

ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PROCEDURES FOR SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING  
ON  
INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEMS

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**Alabama Department of Transportation**

**Procedures for Specific Service Signing**  
**On**  
**Interstate Highway Systems**

**October 2019**

**ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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## I. Purpose

In accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, (MUTCD), Latest Adopted Edition, the following procedures for specific service signing are established. The purpose of these procedures is to provide for the display of specific service signs within the rights-of way of Interstate highway systems which inform motorists on such highways of fuel, food, lodging, camping and/or attraction services by means of product or business identification symbols, signs and/or trademarks.

## II. Definitions

As used in these procedures unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

- A. Department - the Alabama Department of Transportation.
- B. Specific Service Sign - an information panel, rectangular in shape, located within the highway right of way and consisting of the words "GAS", "FOOD", "LODGING", "CAMPING" or "ATTRACTION" and directional information with space for one or more individual business (logo) signs to be mounted on the panel.
- C. Business Logo or Logo Sign - a separately attached, fully reflectorized sign mounted on the rectangular specific service sign or mounted separately as a trailblazer to show the brand, symbol, trademark, or name, or a combination of these, for the motorist service available on or adjacent to the crossroad at or near the subject interchange.
- D. Public Telephone - a coin operated telephone or a business telephone that is available for public use during all business hours.
- E. Interstate Highway - any section of highway that is a part of the "National System of Interstate and Defense Highways". A highway listed as "Off Interstate Business Loop (or Spur)" or "Temporary Interstate" is not considered a part of the Interstate Highway System.
- F. Program - the Specific Service Signing program as outlined in these procedures.
- G. Drinking Water - state, county and/or local government approved water source provided to the public by means of either a public drinking fountain or other sanitary water dispenser with cups provided at no charge.
- H. Bumping- occurs when a new business is placed on the Specific Service Sign panel and the presently displayed business is taken off the panel due to the new business being closer to the zero point/ physical gore interchange. This can only occur when the panel is full and on the annual renewal date.
- I. Disqualified Business- is any participating business which receives written notice of deficiencies, fails to comply with procedures within (30) days and whose signs have been properly removed.

## III Specifications and Requirements

- A. Specific Service Sign Panel Shape & Legend. A specific service sign bearing separately attached business logos shall be rectangular in shape with the appropriate words as follows: "GAS - Exit XXX," "FOOD - Exit XXX," "LODGING - Exit XXX," "CAMPING - Exit XXX," "ATTRACTION - Exit XXX," with the capacity for one or more individual business logos to be mounted on the sign.
- B. Business Logo Display. Business logos separately attached on a specific service sign shall show the logo, name, brand, symbol, or trademark of the gas, food, lodging, camping or attraction facility located at or conveniently accessible from an interchange on the Interstate System or other selected highway.

Each logo sign shall display only one business logo. Nationally, regionally, or locally known commercial symbols or trademarks shall be used when applicable. The brand or trademark identification symbol used shall be reproduced with the colors and general shape consistent with customary use. Any messages or trademarks of brand symbols which interfere with, imitate, or resemble any official warning or regulatory sign, signal or device shall not be permitted. If a logo is available, it shall be used in preference to any other form of business sign. Descriptive advertising words, phrases or slogans shall not be allowed on a business logo; e.g., "Open 24 Hours," "Great Food," "Free Coffee," "Credit Cards Accepted," "Food Mart," "Good Sam Club," etc. A portion of the bottom of a FOOD logo sign may be used to display the word "CLOSED" and the day of the week when the facility is closed. A portion at the bottom of a GAS logo sign may be used to display the legends for alternative fuels or RV ACCESS.

- C. Spacing. Specific service signs shall be erected between the previous interchange and 800 feet in advance of the exit direction sign at the interchange from which the services are available. There should be at least 800 feet spacing between the specific service signs. The specific service signs shall be so located longitudinally to take advantage of the natural terrain and have the least impact on the scenic environment. In the direction of travel, the successive panels shall be those of "ATTRACTION," "CAMPING," "LODGING," "FOOD," "GAS," in that order.
- D. Accessibility. No specific service sign should be erected at any interchange exit ramp unless an entrance ramp is also located at that interchange or at another reasonably convenient interchange to permit the motorist to proceed in the desired direction of travel without undue indirection or use of poor connecting roads. A specific service category (i.e. gas/ food/ lodging/ camping/ attraction) may appear on up to two (2) signs in each direction for an interchange approach.
- E. Application. The specific service signs are intended for application at rural interchanges where a number of motorist services are not generally available. Specific service signs may be installed within nonrural areas where the roadside development, roadway characteristics, and/or traffic conditions may diminish the ability to determine the type and number of services available. Satisfaction of eligibility requirements does not guarantee the right to participation; the State reserves the right to select locations for new specific service signs based upon travel demand, prospective eligibles, available funding, and other factors not specifically mentioned herein.
- F. Maximum Capacity. Space on the individual "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING" or "ATTRACTION" specific service signs shall be limited to that sufficient for six (6) business logos.
- G. Size of Specific Service Sign Panels.
  - 1. The maximum size of the "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING" or "ATTRACTION" specific service signs shall be 15 feet wide and 10 feet high including border.
  - 2. For double exit interchanges where the same types of services are to be signed for each exit, the specific service signs shall be as follows:
    - a. "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING" or "ATTRACTION" panels shall consist of two 15 feet wide X 6 feet high sections, one for each exit.
    - b. Each section shall be capable of accommodating a maximum of three business logos.
    - c. For double exit interchanges where a type of service is to be signed for only one exit, only one specific service sign may be used: 15 feet wide X 6 feet high for "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING" or "ATTRACTION".

H. Background & Legend. The background color of a specific service sign shall be reflectorized blue with white reflectorized legend and border.

1. The words "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING" or "ATTRACTION", as appropriate, and directional information, shall be in white reflectorized 10 inch (minimum) capital letters mounted on the blue background panel.
2. Each "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING" or "ATTRACTION" business logo on a specific service sign shall be contained within a 48 inch wide X 36 inch high rectangular background area, including border. The border may be omitted where the business identification symbols or trademarks are used alone. Any legend or message not a part of the nationally, regionally or locally known symbol or trademark shall be in reflectorized white on a blue reflectorized background with principal legend uppercase and lowercase letter heights of 8 inches and 6 inches respectively.

I. Business Qualifications. Any facility or site currently signed as a Supplemental Guide Sign Location is not eligible for Specific Service Signage. (See MUTCD, Latest Adopted Edition).

A motorist service business located at or conveniently accessible from an Interstate (or other selected) highway system interchange will be eligible for placement of business logos on specific service signs if the business meets the following conditions:

1. GAS – To qualify for erection of a “GAS” business logo on a specific service sign a business must meet the following conditions:
  - a. Located no more than 2 miles from the Interstate highway via an all weather road.
  - b. Appropriate licensing as required by law.
  - c. Vehicle services of gas, oil, tire air and water.
  - d. Rest room facilities and state, county and/or local government approved drinking water available for public use. **(See Section II Part G).**
  - e. Year round operation at least sixteen (16) continuous hours per day, seven (7) days a week.
  - f. Public Telephone. **(See Section II Part D).**
  - g. An on premise attendant to collect monies and/or make change. However, this section does not preclude the use of automatic collection fuel pumps.
2. FOOD – To qualify for erection of a “FOOD” business logo on a specific service sign a business must meet the following conditions.
  - a. Located no more than 2 miles from the Interstate highway via an all weather road.
  - b. Appropriate licensing as required by law and a permit to operate issued by the State Health Department as well as compliance with all local ordinances governing the provision of food to the public.

- c. Year round operation at least twelve (12) continuous hours per day, minimum six (6) days a week, to serve at least two (2) meals per day. Sandwich type entrees may be considered meals under this section, but prepackaged items on display shall not qualify as meals.
  - d. Seating for at least ten (10) persons.
  - e. Rest room facilities available on site and suitable for public use.
  - f. Public telephone. **(See Section II Part D.)**
3. LODGING – To qualify for erection of a “LODGING” business logo on a specific service sign a business must meet the following conditions:
- a. Located not more than 3.5 miles from the Interstate highway via an all weather road.
  - b. Appropriate licensing as required by law and a permit to operate issued by the State Health Department.
  - c. Year round operation.
  - d. Adequate sleeping accommodations consisting of a minimum of ten (10) units available and suitable for public occupancy.
  - e. Off-street vehicle parking spaces for each lodging room for rent.
  - f. Public telephone. **(See Section II Part D.)**
4. CAMPING – To qualify for erection of a “CAMPING” business logo on a specific service sign a business must meet the following conditions:
- a. Located not more than 6 miles from the Interstate highway via an all weather road.
  - b. Appropriate licensing as required by law including compliance with all state, county, and local health and sanitation codes. Provision of adequate water and sewer systems which have been duly inspected and approved by the appropriate health authority with documented evidence of such inspection and approval.
  - c. A minimum of ten (10) camp sites with full hookup accommodations for all types of travel trailers, tents and other camping vehicles.
  - d. Adequate parking accommodations for each camp site available for rent.
  - e. Continuous operation, seven days a week during the business season.
  - f. Public telephone. **(See Section II Part D.)**
  - g. Removal or masking of the business logo by the Department during off-seasons if operated on a seasonal basis.
5. ATTRACTION – To qualify for erection of an “ATTRACTION” business logo on a Specific Service Sign a facility must meet the following conditions:
- a. Located not more than 15 miles from the Interstate highway via an all weather road.

