

## CHAPTER 2G. PREFERENTIAL AND MANAGED LANE SIGNS

### Section 2G.01 Scope

#### Support:

01 Preferential lanes are lanes designated for special traffic uses such as high-occupancy vehicles (HOVs), light rail, buses, taxis, or bicycles. Preferential lane treatments might be as simple as restricting a turning lane to a certain class of vehicles during peak periods, or as sophisticated as providing a separate roadway system within a highway corridor for certain vehicles.

02 Preferential lanes might be barrier-separated (on a separate alignment or physically separated from the other travel lanes by a barrier or median), buffer-separated (separated from the adjacent general-purpose lanes only by a narrow buffer area created with longitudinal pavement markings), or contiguous (separated from the adjacent general-purpose lanes only by a lane line). Preferential lanes might allow continuous access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes or restrict access only to designated locations. Preferential lanes might be operated in a constant direction or operated as reversible lanes. Some reversible preferential lanes on a divided highway might be operated counter-flow to the direction of traffic on the immediately adjacent general-purpose lanes.

03 Preferential lanes might be operated on a 24-hour basis, for extended periods of the day, during peak travel periods only, during special events, or during other activities.

04 Open-road tolling lanes and toll plaza lanes that segregate traffic based on payment method are not considered preferential lanes. Chapter 2F contains information regarding signing of open-road tolling lanes and toll plaza lanes.

05 Managed lanes typically restrict access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes to designated locations only.

06 Under certain operational strategies, such as the occupancy requirement of an HOV lane changing in response to actual congestion levels, a managed lane is a special type of preferential lane (see Sections 2G.03 through 2G.07).

07 A managed lane operated on a real-time basis in response to changing conditions might be operated as an HOV lane for a period of time as needed to manage congestion levels.

08 Sections 2G.16 through 2G.18 contain additional information regarding signs for managed lanes that use tolling or pricing as a management strategy.

09 Section 9B.04 contains information regarding Preferential Lane signs for bike lanes.

### Section 2G.02 Sizes of Preferential and Managed Lane Signs

#### Standard:

01 **Except as provided in Section 2A.11, the sizes of preferential and managed lane signs that have standardized designs shall be as shown in Table 2G-1.**

#### Support:

02 Section 2A.11 contains information regarding the applicability of the various columns in Table 2G-1.

#### Option:

03 Signs larger than those shown in Table 2G-1 may be used (see Section 2A.11).

### Section 2G.03 Regulatory Signs for Preferential Lanes – General

#### Standard:

01 **When a preferential lane is established, the Preferential Lane regulatory signs (see Figure 2G-1) and pavement markings (see Chapter 3D) for these lanes shall be used to advise road users.**

#### Support:

02 Preferential Lane (~~R3-10 series~~ [R3-11 series](#) through R3-15 series, [R82B\(CA\) through R88\(CA\)](#), [R91\(CA\) series through R94\(CA\)](#), [SR50\(CA\) series](#) and the [SR60\(CA\) series](#)) regulatory signs consist of several different general types of regulatory signs as follows (see Figure 2G-1 and [Figure 2G-1\(CA\)](#)):

A. Vehicle Occupancy Definition signs define the vehicle occupancy requirements applicable to an HOV lane (such as “2 OR MORE PERSONS PER VEHICLE”) or types of vehicles not meeting the minimum occupancy requirement (such as motorcycles or ILEVVs) that are allowed to use an HOV lane (see Section 2G.04).

- B. Periods of Operation signs notify road users of the days and hours during which the preferential restrictions are in effect (see Section 2G.05).
- C. Preferential Lane Advance signs notify road users that a preferential lane restriction begins ahead (see Section 2G.06).
- D. Preferential Lane Ends signs notify users of the termination point of the preferential lane restrictions (see Section 2G.07).

**Standard:**

**03 Regulatory signs applicable only to a preferential lane shall be distinguished from regulatory signs applicable to general-purpose lanes by the inclusion of the applicable symbol(s) and/or word(s) (see Figure 2G-1 and Figure 2G-1(CA)).**

**Support:**

04 The symbol and word message displayed on a particular Preferential Lane regulatory sign will vary based on the specific type of allowed traffic and on other related operational constraints that have been established for a particular lane, such as an HOV lane, a bus lane, or a taxi lane.

**Option:**

05 Changeable message signs may supplement, substitute for, or be incorporated into static Preferential Lane regulatory signs where travel conditions change or where multiple types of operational strategies (such as variable occupancy requirements or vehicle types) are used and varied throughout the day or week, or on a real-time basis, to manage the use of, control of, or access to preferential lanes.

**Support:**

06 Figure 2G-1 illustrates examples of changeable messages incorporated into static Preferential Lane regulatory signs.

**Standard:**

**07 When changeable message signs (see Chapter 2L) are used as regulatory signs for preferential lanes, they shall be the required sign size and shall display the required letter height and legend format that corresponds to the type of roadway facility and design speed.**

**Guidance:**

08 *When Preferential Lane regulatory signs are used on conventional roads, the decision regarding whether to use a post-mounted or overhead version of a particular type of sign should be based on an engineering study that considers the available space, the existing signs for the adjacent general-purpose traffic lanes, roadway and traffic characteristics, the proximity to existing overhead signs, the ability to install overhead signs, and any other unique local factors.*

09 *If overhead regulatory signs applicable only to a preferential lane are located in approximately the same longitudinal position along the highway as overhead signs applicable only to the general-purpose lanes, the signs for the preferential lane should be separated laterally from the signs for the general-purpose lanes to the maximum extent practical to minimize conflicting information, while maintaining their visual relationship to the lanes below necessitated by specific legend or arrows indicating lane assignment.*

**Standard:**

**10 If used, overhead Preferential Lane (R3-13 series, R3-14 series, ~~and R3-15 series,~~ and R87(CA) series) regulatory signs shall be installed on the side of the roadway where the entrance to the preferential lane is located and any appropriate adjustments shall be made to the sign message.**

**Option:**

11 Where a median of sufficient width is available, the R3-13 series and R3-15 series signs may be post-mounted.

**Support:**

12 The sizes for Preferential Lane regulatory signs will differ to reflect the design speeds for each type of roadway facility. Table 2G-1 provides sizes for each type of roadway facility.

**Guidance:**

13 *The edges of Preferential Lane regulatory signs that are post-mounted on a median barrier should not project beyond the outer edges of the barrier, including in areas where lateral clearance is limited.*

**Option:**

14 Where lateral clearance is limited, Preferential Lane regulatory signs that are post-mounted on a median barrier and that are 72 inches or less in width may be skewed up to 45 degrees in order to fit within the barrier

width or may be mounted higher, such that the vertical clearance to the bottom of the sign, light fixture, or structural support, whichever is lowest, is not less than 14 feet above any portion of the pavement and shoulders.

**Standard:**

**15 Where lateral clearance is limited, Preferential Lane regulatory signs that are post-mounted on a median barrier and that are wider than 72 inches shall be mounted with a vertical clearance that complies with the provisions of Section 2A.18 for overhead mounting.**

*Guidance:*

*16 On conventional roadways, Preferential Lane regulatory sign spacing should be determined by engineering judgment based on speed, block length, distances from adjacent intersections, and other site-specific considerations.*

*Support:*

*17 Sections 2G.04 and 2G.05 contain provisions regarding the placement of Preferential Lane regulatory signs on freeways and expressways.*

**Standard:**

**18 The signs illustrated in Figure 2G-1 and Figure 2G-1(CA) that incorporate the diamond symbol shall be used exclusively with preferential lanes for high-occupancy vehicles to indicate the particular occupancy requirement and time restrictions applying to that lane. The signs illustrated in Figure 2G-1 that do not have a diamond symbol shall be used with preferential lanes that are not HOV lanes, but are designated for use by other types of vehicles (such as bus and/or taxi use).**

*Option:*

*19 Agencies may select from either the HOV abbreviation or the diamond symbol, or use both, to reference the HOV lane designation.*

**Standard:**

**20 When the diamond symbol (or HOV abbreviation) is used without text on the post-mounted Preferential Lane (~~R3-10 series~~, R3-11 series, and R3-12 series, **R93-2(CA)**, and **SR50-2(CA)**) regulatory signs, it shall be centered on the top line of the sign. When the diamond symbol (or HOV abbreviation) is used with associated text on the post-mounted Preferential Lane (~~R3-10 series~~, R3-11 series, and R3-12 series, **R82-1(CA)**, **R84-2(CA)**, **R86(CA) series**, **R88(CA)**, and **R91(CA) series**) regulatory signs, it shall appear to the left of the associated text. When the diamond symbol is used on the overhead Preferential Lane (R3-13, R3-13a, R3-14, and R3-14a, and **R87(CA) series**) regulatory signs, it shall appear in the top left quadrant. The diamond symbol for the R3-15, R3-15a, R3-15b, and R3-15c, and **SR50-1(CA)** signs shall appear on the left side of the sign. The diamond symbol shall not be used on the bus, taxi, or bicycle Preferential Lane signs.**

**21 Vehicle Occupancy Definition, Periods of Operation, and Preferential Lane Advance regulatory signs for HOV lanes shall display the minimum allowable vehicle occupancy requirement established for each HOV lane, displayed immediately after the word message HOV or the diamond symbol.**

*Support:*

*22 The agencies that own and operate HOV lanes have the authority and responsibility to determine how they are operated and the minimum occupancy requirements. Information about federal requirements for certain types of vehicles not meeting the minimum occupancy requirement to be eligible to use HOV lanes that receive Federal-aid program funding and about requirements associated with proposed significant changes to the operation of an existing HOV lane and certain vehicles are contained in the "Federal-Aid Highway Program Guidance on High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes" (see Section 1A.11).*

**Standard:**

**23 The provisions of Sections 2G.03 through 2G.07 regarding regulatory signs for Preferential lanes shall apply to managed lanes operated at all times or at certain times by varying vehicle occupancy requirements (HOV) or by using vehicle type restrictions as a congestion management strategy. Such managed lanes shall use changeable message signs or changeable message elements within static signs to display the appropriate regulatory sign messages only when they are in effect.**

**24 When certain types of vehicles (such as trucks) are prohibited from using a managed lane or when a managed lane is restricted to use by only certain types of vehicles during certain operational strategies, regulatory signs or regulatory panels within the appropriate guide signs that include changeable message elements shall be used to display the open/closed status of the managed lane for such vehicle types.**

**25 When the vehicle occupancy required for use of an HOV lane is varied as a part of a managed lane operational strategy, regulatory signs that include changeable message elements shall be used to display the required vehicle occupancy in effect.**

Support:

26 See Section 2G.17 for regulatory signs for managed lanes that use tolling or pricing as a congestion management strategy, either exclusively or with other management strategies.

27 Figures 2G-2 and 2G-3 illustrate the use of regulatory signs for the beginning, along the length, and at the end of contiguous or buffer-separated preferential lanes that provide continuous access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes.

Support:

28 For State highways, see Department of Transportation's High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Guidelines. See Section 1A.11 for information regarding this publication.

29 Refer to CVC 21655.5 for Exclusive- or Preferential-Use Lanes for High Occupancy Vehicles.

30 Refer to Figure 2G-1(CA) for Preferential Lane Regulatory Signs and Plaques.

### **Section 2G.04 Preferential Lane Vehicle Occupancy Definition Regulatory Signs (R3-10 Series and R3-13 Series)**

**Standard:**

**01 The R3-10, R3-13, and R3-13a, and R93-2(CA) Vehicle Occupancy Definition signs (see Figure 2G-1 and Figure 2G-1(CA)) shall be used where agencies determine that it is appropriate to provide a sign that defines the minimum occupancy of vehicles that are allowed to use an HOV lane.**

*Guidance:*

*02 The Inherently Low Emission Vehicle (ILEV) (R3-10a) sign (see Figure 2G-1) should be used when it is permissible for a properly labeled and certified ILEV, regardless of the number of occupants, to use an HOV lane. When used, the ILEV signs should be post mounted in advance of and at intervals along the HOV lane based upon engineering judgment and the placement of other Preferential Lane regulatory signs. The R3-10a sign is only applicable to HOV lanes and should not to be used with other preferential lane applications.*

Support:

03 ILEVs are defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as vehicles having no fuel vapor (hydrocarbon) emissions and are certified by the EPA as meeting the emissions standards and requirements specified in 40 CFR 88.311-93 and 40 CFR 88.312-93(e).

*Guidance:*

03a The VEHICLES WITH DMV CLEAN AIR DECALOK (R93A(CA)) sign should be used when it is permissible for a properly labeled and certified low or zero emission vehicle, regardless of the number of occupants, to use an HOV lane. Refer to CVC 21655.9.

03b The R93A(CA) should be used in advance of and at intervals along the HOV lane based on engineering judgment.

**Standard:**

**03c When used, the R93A(CA) sign shall be placed below the R93-2(CA) sign.**

**Option:**

03d The AUTOS/PICKUPS 2 SEATERS WITH 2 PERSONS OK (R91B(CA)) sign may be placed below the R93-2(CA) sign for preferential lane facilities at toll plazas that require 3 or more persons per vehicle but can also be utilized by vehicles designed by the manufacturer to be occupied by no more than 2 persons. Refer to Streets & Highways Code, Section 30101.8.

*Guidance:*

04 The legend format of the ~~R3-10~~ and R3-13 signs should have the following sequence:

A. Top Line: "HOV 2+ ONLY" (or 3+ or 4+ if appropriate)

B. Bottom Lines: "2 OR MORE PERSONS PER VEHICLE" (or 3 or 4 if appropriate)

05 The legend format of the R3-13a sign should have the following sequence:

A. Top Line: "HOV 2+ ONLY" (or 3+ or 4+ if appropriate)

B. Middle Lines: "2 OR MORE PERSONS PER VEHICLE" (or 3 or 4 if appropriate)

C. Bottom Lines: Times and days the occupancy restriction is in effect

05a *The legend format of the R93-2(CA) sign should have the following sequence:*

A. *Top Line: "HOV 2+ IS" (or 3+ or 4+ if appropriate)*

B. *Bottom Lines: "2 OR MORE PERSONS PER VEHICLE" (or 3 or 4 if appropriate)*

Support:

06 Section 2G.17 contains information regarding the legends of Vehicle Occupancy Definition signs for a priced managed lane that has an occupancy requirement for non-toll travel.

**Standard:**

07 **For barrier- or buffer-separated or contiguous preferential lanes where access between the preferential and general-purpose lanes is restricted to designated locations, an overhead Vehicle Occupancy Definition (R3-13 or R3-13a) sign shall be installed at least 1/2 mile in advance of the beginning of or initial entry point to an HOV lane. ~~These signs shall only be displayed in advance of the beginning of or initial entry point to HOV lanes.~~**

*Guidance:*

07a *The R3-13 or R3-13a sign should be installed at least 1/4 mile in advance of any intermediate access points or gaps in the barrier where vehicles are allowed to legally access the access-restricted preferential lanes.*

Option:

08 For barrier-separated HOV lanes, the sequence of a post-mounted Periods of Operation (R3-11a or R86(CA) series) sign followed by a post-mounted Vehicle Occupancy Definition (~~R3-10~~) (R93-2(CA)) sign may be located at intervals of approximately 1/2 mile along the length of the HOV lane, at intermediate entry points, and at ~~designated enforcement areas as defined by the operating agency~~ **downstream of direct access ramps.**

**Standard:**

09 **For buffer-separated or contiguous HOV lanes where access is restricted to designated locations, the sequence of a post-mounted Periods of Operation (R3-11a or R86(CA) series) sign followed by a post-mounted Vehicle Occupancy Definition (~~R3-10~~) (R93-2(CA)) sign shall be located at intervals not greater than 1/2 mile along the length of the access-restricted HOV lane, at designated gaps where vehicles are allowed to legally access the HOV lane, and ~~within designated enforcement areas as defined by the operating agency.~~ **downstream of direct access ramps.****

10 ~~For buffer-separated or contiguous HOV lanes where continuous access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes is provided, the sequence of a post-mounted Periods of Operation (R3-11a or R86(CA) series) sign followed by a post-mounted Vehicle Occupancy Definition (~~R3-10~~) (R93-2(CA)) sign, and ILEV (~~R3-10a~~) signs if appropriate, shall be located at intervals not greater than 1/2 mile along the length of the HOV lane.~~

*Guidance:*

11 *The signs within each Preferential Lane regulatory sign sequence should be separated by a minimum distance of 800 feet and a maximum distance of 1,000 feet.*

**Standard:**

12 **For all types of direct access ramps that provide access to or lead to HOV lanes, a post-mounted Vehicle Occupancy Definition (~~R3-10~~) (R93-2(CA)) sign, and an ILEV (~~R3-10a~~) sign if appropriate, shall be used at the beginning or initial entry point for the direct access ramp.**

Option:

12a *The (HOV) NO TRUCKS 3 AXLES OR MORE – NO VEHICLES WITH TRAILERS (R91-4(CA)) sign may be placed adjacent to the HOV lane, as needed, where incidences of trucks or vehicles with trailers in the HOV lanes have commonly occurred and on surface streets approaching direct access ramps that provide access to or lead to HOV lanes.*

## **Section 2G.05 Preferential Lane Periods of Operation Regulatory Signs (R3-11 Series and R3-14 Series)**

*Guidance:*

01 *The sizes of post-mounted Periods of Operation (R3-11 series, R86(CA) series, and SR60-3(CA) through SR60-7(CA)) signs should remain consistent to accommodate any manual addition or removal of a single line of text for each sign.*

**Support:**

<sup>02</sup> Consistent sign sizes are beneficial for agencies when ordering sign materials, as well as when making text changes to existing signs if changes occur to operating times or occupancy restrictions in the future. For example, the R3-11c sign has space for one line located below "24 HOURS" if an agency determines that it is appropriate to display additional information (such as "MON-FRI"), yet the R3-11c sign has the same dimensions as the other R3-11 series signs.

