

DESIGN BULLETIN #51/2007

Safety Rest Area and Roadside Turnout Signage

Summary

This Bulletin is issued to inform practitioners and department staff that the attached sign patterns will constitute the new standard for safety rest area and roadside turnout signage.

Previously, typical safety rest area and roadside turnout signage was outlined in the Highway Guide and Information Sign Manual, 2006. The signage examples appearing in this manual are superseded by the new signage standard. To date, none of the existing signs have been converted. Traveller guidance to safety rest areas and roadside turnouts will be enhanced through this new signage standard.

Key Changes

Changes to the department practice for safety rest area and roadside turnout signage have been made. These changes include the following:

- The lettering on all safety rest area and roadside turnout signs is upper case.
- Directional signs to safety rest areas (IC-242) are to be installed at the safety rest area access point in addition to IC-241 signs placed 2 km in advance of the safety rest area access point.
- Roadside Turnout signs (IC-252) are to be installed at the start of the roadside turnout taper in addition to IC-251 signs placed 1 km in advance of the roadside turnout.
- Signage for safety rest areas (IC-241, IC-242) on divided highways uses versions of the signs with a larger lettering height (254 mm and 203 mm ClearviewHwy 5-W), whereas signage on undivided highways uses 203 mm and 152 mm ClearviewHwy 5-W lettering.
- Next Rest Area X km signs are to be installed below IC-241 signs in remote areas, where the next opportunity to safely stop for driver refreshment facilities (i.e., in a town near the highway or at a safety rest area) is in excess of 100 km.
- Next Rest Area X km (IC-241A) signs have a lettering height of 127 mm when installed on undivided highways and 152 mm when installed on divided highways.

- Facility symbols on IC-241, IC-242, IC-251, and IC-252 signs are prioritized and displayed from left to right on the bottom of the sign based on that priority (and facility availability at the site), to a maximum of 4 symbols (maximum 2 symbols for roadside turnout signage). The symbol hierarchy is as follows:
 1. Wheelchair accessibility (to be determined based on the Alberta Building Code)
 2. Washrooms
 3. Information (excludes historical, geographical, etc. point of interest information)
 4. Telephone (TTY equipped or basic)
 5. Waste disposal
 6. Others, such as: picnic tables, hiking trails, viewpoint, trailer dump, and any others deemed appropriate for inclusion on a safety rest area facility sign.

The new standards as indicated in this Bulletin are to be implemented immediately as per the usual practice. All new and replacement installations of safety rest area and roadside turnout signage should follow this new standard.

Effective Date: July 4, 2007.

Contact

Contact: Richard Chow or Corinna Mulyk, Technical Standards Branch, Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation.

References

IC-241 Rest Area X km: [divided highway](#), [undivided highway](#)

IC-242 Rest Area Next Exit: [divided highway](#), [undivided highway](#)

IC-241A Next Rest Area X km: [divided highway](#), [undivided highway](#)

[IC-251 Roadside Turnout 1 km](#)

[IC-252 Roadside Turnout](#)