

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



MISCELLANEOUS GUIDE SIGN MANUAL

March 2010
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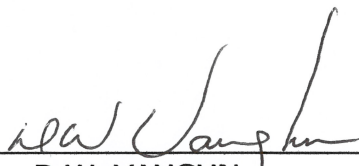
MISCELLANEOUS GUIDE SIGN MANUAL

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1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this manual is to establish requirements and procedures for the funding, placement, design, installation, maintenance, and removal of miscellaneous guide signs on state rights-of-way by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) or others when approved by permit or special authorization. This Manual encompasses informational and directional type signs as described herein, intended for placement at state or other's expense.

1.1 AUTHORITY

This Manual provides the necessary information to authoritatively approve or disapprove and remove or install any sign under jurisdiction of ALDOT (see Code of Alabama Chapters 32-5A-30, 23-1-6, and 32-5A-36). The MUTCD & AASHTO Publication ISBN 1-56051-154-0 recommends the drafting and adopting of a signing policy which deals with various categories of guide signing. This Manual represents ALDOT's work to comply with those recommendations.

1.2 COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO SIGNING

This Manual, along with *Procedures for Specific Service Signing on Interstates (and other Selected Highway Systems)* and Chapter 450-10-1 (Code of Alabama), dealing with outdoor advertising, represents ALDOT's work to present a comprehensive plan to address official, unofficial, and miscellaneous guide signing as defined therein.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases are used and defined as follows in this Manual. Other definitions are provided in the Code of Alabama Chapter 32-1-1.1. Should any of the following definitions conflict substantially with the MUTCD, the MUTCD definition applies.

Advance Street Name Sign: identifies an upcoming intersection by route and/or name.

Business Logo: identifies a brand, symbol, trademark or trade-name or any combination thereof.

Central Office: persons with responsible charge at the Bureau level or higher for sign application, installation, or maintenance.

Conventional Road: a street or highway other than a low volume road, expressway or interstate.

Destination Sign: identifies the direction of a place name (city, town, village, or other traffic generator) with an arrow.

Distance Sign: identifies the place name and mileage of three or fewer destinations.

Enhancement marker: a type of pictograph or symbol used as an identifier on community wayfinding signs to represent destinations as part of a guidance plan for a specific area.

Engineer: person with responsible charge at the Division or District level for sign application, installation and maintenance.

Expressway: a divided or median barrier highway with partial and/or full control of access. Mainline roadways and any associated ramps comprise expressways.

General Information Sign: facts, whether directly or indirectly providing guidance, which are conveyed to the road user; the lowest priority message display for safe, efficient traffic movement.

General Service Sign: a commercial, governmental, or quasi-governmental service facility which provides primary needs of the traveling public. General services have standard symbol or legend designs and include, but are not limited to gas (fuel), food, lodging, camping, hospital(s), RV services, and tourist information.

Guide sign mount: the use of copy, route shield(s), and/or symbols on a green or brown background to convey standard junction, advance, and turn information for numbered or other official highway routes. (Contrast with Independent mount)

Historic Marker: a cast metal sign which conveys detailed historical information about a location or site approved by the Alabama Historical Commission or the Alabama Department of Archives and History.

Independent mount: two or more guide sign units or markers affixed directly to a post or support providing direction or information, typically, for numbered or official routes. (Contrast with Guide Sign mount.)

Informational Guide Sign: informs road users of the color code and/or pictographs meanings if used on wayfinding signs; typically located at the perimeter or boundary of the wayfinding area.

Interstate: a divided or median barrier highway with full control of access and designated by AASHTO shield and numeral designation. Mainline roadways and ramps comprise interstates.

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD): the current ALDOT adopted version of the FHWA document for the design and usage of traffic control devices.

Miscellaneous Signs: a broad group of official traffic control devices which provide guidance in the general service, traffic generator, and general information categories; typically the least important group of guide signs for roadway safety.

Official route shield: a unique sign design for an official public route approved for use by FHWA, ALDOT, AASHTO, transportation or privately managed toll entity having jurisdiction or authority.

Official sign: a sign placed or authorized to be placed on public right of way by ALDOT or the transportation authority having jurisdiction.

Other named route: a highway for motor vehicle traffic and designated by the Legislature or Governor whose name is neither attributed nor ascribed to an individual person(s); typically the name conveys a historical, cultural, scenic, etc. relevance.

Pictograph: An image or figure representation used to identify a governmental jurisdiction, an area of jurisdiction, or a government agency, base, university, or institution.

Political Boundary Sign: a display which denotes welcome, good will, and/or civic affiliations, etc. near the border of a united governmental body permitted for installation by ALDOT.

Primary traffic generator: an incorporated city, town, or route junction as determined by the engineer, appearing on standard (intersection or interchange approach) guide signs placed by ALDOT.

Scenic byway: a route or corridor designated by the State Scenic Byway Committee (SBC route)

Secondary traffic generator: a destination, other than a primary traffic generator, requested by others which may be eligible for display on highway signs as determined by the engineer based upon warranting criteria, engineering judgment, availability of ROW, sign spacing, funding resources, etc.

Specific Service Sign: a type of guide sign which provides road users with business identification and directional information for eligible services and attractions; a LOGO sign panel upon which business logos are placed.

Street Name Sign: identifies an intersection by route and/or name and placed at the intersection.

Supplemental Guide Sign: displayed destinations accessible from an interchange other than places shown on standard advance guide and exit direction interchange signing; a primary or secondary traffic generator display on a controlled access highway.

Survey Zero Point Method: a measurement procedure used to determine the distance to a traffic generator from the principal roadway. The distance is measured from the physical gore of the exit ramp along the edge of pavement of the crossroad as a vehicle must travel to reach the access point of the generator (If a gore is nonexistent, the begin point is the intersection of the roadway centerlines).

Tourist Oriented Directional Sign: a display of business identification and directional information for one or more businesses, services, or activity facilities whose primary business income/sales comes from out-of-town patrons or visitors.

Traffic Generator: a facility, location, route corridor or area which warrants signing on a roadway based upon the MUTCD or satisfaction of various criteria related to the amount of trips, traffic volume, size, etc; as described in the Warrant Tables.

Trail: 1) a distinct path, marked and maintained, typically for hiking or off-road vehicle, non-motorized vehicle, and/or equestrian users; or 2) a group of thematic sites in a region or state with distinct commonality.

Trailblazer: a complementary directional sign for a warranted traffic generator, official route or byway using, at a minimum, a “TO” auxiliary plaque and/or directional arrow.

Unincorporated sign: denotes a general boundary of an area, which is not organized or united into a governmental body, which crosses a state highway; only the town name may appear on this display.

Wayfinding Sign: a type of destination guide sign for use on conventional roads which directs road users to key civic, cultural, recreational or visitor attractions within a city, urbanized, or downtown area. Wayfinding signs may incorporate enhancement markers and/or color coding to improve recognition.

(This space intentionally left blank for future use)

3.0 EXCLUSIONS, SUNSET PROVISIONS, VARIANCE PROCEDURE, AUTHORITY & ILLEGAL SIGNS

3.1 EXCLUSIONS

Specific Service Sign (LOGO) details are not addressed in this Manual. For information on LOGO Signs refer to ALDOT's *Procedures for Specific Service Signing on Interstates (and other Selected) Highway Systems*. Tourist Oriented Directional Signs are neither addressed in other documents nor included in this Manual.

3.2 SUNSET PROVISIONS

Existing miscellaneous signs of the categories described herein have been erected and maintained based upon past rulings, memorandums, and guidance from the MUTCD, the Alabama Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (AMUTCD, 1992) and ALDOT. Notwithstanding these or any other past provisions for the erection and maintenance of the said existing signs, a sunset provision will commence upon the Manual adoption date.

The Sunset provisions are:

Any sign installation which cannot satisfy the criteria contained within this Manual for the warranting display, maintenance responsibility, or sign placement and design criteria within seven years of the Manual adoption date shall be removed from state right-of-way. Signs legally permitted by the Permit Section of the Maintenance Bureau may be exempt from these Sunset Provisions.

Any sign, which fails to satisfy the criteria and/or fails to meet the minimum requirement for maintained retroreflectivity, as determined by ALDOT procedures, during the sunset provision, shall be removed from state right-of-way.

3.3 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

Prior to the removal of such signs described in 3.2 Sunset Provisions above, the Division Engineer or Bureau Chief may submit a request for a variance as detailed below. A Division Engineer or Bureau Chief may request a variance for any sign or group of signs impacted by the Sunset Provisions following the request for variance procedure:

Any request for variance from this Manual must be communicated in writing to the State Maintenance or Traffic Operations Engineer. The request for a variance should state the following as applicable: 1) The specific variance(s) requested, 2) the safety or mobility impact upon the road user if the variance is not granted, 3) the cost of the work to be performed and the name of the payer, and 4) the sign installation plan and designs. The request for variance should be submitted by the appropriate Division Engineer or Bureau Chief.

3.4 AUTHORITY

Unofficial signs are those placed or maintained upon state right-of-way contrary to the provisions of this manual or the law. Furthermore, a sign which fails to satisfy the current design requirements and standard specifications of ALDOT at the time of its fabrication or installation is an unofficial sign. A sign other than an official sign and notice, as described in Code of Alabama Chapter 450-10-1, 32-5A-30, and 32-5A-36 is an encroachment. Such signs will be removed from state right-of-way and stored up to ninety days prior to disposal. Owners of such signs may request the removed sign at the appropriate ALDOT District or Division Office. Should any provision of this Manual conflict with a Standard Statement in the MUTCD, the MUTCD shall govern and not this Manual.

4.0 GENERAL CRITERIA FOR WARRANTING OFFICIAL SIGNS

4.1 BENEFITS OF USING ONLY OFFICIAL, WARRANTED SIGNS

Guide signing is essential to direct road users to destinations and inform of services or places of interest. Adherence to this Manual should: 1) alleviate sign over crowding, 2) provide an effective system of signing primarily for the benefit of those unfamiliar with the area, 3) promote proper sign selection, design, and placement standards, 4) establish funding and maintenance responsibilities, and 5) implement an equitable system for approval or disapproval of miscellaneous guide signs.

4.2 CATEGORIES OF MISCELLANEOUS GUIDE SIGNS WITH EXCLUSIONS

Three broad categories of signs are addressed in this Manual: Traffic Generators, General Service, and General Information.

For the purpose of providing a comprehensive approach to signing, the General Information Signs Category shall include Wayfinding, Informational Guide, Street Name, Advance Street Name, scenic byways, trails, other facilities, named highways & bridges, recreational symbols, and educational plaques. Criteria for warranting Rest and Scenic Area Signs and other supplemental guide signs not addressed in this Manual, such as Community Interchange Identification signs, contact the Traffic Operations Section of the Maintenance Bureau.

4.3 EVALUATION OVERVIEW & RESPONSIBILITIES OF ENGINEER

Evaluation of criteria is the responsibility of the ALDOT engineer. The engineer should document the data and evaluation methods used when a formal review is required. When more than the maximum number of generators satisfies the criteria for a given roadway placement, the generator exceeding its criteria by the highest percentage should be signed. If the traffic generator difference is negligible or cannot be determined, the generator(s) closest to the intersection/interchange should be signed using the survey zero point method. If two or more warranted traffic generators are contiguous in nature or share an access, only one warranted generator shall be signed.

4.4 HIERARCHY AND APPLICATION OF WARRANTING CRITERIA BY ROADWAY CLASS

A hierarchy exists for qualification of a generator on more than one roadway type. The highest order is (1) Interstate and Freeway; the second order is (2) Expressway and the third order is (3) Conventional roads.

If signing is warranted and installed according to these provisions on any roadway, trailblazer signing for the same traffic generator is afforded on a lesser roadway regardless of the satisfaction of criteria on the lesser roadway type. Traffic generator signing should not be installed unless agreements or installations for minor road signing (local roads) are complete. In order to qualify for signing on (1) Interstate & Freeway, (2) Expressway, or (3) Conventional Roads, a traffic generator shall meet the minimum criteria specified in the Warrant Tables or otherwise satisfy requirements as provided herein. Sites or facilities of the three category types, Traffic Generator, General Service, and General Information, must satisfy the criteria in the Warrant Tables. Sites or facilities which are otherwise allowed herein, permitted by regulation or law may be signed. Signs of the type shown in the Tables, "Traffic Generators That Do Not Warrant Signing" shall not be signed. Note: The variance procedure described in 3.3 may be used for any site or facility not otherwise qualified.

