

## ENGINEERING DIRECTIVES AND STANDARDS

Volume	Chapter	Section	Directive Number	Effective Date
VI	2	1	3	4/17/2008

**SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDE SIGNS ON INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS**

- 1. PURPOSE:** This directive establishes the Department's policy for use of supplemental guide signs on Interstate Highways. This policy shall serve as a supplement to and not replace the requirements of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).
- 2. SCOPE:** This directive is applicable to all Interstate Highways.
- 3. POLICY:**
  - A. General Criteria and Limitations.
    - 1) Sufficient longitudinal space must exist to accommodate the placement of the sign without conflicting with the necessary traffic control devices.
    - 2) Do not install on the interstate until signing has been installed on all other roadways.
    - 3) Signs for traffic generators should not be installed in advance of interstate to interstate interchanges.
    - 4) Only 1 sign for a traffic generator will be provided in each direction along any one interstate.
    - 5) Signs may be placed on a second interstate if the minimum criteria is exceeded by at least 50 percent and the traffic generator is within two-thirds of the specified distance for the nearest freeway and within the specified distance for the farthest freeway.
    - 6) Locate sign in advance of the interchanging minor road that provides the most direct and best route to the facility.
    - 7) Signs should not be installed for facilities that would require a motorist to travel beyond a second interstate.
    - 8) Do not install for traffic generators more than 5 miles from the interstate.
    - 9) Temporary signs for traffic generators that are open for a limited time period each year may be displayed when installed at the beginning and removed at the end of the limited period, or is contained in a changeable message type installation.
    - 10) No more than 2 traffic generators shall have signs in advance of an interchange.
      - a. Preference shall be given to the traffic generator already on the sign; or,
      - b. The 2 traffic generators that exceed the minimum criteria by the greatest percentage.
    - 11) Install the 2 signs on the same support.
    - 12) Facilities that meet the criteria should not automatically receive supplemental signing.
  - B. Minimum Criteria.
    - 1) See Table I for traffic generators that do not normally warrant signing.
    - 2) See Table II for the specific traffic generator criteria.
    - 3) Federal Highways may approve temporary signs for special events of state or national significance.
- 4. OTHER ISSUANCES AFFECTED:** All directives, memoranda or instructions issued heretofore in conflict with this directive are hereby rescinded.
- 5. IMPLEMENTATION:** This directive will become effective immediately upon issuance.

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## TABLE I

### TRAFFIC GENERATORS THAT DO NOT NORMALLY WARRANT SIGNING

#### Business

TV/Radio Stations Theaters  
Motels/Hotels/Inns\* Trailer Parks\*  
Industrial Parks & Plants

#### Cemeteries

Local or State  
Private/Public  
Military

#### Communities

City Centers  
Civic Centers  
Libraries  
Churches  
Subdivision

#### Governmental

Research/Experimental  
County and City Police Facilities  
Courthouses  
Driver's License Centers  
Highway Buildings  
Jails/Prisons  
Civil Defense Facilities  
Maintenance Facilities  
Power Plants

#### Schools

Grade/High  
Vocational/Trade  
Seminaries  
Private

### Historical

Homes and Buildings  
Privately Owned Facilities

### Medical

Mental Facilities  
Research Facilities  
Sanitariums  
Infirmaries or Treatment Centers  
Veterans Facilities  
County, Fraternal, or Nursing Homes  
Retirement Facilities  
Humane Facilities  
Emergency Medical Services\*

### Military

Sites or Detachments  
Armories  
Arsenals

### Recreational/Conservational

Country Club and Golf Courses  
Fish Hatcheries, Game Farms, Preserves, and Refuges  
Tree Nurseries/Arboretums  
Points of Interest  
Camps: Scout, Church, 4-H, Youth, and YMCA/YWCA

\*Items may be included on Motorist Service signs (GAS-FOOD-LODGING-CAMPING-HOSPITAL)

**GUIDELINE CRITERIA FOR SIGNING TRAFFIC GENERATORS  
ACCESSIBLE FROM INTERSTATES IN LOUISIANA**

TYPE OF GENERATOR	SPECIFIC CRITERIA	ABOVE 400,000	50,000 – 400,000	BELOW 50,000
		MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREA	URBAN AREAS	RUAL AREAS
AIRPORTS	NUMBER OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED MOVEMENTS (ONE-WAY) PER DAY (COMMERCIAL)	35	25	15
	MILEAGE FROM INTERCHANGE	5	5	5
COLLEGES* UNIVERSITIES*	TOTAL ENROLLMENT FULL-TIME & PART TIME	2,000	1,000	1,000
	MILEAGE FROM INTERCHANGE	5	5	5
MILITARY BASES*	EMPLOYEES OR PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED PERSONNEL	5,000	5,000	5,000
	MILEAGE FROM INTERCHANGE	5	5	5
ARENAS AUDITORIUMS CONVENTION HALLS DAMS FAIRGROUNDS RACE TRACKS LAKES NATIONAL HISTORICAL SITES-MONUMENTS NATIONAL PARKS RECREATION AREAS STADIUMS STATE PARKS	SEATING CAPACITY	6,000	5,000	4,000
	ANNUAL ATTENDANCE	300,000	250,000	200,000
	**MILEAGE FROM INTERCHANGE	5	5	5
REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTERS	TOTAL NO. OF BEDS	600	500	400
	MILEAGE FROM INTERCHANGE	1	1	1
	TYPE OF CARE	HOSPITAL HAS 24 HOUR EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN COVERAGE AND REGULARLY OFFERING CARDIOLOGY AND TRAUMA-RELATED SURGICAL SPECIALITIES (i.e. GENERAL SURGERY, NEUROSURGERY, AND ORTHOPEDICS).		
STATE POLICE STATIONS (TROOP HQTS)	MILEAGE FROM INTERCHANGE	1	1	2
TOLL HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES	DIRECT ACCESS FROM EXIT AND PART OF THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM.			
BUSINESS DISTRICT	DIRECT ACCESS AND NOT MORE THAN 5 MILES FROM THE INTERCHANGE.			
SHOPPING CENTERS	SEE RS 48:244.3 and LAC 70:401			
AUDUBON TRAIL GOLF COURSES	SEE Act 951 of the 2001 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature			

\* DISTANCE MAY BE INCREASED ONE MILE FOR EACH 10% OVER THE MINIMUM STUDENTS OR EMPLOYEES LISTED UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 25 MILES.

\*\* DISTANCE MAY BE INCREASED ONE MILE FOR EACH 20,000 PEOPLE OVER THE MINIMUM ATTENDANCE SHOWN UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 25 MILES.