

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS
	SECTION	GUIDE AND INFORMATION SIGNS
	SUB-SECTION	

General

Some businesses/developments in rural areas generate significant volumes of traffic. Drivers unfamiliar with the facility location may have difficulty locating these sites without the aid of directional guide signage (i.e., hauling/delivery trucks).

The department will consider requests for directional signs for large developments or groups of developments such as large industrial plants (i.e., slaughter houses, packing plants, seed cleaning plants, and water treatment plants), industrial parks, auction marts and socio-recreational facilities such as public sports facilities that generate sufficient volumes of unfamiliar drivers to justify the installation of directional guide signs along the highway to direct motorists to the facility.

Standard

Two signs will be permitted for each individual business/development (one for each highway direction of travel) generating enough traffic to justify the sign request. For instance, if the business/development generates at least 500 trips per day, 20% or more of which are visitors/non-familiar traffic, the sign may be justified.

Signs shall have the following design criteria:

- White text on a standard green background
- Lettering should be standard alphabet (as specified in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for

Canada) or Clearview

- 8 inch lettering for signs on two-lane, undivided highways
- 10 inch lettering for signs on divided highways
- ASTM Type III or IV sheeting material
- Size not in excess of that necessary to accommodate the sign message

The content of each sign is restricted to the name of the facility and the distance/direction to the facility only.

In some cases, such as a complex interchanges, the sign message may be incorporated into other signing systems on the highway (i.e., department guide signs) as a supplemental message.

A permit is required to install the specified signs. Business owners or development companies wishing to install signs along a provincial highway must submit an application to one of the Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation district offices in order to have them approved.

A listing of Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation district offices and an example of the required application is provided at the following website:

<http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/613.htm>

After reviewing an application, Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation will issue a Letter of Approval allowing for the placement of signs within the highway right-of-way.

Guidelines for Placement

Where a large trip generating business/development can be accessed from more than one highway, signs should only be placed at the nearest highway access.

The sign(s) should be placed within the highway right-of-way. Sign placement should be in accordance with the Recommended Practices Placement of Signs guideline. No Large Trip Generator guide signs will be allowed in the median on divided highways.

Only one sign will be allowed per direction of travel on the highway. The signs should be placed 200 to 300 metres in advance of the access, or at the start of the taper if one exists. However, other signs located in the vicinity of the access point may affect the placement of Large Trip Generator guide signs.

Installation and Maintenance

Each business owner or developing company is responsible for all costs and activities associated with their Large Trip Generator guide sign(s), including fabrication, installation, future replacement of the sign and sign structure, and maintenance.

The requirements for fabricating, installing and maintaining Large Traffic Generator guide signs are outlined in the Recommended Practices guideline entitled General Provisions for Installing Private Signs within the Highway Right-of-Way.

Where the Large Trip Generator sign message is incorporated into other departmental sign systems, the department will be responsible for all sign costs.

References to Standards

<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: General	Placement of Signs
<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: General	General Provisions for Installing Private Signs within the highway Right-of-Way
<i>Highway Guide and Information Sign Manual</i>	Section A4.5.16.4 Guide Signs for Large Trip Generators