4.5 QUANTITY LIMITATIONS AND ALLOWABLE SIGN TYPES

Interstate and Freeways:

Traffic Generator – A limit of two warranted destinations per interchange approach other than the standard place and/or route names (i.e., the primary traffic generators) on the advance and exit direction signs. The secondary traffic generator shall only be signed on a ramp if the criterion is satisfied and signs are installed for the mainline roadway. Traffic Generator Signs on these roadways are commonly referred to as supplemental guide signs.

General Service – The following General Service Signs shall be allowed: Hospital, Emergency Medical Care, Camping, Lodging, Food, Gas (including approved alternative fuel designations), and Tourist Information & Welcome Center.

The General Service Signs Camping, Lodging, Food, and/or Gas may be used for eligible service types at an interchange if the following conditions are satisfied:

- Criteria is satisfied in the Warrant Tables,
- No specific service signs exist at the subject interchange,
- Located in a rural area (<10,000 population), and
- In an area that is greater than three exits from specific service signing.

A General Service Sign (symbol or word message) shall not be used on a Specific Service Sign.

General Information – The following General Information Signs shall be allowed: Reference Location (Mile Post), Enhanced Route Overpass, Radio-Weather Information, Carpool/Ridesharing, Weigh Station/Enforcement, State lines, Time Zones, City Limits, County Lines, Rivers & Creeks, Airport, Train Station, Cruise/Passenger Ship Terminal, Recreational symbols.

Signing of named highways or bridges should consist of a memorial or honorary plaque in a Rest Area or other appropriate area where parking is provided.

Expressways:

Traffic Generator – A limit of three warranted destinations (secondary traffic generators) per interchange or intersection approach other than the standard place and/or route names (the primary traffic generator) of the advance and exit direction signs or intersection approach guide signs. A traffic generator shall only be signed on a ramp when the criterion is satisfied and signs are installed on the mainline roadway. Traffic Generator Signs on these roadways are commonly referred to as supplemental guide signs.

General Service – The following General Service Signs shall be allowed: Hospital, Emergency Medical Care, and Tourist Information & Welcome Center. At minor or rural interchanges, where no specific service signing is used, General Service Signs (Camping, Lodging, Food, and Gas (including approved alternative fuel designations)) may be installed when:

- Criteria is satisfied in the Warrant Tables, and
- No specific service signs are used along the route.

A General Service Sign (symbol or word message) shall be not used on a Specific Service Sign of the same type on any sign or any interchange approach.

General Information – The following General Information Signs shall be allowed: Reference Location (Mile Post), Enhanced Route Overpass, Radio-Weather Information, Carpool/Ridesharing, Advance Street Name, Scenic byways, trails, Named highways & bridges, other named routes, Weigh Station/Enforcement, State lines, Time Zones, Rivers & Creeks, City Limits, County Lines, Airport, Train Station, Cruise/Passenger Ship Terminal, Police Jurisdiction and Historic marker signs. Informational Guide signs, Recreational symbols, and Educational plaques may be installed on ramps at interchanges.

Conventional Roads:

Traffic Generator – A limit of four warranted destinations (secondary traffic generators) per intersection approach.

General Service – The following General Service Signs in the Warrant Tables: Hospital, Emergency Medical Care, and Tourist Information & Welcome Center shall be allowed if criteria are satisfied.

General Information – The following General Information Signs shall be allowed: Reference Location (Mile Post), Radio-Weather Information, Weigh Station/Enforcement, State lines, Time Zones, River & Creeks, City and Town Limits, County Lines, Advance Street Name, Street Name, Airport, Train Station, Cruise/Passenger Ship Terminal, Library, Bus Station, Recreational symbols, Educational Symbols, Police jurisdiction, Historic marker, Adopt-a-Mile, Adopt-a-Stream, Named highways & bridges, other named routes, scenic byways, trails, Wayfinding (for municipal connecting links), and Informational Guide Signs.

Exceptions - For traffic generators which are not warranted on Conventional Roads and are officially affiliated with a SBC route, the following criteria may be used to sign a generator on a conventional road: A maximum distance of 3 miles from the scenic byway, the generator must be open to the public a minimum of 40 hours/week, and trail or byway literature must be available on site. Any generator which is signed based upon the criteria exceptions stated above must submit attendance figures to ALDOT. If a minimum of one-half of the traffic warrant criteria in the Warrant Tables cannot be satisfied or attendance figures are not submitted, the signs shall be removed at the end of their service life or five years, whichever is less, without replacement. The traffic generator(s), if signed, shall not use wayfinding or informational guide sign designs.

General Limitations:

Any installed sign(s) of a traffic generator, general service or general information (category) facility or site may neither be qualified nor signed under a different category or the same category (using a different facility or site type) unless expressly allowed in this Manual.

5.0 DESIGN

5.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES & REQUIREMENTS

All sign designs shall be approved by the Central Office prior to fabrication. All sign designs shall conform to ALDOT Standard Specifications, ALDOT Standard Drawings, MUTCD and/or FHWA Standard Highway Sign Book unless otherwise provided for herein; this requirement is applicable to both standard symbols and word legend messages. Current Revisions to these documents are acceptable for design consideration as they may become adopted by ALDOT; FHWA Interim Approvals (to the MUTCD) effecting sign design must be requested by ALDOT or other agency or entity and approved by FHWA prior to consideration or use. Standard motorist, traveler service, recreational symbols and educational plaques of other Federal or State Agencies' may be used only if an adopted symbol does not exist for the same or related message in the above referenced documents. These supplemental plaques or symbols, either within the border of a sign or attached beneath a sign, may be used only on standard advance and exit direction guide signs or on Traffic Generator Signs for warranted parks and recreation areas.

5.2 CONSPICUITY & UNIFORMITY

Oversized Traffic Generator, General Service, and General Information Signs for the roadway class shall not be allowed unless determined to be necessary by the engineer due to the roadway environment or traffic operations. Where outdated or variant sign design elements are present on a route corridor, new or replacement sign designs should be upgraded to the appropriate functional road class and interchange classification (per MUTCD). Fonts and letter sizes should maintain consistency throughout a route corridor. Acceptable abbreviations may be used if consistent with the MUTCD. Place Names used on Advance Guide and Exit Direction signs shall not be repeated on Traffic Generator Signs for the same exit or interchange.

5.3 USE OF ACTION AND EXIT MESSAGES

An Exit Number plaque, exit number action message, or word legend, "NEXT RIGHT, NEXT EXIT, NEXT LEFT, NEXT SIGNAL, NEXT INTERSECTION", or other appropriate action message shall be part of the Traffic Generator Sign on Interstate Highways. For intersections on Expressways and Conventional Roads, lane use action messages such as "LEFT LANE" or a Standard FHWA arrow may be substituted as appropriate for roadway conditions. The word "SECOND" or other approved prompt or descriptive word may be substituted for "NEXT." Unnecessary or redundant word messages, such as "FOLLOW, TRAFFIC, and USE," shall not be used.

5.4 STANDARD LEGENDS, FONTS, COLORS, SHIELDS, AND SYMBOLS

All sign designs in this Section shall conform with the Tables "Minimum Letter and Numeral Sizes for Freeway Guide Signs According to Interchange Classification" and "Minimum Letter and Numeral Sizes for Expressway Guide Signs According to Sign Type" in the MUTCD. Design exceptions shall be submitted to the Central Office for approval prior to fabrication.

Interstate and Freeways:

Traffic Generator – Design layouts shall conform to the standards and principles in the "ALDOT Interstate Guide Sign Handbook". Reflectorized white copy and border on a reflectorized green and/or brown background shall be used. Font series shall be Clearview 5W-R for place name and destination. Clearview 5W shall be used for all other words, letters, and numerals and shall be all uppercase. Uppercase and lower case combinations shall be used for destination as indicated in the

Handbook. The engineer shall determine the appropriate letter and numeral heights taking existing roadway sign design elements into consideration. Pictographs are allowed if incorporated, as part of or in whole, as an official route shield or is an official image of a Federal Agency or Division and improves recognition of the destination name. Descriptive words, phrases, or symbols shall not be used. Incorporated or trademarked words shall not be used unless the words are part of the official generator name and necessary for motorist recognition of the generator. A simplified or abbreviated place name should be used when the place name word count is greater than four.

General Service – Reflectorized white copy and border on a reflectozied blue background of ASTM Type II or higher sheeting shall be used. Font series shall be Clearview 5W, all uppercase. All other words & letters shall be uppercase either standard D font or Clearview 4W. Either symbol or word messages shall be used for services on an interchange approach and ramp signs. Symbol and word messages shall not be mixed within interchange signing. For Tourist Information and Welcome Centers, only word messages shall be used on signs. For Gas Symbol signs, only the standard symbol or ALDOT approved alternative fuel symbol shall be used.

General Information – Where MUTCD Standard Highway Designs (symbols or word legends) are applicable, they shall be used. A Pictograph, logo, or embellishment shall not be used unless it is associated with an official route or scenic byway sign or shield as recognized and approved for Interstate or Freeway use by FHWA or AASHTO.

Expressways:

Traffic Generator – Reflectorized white copy and border on a reflectorized green and/or brown background shall be used. Font series shall be E_{Modified}, D_{Modified}, or Clearview 4W for place names and destinations. Uppercase and lower case combinations shall be used for destination & place names of primary traffic generators. All other words & letters, including secondary traffic generators, shall be uppercase either standard D Series Font or Clearview 4W. The engineer shall determine the appropriate letter and numeral heights taking existing roadway sign design elements into consideration. Pictographs shall not be used unless incorporated as part of or in whole, as an official route shield. Descriptive words, phrases, or symbols shall not be used. A simplified or abbreviated place name should be used when the place name word count is greater than four.

General Service – Reflectorized white copy and border on a reflectorized green and/or brown background shall be used. Font series shall be E_{Modified}, D_{Modified}, or Clearview 4W for place names and destinations. All words & letters shall be uppercase either standard D Series Font or Clearview 4W. Either symbol or word messages shall be used consistently on an interchange approach and ramp signs. For Tourist Information and Welcome Centers, only word messages shall be used on signs. For Gas Symbol signs, only the standard symbol or ALDOT approved alternative fuel symbol shall be used. A distance plaque and/or arrow of a standard design may be used to supplement independent mount installations.

General Information – Where MUTCD Standard Highway Designs (symbols or word legends) are applicable they shall be used. Variations from standard designs shall be approved by the Central Office. A Pictograph, logo, or embellishment shall not be used unless it is associated with an official route, SBC route (i.e. State design), or off-road trail system and its shield or logo is approved for use by FHWA, AASHTO, or ALDOT. Design criteria for General Information Signs on Expressways shall be the same as detailed in 5.4, *Conventional Roads*.

Conventional Roads:

Traffic Generator – Reflectorized white copy and border on a reflectorized green and/or brown background shall be used. Pictographs shall not be used unless incorporated, as part of or in whole, as an official route shield. Descriptive words, phrases, or symbols shall not be used. A simplified or abbreviated place name should be used when the place name word count is greater than three. A numeral distance (rounded to the nearest whole value) may be used on this type of destination sign. The engineer should determine the appropriate letter and numeral heights using the guidance provided below:

Primary Traffic Generator Signs shall use an uppercase and lower case lettering combination. Exceptions to combination requirements are route and auxiliary plaque abbreviations. United States Highway shall be “US,” Alabama State Highway shall be “AL,” and County Roads shall be “CR.” An auxiliary plaque abbreviation example is “JCT” for Junction. Primary traffic generators shall use Standard Highway D series or Clearview 4W fonts.

Letter sizes should be as follows as indicated in the Table below:

Table 5.4a – Primary Traffic Generator Letter Sizes for Conventional Roads		
Speed (MPH)	Uppercase (inch)	Lowercase (inch)
≤ 40	6	4.5
≥ 45*	8	6
* For two way roadways with four or fewer undivided lanes where speeds are 45-55 mph, the ≤ 40mph letter sizes may be used.		

Secondary Traffic Generator Signs shall use all uppercase letters. These signs shall use Standard Highway C Series or Clearview 3W fonts.

Table 5.4b – Secondary Traffic Generator Letter Sizes for Conventional Roads		
Speed (MPH)	Roadway	Uppercase (inch)
≤ 55	Undivided, ≤ 4 lanes	4
≤ 40	Divided or Undivided	
≤ 55	Undivided, ≥ 5 lanes	6
> 55	Divided or Undivided	

General Service – Reflectorized white copy & border on a reflectorized blue background of ASTM Type II or higher sheeting shall be used. Either symbol or word messages shall be used. For Tourist Information & Welcome Centers, only word messages shall be used on signs. A distance lane use and/or arrow plaque of a standard design may be used to supplement independent mount installations.