**Standard:**

<sup>03</sup> When used, the post-mounted Periods of Operation (R3-11 series, R86(CA) series, and SR60-3(CA) through SR60-7(CA)) signs shall be located adjacent to the preferential lane, and the overhead Periods of Operation (R3-14 series, R3-14c, R87-3(CA), SR60-8(CA) and SR60-9(CA)) signs shall be mounted directly over the lane.

<sup>04</sup> The legend format of the post-mounted Periods of Operation (R3-11 series, R86(CA) series, and SR60-3(CA) through SR60-7(CA)) signs shall have the following sequence:

- A. Top Lines: Lanes applicable, such as "RIGHT LANE" or "2 RIGHT LANES" or "THIS LANE"
- B. Middle Lines: Eligible uses, such as "HOV 2+ ONLY" (or 3+ or 4+ if appropriate) or "BUSES ONLY" or other applicable uses or eligible turning movements
- C. Bottom Lines: Applicable times and days, such as "7 AM – 9 AM" or "6:30 AM – 9:30 AM, MON-FRI" or "24 HOURS".

<sup>05</sup> The legend format of the overhead Periods of Operation (R3-14 series and R87-3(CA)) signs shall have the following sequence:

- A. Top Line: Eligible uses, such as "HOV 2+ ONLY" (or 3+ or 4+ if appropriate) or "BUSES ONLY" or other applicable uses or eligible turning movements
- B. Bottom Lines: Applicable times and days, with the time and day placed above the down arrow, such as "7 AM – 9 AM" or "6:30 AM – 9:30 AM, MON-FRI". (When the operating periods exceed the available line width, the hours and days of the week shall be stacked as shown for the R3-14a sign in Figure 2G-1.)

<sup>06</sup> For preferential lanes that are in effect on a full-time basis, either the full-time Periods of Operation (R3-11b and R3-14b R3-14b, R86-4(CA) and SR60-4(CA) through SR60-6(CA)) signs shall be used, or the legends of the part-time Periods of Operations (R3-11, R3-11a, R3-14, R3-14a) signs shall be modified to display the legend 24 HOURS. The R3-11a, R3-14, R3-14a, R3-14c, R86-3(CA), R87-3(CA), and SR60-3(CA) signs shall be used for preferential lanes that are in effect on a part-time basis.

<sup>07</sup> The full-time Periods of Operation (R3-14b R3-14c, R86-4(CA) and SR60-4(CA) through SR60-6(CA)) signs shall not be used where the preferential lane is in effect only on a part-time basis.

**Option:**

<sup>08</sup> Where additional movements are permitted from a preferential lane on an approach to an intersection, the format and words used in the legend in the middle lines on the post-mounted Periods of Operation (R3-11 series and R86(CA) series) signs and on the top line of the overhead Periods of Operation (R3-14 series and R87-3(CA)) signs may be modified to accommodate the permitted movements (such as "HOV 2+ AND RIGHT TURNS ONLY").

<sup>08a</sup> The Mandatory/Optional HOV Movement Lane Control (R94(CA)) sign may be installed on local streets when one of the mandatory turn lanes (left or right) is designated as a HOV only lane.

<sup>09</sup> A MOTORCYCLES ALLOWED (R3-11P) plaque may be used where motorcycles, regardless of the number of occupants, are allowed to use an HOV lane.

**Standard:**

<sup>10</sup> ~~If used, the MOTORCYCLES ALLOWED plaque shall be mounted below a post-mounted Preferential Lane Periods of Operation (R3-11, R3-11a, or R3-11c) sign.~~

<sup>11</sup> For all barrier- or buffer-separated or contiguous preferential lanes where access is restricted to designated locations, an overhead Periods of Operation (R3-14 series, R87-3(CA), SR60-8(CA) or SR60-9(CA)) sign shall be used at the beginning or initial entry point, and at any intermediate entry points or gaps in the barrier where vehicles are allowed to legally access the access-restricted preferential lanes. For all barrier-separated and buffer-separated preferential lanes, post-mounted Periods of Operation (R3-11 series, R86(CA) series and SR60-3(CA) through SR60-7(CA)) signs shall be used only as a supplement to the overhead

**signs at the beginning or initial entry point, or at any intermediate entry points or gaps in the barrier or buffer.**

**12 For ~~buffer-separated or~~ contiguous preferential lanes where continuous access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes is provided, including those where a preferential lane is added to the roadway (see Figure 2G-2 for HOV lanes) and those where a general-purpose lane transitions into a preferential lane (see Figure 2G-3 for HOV lanes), an overhead Periods of Operation (R3-14 series or R87-3(CA)) sign shall be used at the beginning or initial entry point of the preferential lane.**

*Guidance:*

**Option:**

**13 Overhead (R3-14 series, R87-3(CA), SR60-8(CA) and SR60-9(CA)) or post-mounted (R3-11 series, R86(CA) series and SR60-3(CA) through SR60-7(CA)) Periods of Operation signs ~~should~~ may be installed at periodic intervals along the length of a contiguous ~~or buffer-separated~~ preferential lane where continuous access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes is provided.**

**Option:**

**14 Additional overhead (R3-14 series, R87-3(CA), SR60-8(CA) and SR60-9(CA)) or post-mounted (R3-11 series, R86(CA) series and SR60-3(CA) through SR60-7(CA)) Periods of Operation signs may be provided along the length of any type of preferential lane.**

**15 On conventional roads, the overhead Periods of Operation (R3-14 series, R87-3(CA), SR60-8(CA) and SR60-9(CA)) signs may be installed at the beginning or entry points and/or at intermediate points along preferential lanes in any geometric configuration.**

**Standard:**

**16 For all types of direct access ramps that provide access to or lead to preferential lanes, ~~a post-mounted an overhead~~ Periods of Operation (R3-11 series R87-4(CA) or R87-5(CA)) sign shall be used at the beginning or initial entry point of the direct access ramp.**

**Option:**

**17 ~~For direct access ramps to preferential lanes, an overhead Periods of Operation (R3-14 series) sign may be used at the beginning or initial entry point to supplement the required post-mounted signs.~~**

**18 Lane-use control signals (see Chapter 4M) may be used at access points to preferential lanes to indicate that a ramp or access roadway leading to the preferential lane or facility, or one or more specific lanes of the facility, are open or closed (see Figure 2G-14).**

## **Section 2G.06 Preferential Lane Advance Regulatory Signs (R3-12, R3-12e, R3-12f, R3-15, R3-15a, and R3-15d)**

*Guidance:*

**Standard:**

**01 The Preferential Lane Advance (R3-12, R3-12f, R3-15, and R3-15d, SR60-1(CA) and SR60-2(CA)) signs ~~should~~ shall be used for advance notification of a ~~barrier-separated, buffer-separated, or~~ contiguous preferential lane that is added to the general-purpose lanes **and continuous access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes is provided** (see Figure ~~2G-12~~ 2G-2).**

**02 The Preferential Lane Advance (R3-12e and R3-15a) signs ~~should~~ shall be used for advance notification of a general-purpose lane that becomes a preferential lane **and continuous access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes is provided** (see Figure ~~2G-13~~ 2G-3).**

**Option:**

**03 The legends on the R3-12f and R3-15d signs may be modified to suit the type of preferential lane.**

*Guidance:*

**04 On conventional roads, for general-purpose lanes that become preferential lanes, a post-mounted (R3-12e) or overhead (R3-15a) Preferential Lane Advance sign should be installed in advance of the beginning of or initial entry point to the preferential lane at a distance determined by engineering judgment based on speed, traffic characteristics, and other site-specific considerations. The distance selected should provide adequate opportunity for ineligible vehicles to vacate the lane prior to the beginning of the restriction.**

*05 On freeways and expressways, for general-purpose lanes that become preferential lanes, an overhead Preferential Lane Advance (R3-15a) sign should be installed at least 1 mile in advance of the beginning of the preferential lane restriction.*

Option:

*06 Additional post-mounted or overhead Preferential Lane Advance signs may be placed farther in advance of or closer to the beginning or initial entry points to a preferential lane.*

**Standard:**

**07 A Specific Hours/Days (R82A(CA) or R82B(CA)) Plaque shall be used to designate the periods of operation for preferential lanes that operate on a part-time basis.**

Guidance:

*08 The Specific Hours/Days plaque, when used, should be placed below the R3-12, R3-12e, R3-12f, SR60-1(CA), and SR60-2(CA) signs.*

### **Section 2G.07 Preferential Lane Ends Regulatory Signs (R3-12a, R3-12b, R3-12c, R3-12d, R3-12g, R3-12h, R3-15b, R3-15c, and R3-15e)**

**Standard:**

**01 A post-mounted Preferential Lane Ends (R3-12b or R3-12h) sign shall be installed at least 1/2 mile in advance of the termination of a preferential lane.**

**02 Except as provided in Paragraph 6, a post-mounted Preferential Lane Ends (R3-12a or R3-12g or SR60-7(CA)) sign shall be installed at the point where a preferential lane and restriction end and traffic must merge into the general-purpose lanes.**

**03 A post-mounted Preferential Lane Ends (R3-12d) sign shall be installed at least 1/2 mile in advance of the point where a preferential lane restriction ends and the lane becomes a general-purpose lane.**

**04 Except as provided in Paragraph 7, a post-mounted Preferential Lane Ends (R3-12c) sign shall be installed at the point where a preferential lane restriction ends and the lane becomes a general-purpose lane.**

Option:

*05 The legends on the R3-12g and R3-15e signs may be modified to suit the type of preferential lane.*

*06 An overhead Preferential Lane Ends (R3-15b or R3-15e) sign may be installed instead of or in addition to a post-mounted R3-12a or R3-12g sign at the point where a preferential lane and restriction ends and traffic must merge into the general-purpose lanes.*

*07 An overhead Preferential Lane Ends (R3-15c) sign may be installed instead of or in addition to a post-mounted R3-12c sign at the point where the preferential lane restriction ends and the lane becomes a general-purpose lane.*

### **Section 2G.08 Warning Signs on Median Barriers for Preferential Lanes**

Option:

*01 When a warning sign applicable only to a preferential lane is installed on a median barrier with limited lateral clearance to the adjacent travel lanes or shoulders, the warning sign may have a vertical rectangular shape. For a High Occupancy Vehicle lane, such signs may be used instead of using the HOV Plaque (W16-11P) (see Section 2G.09) with a standard diamond-shaped warning sign.*

**Standard:**

**02 When a vertical rectangular-shaped warning sign applicable only to a preferential lane is installed on a median barrier, the top portion of the sign shall be comprised of a white symbol or legend denoting the type of preferential lane (such as the diamond symbol for HOV or the legend BUS LANE) on a black background with a white border, and the bottom portion of the sign shall be comprised of the standard word message or symbol of the standard warning sign as a black legend on a yellow background with a black border (see Figure 2G-4).**

Guidance:

*03 Where lateral clearance is limited, such as when a post-mounted warning sign applicable only to a preferential lane is installed on a median barrier, the edges of the sign should not project beyond the outer edges of the barrier.*

**Option:**

<sup>04</sup> Where lateral clearance is limited, warning signs applicable only to a preferential lane that are post-mounted on a median barrier and that are 72 inches or less in width may be skewed up to 45 degrees in order to fit within the barrier width or may be mounted higher, such that the vertical clearance to bottom of the sign, light fixture, or its structural support, whichever is lowest, is not less than 14 feet above any portion of the pavement and shoulders.

**Standard:**

<sup>05</sup> **Where lateral clearance is limited, Preferential Lane warning signs that are post-mounted on a median barrier and that are wider than 72 inches shall be mounted with a vertical clearance that complies with the provisions of Section 2A.18 for overhead mounting.**

*Guidance:*

<sup>06</sup> *The HOV Lane Reduction (W11-1(CA)) sign (see Figure 2G-4(CA)) should be used to warn of a reduction in the number of HOV lanes.*

<sup>07</sup> *The HOV Merge (W59-1(CA)) sign (see Figure 2G-4(CA)) should be used in advance of locations where HOV lanes converge. This includes HOV direct access ramps where high speeds and volumes prevail and merging or weaving must be accomplished in a relatively short distance.*

<sup>08</sup> *The HOV Advisory Exit (Ramp) Speed (W72B(CA)) sign when used, should be placed on the left of an HOV drop ramp or freeway to freeway connector to advise motorists of the speed at which the drop ramp or freeway to freeway connector can be comfortably negotiated.*

<sup>09</sup> *The HOV THRU TRAFFIC MERGE LEFT (RIGHT) (W74-1(CA)) sign (see Figure 2G-4(CA)) should be used to inform motorists that the outside or inside lane of an HOV facility with two or more directional HOV lanes is being dropped at the next exit and through HOV traffic must merge into the adjacent HOV lane. This sign should not be used for a lane reduction.*

**Option**

<sup>10</sup> The HOV Lane Selection SW54(CA) and SW54-1(CA) signs (see Figure 2G-4(CA)) may be used as an advance warning that motorists will have to choose whether or not to be in an HOV lane. These signs may be used where geometrics make entrapment likely or where there is a history of vehicles being entrapped in an HOV lane.

*Guidance:*

<sup>11</sup> *The SW54(CA) and SW54-1(CA) signs should not be used at the entrance of an HOV lane.*

<sup>12</sup> *The SW54C(CA) sign (see Figure 2G-4(CA)) should be used in conjunction with the Lane Selection sign so that motorists can determine if they are eligible to use the HOV lane.*

**Section 2G.09 High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Plaque (W16-11P)**

**Option:**

<sup>01</sup> In situations where there is a need to warn drivers in an HOV lane of a specific condition, a HOV (W16-11P) plaque (see Figure 2G-4) may be used above a warning sign. The HOV plaque may be used to differentiate a warning sign specific for HOV lanes when the sign is also visible to traffic on the adjacent general-purpose roadway. Among the warning signs that may be possible applications of the HOV plaque are the Advisory Exit Speed, Added Lane, and Merge signs.

<sup>02</sup> The diamond symbol may be used instead of the word message HOV on the W16-11P plaque. When appropriate, the words LANE or ONLY may be used on this plaque.

**Support:**

<sup>03</sup> Section 2G.08 contains information regarding warning signs that can be mounted on barriers for HOV or other types of preferential lanes.

**Section 2G.10 Preferential Lane Guide Signs – General**

**Support:**

<sup>01</sup> Preferential lanes are used on freeways, expressways, and conventional roads. Except as otherwise provided, Sections 2G.10 through 2G.15 apply only to guide signs for preferential lanes on freeways and expressways.

*Guidance:*

<sup>02</sup> *On conventional roads, guide signs applicable only to preferential lanes are ordinarily not needed, but if used they should comply with the provisions for guide signs in Chapter 2D and any principles for Preferential*

*Lane guide signs in Sections 2G.10 through 2G.15 that engineering judgment finds to be appropriate for the conditions.*

**Support:**

<sup>03</sup> Consistency in signs and pavement markings for preferential lanes plays a critical role in building public awareness, understanding, and acceptance, and makes enforcement more effective.

<sup>04</sup> Additional guidance and standards related to the designation, operational considerations, signs, pavement markings, and other considerations for preferential lanes is provided in Sections 2G.03 through 2G.07, and 2G.09, and Chapter 3D.

**Guidance:**

<sup>05</sup> *The appropriate combinations of pavement markings and standard overhead and post-mounted regulatory, warning, and guide signs for a specific preferential lane application should be selected based on an engineering study.*

<sup>06</sup> *If overhead signs applicable only to a preferential lane are located in approximately the same longitudinal position along the highway as overhead signs applicable only to the general-purpose lanes, the signs for the preferential lane should be separated laterally from the signs for the general-purpose lanes to the maximum extent practical to minimize conflicting information.*

<sup>07</sup> *The Preferential Lane signs should be designed and located to avoid overloading the road user. Based on the importance of the sign, regulatory signs should be given priority over guide signs. The order of priority of guide signs should be Advance Guide, Preferential Lane Entrance Direction, and finally Preferential Lane Exit Destination supplemental guide signs.*

**Standard:**

<sup>08</sup> **Signs applicable only to a preferential lane shall be distinguished from signs applicable to general-purpose lanes by the inclusion of the applicable symbol(s) and/or word(s).**

**Support:**

<sup>09</sup> The symbol and/or word message that appears on a particular guide sign applicable only to a preferential lane will vary based on the specific type of allowed traffic and on other related operational constraints that have been established for a particular lane, such as an HOV lane, a bus lane, or a taxi lane.