- b.* Continuous operation at least eight (8) hours per day, six (6) days per week, or (48) hours per week. Seasonal operation (100) days per year, (6) hours per day, will be considered continuous operation. Masking is required for seasonal operation unless specified otherwise herein.
- c.* Attendants and/or tour conductor on site during operating hours.
- d.* Restroom facilities available and suitable for public use.
- e.* Drinking water available and suitable for public use **(See Section II Part G)**.
- f.* Public Telephone. **(See Section II Part D)**.
- g.* Adequate parking to accommodate the facility's traffic with a minimum of ten (10) spaces.
- h.* Must be an activity or location that is one (1) or more of the following categories:
  - (1) Natural Beauty/Phenomena
    - (a) A natural phenomenon is limited to features created by nature. Examples include but are not limited to unusual rock formations, caves, fossil beds, and waterfalls.
    - (b) Areas of natural or scenic beauty that are of outstanding interest to the general public including State or National Parks, wilderness areas, mountain ranges, bays, lakes, rivers, canyons, and similar areas.
  - (2) Historic Site
    - (a) A historic site is limited to a structure or site that is of definite historical significance as determined by the Alabama Historical Commission and/or listed in the National Register of Historical Places. The site must be of State and/or National significance. It must be opened to the public for regularly scheduled daily tours. Self-guided tours are permissible if attendants are on site.
  - (3) Cultural Site/Museum
    - (a) A cultural site is limited to any facility for the performing arts, exhibits, or concerts that is open to all age groups.
    - (b) A museum is limited to a facility, open to the public at least one hundred (100) days per year, in which works of artistic, historical, or scientific value are cared for and exhibited to the public.



(4) Educational Site

- (a) Zoological or Botanical Park – A facility in which living animals, insects, or plants are kept and exhibited to the public.
- (b) Winery or Brewery – A licensed site which produces a minimum of five hundred (500) gallons of wine and/or beer per year, produced commercially packaged for off-premise sales. Open to public for tours a minimum of three hundred twenty (320) hours per year and provides an educational format for informing visitors about wine and beer processing.
- (c) Facility Tour Location – A facility such as a factory, institution, or plant, which conducts regularly, scheduled daily public tours year-round.
- (d) Science Centers offering a state-of-the-art learning environment such as quality educational programs, hands-on type exhibits, theater presentations, etc., which is open to all age groups.

(5) Recreation Site

- (a) Recreational Area – An area that offers four (4) or more of the following activities: Cycling, boating, camping, fishing, hiking, skating, picnicking, swimming, field sports, horseback riding, rock climbing.
- (b) Amusement Park – A permanent area which is open to the general public for three (3) or more of the following activities: Picnicking, water activities, entertainment rides, live shows, food services, etc., in operation more than three (3) months per year.
- (c) Golf Course – A facility open to the public and offering at least nine (9) holes of play. *Miniature golf courses, driving ranges, chip-and-putt courses, and indoor golf **shall not** be eligible.*
- (d) Arena – A stadium, sports complex, auditorium, fairground, or civic or convention center which has a capacity of at least five thousand (5,000) seats and is holding events on at least twenty-eight (28) days of the year.

NOTE: For non-profit Attractions participating in the Specific Service Signing Program, the Alabama Department of Transportation will waive one-half (1/2) of the amount of the annual fees noted in Section V Part A.

i. Attractions that do not qualify under any category:

- (1) Flea Markets, Trade Days, Junkyards, Yard Sales, Etc.
- (2) Primary Retail Center, Outlet Malls, Shopping Centers, Etc.
- (3) Any facility or site currently signed as a Supplemental Guide Sign Location (See MUTCD, Latest Adopted Edition).

- (4) Any facility which is not open to the traveling public or motorists' per On-Demand basis. (On-Demand basis shall be the non-reservation accommodation of drop-in visitors. Exceptions are scheduled tours/ showings, tee times, etc).

- J. Maximum Distance. Distances to eligible services should not exceed those listed above for the service in either direction. If services of the type being considered choose not to participate or are not available within the specific limit, the distance requirement may be extended. The extended distance shall be in 3 mile increments up to a maximum of 15 miles. Bumping procedures will apply to any business that participates due to the incremental extension distance requirement.
- K. Distance Measurement. Measurement of maximum distances from interchanges referred to above shall be made from the physical gore of the exit ramp (Survey Zero Point) along the normal edge of pavement of the crossroad, as a vehicle must travel to reach the nearest driveway to the business.
- L. Combination Signs. Combination type Specific Service Signs may be used in certain areas in accordance with the following criteria:
1. The combination of specific service signing using business logos will include "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING" or "ATTRACTION". No more than three (3) types of services shall be represented on any sign or sign assembly. If three (3) types of services are shown on one sign, then the logo panels shall be limited to two (2) for each service. If two (2) types of services are shown on one sign, then the logo signs shall be limited to a maximum of four (4) for one of the service types. No service type shall appear on more than two (2) signs. Before allowing a service to be displayed on two (2) signs, ALDOT personnel should take into account the potential for future growth in the area, while limiting the amount of sign modification to accommodate such action. If used, combination service signing shall maintain successive order as described in Section III Part C "Spacing" for types displayed. Regardless of the number of service types displayed, the number of Specific Service Signs along an approach to an interchange or intersection shall be limited to a maximum of four (4). No more than 6 logo signs shall be installed on each Specific Service Sign for a total of 24 logo signs per approach.
  2. If the number of qualified businesses at an interchange increases to more than the number of spaces available on the combination sign for one or both services, existing combination signs may be removed and replaced with full size specific service signs dedicated to each individual service, provided adequate spacing can be maintained and other provisions of this document are observed. **(See Section III Part C.)**
- M. Service Signs. Regardless of the number of categories displayed at an interchange or intersection, the number of specific service signs shall be limited to a maximum of four mainline signs and four ramp signs.
- N. Exit Ramp Signs. At single Exit interchanges where participating businesses are not visible from a ramp terminal, ramp signs shall be installed along the ramp or at the ramp terminal, and may be provided along the crossroad when deemed necessary by the Area Representative. These signs shall be of the same design as the corresponding specific service signs placed along the main roadway, but reduced in size. Business logos for facilities visible from the ramp terminal may be omitted. The exit ramp signs may include the distances to the businesses and shall include directional arrows in place of words. The minimum letter height shall be 4 inches except that any legend on a business logo shall be in proportion to the size of the logo.
- O. Trailblazer Signs. If the main building of a participating business is located more than 0.2 miles off the interchange or intersecting crossroad and is not readily visible from the crossroad intersection, trailblazer signs of the appropriate size shall be installed. For business participation in the program,

local agencies must participate in the necessary trailblazing off-system prior to installation of on-system trailblazers, ramp, or mainline logo signs.

#### **IV. Special Requirements**

- A. Each business applicant shall offer written assurance that it conforms with all applicable laws concerning the provision of public accommodations with regard to race, religion, color, age, sex, national origin or disability, and laws concerning the licensing and approval of service facilities. The business is to notify the Department upon any changes/deviations to original (Specific Service Signing) survey and/ or agreement, and/ or the above applicable laws affecting qualification. The Department reserves the right to remove any disqualified business logo by furnishing the business written notice of such intent not less than thirty (30) calendar days prior to such action. A business having received written notice of such intent, may correct deficiencies within the same thirty (30) calendar days in order to remain qualified. A disqualified business will not be eligible for application resubmission for (12) months from date of disqualification. ALDOT personnel will attempt to contact business upon sign removal. Neither compensation nor refund will be afforded a disqualified business. A disqualified business is any participating business which receives written notice of deficiencies, fails to comply with procedures within (30) days and whose signs have been properly removed.
  
