

Standard:

The U.S. Secretary of Transportation, under authority granted by the Highway Safety Act of 1966, decreed that traffic control devices on all streets and highways open to public travel in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 109(d) and 402(a) in each State shall be in substantial conformance with the Standards issued or endorsed by the FHWA.

Standard:

When used in this Manual, the text headings shall be defined as follows:

- 1. Standard—a statement of required, mandatory, or specifically prohibitive practice regarding a traffic control device. All standards are labeled, and the text appears in bold type. The verb shall is typically used. Standards are sometimes modified by Options.**

2. Guidance—a statement of recommended, but not mandatory, practice in typical situations, with deviations allowed if engineering judgment or engineering study indicates the deviation to be appropriate. All Guidance statements are labeled, and the text appears in unbold type. The verb should is typically used. Guidance statements are sometimes modified by Options.

3. Option—a statement of practice that is a permissive condition and carries no requirement or recommendation. Options may contain allowable modifications to a Standard or Guidance. All Option statements are labeled, and the text appears in unbold type. The verb may is typically used.

4. Support—an informational statement that does not convey any degree of mandate, recommendation, authorization, prohibition, or enforceable condition. Support statements are labeled, and the text

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47 Section **6E.04 6E.07** Flagger Procedures

48 Support:

49 The use of paddles and flags by flaggers is illustrated in Figure 6E-3.

50 **Standard:**

51 **Flaggers shall use a STOP/SLOW paddle, a flag, or an Automated Flagger Assistance Device**

52 **(AFAD) to control road users approaching a TTC zone. The use of hand movements alone without a**

53 **paddle, flag, or AFAD to control road users shall be prohibited.**

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Option:

13 To further alert or slow traffic, the flagger holding the SLOW paddle face toward road users may motion
14 up and down with the free hand, palm down.

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46 Section 6E.03 Hand-Signaling Devices

47 **Support:**

48 **Hand-signaling devices, such as STOP/SLOW paddles, lights, and red flags, are used to control**
49 **road users through TTC zones.**

50 Guidance:

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The STOP/SLOW paddle should be the primary and preferred hand-signaling

1 device because the

2 STOP/SLOW paddle gives road users more positive guidance than red flags. Use of flags should be limited to

3 emergency situations.

4 Standard:

5 The STOP/SLOW paddle shall have an octagonal shape on a rigid handle. STOP/SLOW paddles
6 shall be at least 450 mm (18 in) wide with letters at least 150 mm (6 in) high and should be fabricated
7 from light semi-rigid material. The background of the STOP (R1-1) face shall be red with white letters
8 and border. The background of the SLOW (W20-8) face shall be orange with black letters and border.
9 When used at night, the STOP/SLOW paddle shall be retroreflectorized.

10 Guidance:

11 The STOP/SLOW paddle should be fabricated from light semi-rigid material.

12

13 Support:

14 The optimum method of displaying a STOP or SLOW message that is stable and is high enough to be

15 seen by approaching or stopped traffic is to place the STOP/SLOW paddle on a rigid staff.

16 Guidance:

17 If the STOP/SLOW paddle is placed on a rigid staff, the minimum length of the staff, measured from the
18 bottom of the paddle to the end of the staff that rests on the ground, should be 2.1 m (7 ft).

19 Option:

20 The STOP/SLOW paddle may be modified to improve conspicuity by incorporating either white or red

21 flashing lights on the STOP face, and either white or yellow flashing lights on the SLOW face. The flashing

22 lights may be arranged in any of the following patterns:

23 A. Two white or red lights, one centered vertically above and one centered vertically below the STOP

24 legend; and/or two white or yellow lights, one centered vertically above and one centered vertically

25 below the SLOW legend;

26 B. Two white or red lights, one centered horizontally on each side of the STOP legend; and/or two white

27 or yellow lights, one centered horizontally on each side of the SLOW legend;

28 C. One white or red light centered below the STOP legend; and/or one white or yellow light centered

29 below the SLOW legend;

30 D. A series of eight or more small white or red lights no larger than 6 mm (0.25 in) in diameter along the

31 outer edge of the paddle, arranged in an octagonal pattern at the eight corners of the border of the

32 STOP face; and/or a series of eight or more small white or yellow lights no larger than 6 mm (0.25 in)

33 in diameter along the outer edge of the paddle, arranged in a diamond pattern along the border of the

34 SLOW face; or

35 E. A series of white lights forming the shapes of the letters in the legend.

36 Standard:

37 If flashing lights are used on the STOP face of the paddle, their colors shall be all white or all red.

38 If flashing lights are used on the SLOW face of the paddle, their colors shall be all white or all yellow.

39 If more than eight flashing lights are used, the lights shall be arranged such that they clearly convey

40 the octagonal shape of the STOP face of the paddle and/or the diamond shape of the SLOW face of the

41 paddle.

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42 If flashing lights are used on the STOP/SLOW paddle, the flash rate shall be at least 50, but not

43 more than 60, flashes per minute.

44 Flags, when used, shall be a minimum of 600 mm (24 in) square, made of a good grade of red

45 material, and securely fastened to a staff that is approximately 900 mm (36 in) in length.

46 Guidance:

47 The free edge of a flag should be weighted so the flag will hang vertically, even in heavy winds.

48 Standard:

49 When used at nighttime, flags shall be retroreflectorized red.

50 Option:

51 When flagging at night, a flashlight with a red glowcone may be held in the free hand of the flagger to

52 supplement the STOP/SLOW paddle or flags.