

Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon Update

KIRKLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JANUARY 24, 2018

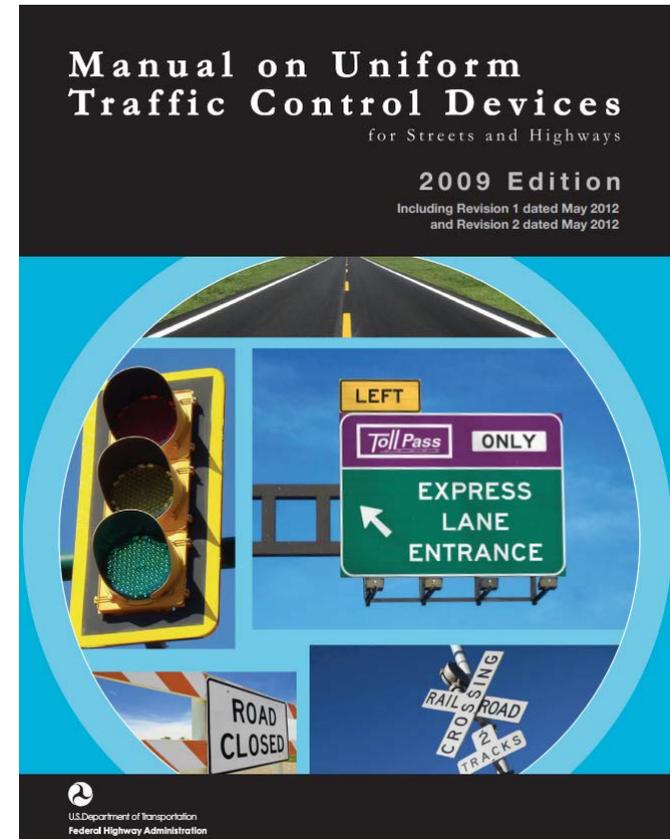
Background

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

- Issued by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Specifies standards for design, installation and use of traffic signs, road surface markings, and signals in the public right-of-way

Interim Approval (IA)

- Allows interim use, pending official rulemaking, of something not specifically described in the MUTCD.
- Jurisdiction must submit a written request to the FHWA to use a device or application with IA



Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB)

July 16, 2008 – RRFB receives Interim Approval

Studies show driver yield rates increased significantly & drive behavior did not diminish over time

City received FHWA authorization to use RRFB

Dec 21, 2017 – Interim Approval Terminated because of four issued & one pending U.S. patents (MUTCD prohibits patents)



Implications and Proposed Approach

Existing Sites – Remain until the end of their useful service life

Projects Underway – Install RRFB because approved prior to 12/21/2017

Projects in Design – Determine on a case-by-case basis

Future Projects – Replace RRFB with another similar MUTCD approved treatment and also use others, such as:

- Crosswalk lighting
- Median islands
- Curb extensions (curb bulbs)
- Raised crosswalks



Questions?