- B. The selection by the Department of businesses to be displayed on specific service signs will be made from the businesses conforming to the provisions of Section III Part I., with the business closer to the interchange receiving preference. If a business meets the distance criteria for one approach to an interchange it may be allowed space for business logos for both approaches unless such permission would prevent another eligible business from acquiring such space. If a new business wants to become a participant which is closer to the interchange than one which is presently displayed on the specific service sign, then upon the annual renewal date, bumping may occur where applicable. The presently displayed business SHALL have participated in the specific service sign program at least (12) months for bumping to occur. The Department reserves the right to remove any business logo affected by this section and shall in no way be held responsible for damages arising from such action.
  
- C. All business logos shall be furnished to the Department by the business participant at no cost to the Department and shall be manufactured using materials and workmanship which are in accordance with the latest adopted edition of the Alabama Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Highway Construction and any supplements thereto. Sheeting shall be Type III or higher. Type I-N (non-reflective vinyl) is not approved for use on business logos.
  
- D. A participating business may be located within the facility of another business (host). The host business shall meet the qualifications of one of the service types but is not required to be a participant of the Program. Businesses are allowed to share use of restrooms and public telephones in order to meet qualifications provided such improvements are located on the same premises; all other category qualifications shall be met separately by each business.
  
- E. For each facility, all Mainline, Ramp and Trailblazer Logo Signs shall be the appropriate size as shown in the Appendix and shall have identical design elements (i.e. colors, fonts, and any other applicable design elements) at all times.
  
- F. Ramp and Trailblazer signs shall not be installed if there is no corresponding Logo Sign on the Mainline Specific Service Sign panel. If a Mainline Logo sign is removed for a facility, all corresponding ramp signs and trailblazers shall also be removed.

- G. No applications shall be accepted for facilities under construction. A Qualification Survey shall not be conducted or submitted prior to the opening of business. All qualifications shall be met at the time of the Survey before a facility can be approved for participation.
- H. NO BUSINESS WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM WHICH HAS AN ILLEGAL OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGN. (See Procedure and Requirements for Outdoor Advertising, Chapter 450-10-1).

**V. Fees and Agreements**

- A. Annual fees for specific service signs shall be as follows:

Mainline Signs	-	\$450.00 each/year
Ramp Signs	-	\$250.00 each/year
Trailblazer Signs	-	\$100.00 each/year
RV Friendly Symbol	-	\$300.00 (one time fee)
Seasonal Masking	-	\$ 150.00 each/year

- B. Initial fees shall be submitted to the appropriate District/ Area office, along with completed application forms. Initial fees shall be equal to the annual fees as determined by the Department. Participation shall commence on the day the application is approved by the Area Office. When Participation commences on or after November 1 of any year, the initial fees shall be sufficient and credited towards the remaining year and the following full year. Prorated adjustments of fees shall not be made. The annual renewal date shall be January 1. Participating businesses will be invoiced sixty (60) days prior to the renewal date. All fees shall be remitted by check or money order payable to the **Alabama Department of Transportation. ALL CHECKS AND PAYMENTS SHALL BE SENT TO FINANCE BUREAU, CENTRAL OFFICE. ALL COPIES OF CHECKS AND PAYMENTS SHALL BE SENT TO MAINTENANCE BUREAU, CENTRAL OFFICE, ALONG WITH ALL ASSOCIATED PAPERWORK.** Paperwork may include Survey (189), Sign Requirements (190), Agreement (191), Artwork Layout, Renewal Form (192), Transmittal Letter etc. **THE ANNUAL TERMINATION DATE SHALL BE MARCH 1.** Businesses with outstanding renewal fees will be sent a “Termination Notice” approximately thirty (30) days after the annual renewal date. Failure of a participant to remit renewal fees by the annual termination date (Mar. 1) shall be cause for removal and disposal of the business logos by the Department as set forth in Part G. of this section. The business will not be eligible for application resubmission for (12) months from the date of termination.
- C. When requested by a business participant, and upon payment of a \$100.00 per sign service charge, the Department may perform services such as replacement of deteriorated, faded or updated business logos. Any such replacement sign shall be provided by the business participant at no cost to the Department. The Department will schedule the appropriate time to perform such services as work load permits. If the replacement sign differs in design from the sign to be replaced, the business participant must have the new design approved by the Area Representative prior to fabrication. **Under no circumstances will any person other than Department employees be permitted to install, remove or maintain business logos covered by these procedures.** When a business chooses to participate in the program on a seasonal basis an additional fee of \$150.00 per year will be charged for masking and unmasking their logo. This fee shall be paid at the time of initial application and with the annual billing each year that the business chooses to participate in the program.
- D. The Department shall not be responsible for damage to business logos caused by acts of vandalism, accidents, acts of nature (including weathering and/or natural deterioration), etc., requiring repair or replacement of the signs. In such event, business participants shall provide a new or renovated business

logo together with payment of the \$100.00 per sign service charge to the Department for replacement of the damaged business logo(s).

- E. Individual businesses requesting participation in the Program shall submit to the Department a completed SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM AGREEMENT along with the first year's fees for participation (as outlined in paragraph A and B of this section). The business shall submit a layout of the proposed business logo for approval by the Department prior to fabrication. The Department will provide a BUSINESS SIGN REQUIREMENTS form to the applicant that itemizes the number of business logos required, the associated fees and remittance requirements. Businesses which fail to submit the required forms, fees and layouts as noted above shall not be eligible to participate in the Program.
- F. No business logo shall be displayed which, in the opinion of the Department, is unsightly, badly faded, illegible or in a substantial state of dilapidation. The Department reserves the right to remove, mask and/or require replacement of any such sign. The business participant shall provide the required replacement business logo(s) at no cost to the Department. All installation and replacement of business logos shall be accomplished by the Department and as the Department deems necessary upon payment of the appropriate fees. **The Department reserves the right to remove the business logos of any participant who fails to pay any fee or is otherwise in violation of the provisions of these procedures.**
- G. When a business logo is removed, it will be taken to the business during normal operating hours. If the sign cannot be delivered to the participant (business closed, new ownership, etc.), it will be taken to the District Maintenance shop of the District in which the business is located. The business will be notified of the removal and given thirty (30) days in which to retrieve their business logo. After thirty (30) days, the business logo will become the property of the Department and will be disposed of as the Department shall see fit.
- H. Should the Department determine that trailblazing to a participating business is necessary, it will be accomplished with an assembly, or series of assemblies, consisting of ramp sized business logo(s) and white on blue arrow pointing the appropriate direction. The business shall provide the required trailblazer logos. (See Appendix for details of trailblazing). The Department shall not be liable for trailblazing off the State Highway System.
- I. Should a business qualify for signing at two (2) or more interchanges, its business logos will be erected at the interchange located nearest to the business. If the business desires signing at both interchanges the Department may, upon approval by the Area Representative, place the business's logos at both locations, provided that such placement does not prevent another business from participating in the Program.
- J. If the Department determines that a business is not in compliance with the provisions of these procedures the following steps will be taken: The Department will notify the business that it will be given a maximum of thirty (30) days to comply with these procedures. If at the end of the thirty (30) day period the business is not in compliance, the Department shall remove the business logos.
- K. The Department reserves the right to cover or remove any business logo(s) in the conduct of maintenance operations, construction activities, research studies, or when otherwise determined by the Department to be in the best interest of the Department or the traveling public, without advance notice thereof. A business may request compensation for the covering or removal of a business logo(s) due to these activities. Business must provide reasons for compensation refunds, such as length of time logo covered or removed, loss of business due to logo being removed for construction, etc. Refund consideration is determined by dividing the annual renewal fee into quarterly amounts. Refund consideration will be reviewed for the following continuous time intervals in which signage was down due to one or more of the above mentioned activities:

- 0-2 months = business will not receive refund consideration
- 3 months to less than 6 months = business may receive refund consideration for 3 months
- 6 months to less than 9 months = business may receive refund consideration for 6 months
- 9 months to less than 12 months = business may receive refund consideration for 9 months
- 12 months to less than 15 months = business may receive refund consideration for 12 months

The Department reserves the right to terminate this Program or any portion thereof by furnishing business participants with written notice of such intent not less than thirty (30) days prior thereto.

- L. The Transportation Director may grant an exemption to a business from the provisions of these procedures. Persons requesting variances from the provisions of these procedures must do so by written petition to the Director - Alabama Department of Transportation. All variances must comply with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, *Latest Adopted Edition*.

# **Alabama Department of Transportation**

## **Procedures for Specific Service Signing** **On** **Interstate Highway Systems)**

# **Appendix**

CONTAINS FORMS, SKETCHES AND MATERIALS FOR THE USE OF DEPARTMENT  
PERSONNEL AND FOR DISTRIBUTION TO PARTICIPANTS

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTANCE

DIRECTION

SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING

.