General Information – MUTCD Standard Highway Sign Designs (symbols or word legends) and ALDOT Standard Designs shall be used. Variations from standard designs shall only be approved by the Central Office. For use of pictographs, logos, or embellishments, See *Expressways General Information* above and Table 5.4c, Use & Signing Characteristics of Routes and Trails.

Street Name Signs

Street Name Signs shall comply with the MUTCD Section 2D. These signs may incorporate official city/town pictographs provided they satisfy the applicable Guidance and Standard Statements in MUTCD Section 2D. Pictographs shall not be used on Advance Street Name Signs. Advance Street Name Signs shall use uppercase/lowercase letter combinations, Clearview 4W, and standard letter heights of primary traffic generators (See Table 5.4a). If used, action messages shall be all uppercase, using the letter height of the lowercase size.

Transportation or Multimodal Facilities

Transportation facilities (e.g. Bus or Train Station) satisfying warranting criteria should be signed using symbols. Transportation facility signs may display the name given to the facility by the governmental or transportation authority. If used, the name should appear as a supplemental plaque above the symbol with 4 inch maximum, all uppercase letters, Series D, suitable for the roadway class.

Named Highways

Highways or bridges named in honor or memory of individuals or groups by the Alabama Legislature, Highway Director, or Governor shall be white copy on ~~green~~ brown background using all uppercase letters. Font and sizes shall be the same as secondary traffic generators (See Table 5.4b).

Scenic Byways & Trails, Other named routes

If a scenic byway has one or more concurrent scenic byways only one should be signed (e.g. state designation or national designation).

SBC routes – these routes shall use the approved State Scenic Byway Committee’s, State Scenic Byway marker. A supplemental plaque of the same color as the Scenic Byway marker may be used for the specific name of the route. The plaque shall be white copy on green background Series D or Clearview 4W font using letter sizes from Table 5.4b. Directional signs for associated sites of the byway shall use the Thematic site sign design below using a green background.

Other named routes – these routes shall use a standard white on green layout using uppercase lettering Clearview 3W or 4W font using letter sizes from Table 5.4b.

Off-road trail – these routes shall use a standard white on brown layout with 4” uppercase/lowercase lettering, Clearview 3W font.

Thematic site – these directional signs for sites shall use a standard white on brown layout with 4 inch all uppercase lettering, Clearview 3W font.

Table 5.4c - Use & Signing Characteristics of Routes & Trails

Facility Type	Facility or Signing Characteristics						
	Motorized Off Road Vehicles, Non-motorized, etc. Allowed?	Motor Vehicles Allowed?	Confirmation Signing for Route/Trail	Directional Signs for Associated Sites or Trail	Turn assembly signs for Route	Junction assembly sign for Route	² Sign Design
SBC Route	By appropriate authority	Yes	¹ Yes	¹ Yes	¹ Yes	¹ Yes	1
Other Named Route	By appropriate authority	Yes	³ No	No	No	No	3
Off Road Trail	Typical	Atypical	N/A	¹ Yes	N/A	Atypical	2a
Thematic Sites	N/A	N/A	N/A	¹ Yes	N/A	N/A	2

Notes: 1) Yes: Satisfaction of Manual criteria and warrants, spacing, etc. required
 N/A: In unusual circumstances, an N/A designation may be subjective; in such cases an N/A=No.
 2)Required Sign Design (shown below):
 Type 1 – State Scenic Byway sign with Name Plaque (Standard Design)
 Type 2 – Brown background/White copy Directional Sign (Standard Design w/ All Uppercase)
 Type 2a – Brown background/White copy Directional Sign (Standard Design w/ Uppercase/lowercase letters)
 Type 3 – Green background/White copy route Sign (Standard Design w/All Uppercase)
 3) Typical placement is at beginning and end of route only

Figure 5.4 Facility Sign Designs



Type 2 Thematic Site Directional Sign



Type 2a Off-Road Trail Directional Sign



Type 3 Other named route Begin/End Sign



Type 1 State Scenic Byway

Community Wayfinding Signs

Fonts and letter/numeral heights shall be approved by the Central Office prior to fabrication or use; Detailed architectural or engineering drawings shall be submitted as well as and foundation plans.

Neither commercial graphic nor business logos shall be used on Wayfinding Guide Signs. Pictographs, enhancement markers and/or color coding may be used on Wayfinding signs. If color coding is used, square or rectangular shapes shall be used. A rectangular color coding may encompass the entire width of the panel for each given destination. If a colored square or rectangle (not panel width type) is used on a wayfinding sign, it shall meet the size requirement of pictographs.

Arrow location and priority order shall follow the provisions described in Section 2D of the MUTCD. Arrow design should be FHWA standard. Alternate designs shall be approved by the Central Office for use and shall have the same overall size as the prescribed standard arrows, the same visual stroke width, and head area size as standard arrows, in order to facilitate sufficient conspicuity and readability.

Informational guide signs, if used, shall be white legend on a green background with a standard font and size for the roadway environment, as determined by the engineer. Color codes and pictographs, if used on Wayfinding signs, should be repeated on informational guide signs to identify the attractions and generators found on wayfinding signs.

6.0 PLACEMENT & INSTALLATION

All miscellaneous guide signs shall be erected in accordance with the general specifications of the MUTCD and ALDOT standards. This requirement includes, but is not limited to, placement, support structures, and crashworthiness.

6.1 INTERCHANGE OR INTERSECTION PLACEMENT

On Interstates and Expressways, secondary Traffic Generator Signs shall only be installed between the exit to which the sign applies and the nearest exit upstream. Secondary Traffic Generator Signs should not be installed on an approach to an interstate to interstate route interchange. On Conventional Roads and at grade intersections on Expressways, a secondary Traffic Generator Sign may be installed up to a distance of one mile upstream of the applicable intersection regardless of the number of intermediate intersections provided no other secondary Traffic Generator Signs are in place for the intermediate, intersecting roadway(s). If Advance Street Name signs are used for the applicable intersection, the secondary Traffic Generator Sign shall be installed upstream (in advance) of the Advance Street Name sign.

6.2 INTERMIXING WITH STANDARD ROUTE OR DIRECTIONAL SIGNING

Miscellaneous signs shall not be installed, except for an Advance Street Name sign, within a series of standard route or directional guide signs such as at an approach to an intersection/interchange or at other critical locations requiring motorist attention to execute a maneuver. Specific miscellaneous guide signs may be installed at these locations under the following two provisions:

Grouping Provisions

Grouping is the practice of placing signs on the same support which otherwise are not required to be displayed together. For purposes of this Manual, grouping is most applicable to General Service and General Information Signs. Section 5.0, Design allows two, three, or four secondary traffic generators to be listed on the same sign panel depending on the roadway class; such a display is not considered Grouping because the sign panel is a single sign installation of one or more traffic generators. Grouping is encouraged with certain restrictions because it reduces the number of installations, combines messages of a similar nature or required action, and optimizes right-of-way space. Secondary traffic generators shall not be grouped with standard junction, advance turn, turn, directional, destination, or distance signs (See MUTCD Part 2D). Secondary traffic generators shall not be grouped with primary traffic generators. Grouping shall be allowed for miscellaneous guide signs which satisfy warranting criteria or are otherwise approved by the provisions of this Manual according to the Table 6.2a, Permissible Grouping of Miscellaneous Guide Signs on Guide Signs. If a standard advance turn or directional assembly is a guide sign mount, and symbols are warranted, only the scenic byway symbol may be used. If other warranted plaques or symbols are used, they shall be attached directly to the supports. Grouping also requires the permissible General Service or General Information Signs to be mounted such that the crashworthiness of the support structure is not compromised. Furthermore, the added signs should be mounted to be easily identified with any associated turn or required lane change. A supplemental arrow plaque of the correct design and same color may be used.

Independent Mounting Provisions

Independent Mounting is the practice of placing sign markers or plaques of one or more unified guidance message sets on the same support. This mounting method is most common to route marker directional assemblies. Symbols and small message signs or plaques are candidates for independent mounting methods. Two types are shown in the Table 6.3a, Examples of Independent Mount General Service and General Information Signs. Directional types are those which are associated with a movement or turn; hence, an arrow or other action message is needed. Non-Directional provides information only.

6.3 QUALIFYING LOCATIONS AND QUANTITY OF SIGNS ALLOWED

Secondary Traffic Generator Signs shall not be used at entrances to the generator if either an on-premise sign is present and viewable in time to make the necessary turn or the facility is viewable from the roadway in time to make the necessary turn. If neither of the aforementioned conditions exists, then a secondary traffic generator directional sign may be installed on a numbered highway in advance of the highway or street that provides the most convenient route to the traffic generator. The distance from the intersection to the traffic generator shall be within the limits identified in the Warrant Tables. In the absence of a Table distance, the traffic generator shall be no more than five miles in a rural area or two miles in an urban area. For secondary traffic generators and general service and general information categories the following shall apply: 1) No more than two Non-Directional signs may be installed on the same support, and 2) No more than three Directional signs listed may be installed on the same support.

Table 6.2a Permissible Grouping of Miscellaneous Guide Signs with Guide Signs

Roadway and Guide Sign Installation Type (The signs marked with "x" on right may be mounted with the Guide Sign Installation Type shown below when provisions of Policy are satisfied)	General Service & Information Recreation & Educational Symbols																
	S	W	W	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	W	W	W	W	S
S-Symbol W-word message RS - route shield	Hospital	Emergency Care	Tourist Info	Carpool/Rideshare	Airport	Train	Bus	Cruise/Passenger Ship	Parking Info	Radio/Weather Info	Scenic Byway/Trail	City/Town Limits	Police Jurisdiction	Weight Enforcement	Recreational Symbols #	Educational Plaques #	
Interstates	Exit Direction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X				X		
	OVH Lane Drop @ Diverge	X	X		X	X	X	X			X				X		
	Advance Guide	X	X								X				X		
	Rest Area Advance & Exit Direction		X							X							
	Primary Traffic Generators	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	
	Secondary Traffic Generators	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	
	Primary Traffic Generators	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	
	Secondary Traffic Generators	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	
	Exit Direction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	OVH Lane Drop @ Diverge	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
* Expressways	Advance Guide	X	X								X				X		
	Primary Traffic Generators	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Secondary Traffic Generators	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Primary Traffic Generators	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Secondary Traffic Generators	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Junction Assembly																
	Advance Turn Assembly												X	X			
	Primary Directional	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Secondary Traffic Generator	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Turn Assembly	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Conventional	Informational Guide or Wayfinding		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Scenic Byway/Trail														n/a		
	Reassurance/Confirmation Assembly																
															X		

* For at-grade intersections use Conventional & Installation Type. # Must be associated with Place Name on Guide or Generator. OVH = Overhead

Table 6.3a
Examples of Independent Mount General Service and General Information Signs

<i>Directional</i>	<i>Non-Directional</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital and Emergency Care Symbols • Tourist Information word message • Airport, Train, Cruise and Bus Symbols • Parking Information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State lines • Time Zones • Rivers & Creeks • County lines • Police Jurisdiction • City and Town Limits • Reference Location (MP)

Secondary traffic generators which exceed the criteria listed in the Warrant Tables by a factor of two or more and/or the engineer determines an operational problem exists which is correctable by additional signing on another route, such Traffic Generator Signs may be installed on the additional route other than the most convenient route. No traffic generator shall be signed on more than two routes unless one of the roadways warranting signs is an Interstate.

Complimentary signing on local public highways or streets should be installed in conjunction with any work by state forces upon state right-of-way. Spacing between a secondary Traffic Generator Sign and any other sign should not be less than the value shown in Table 6.3b for the applicable roadway class and environment.