**Standard:**

<sup>10</sup> **For HOV lanes, the diamond symbol shall appear on each Advance Guide sign, Preferential Lane Entrance Direction sign, and Preferential Lane Entrance Gore sign, as shown in Figures 2G-5 through 2G-7 for the designated entry and exit points for barrier- and buffer-separated geometric configurations and direct access ramps to or from such lanes. The diamond symbol shall not be used with preferential lanes for other types of traffic, such as bus lanes or taxi lanes.**

<sup>11</sup> **Signing for an HOV lane that is managed by means of varying the occupancy requirement in response to changing conditions shall also comply with these provisions.**

<sup>12</sup> **The diamond symbol shall be displayed in the legend of each Preferential Lane guide sign at the designated entry and exit points for all types of HOV lanes (including barrier- and buffer-separated, contiguous, and direct access ramps) in order to alert motorists that there is a minimum allowable vehicle occupancy requirement for vehicles to use the HOV lanes. Guide signs shall not display the occupancy requirement for the preferential lane.**

<sup>13</sup> **A combination of guide and regulatory signs shall be used in advance of and at the initial entry point and all intermediate entry points from general-purpose lanes or facilities to contiguous, barrier-separated, and buffer-separated preferential lanes where access between the preferential and general-purpose lanes is restricted to designated locations. The regulatory signs shall comply with the provisions of Sections 2G.03 through 2G.07.**

<sup>14</sup> **Regulatory signs alone shall be used in advance of, at the beginning of, and at periodic intervals along contiguous or buffer-separated preferential lanes that provide continuous access between the adjacent general-purpose lanes and the preferential lane (see Figures 2G-12 and 2G-13). The design and placement of the regulatory signs shall comply with the provisions of Sections 2G.03 through 2G.07.**

<sup>15</sup> **Except as otherwise provided in Sections 2G.10 through 2G.13, guide signs applicable to a preferential lane with a vehicle occupancy requirement shall be distinguished from those applicable to general-purpose lanes by displaying the white diamond symbol on a black background at the left-hand edge of these signs.**

Option:

<sup>16</sup> When post-mounted guide signs applicable only to a preferential lane are installed on a median barrier with limited lateral clearance to the adjacent travel lanes or shoulders, the guide signs may have a vertical rectangular shape.

**Standard:**

<sup>17</sup> **When vertical rectangular shaped guide signs applicable only to a preferential lane are installed on a median barrier, the top portion of the signs shall be comprised of the applicable white symbol or white word message that identifies the type of preferential lane (such as the diamond symbol for an HOV lane) on a black background with a white border, and the bottom portion of the sign shall be comprised of the appropriate guide sign legend on a green background with a white border (see Figures 2G-3, 2G-6, and 2G-7).**

*Guidance:*

<sup>18</sup> *Where lateral clearance is limited, such as when a post-mounted Preferential Lane guide sign is installed on a median barrier, the edges of the sign should not project beyond the outer edges of the barrier.*

Option:

<sup>19</sup> Where lateral clearance is limited, Preferential Lane guide signs that are 72 inches or less in width may be skewed up to 45 degrees in order to fit within the barrier width or may be mounted higher, such that the vertical clearance to the bottom of the sign, light fixture, or its structural support, whichever is lowest, is not less than 14 feet above any portion of the pavement and shoulders.

**Standard:**

<sup>20</sup> **Where lateral clearance is limited, Preferential Lane guide signs that are post-mounted on a median barrier and that are wider than 72 inches shall be mounted with a vertical clearance that complies with the provisions of Section 2A.18 for overhead mounting.**

Option:

<sup>21</sup> Lane-use control signals (see Chapter 4M) may be used at access points to preferential lanes to indicate that a ramp or access roadway leading to or from the preferential lane or facility, or one or more specific lanes of the facility, are open or closed.

<sup>22</sup> Changeable message signs may supplement, substitute for, or be incorporated into static guide signs where travel conditions change or where multiple types of operational strategies (such as variable occupancy requirements, vehicle types, or pricing policies) are used and varied throughout the day or week to manage the use of, control of, or access to preferential lanes.

**Standard:**

<sup>23</sup> **When changeable message signs (see Chapter 2L) are used as guide signs for preferential lanes, they shall be the required sign size and shall display the required letter height and legend format that corresponds to the type of roadway facility and design speed.**

<sup>24</sup> **Advance Guide signs, Preferential Lane Entrance Direction signs, and Preferential Lane Entrance Gore signs for the initial entry point and intermediate entry points into a preferential lane from the general-purpose lanes on the same designated route shall not identify the entry point as an exit by using the word "EXIT" on the sign or on a plaque.**

*Guidance:*

<sup>25</sup> *Advance Guide signs and Preferential Lane Entrance Direction signs for initial and intermediate entry points into a preferential lane should use the word "ENTRANCE," such as "HOV LANE ENTRANCE" (see Figures 2G-5 and 2G-6) to convey the fact that vehicles are not leaving the designated route.*

<sup>26</sup> *Preferential Lane Entrance Gore signs (see Figure 2G-7) at the initial entry point to a preferential lane should use the word "ENTRANCE." Preferential Lane Entrance Gore signs at intermediate entry points to a barrier-separated preferential lane where the sign would be located immediately adjacent to and directly viewed by traffic in the preferential lane should not use the word "ENTRANCE."*

**Standard:**

<sup>27</sup> **When the entry point is on the left-hand side of the general-purpose lanes, a LEFT (E1-5aP) plaque (see Figure 2E-22) shall be added to the top left edge of the Advance Guide and Preferential Lane Entrance Direction signs. The LEFT plaque shall not be used on a preferential lane regulatory sign.**

## **Section 2G.11 Guide Signs for Initial Entry Points to Preferential Lanes**

### **Standard:**

**01 Except where a ~~buffer-separated~~ or contiguous preferential lane is added or where a general-purpose lane becomes a ~~buffer-separated~~ or contiguous preferential lane, and provides continuous access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes as illustrated in Figures 2G-2 and 2G-3, an Advance Guide sign shall be provided at least 1/2 mile prior to the initial entry point to all types of preferential lanes in any type of geometric configuration. A Preferential Lane Entrance Direction sign shall also be provided at the initial entry point. Advance Guide and Preferential Lane Entrance Direction signs for such entry points shall not include the word "EXIT" (see Section 2G.10).**

### *Guidance:*

#### **Option:**

**02 An Advance Guide sign ~~should~~ may also be installed and located approximately 1 mile in advance of the initial entry point to a preferential lane that restricts access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes to designated locations.**

#### **Option:**

**03 An Advance Guide sign may also be installed and located approximately 2 miles in advance of the initial entry point to a preferential lane that restricts access with the adjacent general-purpose lanes to designated locations.**

### **Standard:**

**04 For barrier-separated, buffer-separated, or contiguous preferential lanes where entry is restricted to only designated points, the Advance Guide and Preferential Lane Entrance Direction signs shall be mounted overhead.**

### *Guidance:*

#### **Option:**

**05 Preferential Lane Exit Destination guide signs, identifying final destination and downstream exit locations accessible from the preferential lane (see Figures 2G-8, ~~2G-13~~, 2G-14, and 2G-16), ~~should~~ may be installed in advance of the initial entry points to access-restricted preferential lanes (such as barrier- and buffer-separated).**

### *Guidance:*

*These Preferential Lane Exit Destination guide signs should be located based on the priority of the message, the available space, the existing signs on adjacent general-purpose traffic lanes, roadway and traffic characteristics, the proximity to existing overhead signs, the ability to install overhead signs, and other unique local factors.*

### **Standard:**

**06 Advance destination guide signs for preferential lanes shall include an upper section displaying a black legend that includes the type of preferential lane and the word "EXITS," such as "HOV EXITS," on a white background. For preferential lanes that incorporate a vehicle occupancy requirement, the white diamond symbol on a black background shall be displayed at the left edge of this upper section (see Figure 2G-8). Advance destination guide signs for preferential lanes shall only list direct exits from the preferential lane to another highway.**

### **Support:**

**07 Figure 2G-8 shows an example of signs for the initial entry point to a preferential lane.**

## **Section 2G.12 Guide Signs for Intermediate Entry Points to Preferential Lanes**

### **Standard:**

**01 For barrier-separated, buffer-separated, and contiguous preferential lanes where entry is restricted only to designated points, an overhead Preferential Lane Entrance Direction sign shall be provided at intermediate entry points to the preferential lane from the general-purpose lanes.**

### *Guidance:*

*02 For barrier- and buffer-separated preferential lanes where intermediate entry from the general-purpose lanes is provided via a separate lane or ramp (see Figure 2G-9), at least one Advance Guide sign should be provided in addition to the Preferential Lane Entrance Direction sign.*

*03 For access-restricted preferential lanes where intermediate entrance and egress are at the same designated access location, the Preferential Lane Entrance Direction sign should be located between 1/2 and 1/4 of the length of the designated entry area, as measured from the downstream end of the entry area (see Figure 2G-10).*

**Standard:**

**04 The Advance Guide signs, if used for intermediate entry points to a preferential lane from the general purpose lanes, shall be overhead.**

**Option:**

*05 Advance Guide signs may be provided at approximately 1/2 mile, 1 mile, and 2 miles in advance of intermediate entry points from the general-purpose lanes to a preferential lane.*

**Standard:**

**06 Advance Guide and Preferential Lane Entrance Direction signs for intermediate entry points shall not include the word "EXIT" (see Section 2G.10).**

*Guidance:*

**Option:**

*07 Exit Destination guide signs, identifying the final destination and downstream exit locations accessible from the preferential lane, ~~should~~ may be installed in advance of intermediate entry points from the general-purpose lanes to access-restricted preferential lanes.*

**Support:**

*08 Section 2G.11 contains information on the design and placement of Preferential Lane Exit Destination guide signs.*

*09 Figures 2G-9 and 2G-10 show examples of signs for various geometric configurations of intermediate entry to a barrier- or buffer-separated preferential lane where access is restricted to designated locations.*

### **Section 2G.13 Guide Signs for Egress from Preferential Lanes to General-Purpose Lanes**

**Standard:**

**01 For barrier-separated, buffer-separated, and contiguous preferential lanes where egress is restricted only to designated points, post-mounted Advance Guide and post-mounted Intermediate Egress Direction signs (see Figure 2G-11) shall be installed in the median or on median barriers that separate two directions of traffic prior to and at the intermediate exit points from the preferential lanes to the general-purpose lanes (see Figure 2G-9).**

**02 The legends of these signs shall refer to the next exit or exits from the general-purpose lanes by displaying the appropriate destination information, exit number(s), or both. The Intermediate Egress Direction signs for egress from the preferential lanes to the general-purpose lanes shall not refer to the egress as an exit.**

**Support:**

*03 Section 2G.10 contains information on the design of post-mounted guide signs applicable to a preferential lane when installed on a median barrier. Figures 2G-9 and 2G-12 show examples of signs for various geometric configurations of intermediate egress from a barrier- or buffer-separated preferential lane where access is restricted to designated locations.*

*Guidance:*

*04 Where two or more adjacent preferential lanes are present in a single direction, consideration should be given to the use of overhead guide signs to display the information related to egress from the preferential lanes.*

*05 For barrier-separated and buffer-separated preferential lanes where egress from a preferential lane to the general-purpose lanes is restricted only to designated points via a separate lane or ramp, the Advance Guide and Intermediate Egress Direction signs for the egress should be mounted overhead and a Pull-Through sign should be mounted with the Intermediate Egress Direction sign (see Figure 2G-12).*

**Standard:**

**06 For preferential lanes that incorporate a vehicle occupancy requirement, the design of the overhead Advance Guide and Egress Direction signs for intermediate egress from the preferential lanes to the general-purpose lanes shall display a white diamond symbol on a black background at the left-hand edge of the signs.**

07 **The design of Pull-Through signs when used in conjunction with an Egress Direction sign at an intermediate egress from the preferential lanes to the general-purpose lanes shall be distinguished from those applicable to general-purpose lanes by inclusion of an upper section with the applicable black legend on a white background, such as HOV LANE. For preferential lanes that incorporate a vehicle occupancy requirement, the white diamond symbol on a black background shall be displayed at the left-hand edge of this upper section.**

### **Section 2G.14 Guide Signs for Direct Entrances to Preferential Lanes from Another Highway**

#### **Standard:**

01 **For direct access ramps to preferential lanes from a transit facility (such as a park - ride lot or a transit station or terminal) that is accessible from surface streets, advance guide signs shall be provided along the adjoining surface streets to direct traffic into and through the transit facility to the preferential lane (see Figure 2G-13).**

01a **The HOV Advance Lane Assignment (G20-9(CA)) sign (see Figure 2G-6(CA)) shall be used on a multilane cross street approaching a direct access ramp to an HOV lane to direct traffic into the proper lane to access the ramp.**

01b **The HOV LANE ENTRANCE (G92-1(CA)) sign (see Figure 2G-6(CA)) shall be used at the entrance to a direct access ramp to an HOV lane. The G92-1(CA) sign is similar to the FREEWAY ENTRANCE (G92 (CA)) sign and shall be installed similarly. Refer to Section 2A18 and 2B.41.**

#### **Support:**

02 **Figure 2G-14 2G-13 provides examples of recommended uses and layouts of signs for HOV lanes for direct access ramps, park - ride lots, and access from surface streets.**

### **Section 2G.15 Guide Signs for Direct Exits from Preferential Lanes to Another Highway**

#### **Standard:**

01 **For contiguous preferential lanes on the left-hand side of the roadway, Advance Guide signs, Exit Direction signs, and Exit Gore signs (see Figure 2G-14 and Figure 2G-14(CA)) specifically applicable to the preferential lanes shall be used for exits to direct access ramps, such as HOV lane ramps (see Figure 2G-15 2G-15(CA)) or ramps to park - ride facilities.**

02 **The design of Advance Guide, Exit Direction, and Pull-Through signs for direct exits from preferential lanes shall be distinguished from those applicable to general-purpose lanes by inclusion of an upper section with the applicable black legend on a white background, such as HOV LANE (for Pull-Through signs) or HOV EXIT (for Advance Guide and Exit Direction signs). For preferential lanes that incorporate a vehicle occupancy requirement, the white diamond symbol on a black background shall be displayed at the left-hand edge of this upper section (see Figures 2G-15 2G-15(CA) and 2G-16).**

02a **The HOV Supplemental Destination (G86-15(CA)) and HOV Advance Guide (G83-6(CA)) signs shall be used for Advance Guide signs for exits to direct access ramps from an HOV lane.**

02b **The HOV Exit Direction (G85-12(CA)) sign shall be used as the Exit Direction sign for exits to direct access ramps from an HOV lane.**

#### **Option:**

02c **If an auxiliary lane is not used in advance of the direct access ramp, the G83-6(CA) sign and the W61C(CA) panel on the G85-12(CA) sign may be eliminated.**

#### **Standard:**

02d **The HOV Exit with Arrow (E8-4) sign shall be used as the Exit Gore sign for exits to direct access ramps from an HOV lane.**

#### **Guidance:**

02e *The arrow on the E8-4 sign should be aligned to approximately the angle of departure and should be positioned to avoid confusion that the exit may serve general purpose traffic.*

03 *Advance Guide ~~and Exit Direction~~ signs for exits to direct access ramps from a preferential lane should be mounted overhead. A Pull-Through sign should be used with the Exit Direction sign at exits to direct access ramps.*

#### **Standard:**

03a **Exit Direction signs for exits to direct access ramps from a preferential lane shall be mounted overhead.**

**04 Post-mounted guide signs in a vertical rectangular shape installed on a median barrier shall not be used for the Advance Guide and Exit Direction signs for exits to direct access ramps.**

**05 Because direct access ramps for preferential lanes at interchanges connecting two freeways are typically left-hand side exits and typically have design speeds similar to the preferential lane, overhead Advance Guide signs and overhead Exit Direction signs shall be provided in advance of and at the entry point to each freeway-to-freeway preferential lane ramp (see Figure 2G-16).**

*Guidance:*

*06 The use of guide signs for preferential lanes at freeway interchanges should comply with the provisions for guide signs established in this Manual.*

**Support:**

**07 Guide signs for direct access ramps for preferential lanes at interchanges connecting two freeways are similar to those for a connecting ramp between two freeway facilities.**

## **Section 2G.16 Signs for Priced Managed Lanes – General**

**Support:**

**01 A priced managed lane is a managed lane that employs tolling or pricing, typically through electronic toll collection, to manage congestion levels and maintain a certain level of service for users of the facility. A priced managed facility typically provides a less congested alternative to adjacent lanes along the same designated route, or to a nearby facility, that experience recurring congestion during peak periods. A priced managed lane might allow non-toll travel by certain vehicles based on occupancy or other criteria. A variety of operational management strategies might be used in conjunction with tolling or pricing.**

