

Part V
Traffic Control Systems for Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings
General Provisions

Sec. 14-298-900 - Uniformity

- (a) Traffic control systems for railroad-highway grade crossings include all signs, markings, signals, control or warning devices, and illumination devices and their supports along highways approaching and at railroad-highway crossings at-grade.
- (b) Such control systems shall conform to the standards set forth in the following publications as applicable, except as otherwise provided in sections 14-298-500 to 14-298-900, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies:
 - 1) The 2009 edition of the “Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways” (MUTCD) approved by the Federal Highway Administration;
 - 2) The 2004 edition of the “Standard Highway Signs” approved by the Federal Highway Administration; and
 - 3) The Connecticut Department of Transportation’s “Catalog of Signs”.
- (c) The decision to use a particular traffic control system at a particular location shall be made on the basis of either an engineering study or the application of engineering judgment as defined in the MUTCD.
- (d) Engineering judgment should be exercised in the selection and application of all traffic control systems for railroad-highway grade crossings.

Sec. 14-298-909 - Operation

- (a) Sequence of Operation (Flashing Lights): Automatic railroad flashing lights shall operate for a minimum of 29 seconds before the train enters the crossing. The operation shall continue until the train clears the crossing. When railroad flashing lights are activated by key, push button or an island type circuit, the flashing lights shall operate for a minimum of 20 seconds before the train enters the crossing.
- (b) Sequence of Operation (Gates): Railroad gates shall operate for a minimum of 29 seconds before the train enters the crossing. The following sequence within the 29 seconds shall occur:
 - 1) The gates shall begin to lower approximately 7 seconds after activation of railroad flashing lights and bells.
 - 2) The gates shall reach the horizontal position approximately 17 seconds after activation of railroad flashing lights and bells.
 - 3) The train shall enter the crossing approximately 12 seconds after the gates reach the horizontal position.

The gates shall ascend to its upright position in not more than 12 seconds after the train clears the crossing, and the railroad flashing lights and bells shall cease operating.