Table 6.3b Longitudinal Sign Spacing between a Secondary Traffic Generator and Official Sign

<i>Roadway Class</i>	<i>Environment</i>	<i>Desirable Spacing(FT)</i>	<i>Minimum Spacing(FT)</i>
*Conventional Road	Speed of 40 MPH or less or within an incorporated town or city with a low level of roadside development	200	100
	Speed of 45 MPH or greater or within a moderate to high level of roadside development	300	200
	Speed of 55 MPH or greater	400	250
*Expressway	Speed of 40 MPH or less	300	200
	Speed of 45 MPH or greater	400	300
# Interstate & Freeway	Speed of 60 MPH or less in an Urban area	600	500
	All Rural areas or Speed of 65 or greater	800	600

7.0 FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Reimbursement for sign work performed by state forces is typically arranged by either a Special Work Authorization (SWA) or Miscellaneous Sign Work Request (BM-12) . Funds are collected before work commences. State law requires others to pay for the entire cost of Named highway and bridge signs if the designation is one or more individual names. If the funding is the responsibility of others, an estimate for the work is typically prepared by the Division or District Office of ALDOT using either established charges from Special Tables 1-3 or estimated expenses. Generally, the lead for work performed by others is the District or Division Office. For regional or statewide signing efforts, the Maintenance Bureau may prepare estimates and establish either an SWA or F-7A Budget Allotment for the work. Regardless of who the lead office is, estimates must include the cost to fabricate the sign(s), the posts and hardware, the equipment, the labor (including labor additive), and the administrative overhead (rate determined by Finance & Audits Bureau of ALDOT). The Special Tables 1-3 include all costs and administrative charges. Estimates for signs should be requested through the Maintenance Bureau of ALDOT. Certain General Service, General Information, and Secondary Traffic Generator Signs may be installed at the expense of the District, Division, or Bureau at their discretion as indicated in this Manual. If ALDOT covers the cost of the installation only for such signs, the cost to others should only include the sign(s) and the administrative overhead. It is the responsibility of the preparer of the SWA to ensure the appropriate charges are made against the account and to close the account once the work is complete. If Form BM-12 and the Special Tables 1-3 are used to collect the appropriate amount, work can be charged to routine maintenance accounts. Funds collected using Form BM-12 are deposited into a revenue account and used by ALDOT for special project purposes. Table 7.0, Responsibility for Funding Cost of Sign, Installation, and Maintenance below provides specific information regarding funding responsibilities.

Table 7.0
Responsibility for Funding Cost of Sign, Installation, and Maintenance ¹

	General Service	General Information	Primary Traffic Generator	Secondary Traffic Generator
Interstates and Freeways	ALDOT- all, except as noted <i>Others – Tourist Info</i>	ALDOT-all, except as noted <i>Others – Named highways & bridges, parking information, Informational Guide, named transportation facilities</i>	ALDOT	<i>Others</i>
Expressways	ALDOT – all, except as noted <i>Others – ²Tourist Info</i>	ALDOT – all, except as noted <i>Others- Named highways & bridges, other named routes, scenic byways, off road trails, thematic sites, parking information, named transportation facility plaques, Informational Guide,</i>	ALDOT	<i>Others – all except as noted.</i> ² ALDOT (Install only)
Conventional Roads	ALDOT – all, except as noted <i>Others – ²Tourist Info</i>	ALDOT – all, except as noted <i>Others-Named Highways & bridges, other named routes, scenic byways, off road trails, thematic sites, Wayfinding, parking information, named transportation facility plaques, Informational Guide</i>	ALDOT	<i>Others – all, except as noted.</i> ² ALDOT (Install only)
³ Municipal Connecting Links on Conventional Roads	<i>Others</i>	<i>Others – all, except as noted</i> ALDOT – Reference Location (MP), State lines, Time zones, weight enforcement, governmental boundaries.	ALDOT	<i>Others</i>
¹ Only signs identified in the Warrant Tables and in Section 4.5 of this Manual are included for funding. For other signs, contact the Central Office for funding responsibility. ² Installation only may be provided; for those not specifically identified herein they must be a vital service to the public provided by a governmental authority such as, a school, health facility, and public safety center. ³ Municipal connecting links are sections of conventional roadways in urban vicinities designated by the Alabama Legislature as principal through routes. The municipal or county (or consolidated) governing authority is responsible for all signs with the exception of primary route guidance signs.				

8.0 WARRANT TABLES

TRAFFIC GENERATORS THAT DO NOT WARRANT SIGNING
Interstates & Expressways

Note: This table is not all-inclusive, but provides an indication of the type of facilities, acknowledgements, or other postings that do not warrant supplemental signs.

Table 8.1, INTERSTATE & EXPRESSWAY		
<p>Businesses: *Campgrounds Civic Organizations Day Care Farmer’s Markets(Privately owned Industrial Parks *Motels/Hotels/Inns *Restaurants Retail Enterprises *Service Stations Shopping Centers Theaters Trailer Parks TV/Radio Stations</p>	<p>Governmental: Chamber of Commerce City Police Civil Defense Facilities County & City Facilities County Sheriff Offices Courthouses/City Halls Driver’s License Centers Highway Buildings Jails/Prisons Maintenance Facilities Research/Experimental Residential Facilities Power Plants</p>	<p>Military: Sites or Detachments Armories Arsenals</p>
<p>Cemeteries: Local or State Private/Public Military</p>	<p>Historical: *Homes & Buildings Districts *Privately Owned Facilities</p>	<p>Recreational/Conservational: Camps: Scout, Church, 4H, Youth & YMCA/YWCA, etc Country Clubs Fish Hatcheries, Game Farms, Preserves, & Refuges * Golf Courses *Places of Interest Research/Experimental Center Tree Nurseries *Arboretums</p>
<p>Communities: Acknowledgements, such as Tree City, Bird Sanctuary, Championships, Civic Pride Business District Fire (and similar) Districts Libraries Houses of Worship Municipal/County Ordinances Residential Facilities Subdivisions Unincorporated Areas VFW/American Legion & similar Facilities</p>	<p>Medical: County, Fraternal, or Nursing Homes **Emergency Medical Services Humane Facilities Infirmaries or Treatment Centers Mental Facilities Research Facilities Retirement Facilities Sanitariums Veteran’s Facilities</p>	<p>Schools: Grade/High Private Seminaries Vocational/Trade</p> <hr/> <p>*May qualify as per Specific Services Signing(Logo) **Hospitals may qualify for General Service per ALDOT Miscellaneous Guide Sign Manual</p>

TRAFFIC GENERATORS THAT DO NOT WARRANT SIGNING
Conventional Roads

Note: This table is not all-inclusive, but provides an indication of the type of facilities, acknowledgements, or other postings that do not warrant supplemental signs.

Table 8.2, CONVENTIONAL		
<p>Businesses: Campgrounds Civic Organizations Day Care Farmers Markets (privately owned) Industrial Parks Motels/Hotels/Inns Restaurants Retail Enterprises Service Stations Shopping Centers Theaters/Theatres Trailer or RV Parks TV/Radio Stations</p>	<p>Governmental: (Less than 50 employees or assigned personnel) Chamber of Commerce County & City Facilities County Sheriff Facilities Courthouses/City Hall Highway Buildings Jails/Prisons City Police Civil Defense Facilities Maintenance Facilities Power Plants Research/Experimental Residential Facilities</p>	<p>Recreational/Conservational: Country Clubs & Golf Courses Fish Hatcheries, Game Farms, Preserves, & Refuges Places of Interest Research/Experimental Centers Tree Nurseries/Arboretums</p>
<p>Cemeteries: Local or State Private/Public Military</p>	<p>Medical: County, Fraternal, or Nursing Homes *Emergency Medical Service Humane Facilities Infirmaries or Treatment Centers Mental Facilities Research Facilities Retirement Facilities Sanitariums Veteran's Facilities</p>	<p>Schools: Grade/Middle Research/Experimental Centers</p>
<p>Communities: Acknowledgements, such as Tree City, Bird Sanctuary, Championships, Civic Pride, etc Fire (and similar) Districts Houses of Worship Monuments other than approved historical monuments Municipal/County Ordinances Residential Facilities Subdivisions **Unincorporated Areas VFW/American Legion & similar facilities</p>	<p>Military: Arsenals Sites or Detachments</p>	<p>*Hospitals may be signed in accordance with Warrant Table ** An Unincorporated Community may be signed with I-15U signs</p>

TABLE 8.3

Warrant Table

**Interstate & Expressway
General Service**

Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
<p>Camping Rural Interchanges Only</p>	<p>Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Located within 3 miles of interchange on the intersecting roado 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.o Open to public use without a membership fee or other means of exclusive admission, or where minors are excluded. This requirement does not preclude the charging of fees for site rentals or other services.o Roadway ingress and egress shall be a paved surface and at least 12' wide with a minimum swing radius of 50' in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buseso Roadway ingress and parking shall be free of any electrical wires, tree branches, or other obstructions a minimum of 14' above the surface in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buseso A minimum of twenty (20) camp sites with full hookup accommodations for all types of travel trailers, tents and other camping vehicleso Campgrounds shall have 4 or more spaces that are 18 feet wide and 45 feet long in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buseso Adequate parking accommodations for each camp site available for rent.o Public Telephoneo Continuous operation, seven days a week/year-round.o Trash receptacles available to patrons
<p>Food Rural Interchanges Only</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Located within 1 mile of interchange on the intersecting roado 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 publico Year round operation at least twelve (12) continuous hours per day, minimum six (6) days a week, to serve at least three (3) meals per day. The hours of food service operation shall coincide with normal time periods for breakfast (not to open later than 8:00 a.m.), lunch and dinner (not to close earlier than 8:00 p.m.). Sandwich type entrees may be considered meals, but prepackaged items on display shall not qualify as meals.o Housed in a permanent building and not contained within a larger traffic generatoro Indoor seating for at least thirty (30) persons.o Rest room facilities available on site and suitable for public use.o Public Telephone

TABLE 8.3**Warrant Table****Interstate & Expressway
General Service**

Criteria									
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.								
Gas Rural Interchanges Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Located within 1/2 mile of interchange on the intersecting road o Appropriate licensing as required by law o Vehicle services of gas, oil, and tire air. Water for batteries and/or radiators must be available at no charge o Rest room facilities and state, county and/or local government approved drinking water available for public use o Year round operation at least sixteen (16) continuous hours per day, seven (7) days a week o Public Telephone o An on premise attendant to collect monies and/or make change. This requirement does not preclude the use of automatic collection fuel pumps. 								
Hospital/Emergency Medical Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Licensed or approved for definitive medical care by an appropriate State authority o Equipped for radio voice communications with ambulances and other hospitals. o Continuous emergency care capability with a physician on duty 24 hrs/7 days per week. Physician on duty includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Physician on duty within the emergency department 2. Or registered nurse on duty within the emergency department, with a physician in the hospital on call 3. Or registered nurse on duty within the emergency department, with a physician on call from office or home 								
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Additional by Interchange</th> <th>Major Metro</th> <th>Urban</th> <th>Rural</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 1 mile of interchange o Population of 50,000 or more (US Census) </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 2 mile of interchange o Population of 5,000-49,999 (US Census) </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 3 miles of interchange o Population 4,999 or less (US Census) </td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Additional by Interchange	Major Metro	Urban	Rural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 1 mile of interchange o Population of 50,000 or more (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 2 mile of interchange o Population of 5,000-49,999 (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 3 miles of interchange o Population 4,999 or less (US Census) 	
Additional by Interchange	Major Metro	Urban	Rural						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 1 mile of interchange o Population of 50,000 or more (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 2 mile of interchange o Population of 5,000-49,999 (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 3 miles of interchange o Population 4,999 or less (US Census) 							
Lodging Rural Interchanges Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Located within 1 mile of interchange on the intersecting road o Appropriate licensing as required by law and a permit to operate issued by the State Health Department o Year round operation o Adequate sleeping accommodations consisting of a minimum of twenty (20) units available and suitable for public occupancy o Off-street vehicle parking spaces for each lodging room for rent o Public telephone 								

TABLE 8.3

Warrant Table

**Interstate & Expressway
General Service**

Type	Criteria								
Visitors Center/Tourist Information	<p>NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ State owned facility○ Or meet the following:○ Adequate parking as deemed by ALDOT○ Housed in a permanent building○ Offer State of Alabama and local area maps at no charge○ Modern sanitary facilities available to public○ Drinking water available at no cost to public○ Trash receptacles available to public○ Shall operate continuously staffed or unstaffed at least 8 hours/day, 7 days/week <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Additional by Interchange</th><th>Major Metro</th><th>Urban</th><th>Rural</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>○ Within 1 mile of interchange ○ Population of 50,000 or more (US Census)</td><td>○ Within 2 miles of interchange ○ Population of 5,000 – 49,999 (US Census)</td><td>○ Within 3 miles of interchange ○ Population 4,999 or less (US Census)</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>	Additional by Interchange	Major Metro	Urban	Rural	○ Within 1 mile of interchange ○ Population of 50,000 or more (US Census)	○ Within 2 miles of interchange ○ Population of 5,000 – 49,999 (US Census)	○ Within 3 miles of interchange ○ Population 4,999 or less (US Census)	
Additional by Interchange	Major Metro	Urban	Rural						
○ Within 1 mile of interchange ○ Population of 50,000 or more (US Census)	○ Within 2 miles of interchange ○ Population of 5,000 – 49,999 (US Census)	○ Within 3 miles of interchange ○ Population 4,999 or less (US Census)							
Reserved									