**02 The number and combination of operational strategies that are applied to a managed lane to manage congestion or improve efficiency might be practically limited by the amount of information that can be legibly displayed on signs or in signing sequences and still be readily comprehended by road users. Such factors to consider when evaluating alternatives for managed lanes are locations of signs for general-purpose interchanges and for other roadway conditions, the number of intermediate access points between the managed and general-purpose lanes and the need to repeat the operational information, and the distance over which a signing sequence that displays all of the eligibility requirements can be displayed.**

**03 Because managed lanes have the capability to employ a variety of operational strategies on a changing basis, it is not practical to assign a naming convention to such lanes for the purpose of signing based on the specific operational management strategies, as is more readily accomplished with other types of preferential lanes, such as HOV, Bus, or Bike lanes. Instead, the various requirements, restrictions, and eligibility criteria are more appropriately conveyed through a sequence of regulatory and guide signs with a more encompassing designation for the purpose of providing directional information.**

**04 As priced managed lanes become more prevalent as an operational strategy, it will be important to establish a uniform naming convention to distinguish those lanes that are an alternative to travel on adjacent general-purpose lanes on the same designated route to effectively communicate to motorists the range of basic requirements for similar facilities in different regions.**

**Standard:**

**05 Priced managed lanes that are adjacent to general-purpose lanes along the same designated route shall be signed using the legend EXPRESS or EXPRESS LANE(S). This provision shall apply when any of the following operational strategies is used for a managed lane:**

- A. All users of the managed lane are charged a fixed or variable toll;**
- B. General-purpose traffic using the managed lane is charged a fixed or variable toll, but HOV traffic is allowed to travel without being charged a toll on either a full- or part-time basis;**
- C. General-purpose traffic using the managed lane is charged a fixed or variable toll, but HOV traffic is offered a discounted toll on either a full- or part-time basis; or**
- D. General-purpose traffic using the managed lane is charged a fixed or variable toll, but HOV traffic registered with a local program travels at a discounted toll or without being charged a toll on either a full- or part-time basis (a transponder or other identifier is typically required of HOVs to indicate registration in conjunction with electronic or visual enforcement and verification of vehicle occupancy).**

**06 The legends EXPRESS and EXPRESS LANE(S) shall not be used on signs for entrances to highways on which all lanes are managed and there are no adjacent general-purpose lanes on the same designated route. The legends EXPRESS and EXPRESS LANE(S) shall not be used on signs for a managed ramp connection that provides an alternative to a general-purpose ramp connection (see Figure 2F-7), except where the ramp leads directly to a managed lane as described in Section 2G.14. The legends EXPRESS and EXPRESS LANE(S) shall not be used on signs for open-road tolling lanes that bypass a conventional toll plaza (see Chapter 2F).**

**07 The diamond symbol shall be reserved exclusively for preferential lanes whose operational strategy is occupancy-based only (see Sections 2G.03 through 2G.14) and shall not be used to designate a managed lane in which other operational strategies, such as tolling and pricing, are employed to allow general-purpose traffic to use the lane.**

## **Section 2G.17 Regulatory Signs for Priced Managed Lanes**

### **Standard:**

**01 Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the provisions of Sections 2G.03 through 2G.07 regarding regulatory signs for Preferential lanes shall apply to priced managed lanes operated at all times or at certain times with a toll payment requirement of some or all vehicles to use the lane(s). Such managed lanes shall use changeable message signs or changeable message elements within static signs to display the appropriate regulatory sign messages only when they are in effect.**

**02 Regulatory signs for preferential lanes shall be appropriately modified for adaptation to a priced managed lane, where applicable, as shown in Figure 2G-17.**

**03 Regulatory signs shall be used to indicate the toll charged. If the toll varies, regulatory signs that include changeable message elements, such as the R3-48 and R3-48a signs that are shown in Figure 2G-17, shall be used to display the actual toll amount in effect at any given time.**

**04 When only vehicles with a registered ETC account are allowed to use a managed lane where some or all vehicles are charged a toll, regulatory signs to indicate such a restriction shall be provided and shall incorporate the pictograph adopted by the toll facility's ETC payment system and the word ONLY (see Section 2G.18 for the incorporation of such regulatory legends into the guide signs for the entrances to such facilities). The display of the ETC system pictograph shall comply with the provisions of Sections 2F.03 and 2F.04 as shown in Figures 2G-17 and 2G-18.**

**05 When HOV traffic is allowed to use a priced managed lane without paying a toll and registration in a local program is not required to receive the toll exemption, the Vehicle Occupancy Definition (R3-10 (R93-2(CA)) or R3-13) signs (see Section 2G.04) shall be modified to delete the diamond symbol to create priced managed lane Vehicle Occupancy Definition (R3-40 and R3-43) signs to indicate the minimum occupancy related to the management strategy (see Figure 2G-17).**

**06 A priced managed lane Periods of Operation (R3-44 or R3-44a) sign (see Figure 2G-17) shall be installed at the beginning or initial entry point, and at any intermediate entry points where vehicles are allowed to legally enter an access-restricted priced managed lane.**

**07 When the vehicle occupancy required for non-toll use of a managed lane is varied as a part of a priced managed lane operational strategy, regulatory signs that include changeable message elements shall be used to display the required vehicle occupancy in effect for non-toll travel.**

### **Option:**

**08 Where registration in a local program or ETC account is required for HOV traffic to travel in a priced managed lane without being charged a toll or by being charged a discounted toll, such information may be displayed on a separate sign within the sequence of the required regulatory and guide signs.**

### **Guidance:**

*08a No more than two destinations should be shown on the R3-48 or R3-48a sign. If multiple destinations are used, one of these destinations should be the furthest destination on the facility; the other destination(s) should be an intermediate interchange. The particular intermediate interchange to be shown on the R3-48 or R3-48a sign should be determined on a case-by-case basis, depending upon local factors including the relative importance of the intermediate interchanges.*

**Standard:**

**09 R3-42 Series and R3-45 Series signs (see Figure 2G-17) shall be installed in accordance with the provisions of Section 2G.07 to indicate the termination of a priced managed lane or restriction. The R3-42, R3-42a, and R3-45 signs shall be used only where the managed lane and restriction end and traffic must merge into the general-purpose lanes. The R3-42b, R3-42c, and R3-45a signs shall be used only where the managed lane restriction ends and the lane becomes a general-purpose lane.**

**Section 2G.18 Guide Signs for Priced Managed Lanes**

**Standard:**

**01 Except as otherwise provided in this Section, guide signs for barrier-separated, buffer-separated, and contiguous managed lanes shall follow the specific provisions for Preferential Lane guide signs contained in Sections 2G.10 through 2G.15. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, guide signs for highways on which all lanes are managed shall follow the general provisions for freeway and expressway guide signs as contained in Chapter 2E as a whole. Guide signs for highways on which all lanes are managed and tolling or pricing is used as a management strategy shall follow the applicable provisions for toll road guide signs as contained in Chapter 2F, in addition to the general provisions of Chapter 2E.**

**02 If fixed or variable tolls are used as an operational strategy for a managed lane, the guide signs shall comply with the provisions of Sections 2F.03, 2F.04, and 2F.17 regarding the use, size, and placement of ETC-account pictographs.**

**Support:**

**03 Figure 2G-18 shows examples of Guide signs for entrances to priced managed lanes and other ETC account-only toll facilities that incorporate header panels with ETC account pictographs and regulatory legends.**

*Guidance:*

*Option:*

**04 Exit Destination supplemental guide signs, identifying final destination and downstream exit locations accessible from the managed lane (see Figure 2G-19), ~~should~~ **may** be installed in advance of the initial entry points to priced managed lanes. ~~These signs should be located in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 5 of Section 2G.11.~~**

*Guidance:*

**04a Exit Destination supplemental guide signs should be located in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 5 and 6 of Section 2G.11.**

*Option:*

**05 For managed lanes that are available as an alternative to travel on adjacent general-purpose lanes on the same designated route, changeable message signs indicating the comparative travel times or congestion levels using the managed lanes versus the general-purpose lanes (see Figure 2G-20) ~~should~~ **may** be installed in advance of the initial and intermediate entry points to the managed lanes.**

*Option:*

**06 Changeable message signs may also be used on non-managed highways to display comparative travel times or congestion levels for a nearby managed highway.**

**Standard:**

**07 Guide signs at the initial and intermediate entry points to a priced managed lane in which all general-purpose passenger vehicles are allowed shall include the legend EXPRESS or EXPRESS LANE(S). The guide signs shall incorporate the pictograph of the ETC account system into a header panel within the guide sign in accordance with Sections 2F.03, 2F.04, and 2F.17. For a priced managed lane that allows non-toll travel by HOV traffic without registration in a local program, the header panel shall be modified to a regulatory format to display both the pictograph of the ETC account system and the minimum occupancy requirement for non-toll travel with a black legend on a white background (see Figure 2G-19).**

**08 Guide signs at the initial and intermediate entry points to a managed lane that allows only HOV traffic with either a fixed or variable occupancy requirement shall follow the provisions of Sections 2G.10 through 2G.12 and 2G.14.**

Support:

<sup>09</sup> Figures 2G-21 through 2G-24 show examples of guide signs for various configurations of initial and intermediate entrances to a priced managed lane.

**Standard:**

<sup>10</sup> **The use and locations of guide signs for intermediate egress locations and direct exits from a priced managed lane (see Figures 2G-24 through 2G-27) shall comply with the provisions of Sections 2G.13 and 2G.15. The signs shall be suitably modified to display header messages of white legend on a green background that relate the guide sign legends to the managed lane(s) as appropriate in accordance with the following:**

- A. Post-mounted or overhead-mounted Advance Guide signs for intermediate egress to the general-purpose lanes shall include the legend LOCAL EXITS in a header panel within the guide signs, destination information or the exit number(s) for the next exit(s) accessible from the general-purpose lanes, and the appropriate distance information to the location of the egress (see Figures 2G-24 and 2G-25).**
- B. Post-mounted or overhead-mounted Intermediate Egress Direction signs shall include the legend LOCAL EXITS in a header panel within the signs, the destination information or the exit number(s) of the next exit(s) accessible from the general-purpose lanes, and a diagonally upward-pointing directional arrow (see Figures 2G-24 and 2G-25).**
- C. For direct exits to another roadway, the legend EXPRESS EXIT shall be used on the Advance Guide and Exit Direction signs (see Figure 2G-26).**
- D. For pull-through signs, the legend EXPRESS LANE(S) shall be used, either as a header panel within the pull-through sign or as the principal legend of the sign without a header panel (see Figures 2G-25, 2G-26, and 2G-27).**

Support:

<sup>11</sup> Section 2G.13 contains information on the use of overhead-mounted guide signs for intermediate egress to the general-purpose lanes.

<sup>12</sup> Figures 2G-28 and 2G-29 show examples of guide signing for direct entrances to a priced managed lane from a crossroad or surface street.

**Standard:**

<sup>12a</sup> **The G92-1(CA) sign shall be used for direct entrances to a priced managed lane from a crossroad or surface street. When used for this purpose the sign shall be modified in accordance with the provisions of this section.**

### **Section 2G.101(CA) Preferential Lane Enforcement Signing (SR50(CA)) series**

*Guidance:*

<sup>01</sup> *The HOV VIOLATION \$\_\_ MINIMUM FINE (SR50-2(CA)) sign should be placed near the beginning of all HOV facilities and may be placed at intermediate entry point or gaps in the barrier or buffer for all barrier- or buffer-separated HOV lanes.*

<sup>02</sup> *The SR50-2(CA) sign should also be used on priced managed lane facilities that charge HOV users no toll or a discounted toll.*

*Option:*

<sup>03</sup> *The SR50-2(CA) sign may be repeated at 2-mile intervals or as needed at locations experiencing high violation rates.*

<sup>04</sup> *The HOV VIOLATION \$\_\_ MINIMUM FINE (SR50-1(CA)) sign may be used to supplement the SR50-2(CA) sign on HOV facilities or priced managed lane facilities where violation rates are particularly high.*

*Support:*

<sup>05</sup> *The SR50-1(CA) is normally placed onto an existing overhead sign structure if it can adequately support the additional sign.*

**Standard:**

<sup>06</sup> **These signs shall be modified to delete the diamond symbol when utilized on priced managed lanes.**

### **Section 2G.102(CA) Regulatory Signs for Preferential Lanes at Metered On-Ramps**

*Support:*

<sup>01</sup> *For State highways, see Department of Transportation's Ramp Metering Design Manual. See Section 1A.11 for information regarding this publication.*

02 Refer to CVC 21655.5 for Exclusive- or Preferential-Use Lanes for High Occupancy Vehicles.

03 Refer to Section 2B.56 for additional regulatory signs to be used at metered on-ramps.

*Guidance:*

04 *The No Left Turn Specific Hours EXCEPT BUSES AND HOV \_\_+(R33B(CA)) sign should be installed on local streets (with concurrence of local agency) whenever left turns are restricted to buses and high-occupancy vehicles only during peak hours. The No Left Turn WHEN METERED EXCEPT BUSES AND HOV \_\_+ (R33C(CA)) sign should be installed on local streets (with concurrence of local agency) whenever left turns are restricted to buses and high-occupancy vehicles only during periods of ramp metering.*

**Standard:**

05 **The LEFT (RIGHT OR CENTER) LANE DO NOT STOP (BUSES ONLY) (R88(CA)) sign shall be used for preferential lanes at metered on-ramps to indicate that the preferential lane is not required to stop.**

06 **The diamond symbol shall not be utilized on the R88(CA) if the preferential lane is not for HOV usage.**

*Guidance:*

07 *The R88(CA) sign should be placed on the same side as the preferential lane, upstream of the meter.*

08 *The ALL VEHICLES STOP ON RED (R90-1(CA)) sign should be placed when converting a non-metered preferential lane to a metered operation.*

*Option:*

09 *The R90-1(CA) sign may also be used on new installations where potential for confusion exists.*

**Standard:**

10 **The LEFT (RIGHT OR CENTER) HOV \_\_+ \_\_ OR MORE ONLY WHEN METERED (R91-1(CA)) sign shall be used for preferential lanes at metered on-ramps to clearly indicate the lane and number of persons per vehicle required to use the lane.**

11 **The message "24 HOURS" shall be used instead of "WHEN METERED" if the preferential lane is in effect on a full-time basis.**

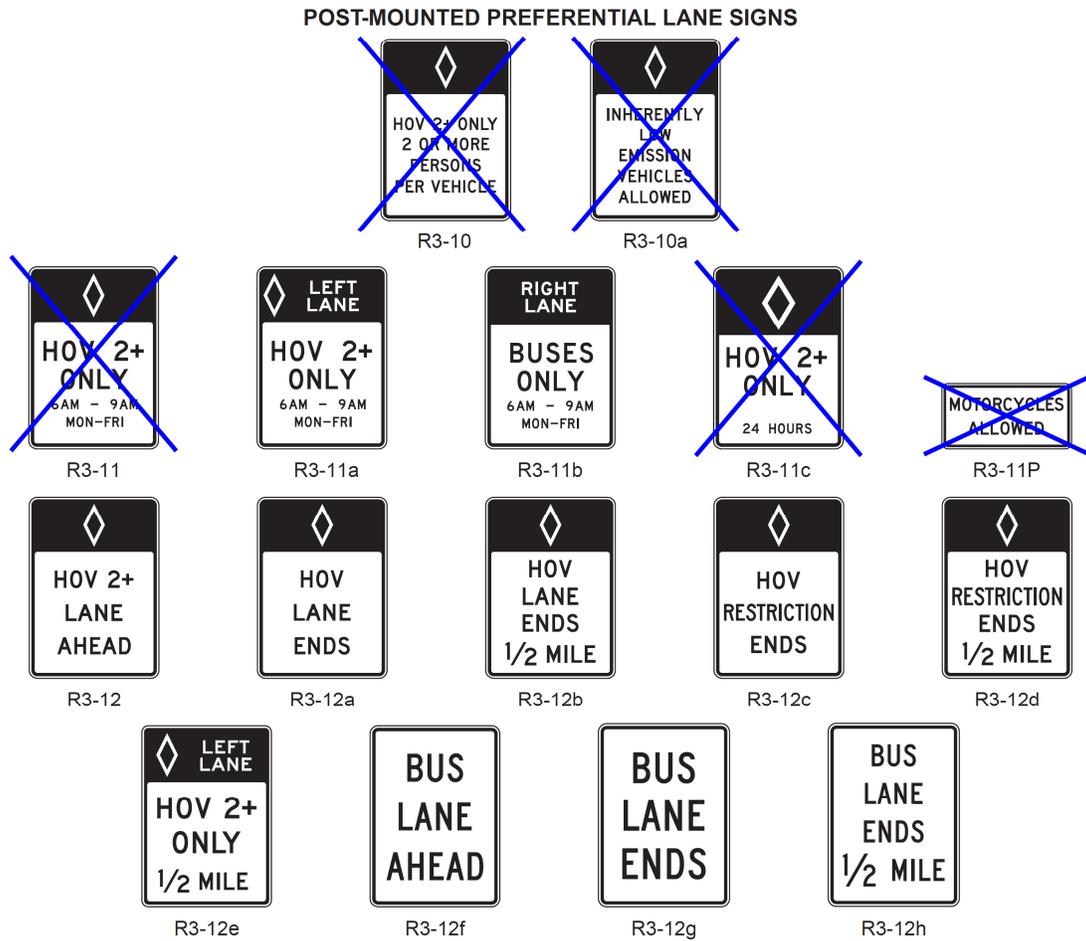
*Option:*

12 *An alternate 1 line message, such as "BUSES OK" may also be used in place of "WHEN METERED" on line 6 of the R91-1(CA) sign.*

