Object Markers

Technical Assistance Program, Information Transfer KY Local Technical Assistance Program

## **Object Markers**

On low-volume roadways, it may not be cost effective to remove or relocate fixed objects within the clear zone due to their prevalence and the lower speeds associated with the local road system. In those cases, object markers are recommended by the MUTCD to demarcate roadside obstacles.

The MUTCD provides standards for Type 2 and Type 3 markers as shown in Figure 1. It is recommended that Type 3 object markers be used to mark significant obstacles directly adjacent to the roadside, such as culvert headwalls, while Type 2 markers may be used to delineate frequent occurrences such as utility pole locations.<sup>1</sup>

Figure 1: MUTCD Object Marker



The recommended minimum height for object markers is lower than standard signing, with a minimum height of 4 ft above the edge of the roadway. This lowered height allows for the object markers to be within the direct eye line of the driver and indicate the obstacle position relative to the vehicle. Additionally, when placing Type 2 and Type 3 object markers, the near edge of the object marker should be placed in-line with the near edge of the obstacle to provide further guidance to the driver. Figure 2 delineates the application of object markers on a roadway.

Figure 2: Object Marker Application





1. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, Federal Highway Administration. 2009. https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/