



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
800 BAY ROAD  
P.O. BOX 778  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903

SHAILEN P. BHATT  
SECRETARY

January 3, 2012

**VIA EMAIL**

Federal Highway Administration  
Office of Transportation Operations  
HOTO-1  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Sirs:

The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) is requesting an official interpretation regarding the use of the schoolchildren symbol in lieu of the pedestrian symbol on the R1-5 series of signs when these signs are utilized within a school zone, specifically when used in advance of an unsignalized midblock school crosswalk.

Currently, there is no option in Section 2B.11 to replace the pedestrian symbol on the R1-5 series of signs with the schoolchildren symbol when these signs are used in advance of unsignalized midblock crosswalks within school zones. The use of the schoolchildren symbol on the R1-5 series of signs would allow all signage within a school zone to be consistent if these signs were used for a compliant application.

Thank you for looking into this matter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (302) 659-4073.

Sincerely,

Adam S. Weiser, P.E., PTOE  
Safety Programs Manager  
Division of Transportation Solutions

Cc: Don Weber, Chief Traffic Engineer  
Mark Luszcz, Assistant Chief Traffic Engineer  
Patrick Kennedy, FHWA Delmar Division





U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

JUN - 4 2012

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

In Reply Refer to:  
HOTO-1

Adam S. Weiser, P.E., PTOE  
Safety Programs Manager  
Division of Transportation Manager  
Delaware Department of Transportation  
800 Bay Road, PO Box 77B  
Dover, Delaware 19903

Dear Mr. Weiser:

Thank you for your recent letter requesting an official interpretation regarding the use of the schoolchildren symbol in lieu of the pedestrian symbol on the Yield Here To (Stop Here For) Pedestrians (R1-5 series) signs when utilizing these signs within a school zone in advance of an unsignalized midblock school crosswalk.

It is our official interpretation that the schoolchildren symbol may be used in place of the pedestrian symbol on the R1-5 series signs when used in a school zone in advance of an unsignalized midblock school crosswalk. As stated in your letter, there is no option in the current edition of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways* (MUTCD) to replace the pedestrian symbol on the R1-5 series signs. The MUTCD provides for the use of the schoolchildren symbol in lieu of the pedestrian symbol with the R1-6 series In-Street Pedestrian Crossing signs (as R1-6b and R1-6c) when used at an unsignalized school crossing. However, similar modification to the R1-5 series signs is not addressed in the MUTCD. The pedestrian symbol in the R1-5 series Yield Here To Pedestrians Signs and Stop Here For Pedestrians Signs may be replaced with the schoolchildren symbol as long as the symbol height remains consistent and the signs are only used in advance of unsignalized midblock crosswalks within school zones. When the R1-5 series signs are so modified, the provisions of Part 7 shall also apply.

We have assigned this interpretation the following Official Ruling number and title: "2(09)-40 (I) – R1-5 with Schoolchildren Symbol." If you have further questions on this matter, please contact Mr. Eric Ferron of our MUTCD Team at 720-963-3206 or [eric.ferron@dot.gov](mailto:eric.ferron@dot.gov).

Sincerely yours,

Mark R. Kehrli  
Director, Office of Transportation  
Operations