*Guidance:*

13 *When used, the R91-1(CA) sign should be placed near a diamond symbol pavement marking.*

**Figure 2G-1. Preferential Lane Regulatory Signs and Plaques (Sheet 1 of 2)**

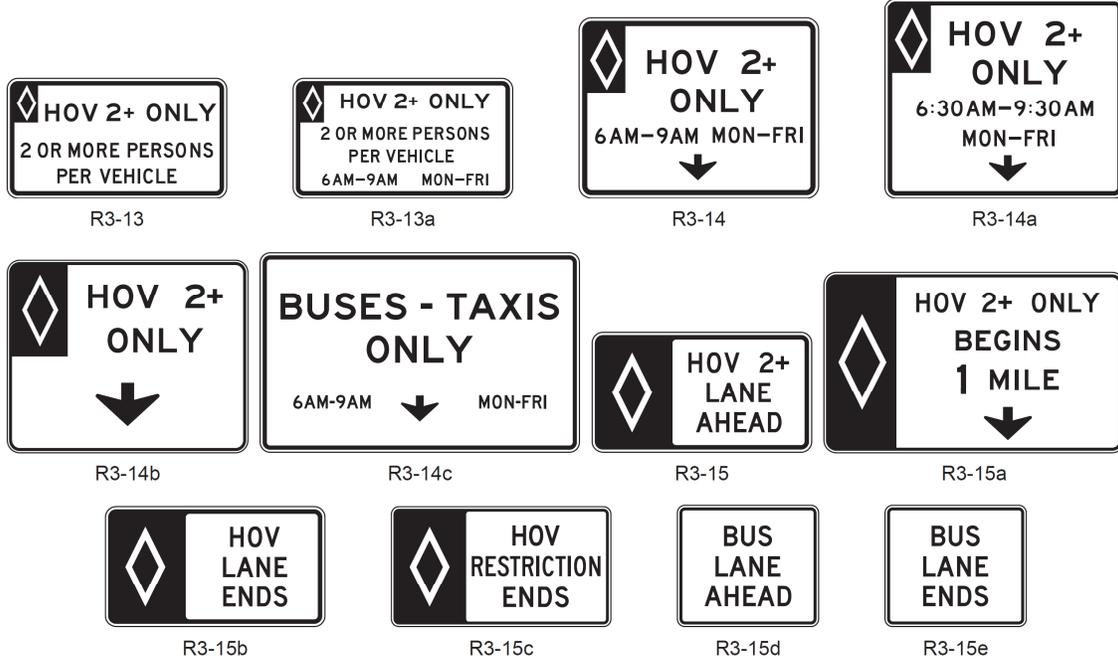


**Notes:**

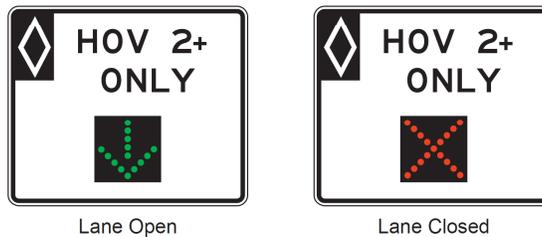
1. The minimum vehicle occupancy requirement may vary for each facility (such as 2+, 3+, 4+).
2. The occupancy requirement may be added to the first line of the R3-12a, R3-12b, R3-12c, and R3-12d signs.
3. Some of the legends shown on these signs are for example purposes only. The specific legend for a particular application should be based upon local conditions, ordinances, and State statutes.

**Figure 2G-1. Preferential Lane Regulatory Signs and Plaques (Sheet 2 of 2)**

**OVERHEAD PREFERENTIAL LANE SIGNS**



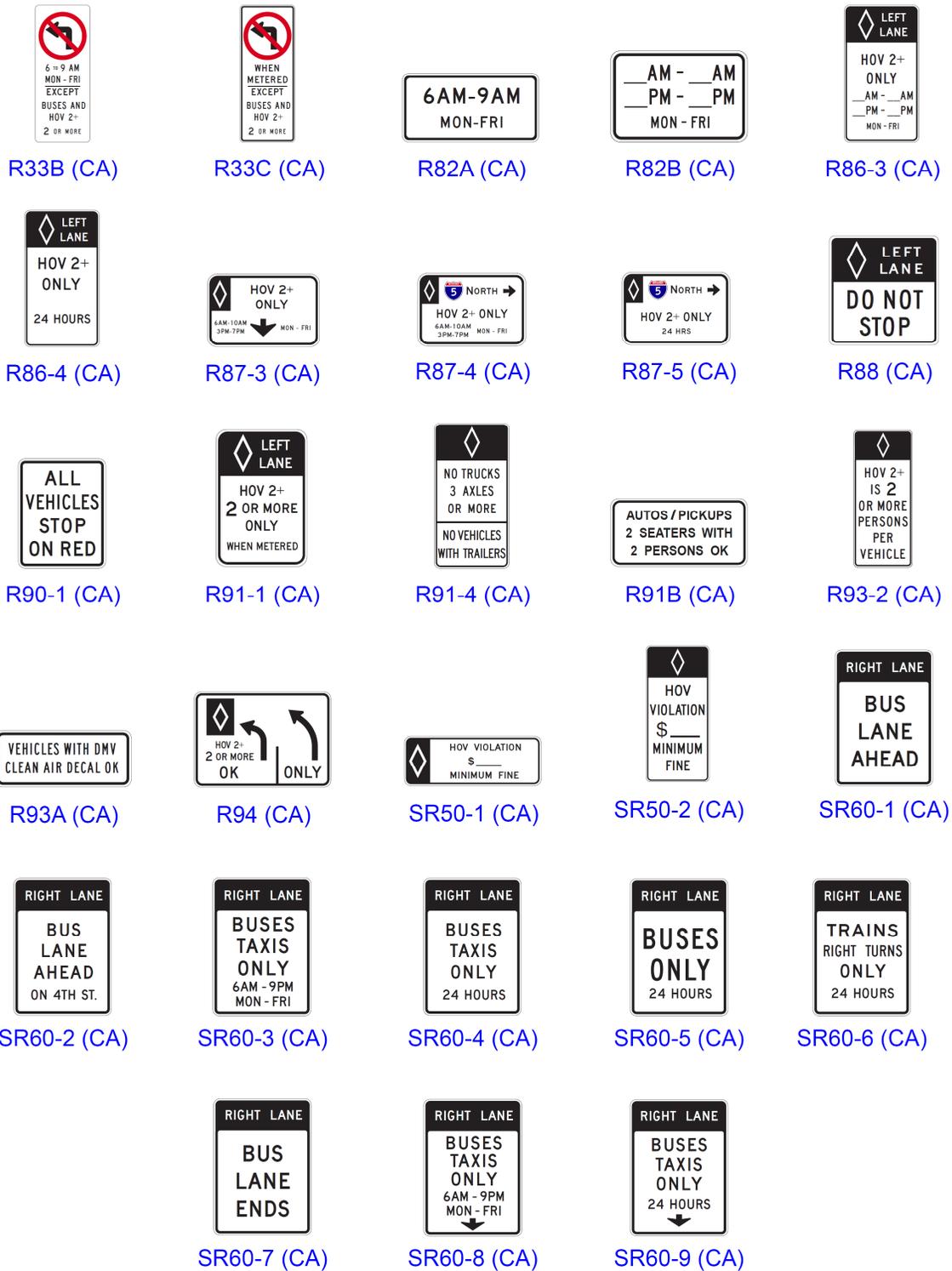
A lane-use control signal may be incorporated into an overhead preferential lane regulatory sign to indicate the status of a reversible operation as shown in the following example:



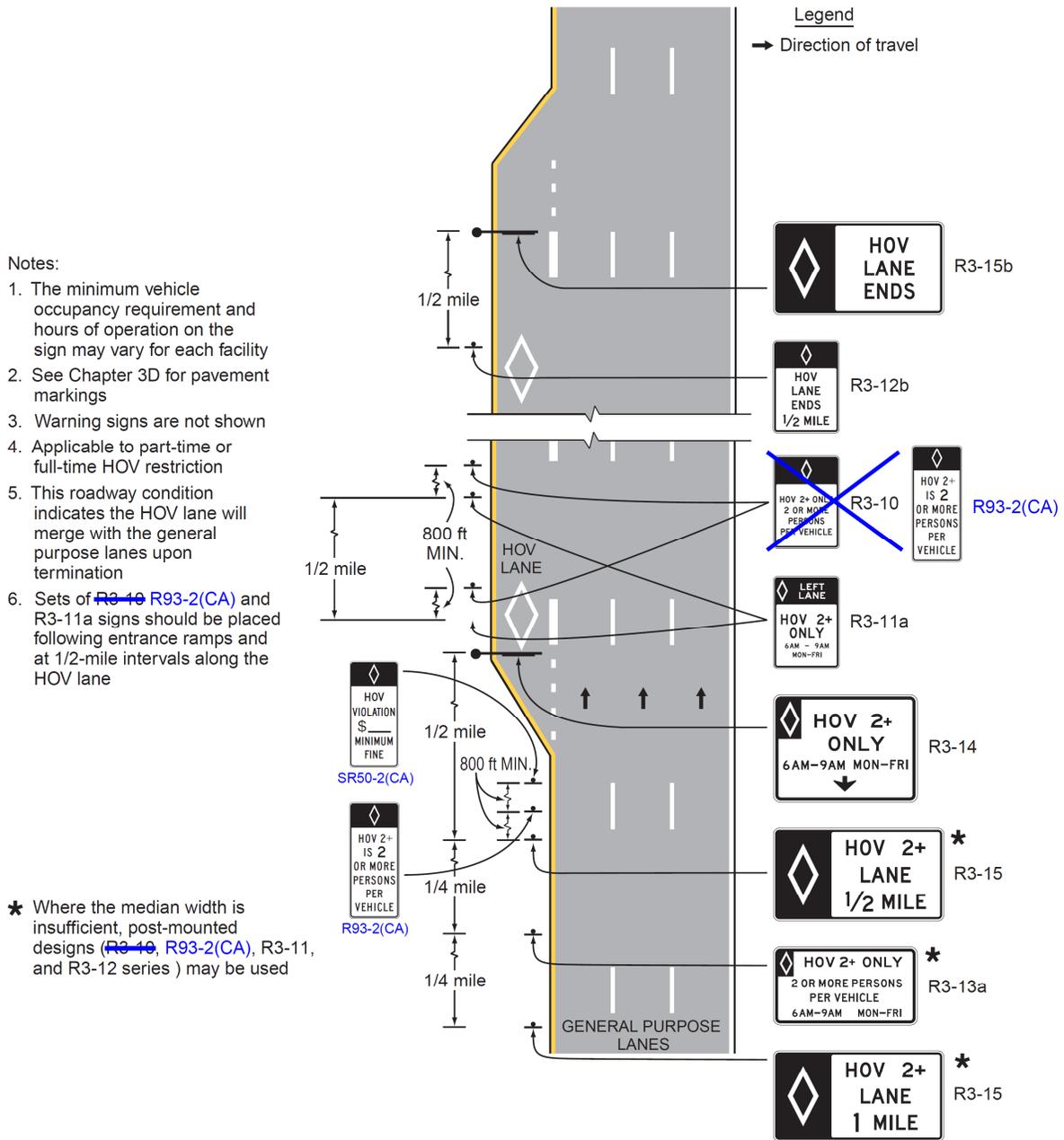
**Notes:**

1. The minimum vehicle occupancy requirement may vary for each facility (such as 2+, 3+, 4+).
2. The occupancy requirement may be added to the first line of the R3-15b and R3-15c signs.
3. Some of the legends shown on these signs are for example purposes only. The specific legend for a particular application should be based upon local conditions, ordinances, and State statutes.
4. Where sufficient median width is available, the R3-13 series and R3-15 series signs may be post-mounted.

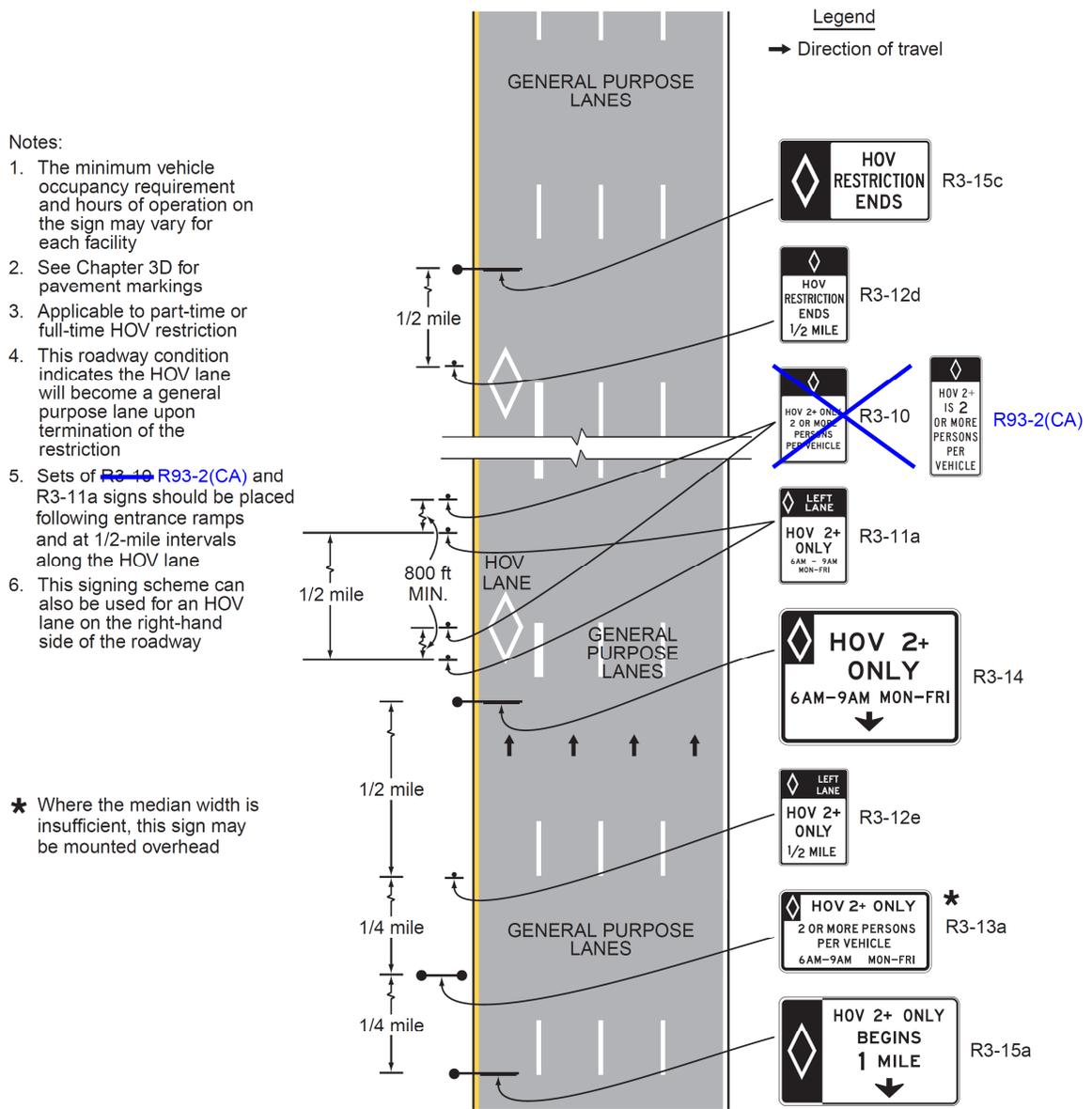
**Figure 2G-1 (CA). Preferential Lane Regulatory Signs and Plaques**



