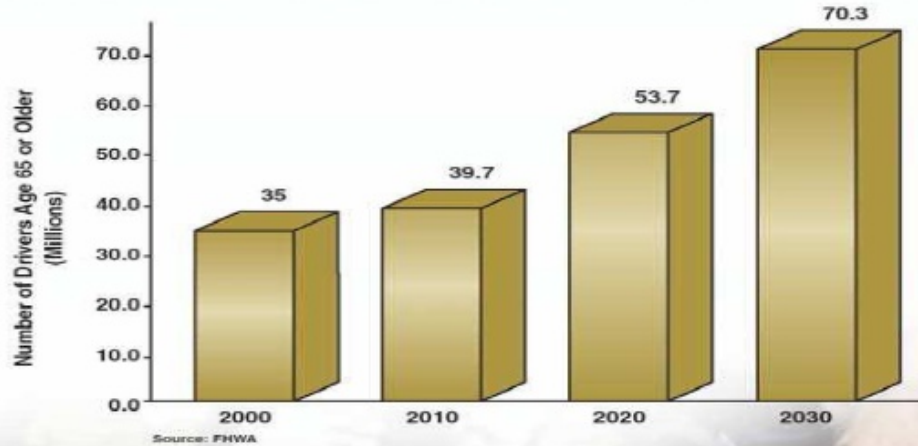


Daytime signing here is complimentary



Nighttime signing here is *necessary*

Age Produces a Different Driver



- Field of view narrows
- Accommodation time increases
- Adaptation time increases

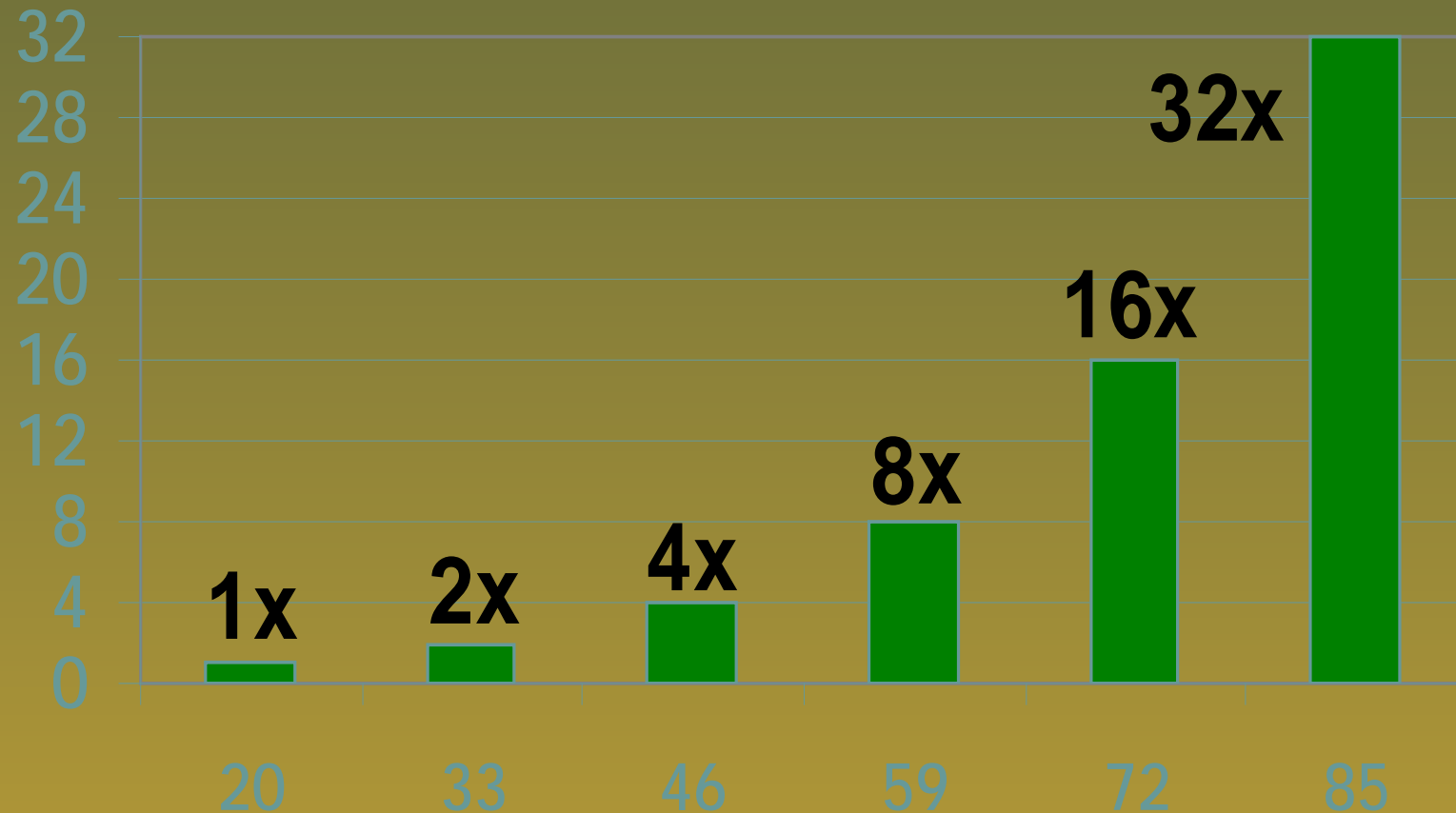
Older Driver Safety Facts

- 9% of the population
- 13% of the fatalities
- 17% of pedestrian fatalities
- 6,000 deaths annually
- 181,000 injured annually

Source: National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA)

Older Driver Vision

- ▣ Starting at age 20, the amount of light needed to see doubles every 13 years



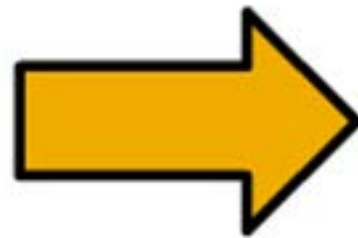
3M Life Cycle Costs

Signs deteriorate at different rates. Age, location, sun exposure and sheeting type all affect a sign's useful lifespan. The best measure of the cost of a sign is its life-cycle cost (i.e. the cost of the sign divided by its useful life). Factor in labor, hardware, administrative expenses and other costs that are incurred each time a sign needs replacement and the savings for longer-lasting signs gets even better.