TABLE 8.4

**Interstate & Expressway
General Information**

Warrant Table

		Criteria		
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.			
Airport - Air Carrier/Commercial Service	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Publicly owned o Served by regularly scheduled airlines o Long term parking for patrons o 24-hour fixed base operator o Automated weather reporting o Within 10 miles of interchange 		
Airport - General Aviation (open to general aircraft)	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Publicly owned o Automobile parking o Minimum of 40 based aircraft 		
	Additional by Interchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 3 miles of interchange o Population of 50,000 or more (US Census) 	Urban	Rural
Named Highway & Memorial Signing	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Completed resolution from legislature or completed instrument from the Governor of Alabama or Director of Alabama Department of Transportation o Memorial plaques are preferred at Welcome Centers and Rest Areas along the route where available o If the entire route is named, memorial may be recognized at Welcome Centers and Rest Areas. o Unless otherwise directed by the ALDOT Director or Chief Engineer, highways are to be signed at the beginning and end of route. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 5 miles of interchange o Population of 5,000 – 49,999 (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 7.5 miles of interchange o Population 4,999 or less (US Census)
	Seaport, Multi- Modal Port/Station	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Publicly owned o Non-profit Port/Modal Authority in place o Operate a minimum of eight (8) hours/day for five (5) days/week o Import/ export materials and commercial goods nationally and internationally o Located within 10 miles of interchange 	

TABLE 8.5

Warrant Table

**Interstate & Expressway
Traffic Generators**

		Criteria		
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.	Major Metro	Urban	Rural
Arenas Stadiums	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum of 6,000 seats or average annual attendance of 300,000 (minimum) ○ Within 2 miles of interchange ○ Population of 50,000 or more (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum of 5,000 seats or average annual attendance of 250,000 (minimum) ○ Within 3 miles of interchange ○ Population of 5,000-49,999 (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum of 4,000 seats or average annual attendance of 200,000 (minimum) ○ Within 5 miles of interchange ○ Population of 4,999 or less (US Census)
Auditoriums Convention Halls	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Located in a municipality that is incorporated. ○ Municipality or county government shall adopt a resolution requesting ALDOT to install such signs and agreeing to install and maintain any trailblazing on local roads 		
	Additional by Interchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum of 6,000 seats or average annual attendance of 72,000 (minimum) ○ Within 2 miles of interchange ○ Population of 50,000 or more (US Census). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum of 5,000 seats or average annual attendance of 60,000 (minimum) ○ Within 3 miles of interchange ○ Population of 5,000-49,999 (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum of 4,000 seats or average annual attendance of 48,000 (minimum) ○ Within 5 miles of interchange ○ Population of 4,999 or less (US Census)
Reserved				

TABLE 8.5

Warrant Table

**Interstate & Expressway
Traffic Generators**

Type	Criteria		
	<p>NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.</p>		
<p>College/University</p>	<p>Basic</p>	<p>o In general, a campus should give the visitor the clear impression that they have entered a campus setting. The campus shall be interpreted as all that contiguous real estate and improvements owned and operated by the educational institution, housing the main administrative, educational and other programs of the institution. An educational institution may have more than one sign-warranted campus located within the state provided each facility meets ALDOT criteria.</p> <p>o Institution shall be a 2 to 4 year institution offering associate, bachelor, and/or graduate degrees</p> <p>o The campus shall contain 5 of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ classrooms/laboratories dedicated to credit-hour classes with regularly scheduled live on site instruction ✓ administrative offices ✓ faculty offices ✓ library system ✓ on-campus student housing staffed by the university ✓ minimum of 2 athletic fields/facilities ✓ campus police 	
	<p>Additional by Interchange</p>	<p>Major Metro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Enrollment of 4,000 (min) full time classroom students o Within 3 miles of interchange o Population of 50,000 or more (US Census) 	<p>Urban</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Enrollment of 3,000 (min) full time classroom students o Within 4 miles of interchange o Population of 5,000 – 49,999 (US Census)
<p>Note: Facilities shall be within a complex dedicated to the purpose of higher learning and/or research directly connected to an institution listed as such with the ACHE.</p>			
<p>Reserved</p>			

TABLE 8.5

Warrant Table

**Interstate & Expressway
Traffic Generators**

		Criteria		
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.	Major Metro	Urban	Rural
Military Bases	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5000 employees & permanently assigned military personnel ○ Within 5 miles of interchange ○ Population of 50,000 or more (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4000 employees & permanently assigned military personnel ○ Within 7.5 miles of interchange ○ Population of 5,000 – 49,999 (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3000 employees & permanently assigned military personnel ○ Within 10 miles of interchange ○ Population 4,999 or less (US Census)
State & National Parks, Forests, Wildlife Refuge Monuments	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Within 5 miles of interchange ○ State and National Monuments not contained within a larger traffic generator shall submit annual attendance records for previous two (2) years ○ Monument shall not be contained within a larger traffic generator 		
Major Recreational Areas (Fairgrounds, Amusement Parks, Etc)	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facility shall have appropriate licenses and permits from local and state authorities ○ If applicable, municipal or county government shall adopt a resolution requesting ALDOT to install such signs and agreeing to install and maintain any trailblazing on local roads. ○ Event calendar and corresponding attendance numbers for previous 2 years shall be submitted to ALDOT ○ Sanitary facilities available to patrons ○ Drinking water available for patrons ○ Open a minimum of 8 hours/day, 6 days/week year round or 2500 hours/year 		
	Additional by Interchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annual attendance of 300,000 (min) ○ Within 2 miles of interchange ○ Population of 50,000 or more (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annual attendance of 250,000 (min) ○ Within 3 miles of interchange ○ Population of 5,000 – 49,999 (US Census) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annual attendance of 125,000 (min) ○ Within 10 miles of interchange ○ Population 4,999 or less (US Census)
		<p>Exception: Public Gulf Coast Beaches or other major traffic generators as determined by Department of Tourism and Travel are exempt from this criteria.</p>		

TABLE 8.6

Warrant Table

**Conventional Road
General Service**

Criteria	
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Located within 3 miles of nearest intersecting routeo 24-hour service, 7 days per week.o Emergency department facilities with a physician (or emergency care nurse on duty within the emergency department with a physician on call) trained in emergency medical procedures on duty.o Licensed or approved for definitive medical care by an appropriate State authority.o Equipped for radio voice communications with ambulances and other hospitals.o Sign shall be D9-2, symbol or legend
Visitors Center/Tourist Information	<p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Governmentally owned facilityo ORo Located within 1 mile of nearest intersecting state routeo Housed in a permanent building and not contained within a larger traffic generatoro Offer State of Alabama and/or local area maps at no chargeo Modern sanitary facilities available to publico Open 8 hours/day 7 days/week with attendant on duty or provide a self service informational device to provide public information about local or state features <p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Roadway ingress and egress that are a paved surface and at least 12 feet wide with a minimum swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the facility in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buseso Roadway ingress and parking facilities that are free of any electrical wires, tree branches, or other obstructions a minimum of 14 feet above the surface in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buseso Have at least 2 (two) spaces that are 12 feet wide and 65 feet long with a swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the space in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buseso Drinking water available at no cost to publico Trash receptacles available to public
Reserved	

TABLE 8.7

**Conventional Road
General Information**

Warrant Table

		Criteria		
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.	Air Carrier:	General Aviation:	Local/Community Airport:
Airport	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publicly owned ○ Long term automobile parking area ○ 24-hour Fixed Base Operator ○ Automated weather reporting ○ Regularly scheduled commercial/passenger movements ○ Within 15 miles of the nearest intersecting state route 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publicly owned ○ Automobile parking ○ Aviation fuel available ○ Minimum of 35 based aircraft ○ Within 8 miles of the nearest intersecting state route 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publicly owned ○ Minimum of 10 based aircraft ○ Lighted windsock and beacon ○ Aviation Fuel available ○ Within 4 miles of the nearest intersecting state route
Business District OR Downtown	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Municipality shall submit map identifying the area for which signing is requested with the boundaries marked or highlighted to ALDOT ○ Within the proposed area requesting signage, 75% of facilities shall be open for business a minimum of 5 days/week. ○ Proposed area is not signed with other directional or district type signs, such as a historical district <p>Note: If the state route passes through the Business District or Downtown, no signing will be installed more than 3 miles from a primary route</p>		
Bus Station	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Passenger service available 6 days/week ○ Modern sanitary facilities available to patrons at the depot ○ Off street parking for patrons ○ Located within of 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route 		
City Limit, Town Limit	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Incorporated city or town <p>Note: Shall be signed with one sign per direction of travel at the extreme limits on state approaches</p>		
	Additional by Type	<p style="text-align: center;">Downtown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Incorporated municipality, population 50,000 or more ○ The center of downtown district shall be located within 5 miles of state route. Strip development business centers shall not qualify. <p style="text-align: center;">Business District</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Incorporated municipality, population 1,500-49,999 ○ The center of business district shall be located within 3 miles of state route. Strip development business centers shall not qualify. 		

TABLE 8.7**Warrant Table**

**Conventional Road
General Information**

Criteria	
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
Community Wayfinding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Limitation on placement is to municipal connecting links unless variance is approved o Community shall have a minimum population of 10,000 o Community shall submit detailed plans to the appropriate ALDOT Division Office. Division Office shall review the plans, and then forward the plans and their comments to Maintenance Bureau, Traffic Operations for further review and approval or disapproval. These plans shall include maps showing the overall signing plan and design details on individual installations. o Traffic generators should meet warranting ALDOT requirements in order to be included on signage o Designs, layouts, and materials shall meet ALDOT specifications
Historical District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Be recognized and listed by Alabama Historical Commission or on the National Register of Historic Places o Shall contain properties or improvements open to the public on a regular basis o Center of HD shall be within 5 miles of nearest intersecting state route o Absence of Business District or Downtown signing
Historical Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Recognized and listed by Alabama Historical Commission or listed on the National Register of Historic Places o Open to the public a minimum of 8 hours/day 5 days/week year round or if operated seasonally, it shall be open a minimum of 6 continuous months/year, 8 hours/day, 5 days/week o Accommodates drop-in visitors without reservations o Located within 5 miles of nearest intersecting state route
Note: Sites within a signed Historical District shall not be signed with guide signs	
Historical Marker (ADAH Marker)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Listed with the ADAH or AHC o ALDOT may install signage as deemed appropriate, such as “Historical Marker 1500’ Ahead” or arrows for markers on nearest intersecting local routes.
Industrial Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o State, County, or Municipally owned o Facility generates a minimum of 1000 AADT o Contains a minimum of 3 facilities operating a minimum of 8 hours/day for 5 days/week including one interstate import/export facility o Located within 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route

TABLE 8.7**Warrant Table**

**Conventional Road
General Information**

Criteria	
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publicly owned ○ Free of charge ○ Open 6 days/week or a minimum of 36 hours/week ○ Modern sanitary facilities available to patrons ○ Located within 2 miles of nearest intersecting state route
Named Highway, Memorial & other named routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Completed instrument from Alabama Legislature, Governor or ALDOT Director ○ Approval of installation by the ALDOT Director ○ Unless otherwise directed by the ALDOT Director or Chief Engineer, highways are signed at the beginning and end of the route
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Governmentally owned ○ Open to public with non-reserved spaces ○ Located within 4 blocks of nearest intersecting state route ○ Minimum of 200 spaces
Recycling, Landfills and other Waste & Energy Management Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ State, County or Municipally owned ○ Located within 5 miles of nearest intersecting state route
Seaport, Multi-Modal Port/Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publicly owned ○ Non-profit Port/Modal Authority in place ○ Operate a minimum of eight (8) hours/day for five (5) days/week ○ Import/ export materials and commercial goods nationally and internationally ○ Located within 10 miles of nearest intersecting state route

TABLE 8.7

Warrant Table

**Conventional Road
General Information**

Type		Criteria NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
SBC Route Alabama Scenic Byway	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Designation approved by Alabama's Scenic Byways Committee(SBC)○ Be in Phase 4 of the Scenic Byway Process○ Receipt of confirmation letter from the SBC to ALDOT Maintenance Bureau
Train Station	Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Have regularly scheduled passenger service available 6 days/week○ Parking spaces for patron use○ Modern sanitary facilities available to patrons at the depot○ Located within a minimum of 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route