**Figure 2G-2. Example of Signing for an Added Continuous-Access Contiguous or Buffer-Separated HOV Lane**

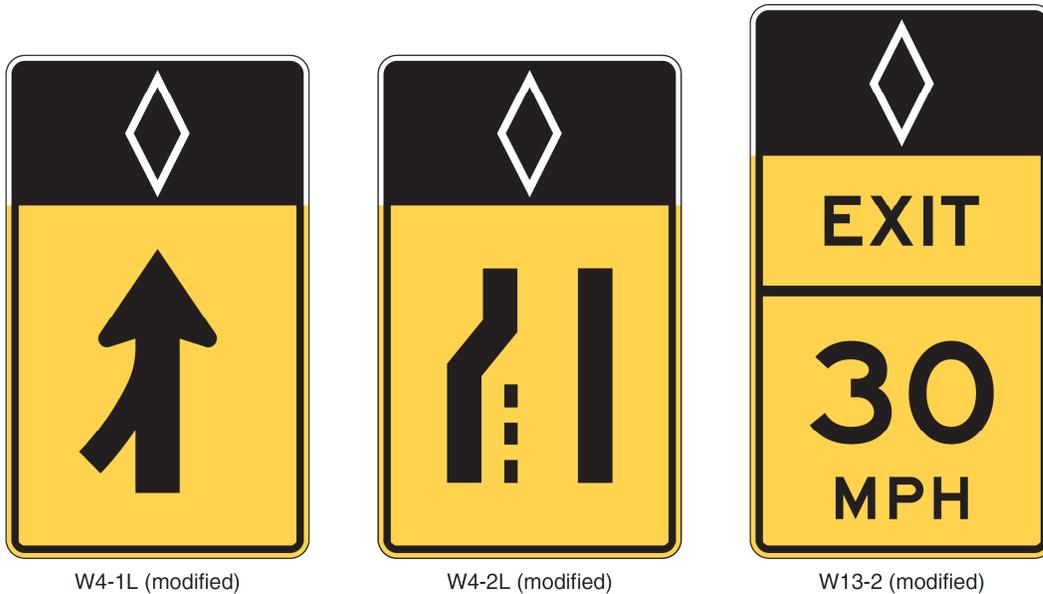


**Figure 2G-3. Example of Signing for a General-Purpose Lane that Becomes a Continuous-Access Contiguous or Buffer-Separated HOV Lane**



**Figure 2G-4. Examples of Warning Signs and Plaques Applicable Only to Preferential Lanes**

**A - BARRIER-MOUNTED RECTANGULAR WARNING SIGNS**



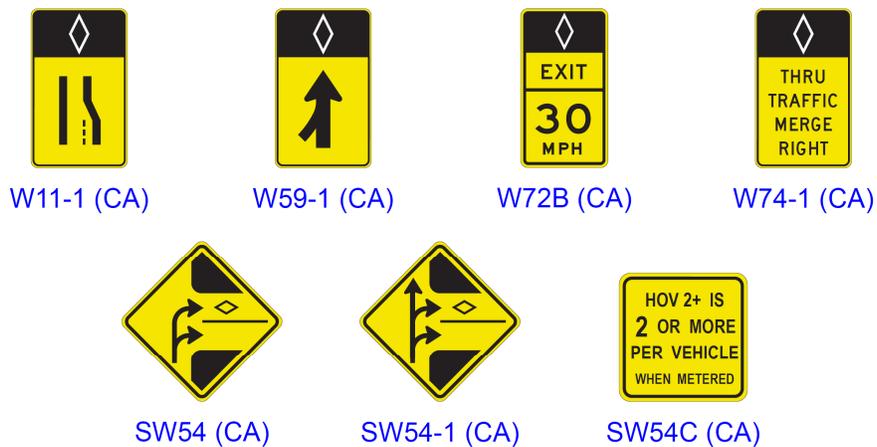
**B - WARNING PLAQUE FOR USE ABOVE STANDARD DIAMOND-SHAPED WARNING SIGNS**



W16-11P

Note: An HOV lane example (diamond symbol) is illustrated. For other types of preferential lanes, the appropriate symbol or word message (see Section 2G.03) shall be displayed in white on the black background of the top portion of these signs.

**Figure 2G-4 (CA). Examples of Warning Signs and Plaques Applicable Only to Preferential Lanes**



**Figure 2G-5. Example of an Overhead Advance Guide Sign for a Preferential Lane Entrance**



E8-3

Note: An example of an HOV Lane (diamond symbol) sign is illustrated. For other types of preferential lanes, the appropriate symbol or word message (see Section 2G.03) is displayed in white on the black background of the left-hand portion of this sign.

**Figure 2G-6. Examples of Overhead or Post-Mounted Preferential Lane Entrance Direction Signs**



E8-2  
(overhead only)



E8-2a  
(post-mounted only)

A changeable message sign may be incorporated into an overhead preferential lane guide sign to indicate the status of a reversible operation as shown in the following example:



Lane Open



Lane Closed

Note: Examples of HOV Lane (diamond symbol) signs are illustrated. For other types of preferential lanes, the appropriate symbol or word message (see Section 2G.03) is displayed in white on the black background of the top left-hand portion of these signs.

**Figure 2G-6 (CA). Guide Signs for Direct Entrances to Preferential Lanes From Another Highway**



G92-1 (CA)



G20-9 (CA)

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**Figure 2G-7. Entrance Gore Signs for Barrier-Separated Preferential Lanes**



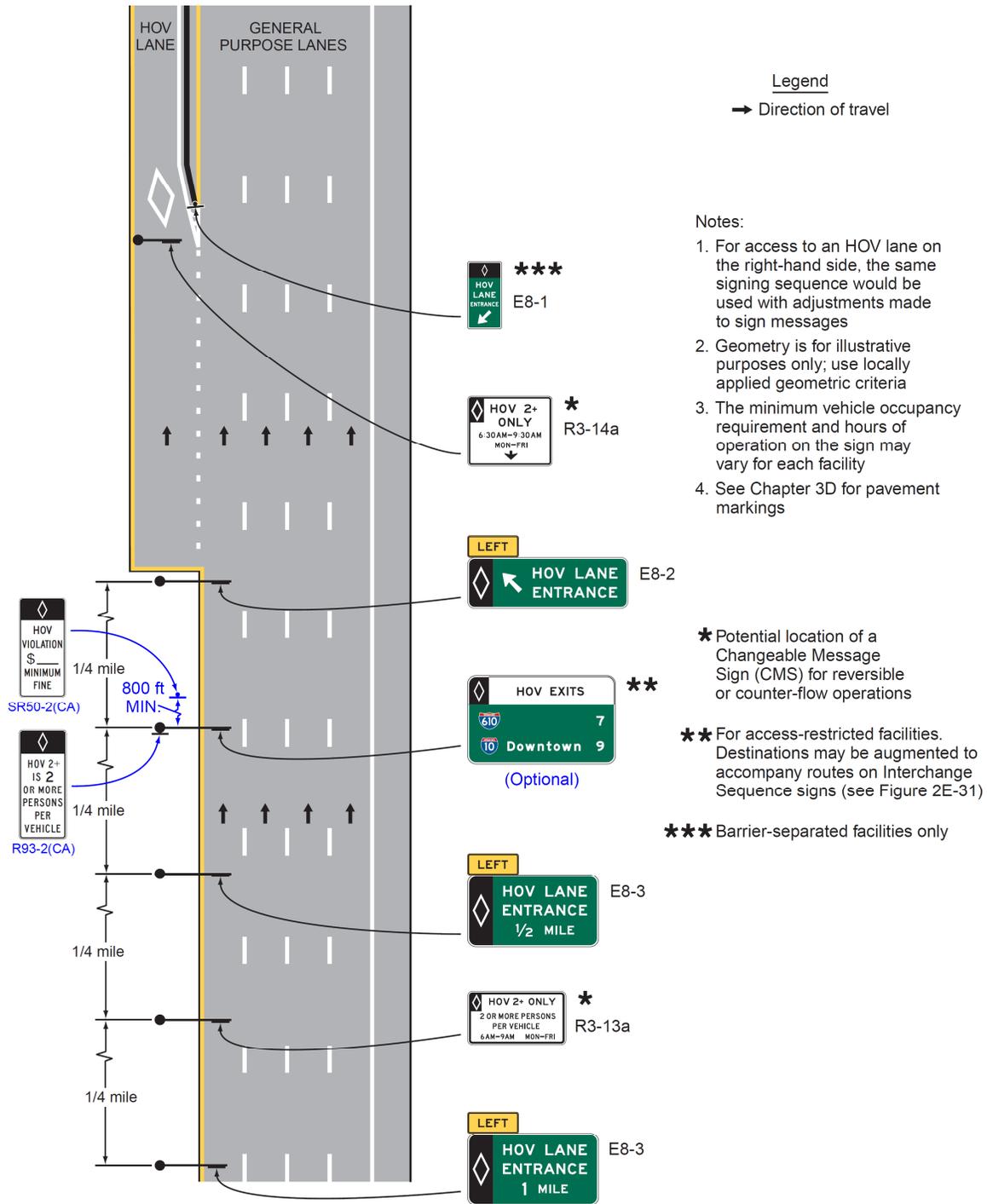
E8-1



E8-1a

Note: Examples of HOV Lane (diamond symbol) signs are illustrated. For other types of preferential lanes, the appropriate symbol or word message (see Section 2G.03) is displayed in white on the black background of the top portion of these signs.

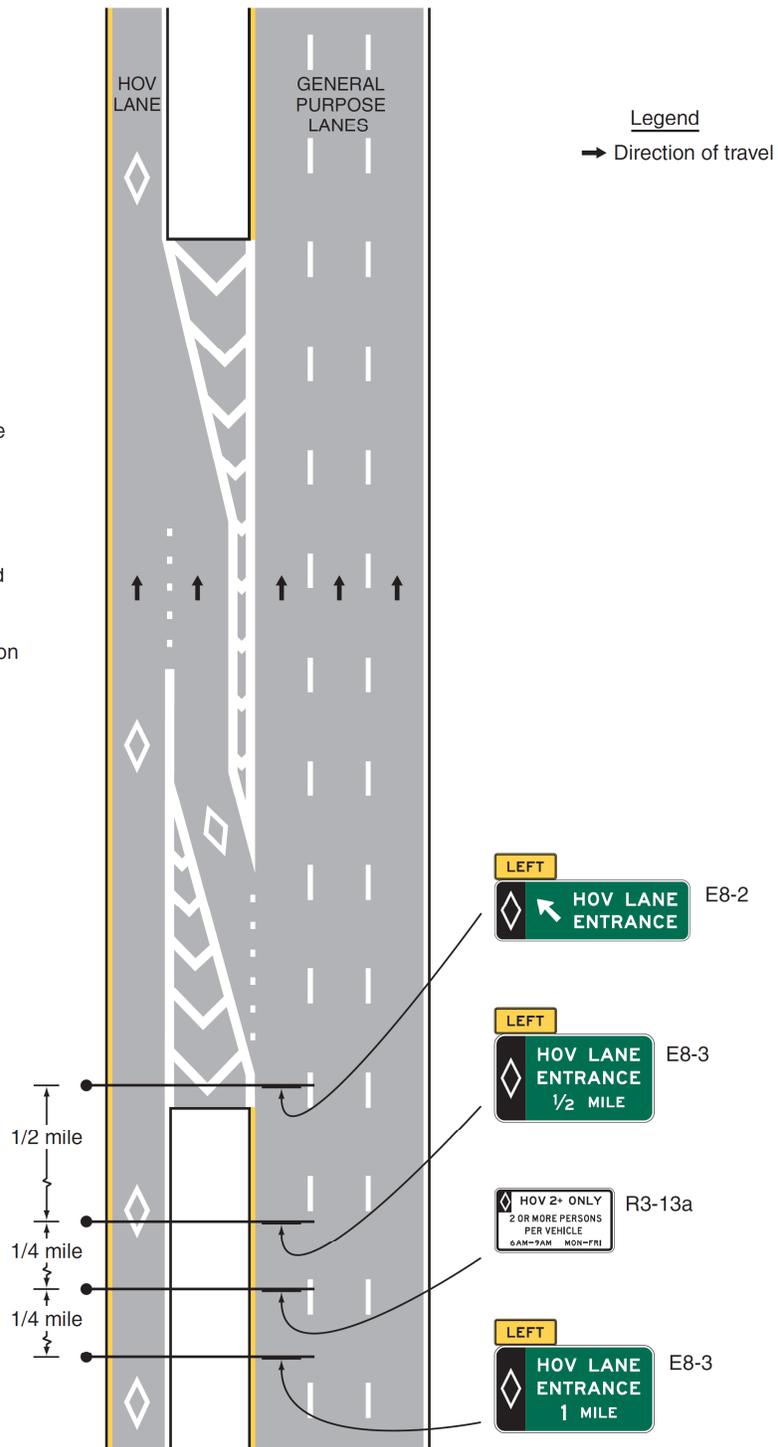
**Figure 2G-8. Example of Signing for an Entrance to Access-Restricted HOV Lanes**



**Figure 2G-9. Example of Signing for an Intermediate Entry to a Barrier- or Buffer-Separated HOV Lane**

Notes:

1. For access to an HOV lane on the right-hand side, the same signing sequence would be used with adjustments made to sign messages
2. Geometry is for illustrative purposes only; use locally applied geometric criteria
3. The minimum vehicle occupancy requirement and hours of operation on the sign may vary for each facility
4. See Chapter 3D for pavement markings.
5. Warning signs are not shown

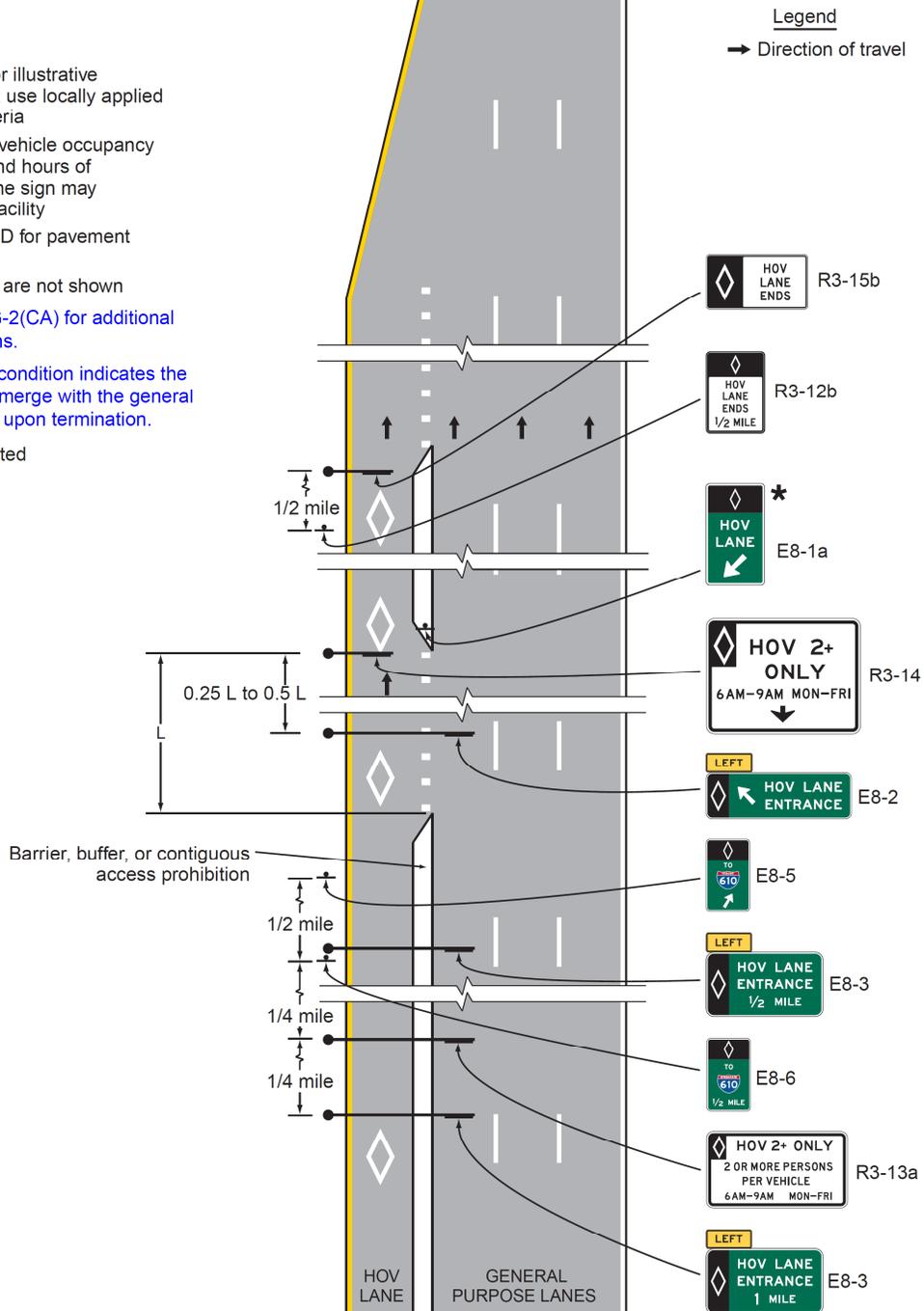


**Figure 2G-10. Example of Signing for the Intermediate Entry to, Egress from, and End of Access-Restricted HOV Lanes**

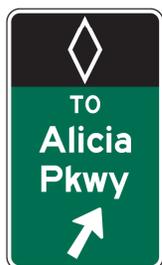
Notes:

1. Geometry is for illustrative purposes only; use locally applied geometric criteria
2. The minimum vehicle occupancy requirement and hours of operation on the sign may vary for each facility
3. See Chapter 3D for pavement markings
4. Warning signs are not shown
5. See Figure 2G-2(CA) for additional regulatory signs.
6. This roadway condition indicates the HOV lane will merge with the general purpose lanes upon termination.