NSEW

QUALIFICATION SURVEY

.

NSEW

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Type of facility: GAS  FOOD  LODGING  CAMPING  ATTRACTION  Bumping Required   
 Options: RV Symbol  (For RV Symbol, attach completed On Site Inspection Checklist) Business being bumped \_\_\_\_\_

Route \_\_\_\_\_ Interchange Exit No. \_\_\_\_\_ Crossroad Route \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_ Trade Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Representative of Business \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Person with authority to sign)

Person Interviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_

GAS	FOOD	LODGING	CAMPING	ATTRACTIONS
VEHICLE SERVICES GAS <input type="checkbox"/> OIL <input type="checkbox"/> TIRE AIR <input type="checkbox"/> WATER FOR BATT/RAD <input type="checkbox"/> APPROPRIATE LICENSING YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED DRINKING WATER YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC REST ROOM YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC TELEPHONE YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> ON PREMISE ATTENDANT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	MEALS SERVED BKFAST <input type="checkbox"/> LUNCH <input type="checkbox"/> SUPP <input type="checkbox"/> APPROPRIATE LICENSING YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEALTH PERMIT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> GRADE _____ INDOOR SEATING CAP _____ MINIMUM 20 YEAR-ROUND OPERATION YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC RESTROOM YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC TELEPHONE YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	ROOMS AVAILABLE _____ MINIMUM 10 APPROPRIATE LICENSING YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEALTH PERMIT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> GRADE _____ ADEQUATE OFF ST. PARK YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YEARROUND OPERATION YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC TELEPHONE YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	SITES AVAILABLE _____ MINIMUM 10 APPROPRIATE LICENSING YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEALTH PERMIT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> GRADE _____ ST APPROVED WATER SYS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED SEWER SYSTEM YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL AUTHORITY CITY <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> ADEQUATE PARKING YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC TELEPHONE YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	TYPE: _____ APPROVED DRINKING WATER YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC RESTROOM YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC TELEPHONE YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> ADEQUATE PARKING YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NON-PROFIT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> IF NON-PROFIT, FEES WILL BE 1/2 OF NORMAL ANNUAL FEE. <b><u>ATTACH PROOF</u></b>

HOURS OF OPERATION	24 HRS _____	SUN _____	MON _____	TUE _____									
	WED _____	THU _____	FRI _____	SAT _____									
MONTHS OF OPERATION (IF SEASONAL)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ALL

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE                      DATE                      ALABAMA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION                      DATE

TAX I.D. NO. (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 TITLE



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING  
 BUSINESS SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Route \_\_\_\_\_ Interchange Exit No. \_\_\_\_\_ Crossroad \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Business

Mailing Address of Business

The type, size, quantity and annual fees for business signs required for participation in the Specific Service Signing Program of the Alabama Department of Transportation for the business and location shown above are as follows:

GAS <input type="checkbox"/> FOOD <input type="checkbox"/> LODGING <input type="checkbox"/> CAMPING <input type="checkbox"/> ATTRACTION <input type="checkbox"/> RV SYMBOL <input type="checkbox"/>							
_____	48 in. X 36 in.	Mainline	@	\$450.00	each/yr	=	\$ _____
_____	24 in. X 18 in.	Ramp	@	\$250.00	each/yr	=	\$ _____
_____	24 in. X 18 in.	Trailblazer	@	\$100.00	each/yr	=	\$ _____
_____		Seasonal Masking	@	\$150.00	annually	=	\$ _____
_____	12 in. Diameter	RV Symbol	@	\$300.00	one time	=	\$ _____
_____	< Total Signs Needed			Total annual fees	>		\$ _____

The application fee payable to the **Alabama Department of Transportation**, along with this and all other application forms shall be submitted to the Address for Correspondence shown below.

Businesses applying for participation in the Specific Service Signing Program are required to submit a layout of their proposed business signs for approval by the Alabama Department of Transportation, Area Representative before the signs are fabricated. All business signs shall be fabricated in accordance with the specifications of the Procedures for Specific Service Signing and all other applicable specifications of the Alabama Department of Transportation. All business signs shall be delivered (properly insured) to the Address for Shipping shown below for installation by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

Address for Correspondence:

Address for Shipping:

\_\_\_\_\_, Area Representative

\_\_\_\_\_

Alabama Department of Transportation

Alabama Department of Transportation

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, AL \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, AL \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature for Business

Date

Signature for Department

Date

If further information is desired concerning the Specific Service Signing Program, please contact:

\_\_\_\_\_

**ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM  
AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, it is the desire of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Business)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Mailing Address of Business)

hereinafter referred to as BUSINESS, to participate in the program of the Alabama Department of Transportation, hereinafter referred to as the DEPARTMENT, to provide specific service signing for motorist services within the DEPARTMENT rights-of-way.

The BUSINESS desires signing for \_\_\_\_\_ service. The BUSINESS agrees to abide by the regulations as set forth in the Procedures for Specific Service Signing as approved by the Transportation Director, as the same are currently in force or as may be amended in the future. The BUSINESS acknowledges receipt of a copy of the Procedures for Specific Service Signing currently in force for this program.

In consideration of participating in the Specific Service Signing Program the BUSINESS agrees to pay an annual fee established by the DEPARTMENT.

Therefore, in consideration thereof, the BUSINESS offers this written assurance that it conforms with all applicable laws concerning the provision of public accommodations without regard to race, religion, color, sex, national origin, or disability and shall not be in breach of this assurance; and

It is understood that should the BUSINESS at any time be in breach of this assurance or at any time fail to meet the minimum criteria by which it qualified for participation in this program, the DEPARTMENT will take the necessary actions to remove all business signs, and there shall be no further obligation on the part of the DEPARTMENT. A business is subject to becoming disqualified if changes/ deviations are made to the original (Specific Service Signing) survey and/ or agreement which make business noncompliant. The Department will furnish the BUSINESS written notice of such intent not less than thirty (30) calendar days prior thereto; and

It is understood that the BUSINESS shall furnish to the DEPARTMENT at the designated place the necessary business signs displaying the name, symbol or trademark of the BUSINESS fabricated according to DEPARTMENT specifications, at no cost to the DEPARTMENT; and

It is understood that the DEPARTMENT reserves the right to cover or remove any or all business signs in the conduct of maintenance operations, construction activities, research studies, or whenever deemed by the DEPARTMENT to be in the best interest of the DEPARTMENT or the traveling public, without advance notice thereof.

It is understood that the DEPARTMENT reserves the right to terminate this program or any portion thereof at any time.

The BUSINESS assumes full responsibility for any damage, deterioration, or loss of any of its signs and agrees to bear all costs of replacement; It is understood that all signs for any business operating on a seasonal basis shall be covered or removed for the period during which the BUSINESS is closed to the public; and

It is understood that should the number of businesses providing a particular service at an individual interchange increase to more than the maximum number of business sign spaces allotted on a Specific Service Panel and a closer business qualifies and requests installation of its business signs, the BUSINESS could be deleted from the program, and the business signs removed at the next annual renewal date; and

It is understood that the Alabama Department of Transportation forms named Specific Service Signing Qualification Survey and Specific Service Business Sign Requirements are made a part of this Agreement stating the conditions of operation by which the BUSINESS is approved for participation in this program, and the number of business signs the BUSINESS is required to furnish to the DEPARTMENT.