TABLE 8.8**Warrant Table****Conventional Road
Traffic Generator**

Criteria	
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
Arena, Fairgrounds, Racetrack, Stadium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have a seating capacity of a minimum of ten thousand (10,000) or average annual attendance of 60,000 (minimum) ○ Located within 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route ○ Operating a minimum of 2 years ○ Event calendar and/or attendance numbers submitted to ALDOT for previous 2 years <p>Note: Facility shall not be contained within a signed traffic generator</p>
Armory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Available for municipal or county events ○ Minimum capacity of 500 ○ Located within 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route
Auditorium, Conference Center, Convention Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have a seating capacity of a minimum of five thousand (5,000) or average annual attendance of 60,000 (minimum) ○ Located within 2 miles of nearest intersecting state route ○ Operating a minimum of 2 years ○ Event calendar and/or attendance numbers submitted to ALDOT for previous 2 years <p>Note: Facility shall not be contained within a signed traffic generator</p>
Cultural Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Located within 5 miles of nearest intersecting state route ○ Open to public use without a membership fee or other means of exclusive admission, or where minors are excluded. This requirement does not preclude the sale of tickets for event admission ○ Minimum annual attendance of 75,000 for live performing arts events, concerts, or exhibits that are open to all age groups. Attendance numbers should be submitted to ALDOT for previous 2 years ○ Modern sanitary facilities available to patrons

TABLE 8.8

Warrant Table

**Conventional Road
Traffic Generator**

Criteria	
Type	<p>NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In general, a campus should give the visitor the clear impression that they have entered a campus setting. The campus shall be interpreted as all that contiguous real estate and improvements owned and operated by the educational institution, housing the main administrative, educational and other programs of the institution. An educational institution may have more than one sign-warranted campus located within the state provided each facility meets ALDOT criteria. ○ A 4 year institution campus shall contain 5 of the following & a 2 year institution campus shall contain 3 of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ classrooms/laboratories dedicated to credit-hour classes with regularly scheduled live onsite instruction ✓ administrative offices ✓ faculty offices ✓ library system ✓ on-campus student housing staffed by the university ✓ minimum of 2 athletic fields/facilities ✓ campus police
Educational Institutions: College/University	<p style="text-align: center;">Basic</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Post High School 4 year Colleges/Universities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Listed with Alabama Commission on Higher Education as a 4 year institution ○ Minimum enrollment of 5,000 classroom students according to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education ○ Off street parking provided for students ○ Located within 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Post High School 2 year Institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Listed with Alabama Commission on Higher Education as a 2 year institution ○ State operated, public institution ○ Minimum enrollment of 2,500 classroom students ○ Located within 2 miles of nearest intersecting state route ○ Not contained within a larger traffic generator or building complex </div> </div> <p>Note: Facilities shall be within a complex dedicated to the purpose of higher learning and/or research directly connected to institution listed as such with the ACHE.</p>
Educational Institutions Other than College/University	<p style="text-align: center;">Basic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High School with on-campus athletic facility hosting competitions that generate out-of-town traffic or a State school for special education such as School for Deaf/Blind ○ If required, trailblazing on local roads shall be installed by appropriate authority before signage is installed on state ROW.

TABLE 8.8

Warrant Table

**Conventional Road
Traffic Generator**

Criteria			
Type	<p>NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.</p>		
Governmental Facilities, Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Owned & operated by a local, state, or federal governmental agency and shall provide a direct critical and essential service to the public serving a minimum of 100 on-site visitors/day. o 50 or more employees or assigned personnel or be located within 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route <p>Examples: Public Health, Public Safety, Public Welfare, Law Enforcement, Driver License, Social Security, Post Office</p>		
Humanitarian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Administered by Non-Profit entity o Located within 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route o Open to the public a minimum of 8 hours/day, 5 days/week o Have an annual average of 50 clients/day entering facility <p>OR</p> <p>A youth camp/ranch facility housing out of town short term visitors. Length of stay for any client shall not exceed 12 weeks.</p>		
Interpretive Centers, Cultural or Heritage Centers	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Located within 1 mile of nearest intersecting state route o Have been in operation a minimum of 2 years; attendance numbers shall be submitted to ALDOT for previous 2 years o Housed in a permanent building and not contained within a larger traffic generator o Modern sanitary facilities available to public o Open 8 hours/day 5 days/week with attendant on duty or provide a self service informational device to provide public information about local or state features </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Roadway ingress and egress are a paved surface and at least 12 feet wide with a minimum swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the facility in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buses. o Roadway ingress and parking facilities are free of any electrical wires, tree branches, or other obstructions up to 14 feet above the surface in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buses o Have at least 1 (one) space that is 12 feet wide and 65 feet long with a swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the space in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buses. </td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Located within 1 mile of nearest intersecting state route o Have been in operation a minimum of 2 years; attendance numbers shall be submitted to ALDOT for previous 2 years o Housed in a permanent building and not contained within a larger traffic generator o Modern sanitary facilities available to public o Open 8 hours/day 5 days/week with attendant on duty or provide a self service informational device to provide public information about local or state features 	<p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Roadway ingress and egress are a paved surface and at least 12 feet wide with a minimum swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the facility in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buses. o Roadway ingress and parking facilities are free of any electrical wires, tree branches, or other obstructions up to 14 feet above the surface in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buses o Have at least 1 (one) space that is 12 feet wide and 65 feet long with a swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the space in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Located within 1 mile of nearest intersecting state route o Have been in operation a minimum of 2 years; attendance numbers shall be submitted to ALDOT for previous 2 years o Housed in a permanent building and not contained within a larger traffic generator o Modern sanitary facilities available to public o Open 8 hours/day 5 days/week with attendant on duty or provide a self service informational device to provide public information about local or state features 	<p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Roadway ingress and egress are a paved surface and at least 12 feet wide with a minimum swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the facility in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buses. o Roadway ingress and parking facilities are free of any electrical wires, tree branches, or other obstructions up to 14 feet above the surface in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buses o Have at least 1 (one) space that is 12 feet wide and 65 feet long with a swing radius of 50 feet to enter and exit the space in order to accommodate RVs and/or large buses. 		
Military Bases	<p>Exception: Exception is made for NPS, DOI, & similar federal facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 3000 employees & permanently assigned military personnel o Located within 10 miles of nearest intersecting state route 		

TABLE 8.8

Warrant Table

**Conventional Road
Traffic Generator**

Criteria	
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Non-profit institution or part of a non-profit institution or government-entity○ Have a formally stated mission; copy shall be submitted to ALDOT○ Have at least one full-time paid professional staff member who has museum knowledge and experience and is delegated authority and allocated financial resources sufficient to operate the museum○ Exhibit and maintain works of artistic, historical, or scientific value that are essentially educational in nature○ Present regularly scheduled programs and exhibits that use and interpret objects for the public according to accepted standards; Event calendars of previous 2 years submitted to ALDOT○ Open to public a minimum of 8 hours/day, 240 days/year or 2000 hours/years and able to accommodate drop-in visitors without reservations○ Guide, attendant, or docent on site during business hours○ Within 2 miles of nearest intersecting state route○ Adequate parking as deemed by ALDOT
	<p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Have a formal and appropriate program of documentation, care, and use of collections and/or tangible objects○ Have a formal and appropriate program of presentations and maintenance exhibits.

TABLE 8.8

Warrant Table

**Conventional Road
Traffic Generator**

Type	Criteria
Off-Road Trailhead	<p>NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Facility shall be open to non-vehicular traffic including off road vehicles and pedestrians/hikers.○ Should demonstrate local involvement by maintaining a nonprofit Dedicated Advocacy Group or Sponsoring Organization that promotes the route and monitors the facility on a regular basis. The Dedicated Advocacy shall be listed as a non-profit organization with the IRS. A DAG is typically a non-profit organization that promotes the off road trail and maintains its purpose and integrity. The structure of the advocacy group is often patterned after the Scenic Byway Corridor Advocacy Group as detailed in the <i>Alabama Scenic Byway Program Manual</i>.○ Primary guidance shall be in the form of printed literature and strip maps○ Dedicated Advocacy Group or Sponsoring Organization shall submit documentation to ALDOT showing promotional activities that benefit the trail and the local community for initial approval and annually thereafter in order to maintain signage. Documentation showing promotional activities shall include 4 of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Trail brochure & map distribution in venues other than Welcome Centers, Rest Areas, or on the Trail✓ Media articles – minimum of 2 in Alabama publications plus 1 article in a national publication✓ Proof of advertised public events participation by Dedicated Advocacy Group– at least 1 annually✓ Listing in Alabama Tourism & Travel annual Calendar of Events publication (hard copy) & maintenance of listing annually✓ Maintenance of web site about the trail including map or driving directions✓ Other physical evidence of trail activities or trail participation. Example: trail maintenance, work days or payment for trail maintenance○ Access to trail should be located on no more than 3 miles from the nearest intersecting state route. The trailhead shall be located within 1/2 mile of the access.○ The parking area shall be provided to include an all weather surface which is traversable under normal weather conditions by conventionally powered passenger vehicles including automobiles, pickups, camping trailers, and other common types of recreational vehicles. There shall be an adequate number of spaces to accommodate trail users and avoid parking on the ROW.○ Site shall have a self service kiosk or device with trail/site maps available <p>Note: No advance or confirmation signs shall be installed for off-road trails.</p>

TABLE 8.8

Warrant Table

**Conventional Road
Traffic Generator**

Criteria	
Type	NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
Recreational Areas – State, County, or City owned	<p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Be open a minimum of 6 days/wk, daylight hours ○ Trash receptacles available to public ○ Drinking water available at no cost to public
Basic	<p>○ Offer four (4) or more of the following outdoor activities: Cycling, boating, camping, fishing, hiking/walking, skating, picnicking, swimming, field sports (each field may count as a single activity), horseback riding, rock climbing, golf, off road motor sports. One (1) indoor activity may be substituted for one (1) outdoor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sanitary facilities available to patrons ○ Shall not be part of a signed traffic generator ○ Located within 15 miles of nearest intersecting state route
Exception: Public Gulf Coast Beaches are exempt from this criteria	
Recreational Areas - Privately owned (Amusement Parks, Etc)	<p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have an annual attendance of 300,000 ○ Have appropriate licenses and permits from local and state authorities ○ Open to public use without a membership fee or other means of exclusive admission, or where minors are excluded. This requirement does not preclude the sale of tickets for admission. ○ Located within 2 miles of nearest intersecting state route ○ Documentation of attendance numbers submitted to ALDOT for previous 2 years ○ Open a minimum of 8 hours/day 6 days/week year round or if operated seasonally, it shall be open a minimum of 6 months/year, 8 hours/day, 7 days/week ○ Offer three (3) or more activities, such as picnicking, outdoor sport/physical activities, entertainment rides, live shows, food services
Sports Complex	<p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Contain a minimum of 4 outdoor playing fields used for competitive events. ○ Minimum seating capacity of 7,500 or minimum annual attendance of 200,000. If attendance criteria is used, records for past 2 years shall be submitted to ALDOT ○ Open to general public (without membership requirements) 6 days/week ○ Located within 2 miles of nearest intersecting state route

TABLE 8.8

Warrant Table

**Conventional Road
Traffic Generator**

Type	Criteria NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
State or National Parks or Forests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ State or National Park or Forest○ Located within 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route and have a minimum annual attendance of 5,000 or have a minimum annual attendance of 50,000 regardless of distance <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Substations, ranger offices, and other facilities within parks and forests shall not be considered as traffic generators.○ Appropriate signing may be installed on roads and ROW under the jurisdiction of the park or forest○ Signs other than standard ALDOT destination/distance signs shall have a completed SWA with ALDOT
Thematic Sites	<p>Basic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Collection of singularly themed sites that do not involve a specific roadway. These are often referred to as a trail or other similar designation○ Supported and actively promoted by a sponsoring public or private organization or agency○ Have appropriate signed instrument from state entity, if named by that entity○ Primary guidance shall be in the form of printed literature and strip maps○ Located within 7 miles of nearest intersecting state route○ Site shall be open to public use. No membership fees nor other means of exclusive admission. Minors are allowed with accompanying adult. This requirement does not preclude the sale of tickets for event admission.○ Open to the public a minimum of 6 hours/day, 5 days/week or a total of 30 hours/week○ Sponsoring organization/agency shall submit documentation to ALDOT showing promotional activities that benefit the trail and the local community for initial approval and annually thereafter in order to maintain signage. Documentation showing promotional activities shall include the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Trail brochure & map distribution in venues other than Welcome Centers, Rest Areas, or on-site✓ Listing in Alabama Tourism & Travel annual Calendar of Events publication (hard copy) & maintenance of listing annually✓ Maintenance of web site about the sites including map or driving directions✓ Statistical or physical evidence of economic benefit to the community. Examples: Records of visitors using sites, financial statistics, annual reports containing financial statistics

