

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1056

TITLE: Resolution for Facilities of the Future – Volume II (Pedestrian Signage)

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SPONSORS:

WHEREAS, the University of Florida (UF) is committed to providing a safe and efficient transportation system for its students, faculty, and staff [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida recently renewed its commitment to the safety and efficiency of pedestrian traffic on campus [2]; and,

WHEREAS, pedestrian congestion on campus pathways can lead to increased risk of accidents and reduced mobility, especially during course transition periods; and,

WHEREAS, UF “hosts more than 6,000 international students” who may come from countries where pedestrian traffic norms differ such as the United Kingdom, South Africa, Bangladesh, India, and Australia, including left-side walking customs, potentially leading to confusion and congestion on UF’s pathways [3][4]; and,

WHEREAS, clear and consistent pedestrian signage can help standardize movement patterns on campus, reducing uncertainty for both domestic and international students and improving overall pedestrian safety and efficiency; and,

WHEREAS, the implementation of "Keep Right" signage for pedestrian traffic has been shown to improve the flow and safety of pedestrian movement in various urban settings [5]; and,

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) “has adopted the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) by Rule 14-15.010, F.A.C” [6]; and,

WHEREAS, the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) provides guidelines for the design and application of traffic control devices, including signage for keep right signs (MUTCD, Section 2B.39) as well as pedestrian signs (MUTCD, Section 2B56-58) [7]; and,

WHEREAS, FDOT Design Standards include specific guidelines for signage and markings designed for pedestrian facilities [8]; and,

WHEREAS, investing in high-quality, durable signage can reduce long-term maintenance costs and ensure the campus remains welcoming and navigable for years to come; and,

WHEREAS, the use of "Keep Right" signs for pedestrian pathways aligns with the principles of visibility, clarity, and safety as outlined in the FMUTCD and FDOT standards; and,

WHEREAS, the MUTCD does not explicitly prohibit the use of "Keep Right" signs for pedestrian traffic, allowing flexibility in their application for enhancing pedestrian safety; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages the UF Administration to initiate a project to design and implement "Keep Right" signage for pedestrian pathways.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the UF Student Senate recommends that signage placement be prioritized at high-traffic pedestrian areas.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the UF Student Senate supports stakeholder feedback in the design process through communication with students, faculty, staff, and relevant university departments to ensure the signage meets the needs of the campus community.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the UF Student Senate notes the need for new signage implementation to prioritize compliance with all relevant safety and accessibility standards, ensuring the signs are easy to read, navigate, and understand for all individuals (MUTCD, Part 2).

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the UF Student Senate requests the Administration to provide regular updates on the progress of this project, including timelines, design drafts, and implementation plans.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the UF Student Senate recognizes this initiative be recognized as part of the larger "Facilities of the Future" plan, aiming to modernize and improve the infrastructure and facilities of the University of Florida for the benefit of current and future students.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Interim Vice President for Business Affairs Brandi Renton, Senior Director of Transportation and Parking Services William MacDonald, Director of Planning Linda Dixon, and Assistant Vice President of Facilities Services Mark Helms.

[1] <https://taps.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/TransportationStrategicPlan.pdf>

[2] <https://news.ufl.edu/2023/08/uf-fdot-traffic-pedestrian-safety/>

[3] <https://www.eng.ufl.edu/students/international/international-students/>

[4] <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/auto/countries-that-drive-on-the-left-side-of-the-road/articleshow/112137377.cms>

[5]

https://ddot.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddot/publication/attachments/DDOT%20Traffic%20Calming%20Assessment%20Petition_v412.pdf

[6] <https://www.fdot.gov/traffic/trafficservices/mutcd.shtm>

[7] https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/11th_Edition/mutcd11thedition.pdf

[8] <https://www.fdot.gov/Safety/programs/bike-ped/pedbikedesign.shtm>