_____	_____
Name (Print or Type)	Name (Print or Type)
_____	_____
Signature for the BUSINESS (DATE)	Signature for the DEPARTMENT (DATE)
_____	_____
Title	Title
_____	
Witness	

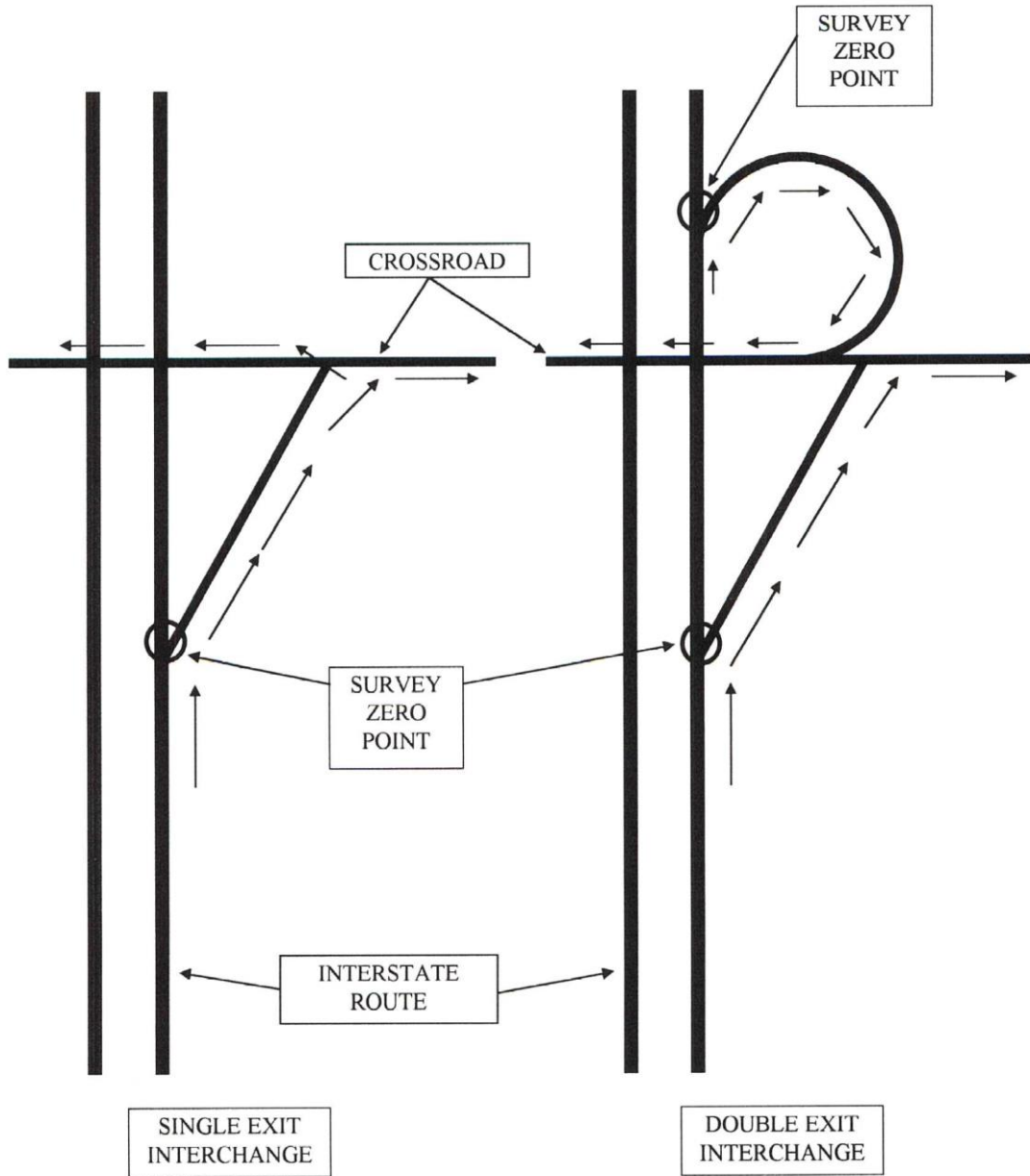
Affix corporate seal if business is incorporated:

(DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE: Execute an original and make two copies. One copy is to be returned to the business. One copy is to be retained by the Region / Area. The original is to be forwarded to the Maintenance Bureau.)

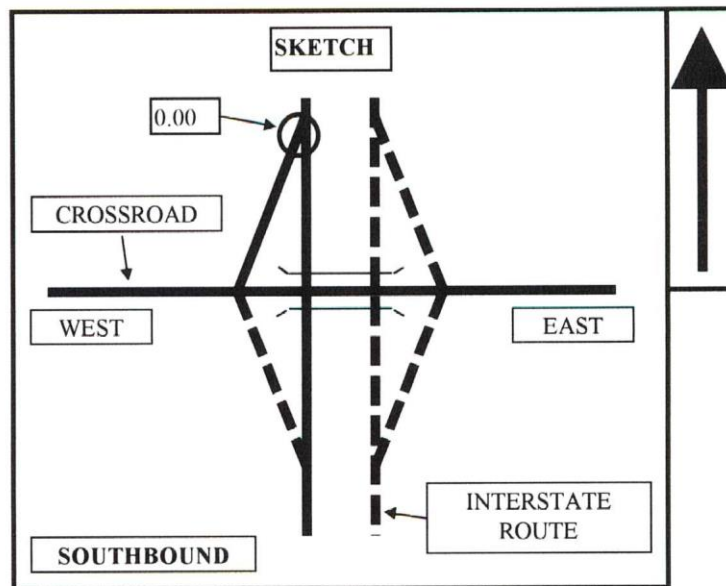
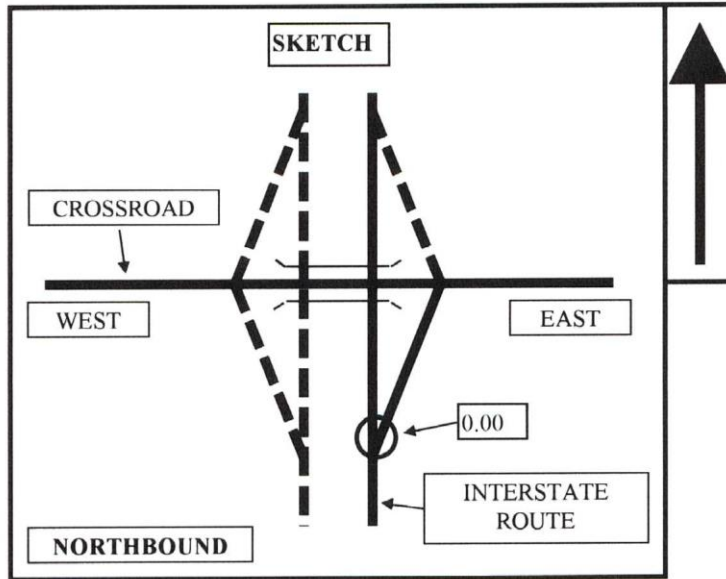




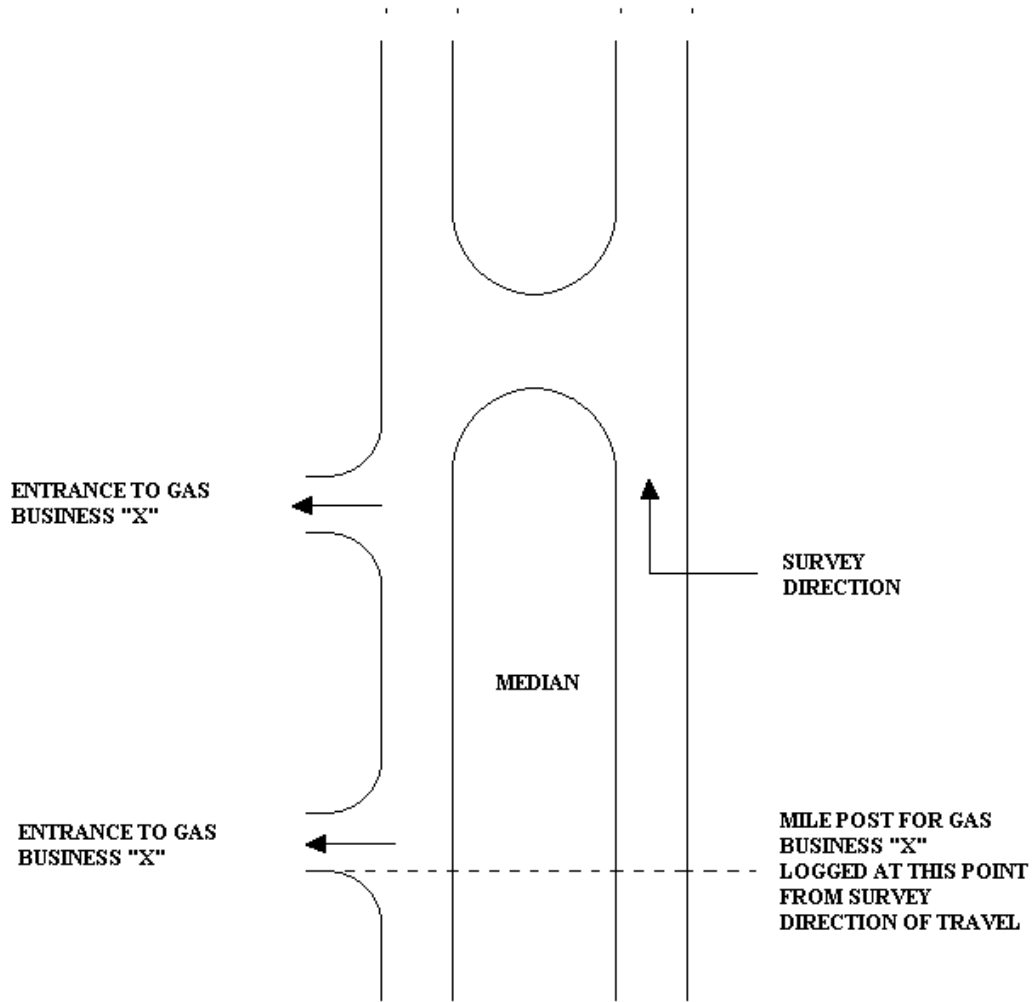
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM  
SURVEY ZERO POINT SKETCHES  
(SEE PROCEDURES, SECTION III Part K.)