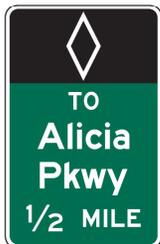
\* Barrier-separated facilities only



**Figure 2G-11. Examples of Barrier-Mounted Guide Signs for an Intermediate Egress from Preferential Lanes**



E8-5



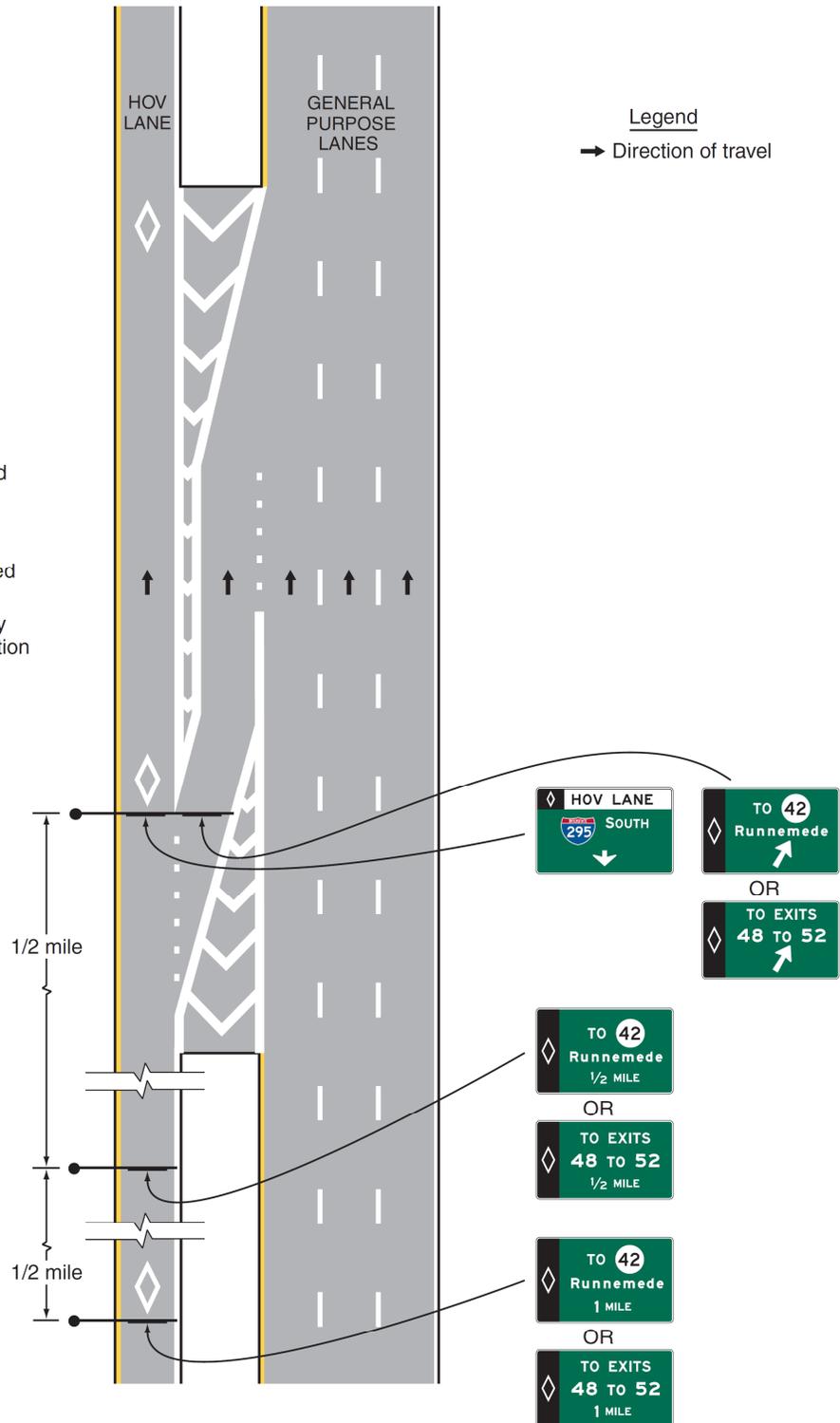
E8-6

Note: Examples of HOV Lane (diamond symbol) signs are illustrated. For other types of preferential lanes, the appropriate symbol or word message (see Section 2G.03) is displayed in white on the black background of the top portion of these signs.

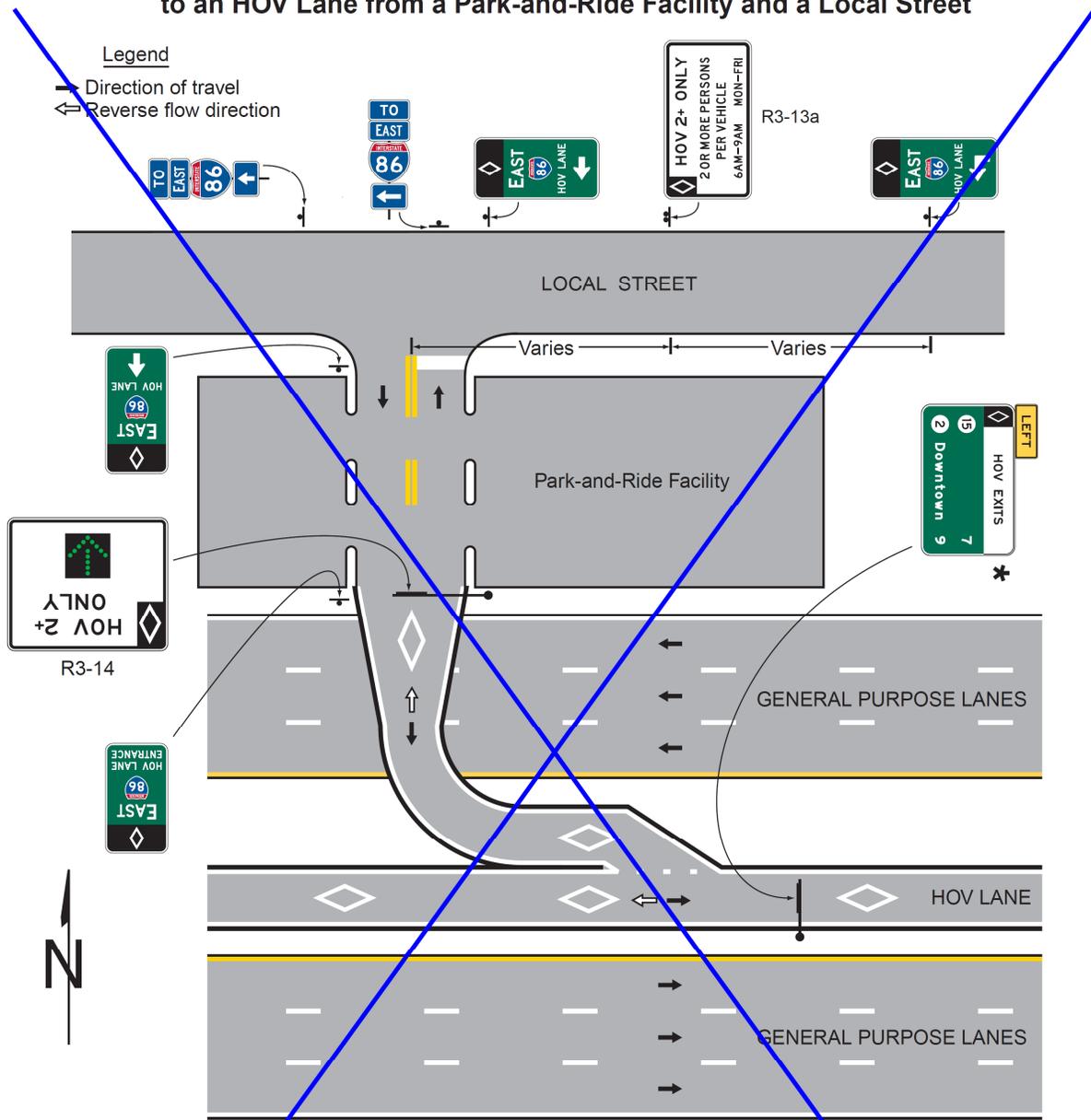
**Figure 2G-12. Examples of Signs for an Intermediate Egress from a Barrier- or Buffer-Separated HOV Lane**

Notes:

1. For an exit on the left-hand side from an HOV lane, the same signing sequence would be used with adjustments made to sign messages
2. Geometry is for illustrative purposes only; use locally applied geometric criteria
3. The minimum vehicle occupancy requirement and hours of operation on the sign may vary for each facility
4. See Sections Chapter 3D for pavement markings
5. Warning signs are not shown



**Figure 2G-13. Example of Signing for a Direct Entrance Ramp to an HOV Lane from a Park-and-Ride Facility and a Local Street**



**Notes:**

1. The minimum vehicle occupancy requirement on the sign may vary for each facility
  2. See Chapter 3D for pavement markings
  3. Warning signs are not shown
  4. Sign locations are approximate
  5. Additional signs may be required to direct drivers from the surrounding streets into the park-and-ride lot and the HOV lane
  6. Additional signs are required on the adjoining surface streets to inform non-HOVs that they should not enter the HOV facility
  7. This figure illustrates a reversible HOV lane with a direct access ramp
  8. The guide signs directing local street traffic to the HOV lane should include the word **ENTRANCE** when the direct access ramp does not traverse a park-and-ride facility
- \* For access-restricted facilities; destinations may be augmented to accompany routes on Interchange Sequence signs (see Figure 2E-31)

**Figure 2G-14. Exit Gore Sign for a Direct Exit from a Preferential Lane**



E8-4

Note: An example of an HOV Lane (diamond symbol) sign is illustrated. For other types of preferential lanes, the appropriate symbol or word message (see Section 2G.03) is displayed in white on the black background of the top portion of this sign.

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**Figure 2G-14 (CA). Advanced Guide and Exit Direction Sign for a Direct Exit from a Preferential lane**



G83-6 (CA)

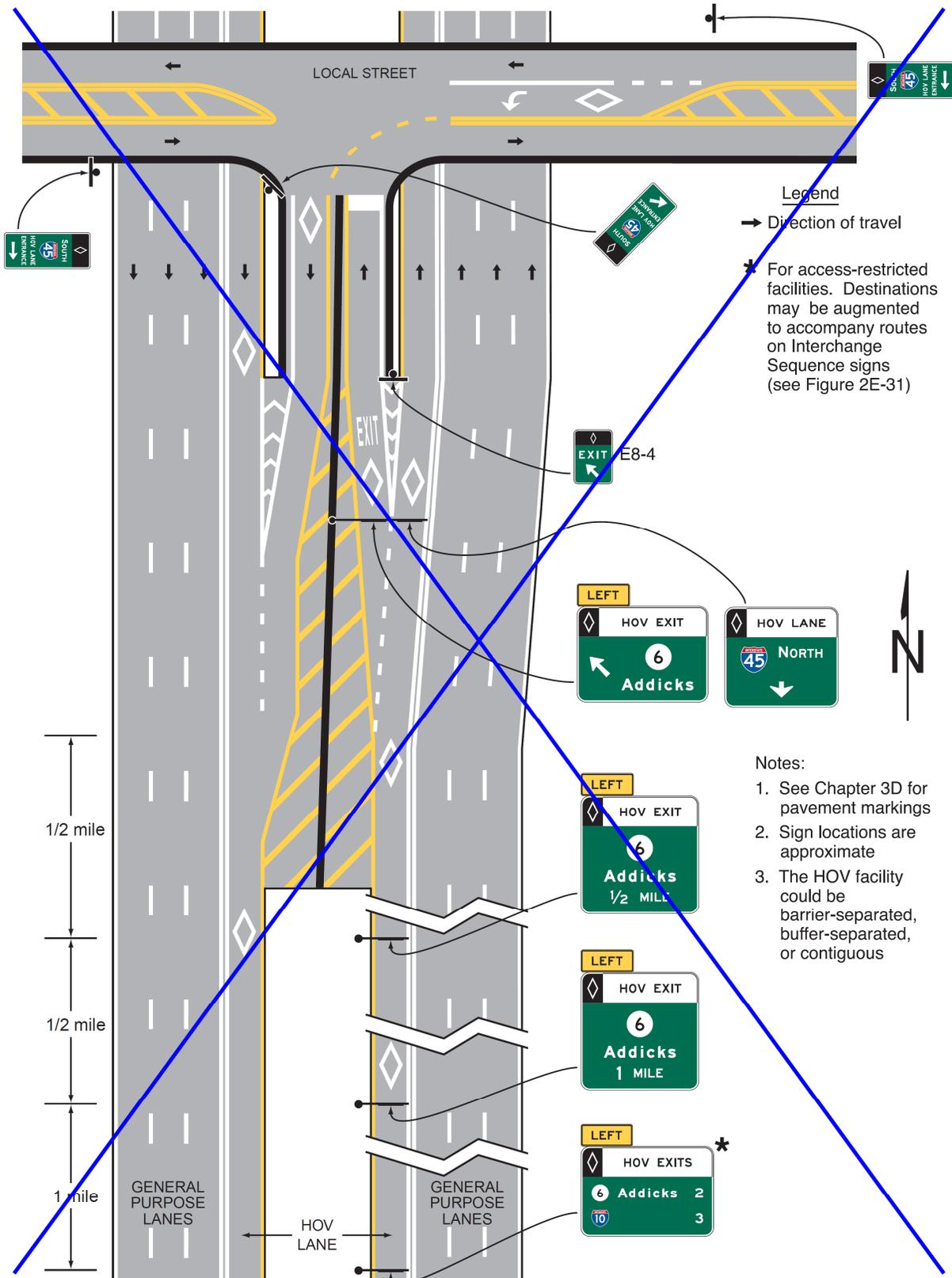


G85-12 (CA)

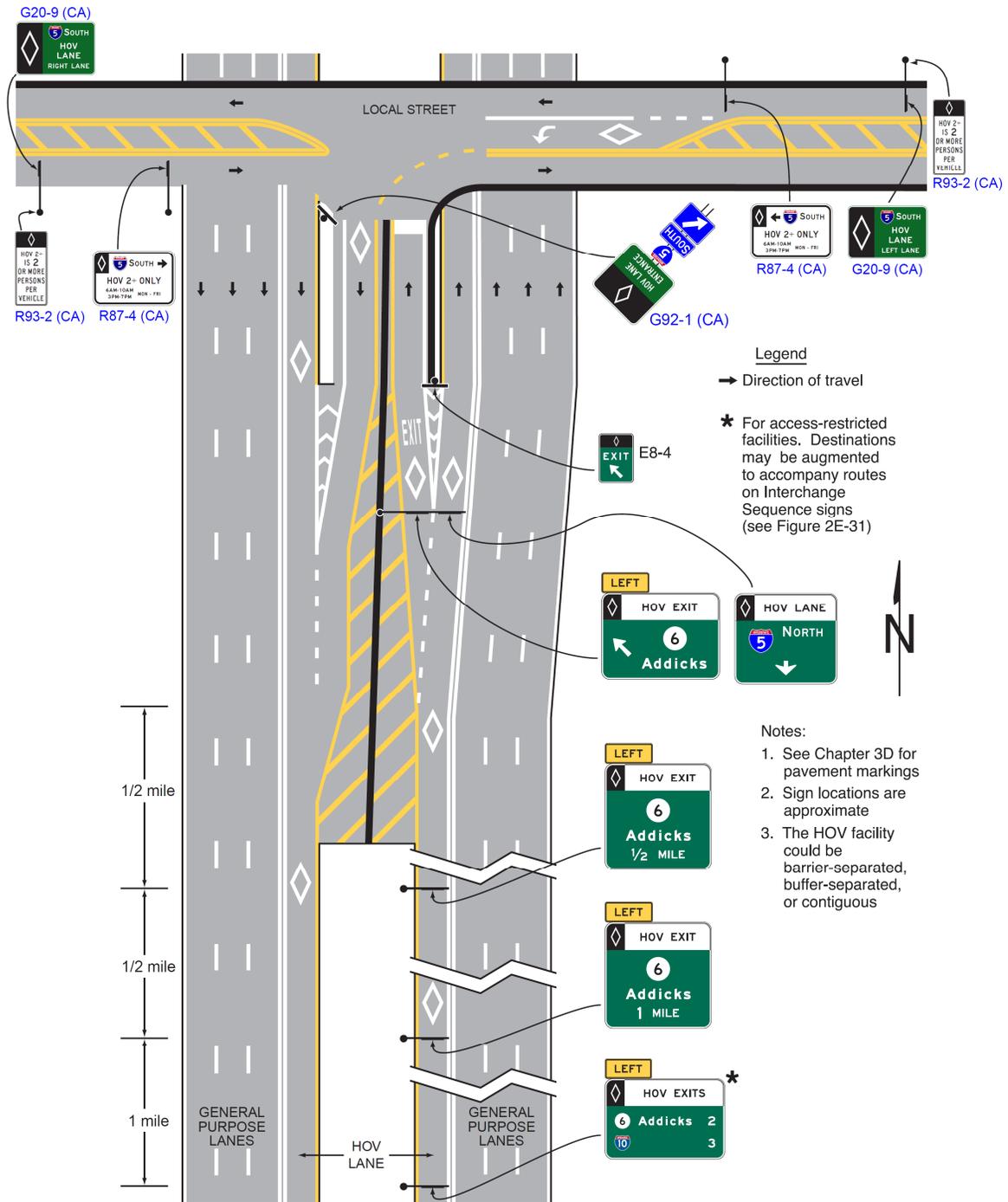


G86-15 (CA)