TABLE 8.8

Warrant Table

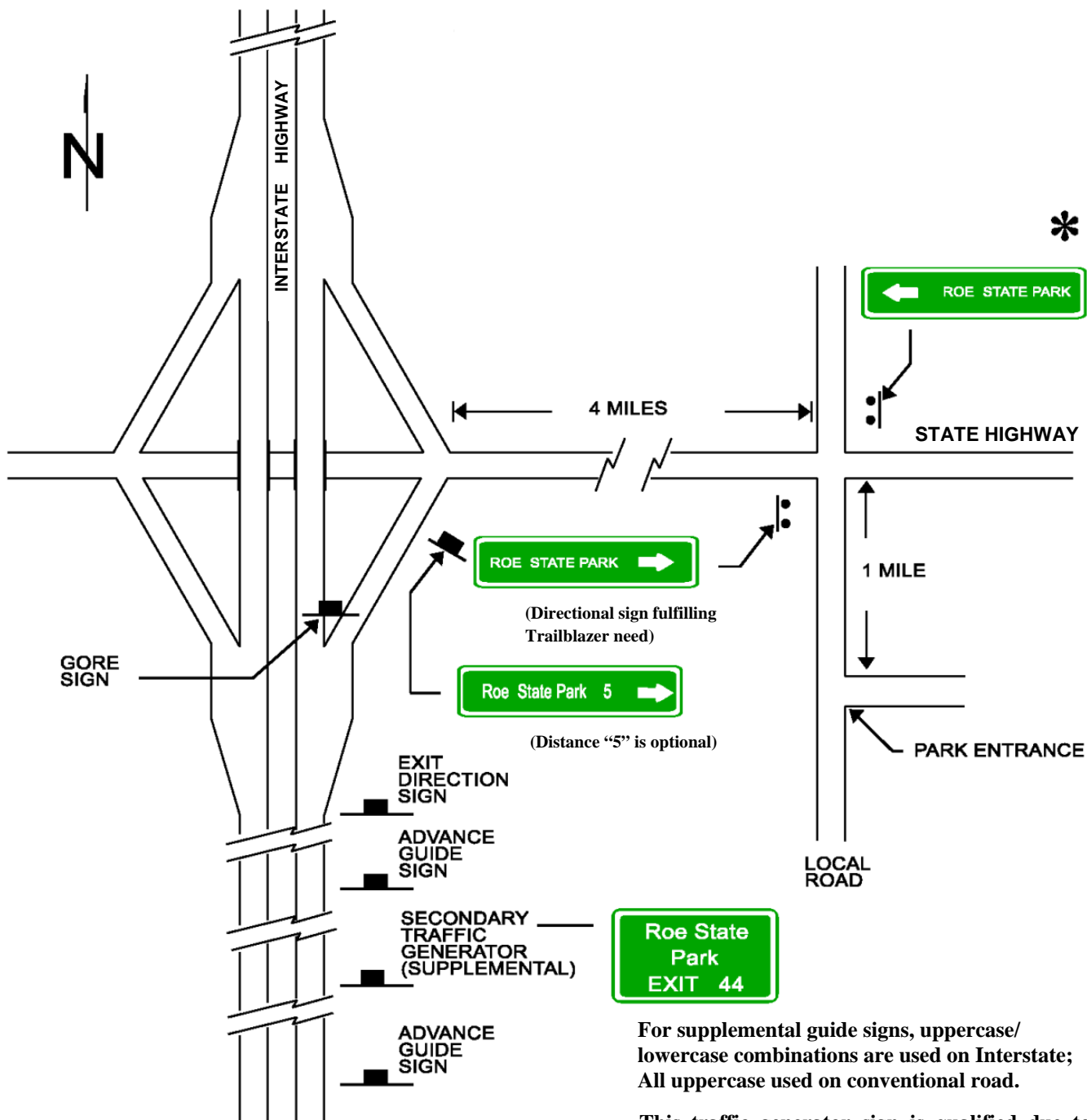
**Conventional Road
Traffic Generator**

Type	Criteria NOTE: Unless otherwise noted in the warrant table, a facility shall meet all criteria before signing is eligible for warrant. Fulfillment of criteria does not guarantee signage.
Zoos	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Accredited or certified by the Association of Zoo and AquariumsOR○ Licensed by USDA or Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources○ Located within 3 miles of nearest intersecting state route○ Provide proof of non-profit status to ALDOT○ Open to the public a minimum of 6 days/week & 8 hours/day○ Modern sanitary facilities available to the public○ Provide adequate (as determined by ALDOT) onsite parking for patrons

APPENDIX A – FIGURES

FIGURE A – 1

Interstate Traffic Generator Signing Including Conventional Road

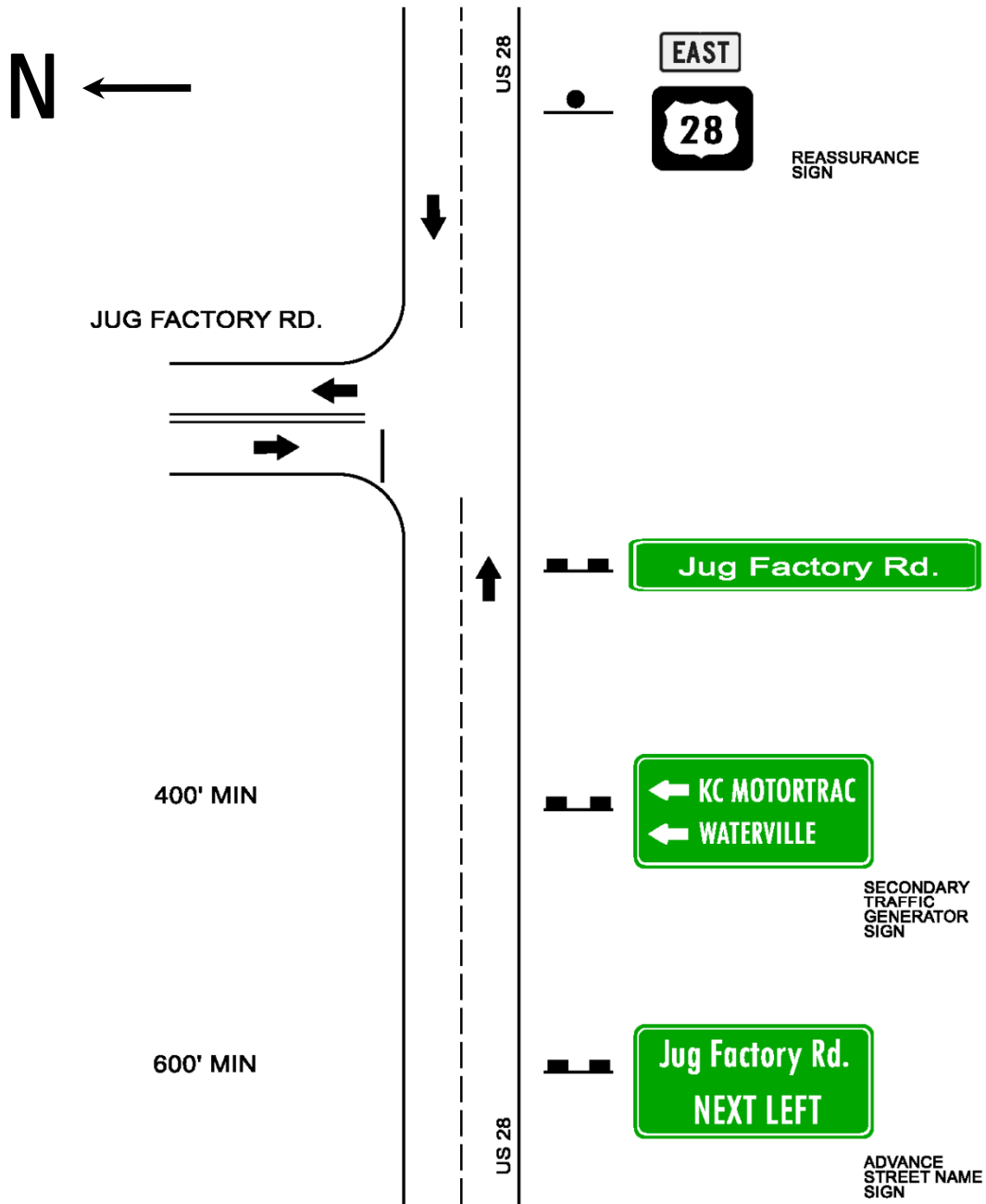


**NOTE: ONLY NB APPROACH
SIGNS SHOWN ON INTERSTATE**

***** For supplemental guide signs, uppercase/lowercase combinations are used on Interstate; All uppercase used on conventional road.
This traffic generator sign is qualified due to Conventional Road warrants. All others shown are qualified due to Interstate warrants.

Details of Gore Sign, Exit Direction & Advance Guide Signs not shown.

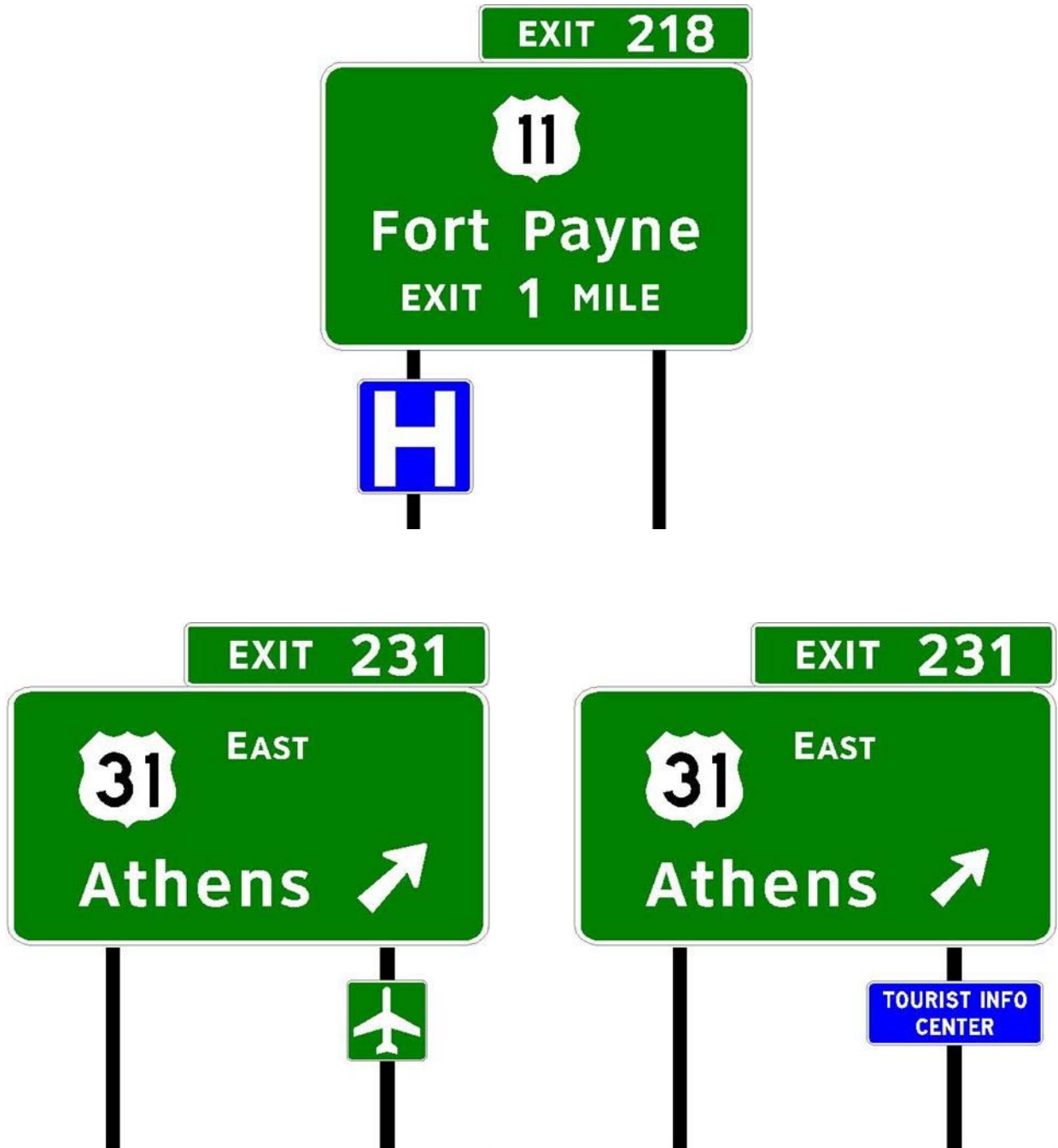
FIGURE A – 2
 Intersection Approach W/ Traffic Generators



NOTE: ONLY EB DIRECTION SIGNS SHOWN
 URBAN OR SUBURBAN AREA

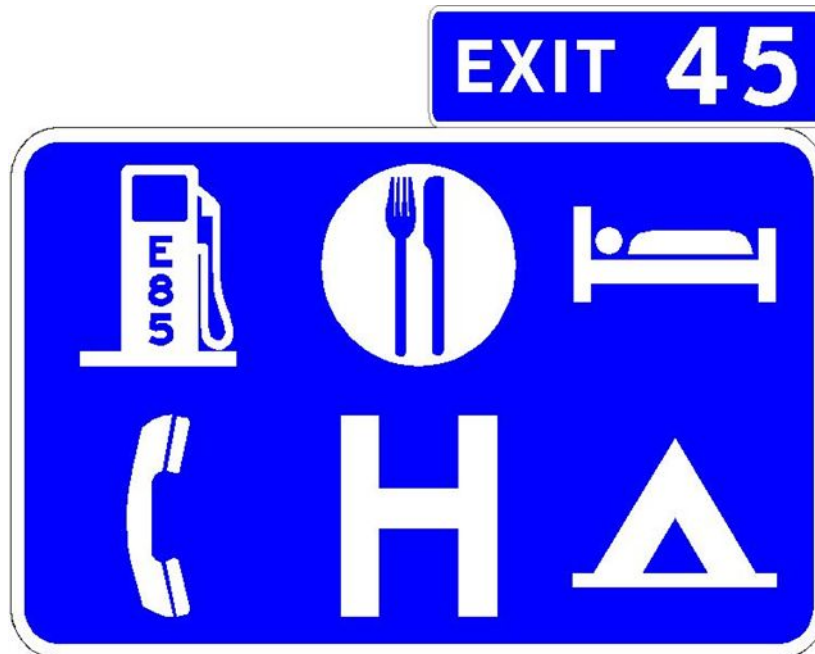


Signs shown are typical of secondary traffic generators on interstates or expressways.