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM  
EXAMPLE INTERCHANGE SKETCH



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM  
MILE POST RECORDING EXAMPLE 1

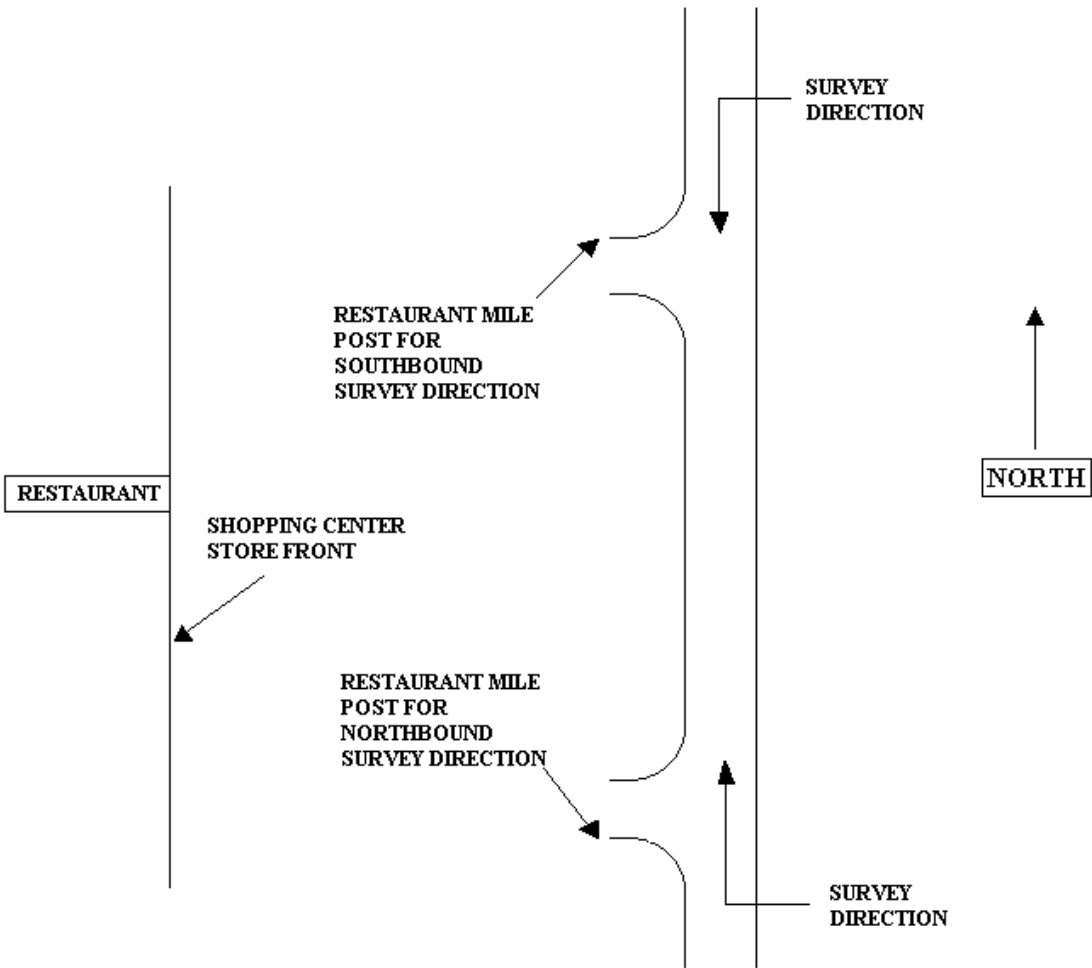


SPECIFIC SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT ON OPPOSITE SIDE OF DIVIDED ROADWAY FROM SURVEY DIRECTION

X

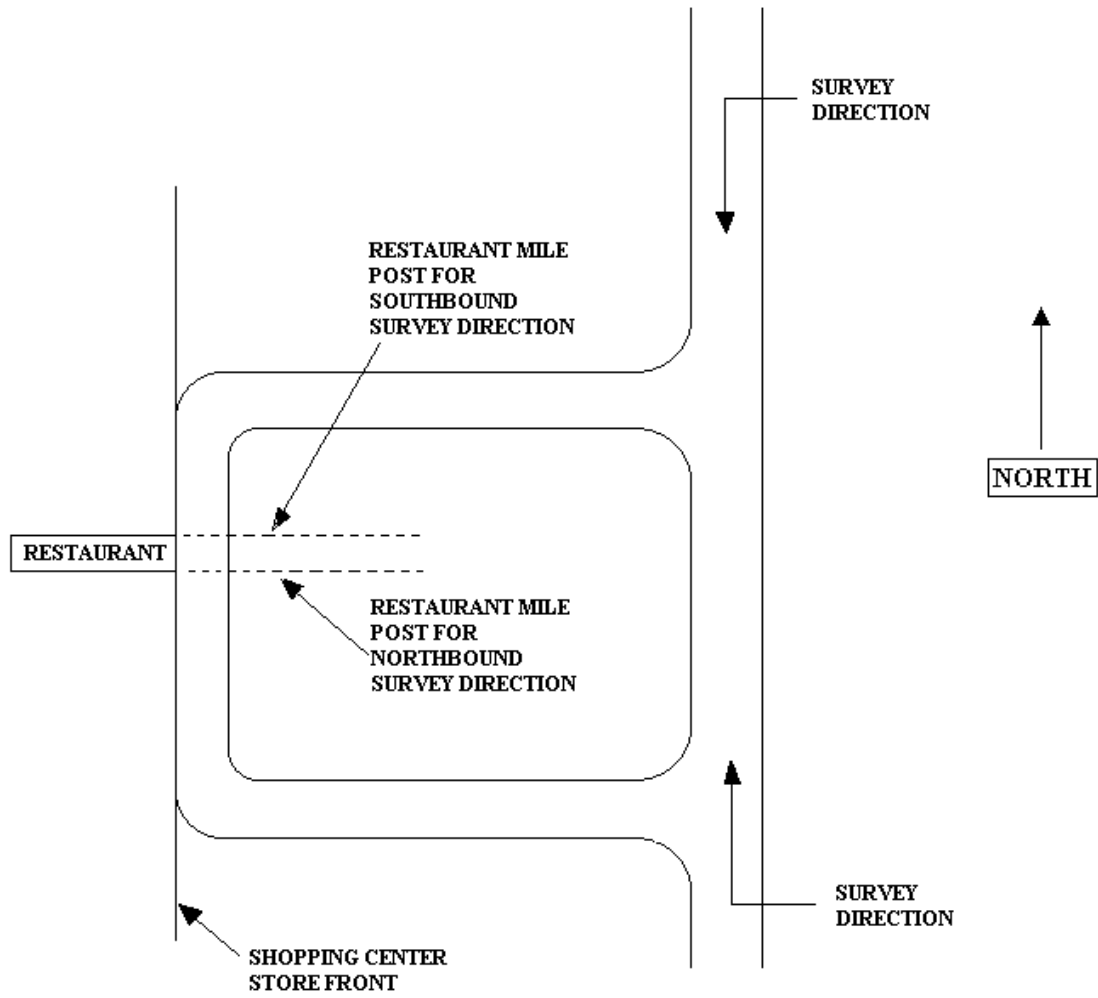


ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM  
MILE POST RECORDING EXAMPLE 2