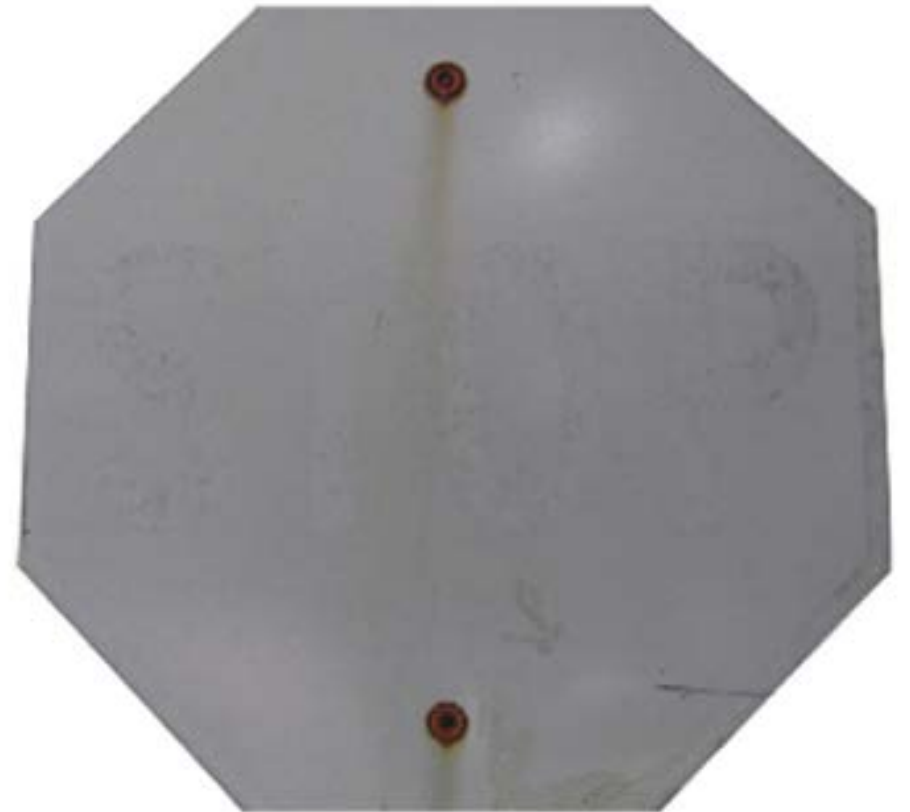
Sheeting Attributes	Engineering Grade Reflective Sheeting	3M™ High Intensity Prismatic Reflective Sheeting	3M™ Diamond Grade™ DG ¹ Reflective Sheeting
ASTM Types	I	III, IV, X	Proposed Type XI
Retroreflectivity (0.5°, -4°)	30 cd/lux/m ²	200 cd/lux/m ²	400 cd/lux/m ²
Overall Performance	May not meet federal minimum reflectivity levels over the life of the sign	Good	Excellent
Cost of Sign*	\$35.94	\$40.63	\$55.50
Expected Life	7 years	10 years	12 years
Cost per year	\$5.13	\$4.06	\$4.63

**Example only – actual cost may vary.*

From This



To This



NDLTAP Technical Resource

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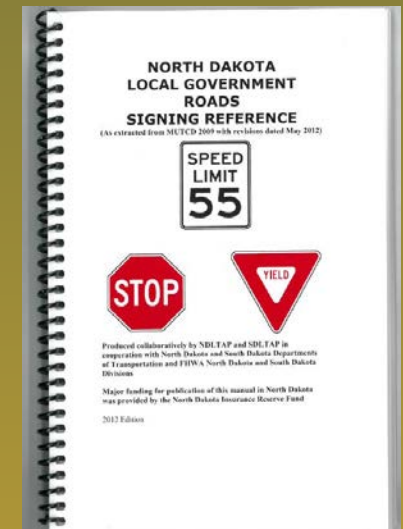
NDSU

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NORTH DAKOTA LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

North Dakota Local Technical Assistance Program

515 ½ East Broadway, Suite 101

Bismarck, ND 58504



Suppliers

- ▣ Lyles
- ▣ Newman
- ▣ 3-D/Dakota Fence
- ▣ Rough Rider Industry Sign Shop
- ▣ TSS
- ▣ M&R
- ▣ NorMont Equipment

Mark Your Calendar!

2016 Northland “How-To” Training & Education Workshop

March 15-16, 2016

Ramada Plaza Suites, Fargo, ND



Attend 20 sessions on general real-world roadway issues with topics covering:

- Pavement Marking
- Safety
- Signing
- Temporary Traffic Control

Presentation Partners



Presentation author: Dale Heglund

Presentation information: FHWA and MUTCD

Presentation format: Ken Kadrmas and NDSU/UGPTI

Photos: Mark Verke, NDIRF, Dale Heglund, NDLTAP, Denise Brown, NDLTAP

Sign-post crash-test video: Midwest Roadside Safety Facility at
the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Other video: American Traffic Safety Services Association

Additional material: NDDOT, SDLTAP, MNLTAP