

# Traffic Control Devices

- What are they
- How do we decide where they go?

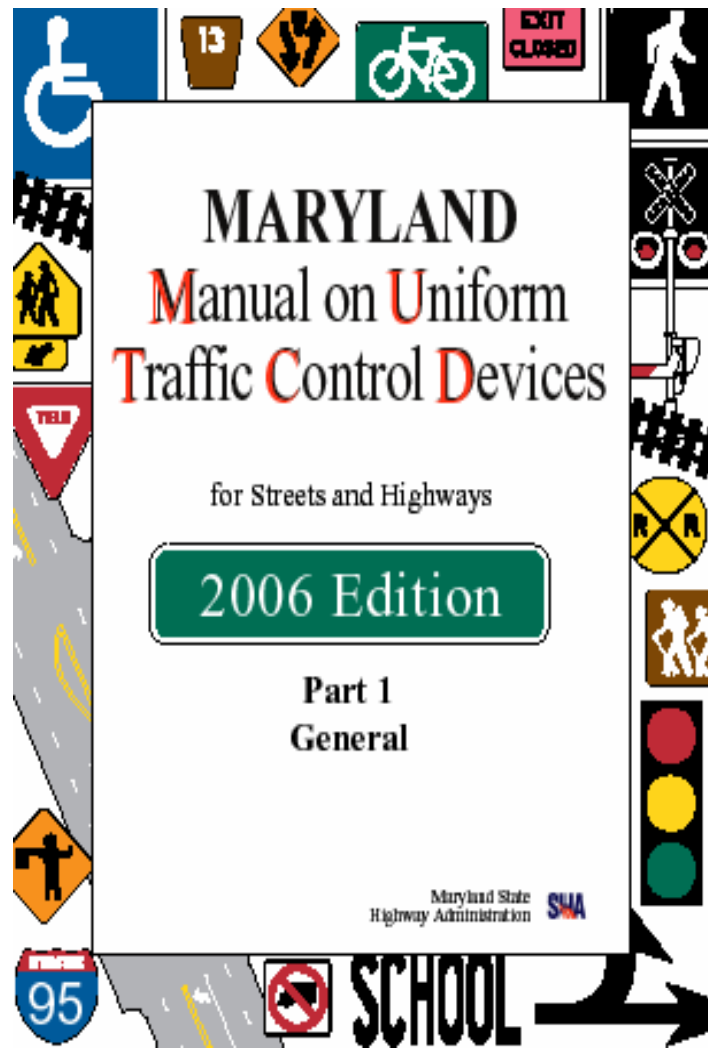
# What are they?

A Traffic Control Device is a sign, signal or pavement marking that regulates traffic or provides warning and guidance for the safe operation of all elements of the traffic stream.

They should:

- Fulfill a need
- Command attention
- Convey a clear, simple meaning
- Command respect from road users
- Give adequate time for the proper response

# How do we decide where they go?



# The Maryland Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

- Gives guidance for many others, in fact there is a section specifically for traffic controls for school areas
- Warrants / criteria that should be present to install devices such as traffic signals and stop signs, etc.

# How do we decide where they go?

- County Policies and Practices
  - June 2002 Policy for the Establishment of School Zone Traffic Controls
    - Establishing School Zones
    - Establishing Double Fine Zones
    - Posting Reduced Speeds in School Zones
    - Installing flashing school speed limit signs

# Safe Access to School

- Program highlights
  - Moving from Reactive to Proactive
  - School zone inventory completed for every public school
  - Schools prioritized based on scores
  - Starting with the lowest scoring schools we are performing comprehensive School Zone Safety Assessments with the goal to do every school
  - Continue to respond to unique safety concerns

# Comprehensive School Zone Safety Assessment

- Develop a school walking route plan
  - Based on existing conditions and sidewalk locations
  - Where are the students coming from?
  - Where do they want to go?
  - Collect speed and vehicular and pedestrian volume data
  - What are the safest routes?
  - Where should crosswalks go?



# Comprehensive School Zone Safety Assessment

- Using MUTCD and County Policy determine need for:
  - Doubled Fines
  - Reduced Speed Limits
  - School Flashers
  - Traffic /Pedestrian Signals

# What can you do?

- Contact DPWT/Traffic Engineering and Operations Section at [trafficops@montgomerycounty.md](mailto:trafficops@montgomerycounty.md) or at 240-777-6000 or
- Contact MCPS/Division of Transportation at 301-840-8130