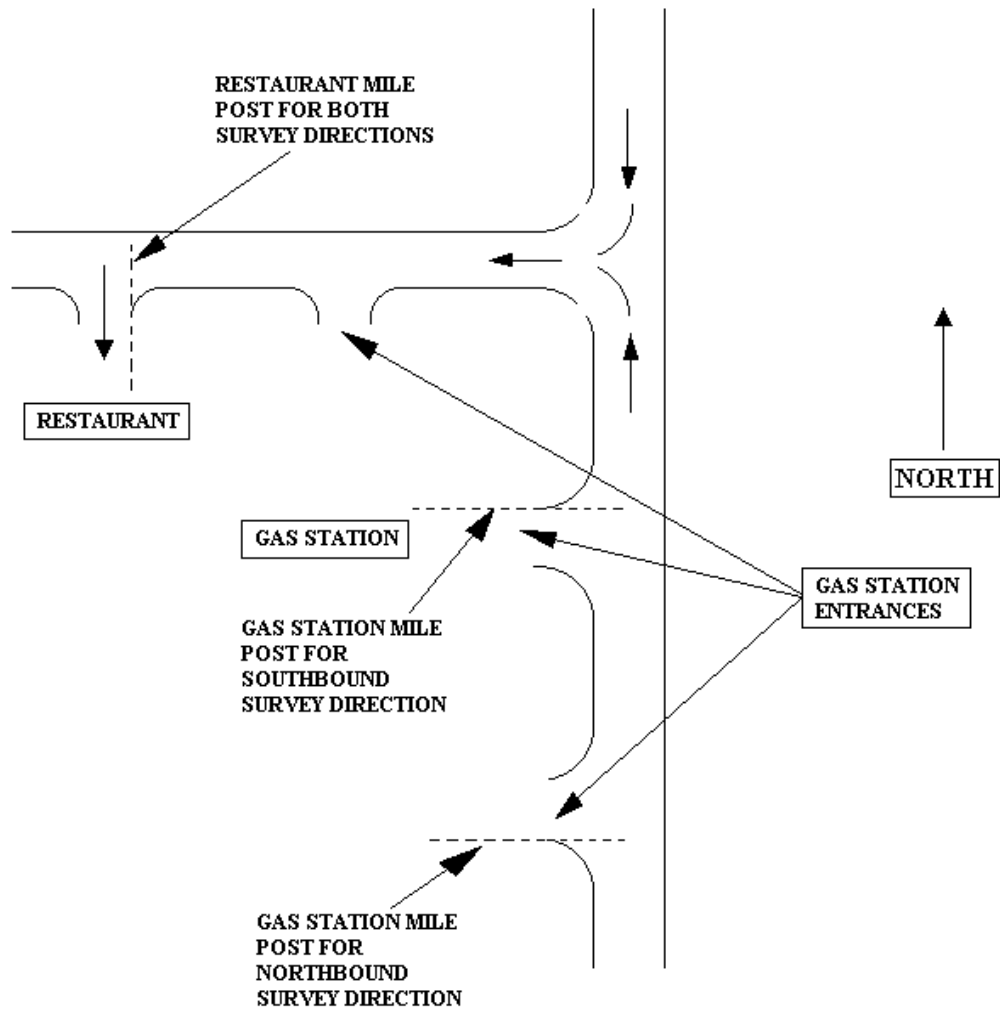
SPECIFIC SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT LOCATED IN SHOPPING CENTER WITH NO INTERNAL ROADWAY

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM  
MILE POST RECORDING EXAMPLE 3



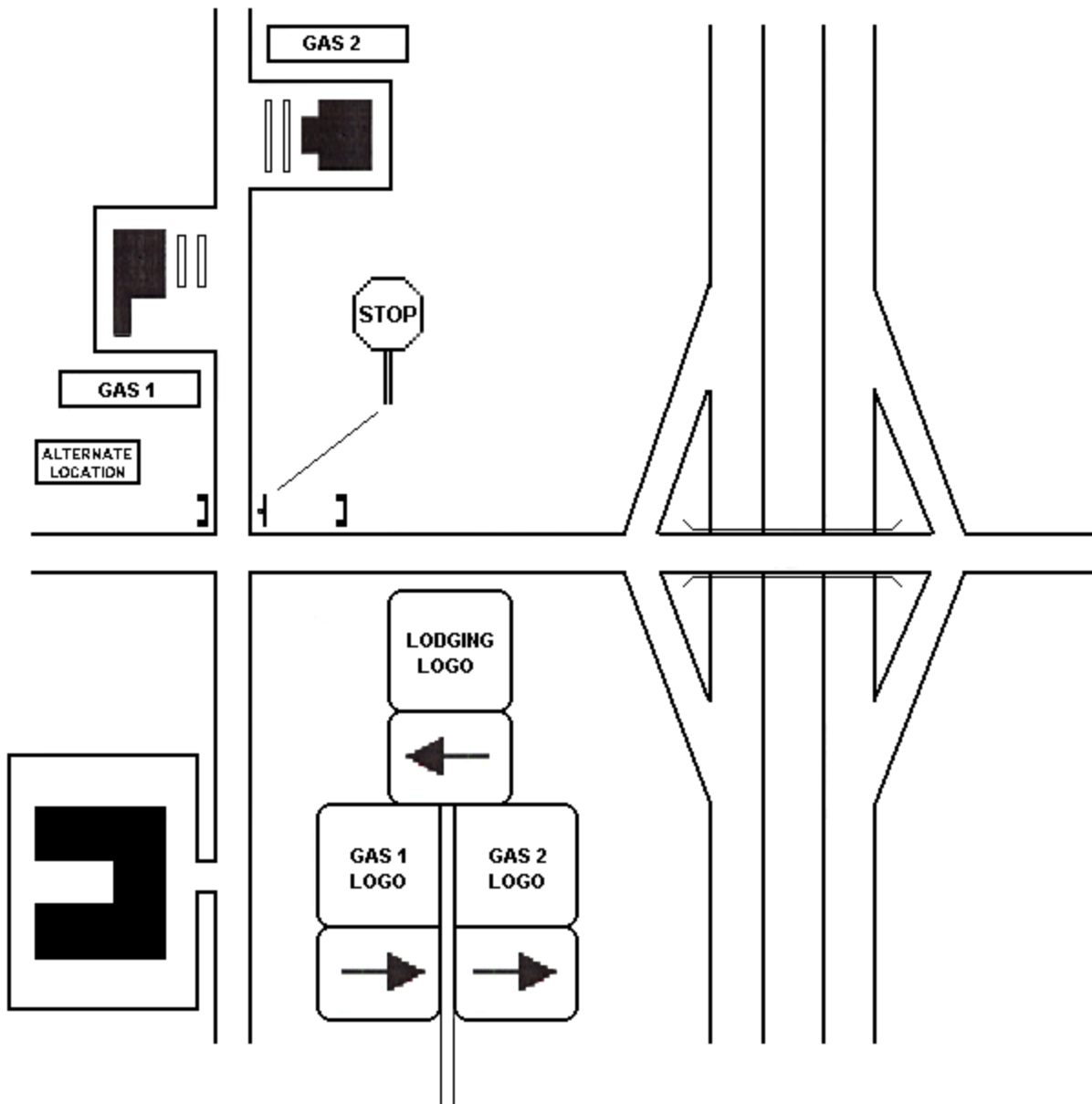
SPECIFIC SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT LOCATED IN  
SHOPPING CENTER WITH INTERNAL ROADWAY

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM  
MILE POST RECORDING EXAMPLE 4



SPECIFIC SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT LOCATED ON CORNER