Notes: Place Names are Clearview 5W-R font; Cardinal Direction and “EXIT” are 5W.
 Place Names (“Athens” & “Fort Payne”) on these guide signs are primary traffic generators.
 General Service and Informational plaques must satisfy Interstate warrants

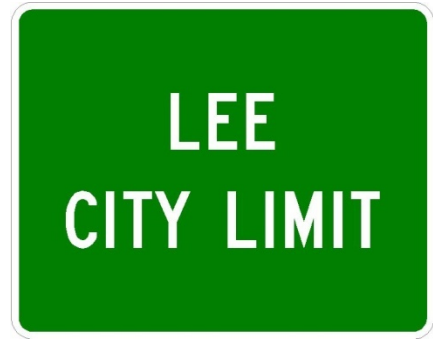
FIGURE A-5
Typical General Service Signs on Interstate



Note: Clearview 5W or 4W

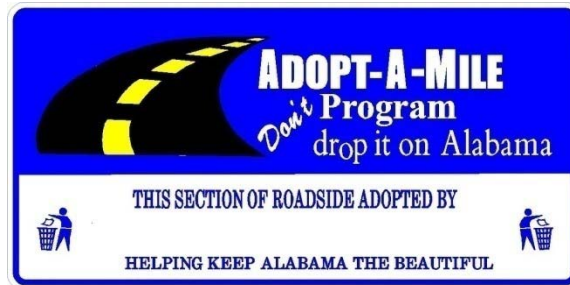


Standard E, D, or C Fonts



Interstate Overpass Sign (Clearview font)

Standard E, D, or C fonts except as noted.



(Standard C font)



D6-4



Historic Route or Corridor Sign



Informational Guide Sign



Community Wayfinding Sign



Clearview 4W



Clearview 4W



Clearview 4W

SECONDARY
TRAFFIC
GENERATORS

(ALL UPPERCASE)



Clearview 4W



Clearview 4W

PRIMARY
TRAFFIC
GENERATORS

(UPPERCASE/
LOWERCASE
COMBINATION)

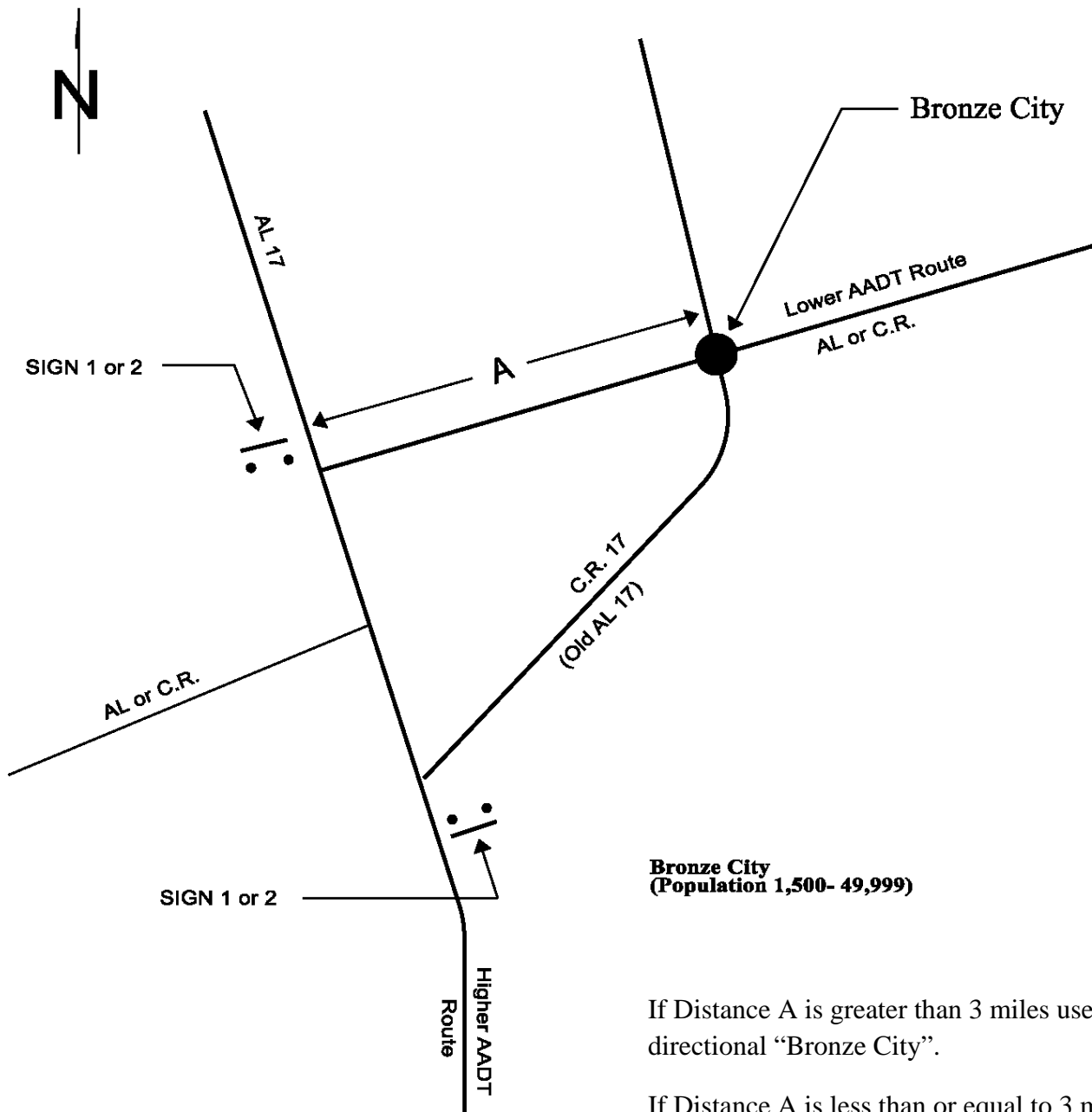


Clearview 5W-R

Interstate approach / connector road

Figure A-11

Example of Optional Use of Business District Signs on Conventional Roads



**Bronze City
(Population 1,500- 49,999)**

If Distance A is greater than 3 miles use directional “Bronze City”.

If Distance A is less than or equal to 3 miles or is in built up area of the City, ‘Business District’ may be used.

If City or Town Limits do not encompass vicinity of sign placement locations, directional “Bronze City” sign legend may be used.



SIGN 1 *



SIGN 2 *

* Arrows are left or right as appropriate.

APPENDIX B – REVISIONS

APPENDIX B – REVISION LIST

Revision 1

August 11, 2011

- a. Effective Date: August 11, 2011, added date to title page
- b. Revised Table of Contents
- c. Changed background of Memorial Signs to brown, *MGSM* pg. 12
- d. Changed Figure A-8 background color of Memorial Sign example, *MGSM* pg 50
- e. Added Memorandum about brown background on Memorial Signs, pg. x-xii
- f. Added Appendix B to *MGSM*, pg i (reserved pg. ii – ix for expansion of Revision List) and on *MGSM* Table of Contents



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Robert Bentley
Governor

John R. Cooper
Transportation Director

September 7, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bureau Chiefs
Division Engineers

FROM: George H. Conner, P.E.
Maintenance Engineer

SUBJECT: Brown Background for Memorial Signs

The Miscellaneous Guide Sign Manual (MGSM) was developed "to establish requirements and procedures for the funding, placement, design, installation, maintenance, and removal of miscellaneous guide signs on state rights-of-way" (MGSM, Chapter 1.0 Purpose). The MGSM represents ALDOT's attempt to comply with recommendations by the MUTCD and AASHTO to adopt signing policies that deal with various categories of guide signs. The MGSM was adopted on March 9, 2010.

The MGSM was developed in accordance with the 2003 version of the MUTCD. The Maintenance Bureau is recommending a change to the MGSM as a result of the publication of the 2009 version of the MUTCD. As noted in the attached memo, Memorial signs will now be fabricated with a brown background and white border and legend. The effective date of this change is August 11, 2011.

Please distribute this memo to your affected personnel.

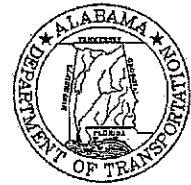
GHC/SNG/dha
Attachment
C: MGSM File

cy: Assistants > FYI

*file: G-0011-28.05
G-0011-32.03*



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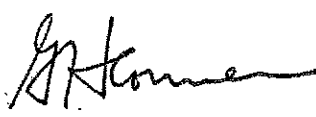
Robert Bentley
Governor

John R. Cooper
Transportation Director

August 11, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: D.W. Vaughn
Chief Engineer/Deputy Director

FROM: George H. Conner, P.E. 
Maintenance Engineer

Subject: Background Color Change for Memorial Signs

The *Miscellaneous Guide Sign Manual* (MGSM) was developed to establish requirements for the installation of miscellaneous guide signs on state rights-of-way (MGSM Section 1.0) as recommended by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and AASHTO. The Traffic Operations Section is proposing a change to the MGSM in order to comply with recent changes in the 2009 MUTCD.

The 2003 MUTCD placed Memorial signs in the Guide Sign Chapters 2D and 2E without any specific recommendation on background color. However, the **Standard** statement for color in section 2D states "guide signs on streets and highways shall have a white message and border on a green background." The **Standard** statement for color in section 2E states "guide signs on freeways and expressways, except as noted herein, shall have white letters, symbols and borders on a green background." Therefore, the MGSM required Memorial Signs to have white copy on green background.

The 2009 MUTCD reassigned Memorial signs from Chapters 2D and 2E to Chapter 2M, Recreational & Cultural Interest Area Signs, and now recommends a brown background color. Section 2M.10 provides the following *Guidance*: "Memorial or dedication signs should have a white legend and border on a brown background."

The Traffic Operations Section proposes future manufacturing of Memorial signs with white copy on a brown background. This proposed change is in conformance with the

D.W. Vaughn
Page 2
August 11, 2011

intent of the 2009 MUTCD. Additionally, the benefits of this change are twofold: (1) This will relieve ALDOT of the requirement to inspect Memorial/Dedication signs for meeting minimum retroreflectivity requirements (2009 MUTCD Section 2A.08), and (2) Allows for a distinction between Memorial signs and Guide signs. A Memorial sign does not fulfill the same need or convey the same relevant message to which a motorist can respond (MUTCD, Section 1A.02) and should not be given the same status as a Guide sign with green background.

The Traffic Operations section proposes to amend Section 5.4 STANDARD LEGENDS, FONTS, COLORS, SHIELDS, AND SYMBOLS, General Information, **Named Highways**, of the MGSM in order to comply with the 2009 MUTCD by requiring a brown background on Memorial signs as follows:

Named Highways

Highways or bridges named in honor or memory of individuals or groups by the Alabama Legislature, Highway Director, or Governor shall be white copy on green brown background using all uppercase letters. Font and sizes shall be the same as secondary traffic generators (See Table 5.4b).

Your approval of this change is requested. Please advise if you have any questions.

APPROVED: 

D. W. Vaughn, Chief Engineer/Deputy Director

GHC/SNG/dha

C:File