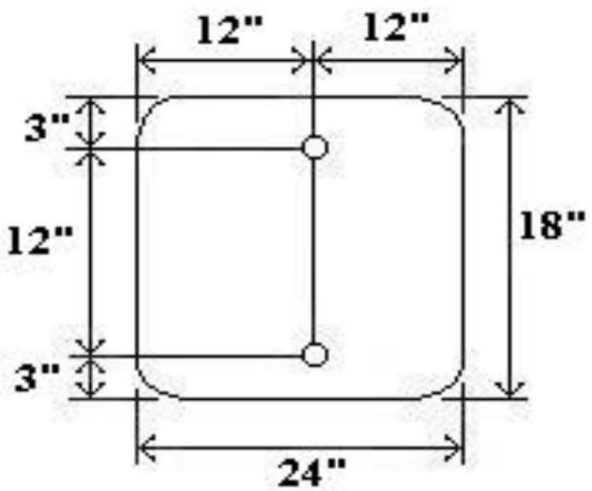
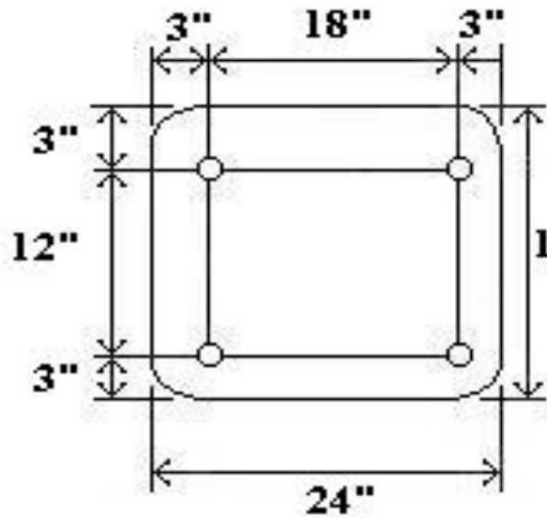
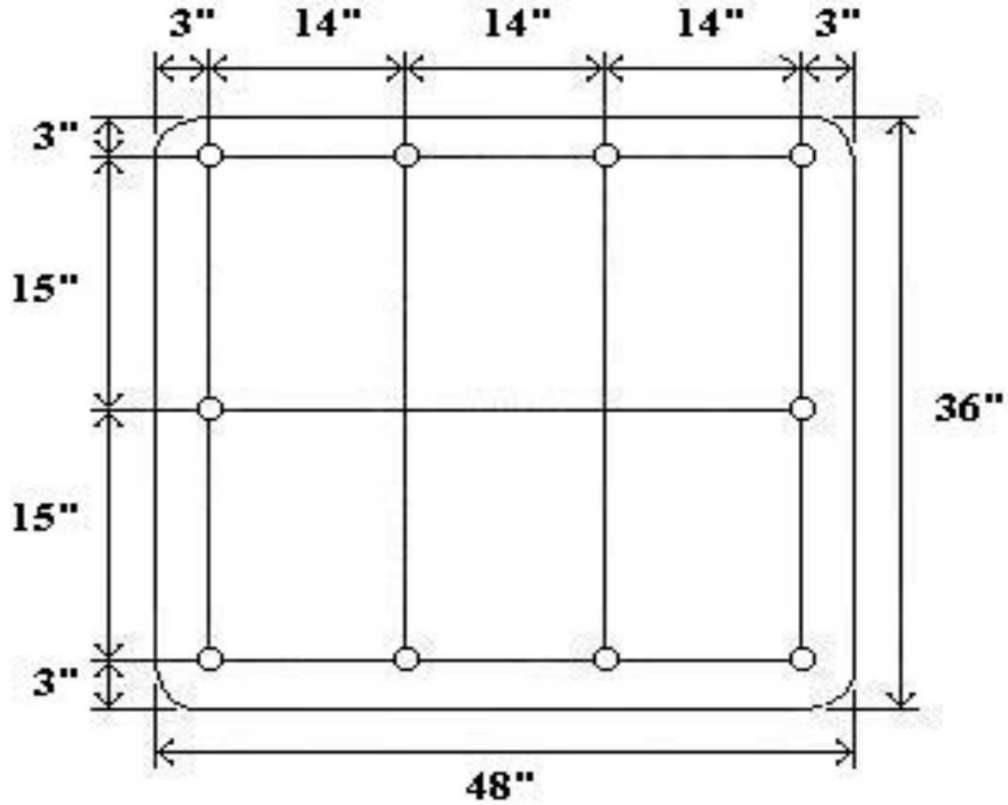
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM  
TYPICAL TRAILBLAZING SCHEME



xiv



**ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNING PROGRAM  
 BUSINESS SIGN BLANK DETAILS**



Note: The sign blank shall be fabricated from flat sheet aluminum of .063 inch minimum and .125 Inch maximum thickness. All corner radii shall be 3 inches. These sketches are not to scale.

## RV ACCESS supplemental message

### I. RV Friendly Requirements:

To qualify to participate in the RV Friendly Approval process businesses and facilities shall meet the minimum requirements as follows:

- A. Approved for LOGO signing and in compliance with ALDOT's Specific Service Signing Procedures.
- B. Roadway access and egress shall be a paved surface and at least 12 feet wide with a minimum swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the facility.
- C. Roadway access and parking facilities shall be free of any electrical wires, tree branches, or other obstructions up to 14 feet above the surface.
- D. Facilities with canopies for RVs shall have a 14-foot vertical clearance. Facilities selling diesel fuel shall have pumps with non-commercial nozzles. Fueling facilities shall allow for pull-through with swing radius of 50 feet.
- E. Facilities requiring short-term parking such as restaurants or tourist attractions shall have 2 or more spaces that are 12 feet wide and 65 feet long with a swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the spaces.
- F. Campgrounds shall have 2 or more spaces that are 18 feet wide and 45 feet long.
- G. Where the RV Friendly parking spaces and services are not visible from the entrance, directional signing shall be posted on site, so that the motorist is given additional guidance upon leaving the public highway and entering the business establishment's property. The need for on site directional signing shall be determined by ALDOT Division personnel.
- H. On site inspection and Checklist completed. No RV Friendly symbol shall be installed until the fee has been submitted and checklist has been approved by the Area Office.
- I. If a business fails to maintain any RV requirement, the symbol shall be removed from the LOGO sign panel and no part of the fee shall be refunded.
- J. The fee for RV Friendly symbol shall be a one time fee of \$300.00. The fee shall be remitted by check or money order payable to **Alabama Department of Transportation**. No prorated or partial payments shall be accepted.

## II. RV Friendly Design Requirements

The following design requirements shall apply:

- A. The bottom portion of the Logo sign panel may be used to display an RV ACCESS supplemental message (similar to alternative fuels) if warranted. A circular RV symbol may be used as an alternative. It shall be designed/ incorporated within the Logo panel.
- B. Font shall be black- background shall be yellow.
- C. For design standards reference MUTCD, Latest Adopted Edition.

### **RV Friendly On Site Inspection Checklist**

*This form shall completed by ALDOT Area personnel*

#### 1. General:

- a) Facility:
  - i) Name of facility:
  - ii) Location of Logo signs (roadway, exit #, direction):
- b) Date LOGO application approved:
- c) Specific Service Sign panel qualification: Can the RV Friendly symbol be placed on the Specific Service Sign Panel without overlapping other Logo signs? \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no (if no, then RV Friendly symbols cannot be attached to the panel.)
- d) In compliance with ALDOT Specific Sign Services procedures and requirements.

#### 2. Roadway Access:

- a) Type of Surface: \_\_\_ paved \_\_\_ unpaved
- b) Width:
- c) Swing Radius:
- d) Minimum clearance from obstructions:

#### 3. Parking Facilities:

- a) Minimum clearance from obstructions:
- b) Short term parking:
  - i) Number of spaces 12' wide & 65' long:
  - ii) Swing radius to enter & exit space:
- c) Presence or need for on site directional signing to RV Friendly parking spaces:
- d) Campgrounds/long term parking:
  - i) Number of spaces 18' wide & 45' long:
- e) Clearance of canopies in feet (if present):

#### 4. Fueling Facilities:

- a) Clearance of canopies in feet (if present):
- b) Number of diesel fuel pump nozzles: \_\_\_ commercial \_\_\_ non-commercial
- c) Pull-throughs:
  - i) Number:
  - ii) Swing radius:



This facility (qualifies)(does not qualify) for RV Friendly status.  
If facility does not qualify, indicate reason or unmet requirement:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Area Logo Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **ALTERNATIVE FUELS DISPLAY REQUIREMENTS**

- I. Qualification requirements in regards to displaying alternative fuel options on specific service signs are as follows:

A. GENERAL:

ALDOT's Specific Service Signing (LOGO) procedures Section III, B states "A portion at the bottom of a GAS logo sign may be used to display the legends for alternative fuels." The ramps signs are required to be identical to the Mainline signs.

Current LOGO participants who install Biodiesel or Ethanol fuel pumps and who wish to have the fuels displayed on their logo signs shall follow the existing procedure for a new design. The new sign design is submitted to ALDOT for approval. Upon approval of the sign design, the participant supplies the new sign(s) to ALDOT for installation. Change out fees of \$100 per sign will apply.

LOGO applicants with alternative fuels shall follow existing procedures submitting a sign design with their alternative fuel(s) displayed at the bottom of the sign.

B. DESIGN REQUIREMENTS:

Fuel designations for Biodiesel and Ethanol shall be displayed in an alphanumeric format such as B20 or E85 and as one unit (no spaces or dashes within the designation). A uniform, uppercase letter height shall be used as follows: Mainline- 5" min, 8" max, Ramp- 3" min, 5" max.

The fuel designation for Diesel shall be displayed as text, all upper case or combination of upper and lower case, shall be uniform, uppercase letter height shall be used as follows: Mainline- 5" min, 8" max, Ramp- 3" min, 5" max.

Alternative fuel designations may be either on the same or different background as the primary logo. If the alternative fuel designation background is different than the primary, then it shall be no more than 12” in height from the bottom of the Mainline logo sign and 8” in height from the bottom of the Ramp logo sign.

C. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

A general service symbol shall not be displayed either on or in conjunction with a specific service sign.