Figure 2G-15. Examples of Guide Signs for Direct HOV Lane Entrance and Exit Ramps



**Figure 2G-15 (CA). Example of Guide Signs for Direct HOV Lane Entrance and Exit Ramps**



**Figure 2G-16. Examples of Guide Signs for a Direct Access Ramp between HOV Lanes on Separate Freeways**

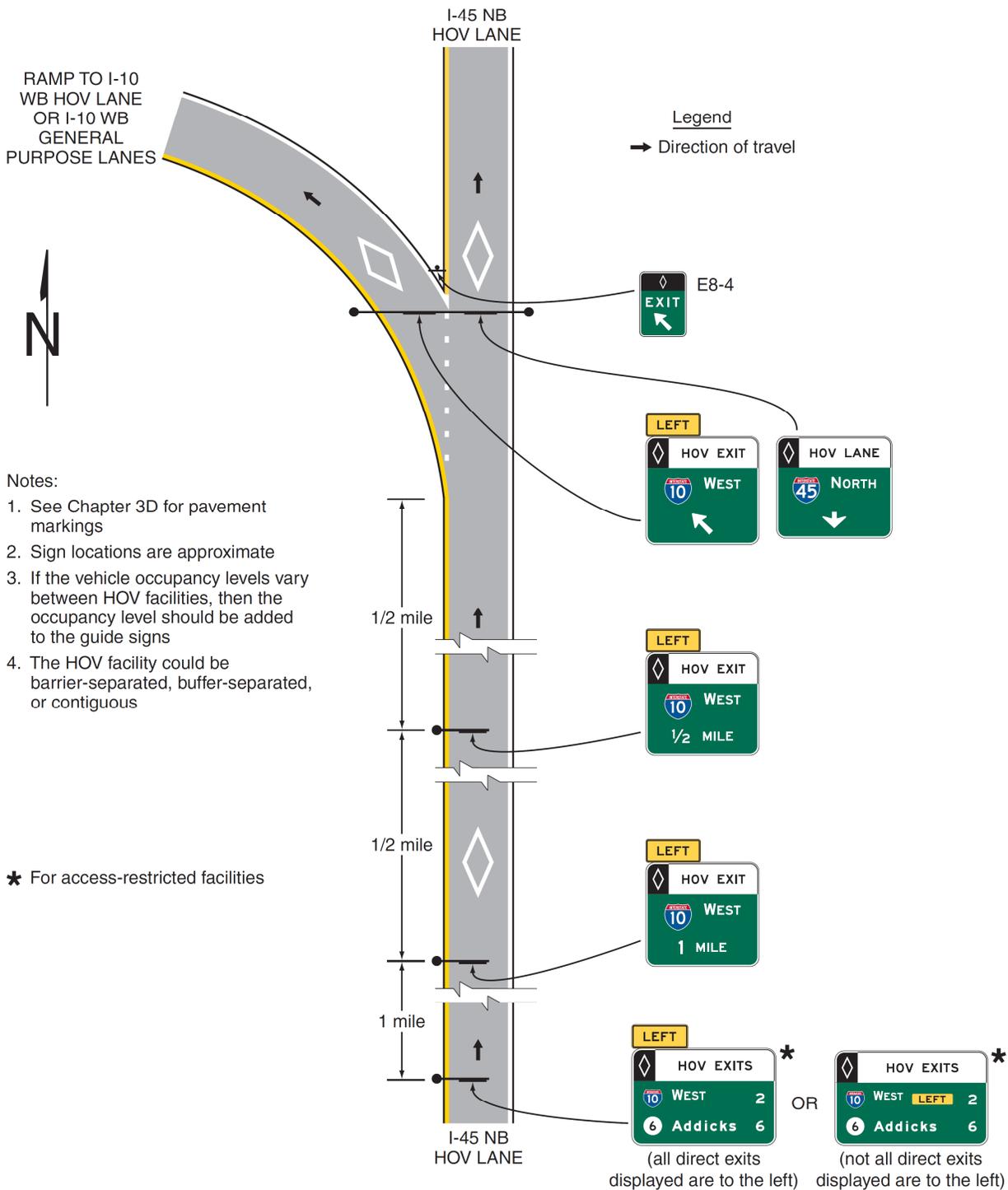
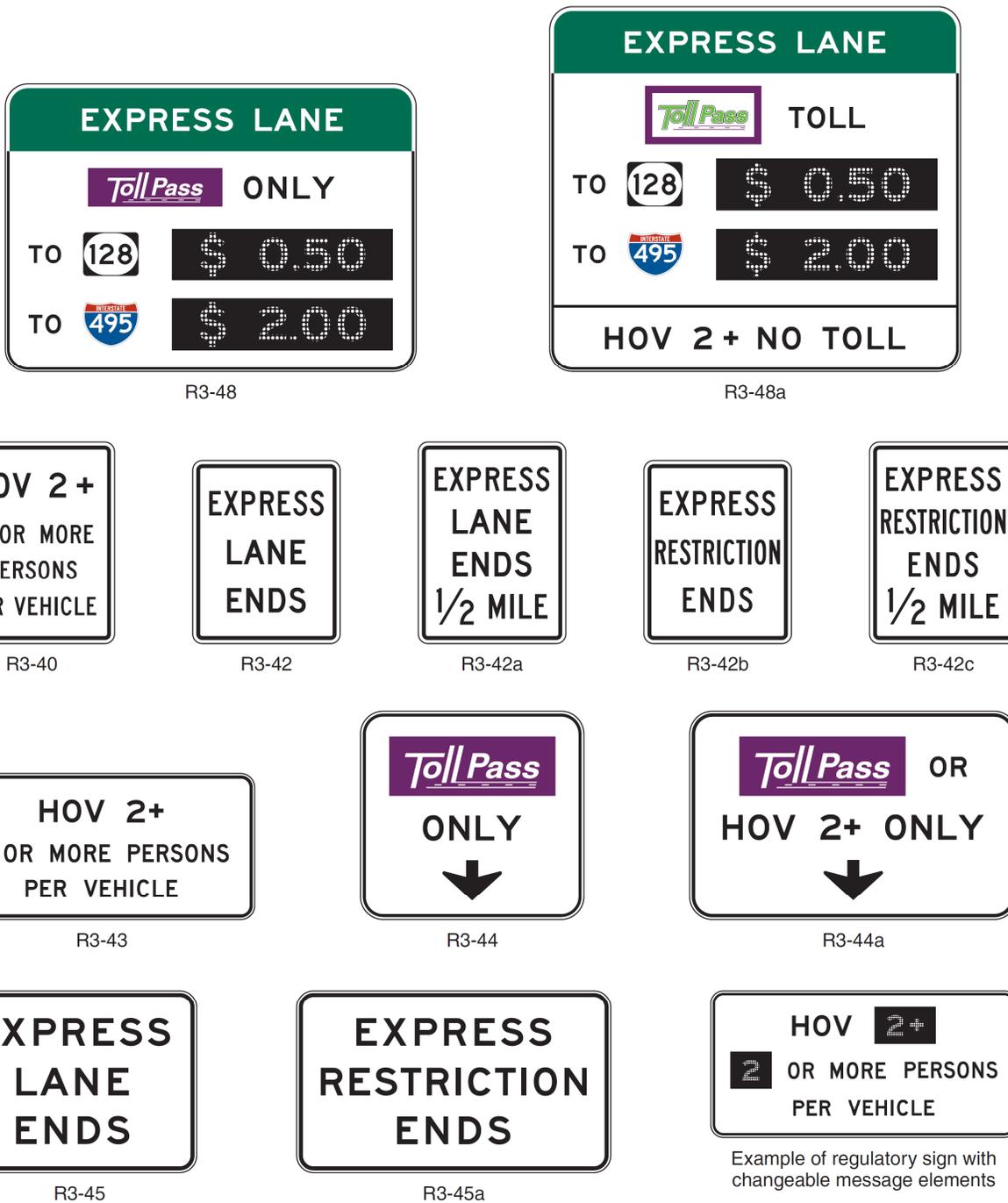


Figure 2G-17. Regulatory Signs for Managed Lanes



Notes:

1. The ETC pictograph shown is an example only. The pictograph for the toll facility's adopted ETC system shall be used.
2. Changeable message sign elements shall be used for the numerals displayed for the variable tolls.

**Figure 2G-18. Examples of Guide Signs for Entrances to Priced Managed Lanes**

A - ENTRANCE TO A PRICED MANAGED LANE FROM A GENERAL PURPOSE LANE



B - DIRECT ENTRANCE TO A PRICED MANAGED LANE FROM A CROSSROAD



Note: 1. The ETC pictographs shown are examples only. The pictograph for the toll facility's adopted ETC system shall be used.  
 2. The examples shown are for facilities on which registration in a toll account program is required for toll payments.

**Figure 2G-19. Example of an Exit Destinations Sign for a Managed Lane**



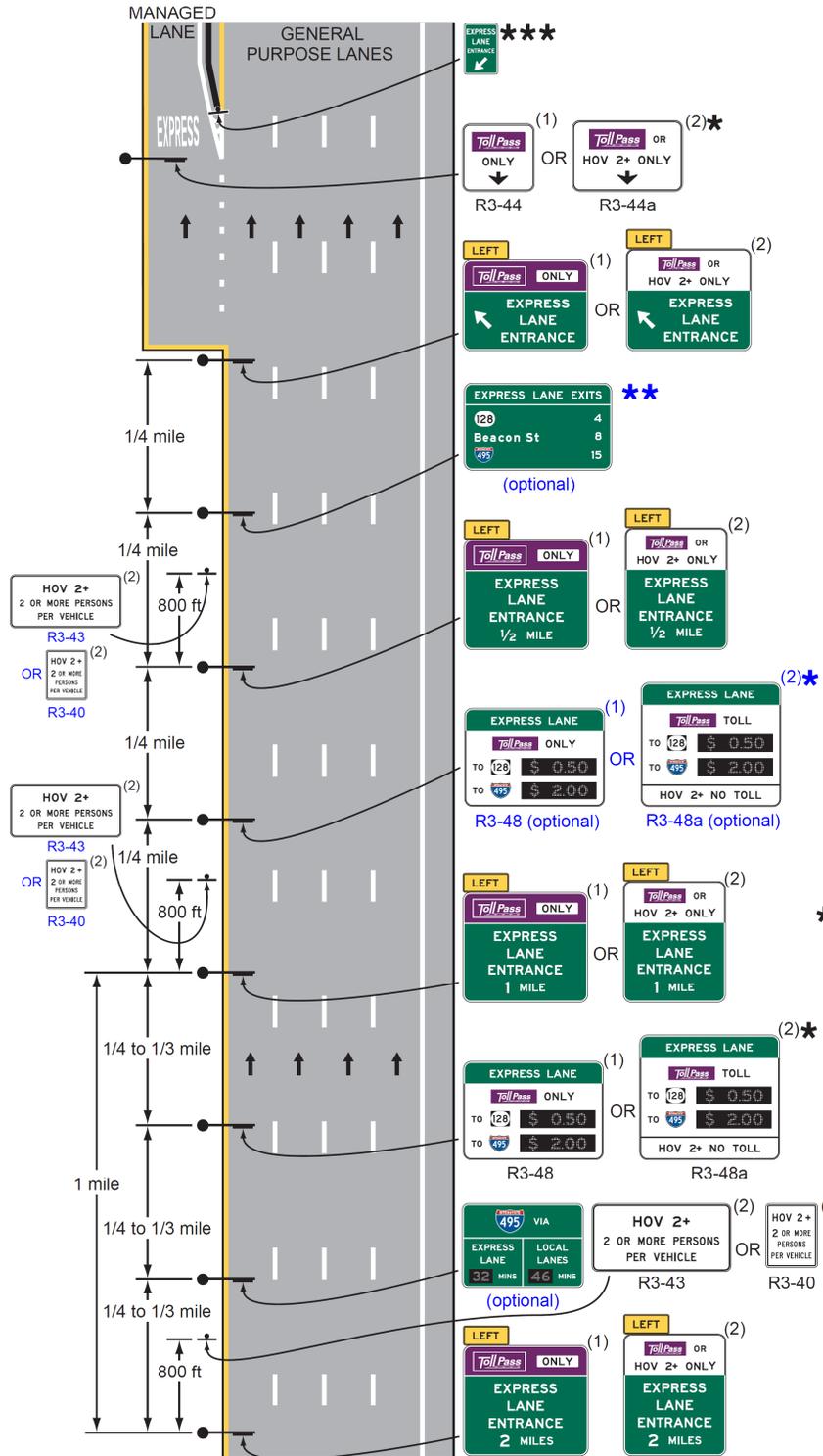
**Figure 2G-20. Example of a Comparative Travel Time Information Sign for Preferential or Managed Lanes**



Notes:

1. The ETC pictograph shown is an example only. The pictograph for the toll facility's adopted ETC system shall be used.
2. CMS elements shall be used for the numerals displayed for the estimated travel times.

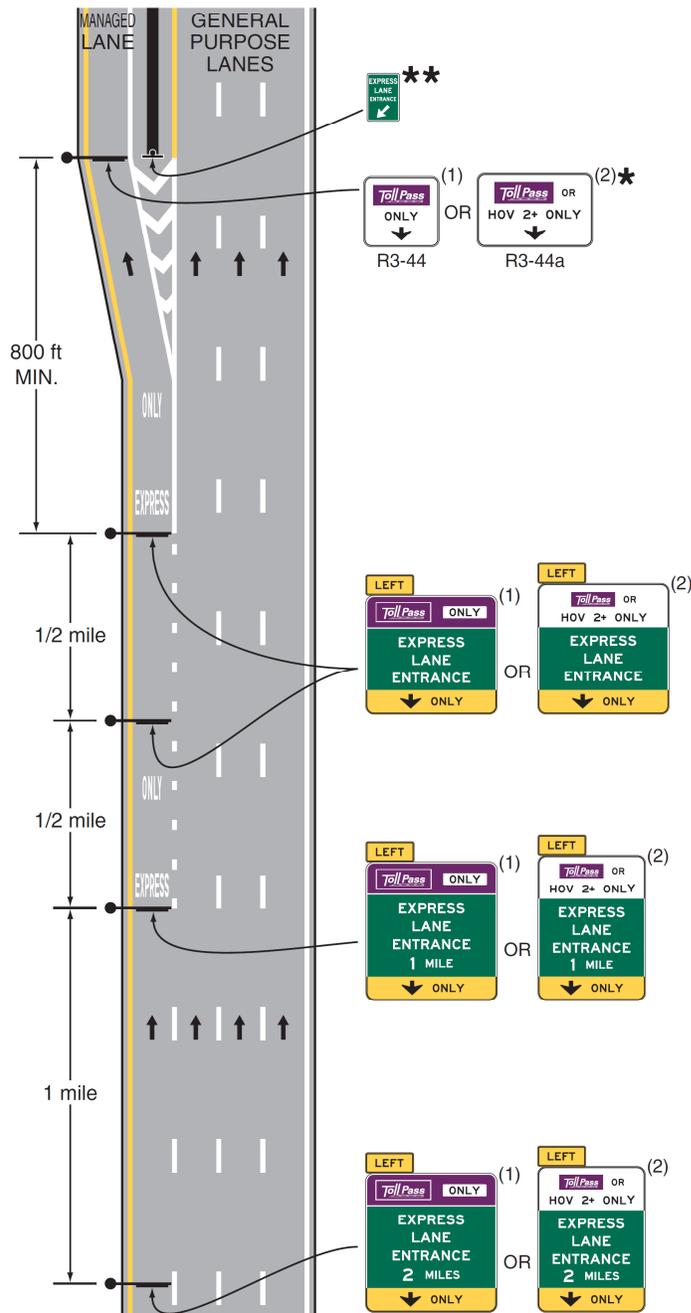
**Figure 2G-21. Example of Signing for the Entrance to an Access-Restricted Priced Managed Lane**



- Legend**  
→ Direction of travel
- Notes:**
- For access to a managed lane on the right-hand side, the same signing sequence would be used with adjustments made to sign messages
  - Geometry is for illustrative purposes only; use locally applied geometric criteria
  - The minimum vehicle occupancy requirement and hours of operation on the sign may vary for each facility
  - See Chapter 3D for pavement markings
- \* Potential location of a Changeable Message Sign (CMS) for reversible or contraflow operations
  - \*\* For access-restricted facilities; destinations may be augmented to accompany routes on Interchange Sequence signs (see Figure 2E-31)
  - \*\*\* Barrier-separated facilities only

- All vehicles must have a registered ETC account. Toll discounts or exemptions through a registration program might be applicable for certain vehicles.
- All vehicles except HOV must have a registered ETC account. If registration is required for non-toll travel by HOV traffic, case (1) signing shall be used.

**Figure 2G-22. Example of Signing for the Entrance to an Access-Restricted Priced Managed Lane Where a General-Purpose Lane Becomes the Managed Lane**



**Legend**  
 → Direction of travel

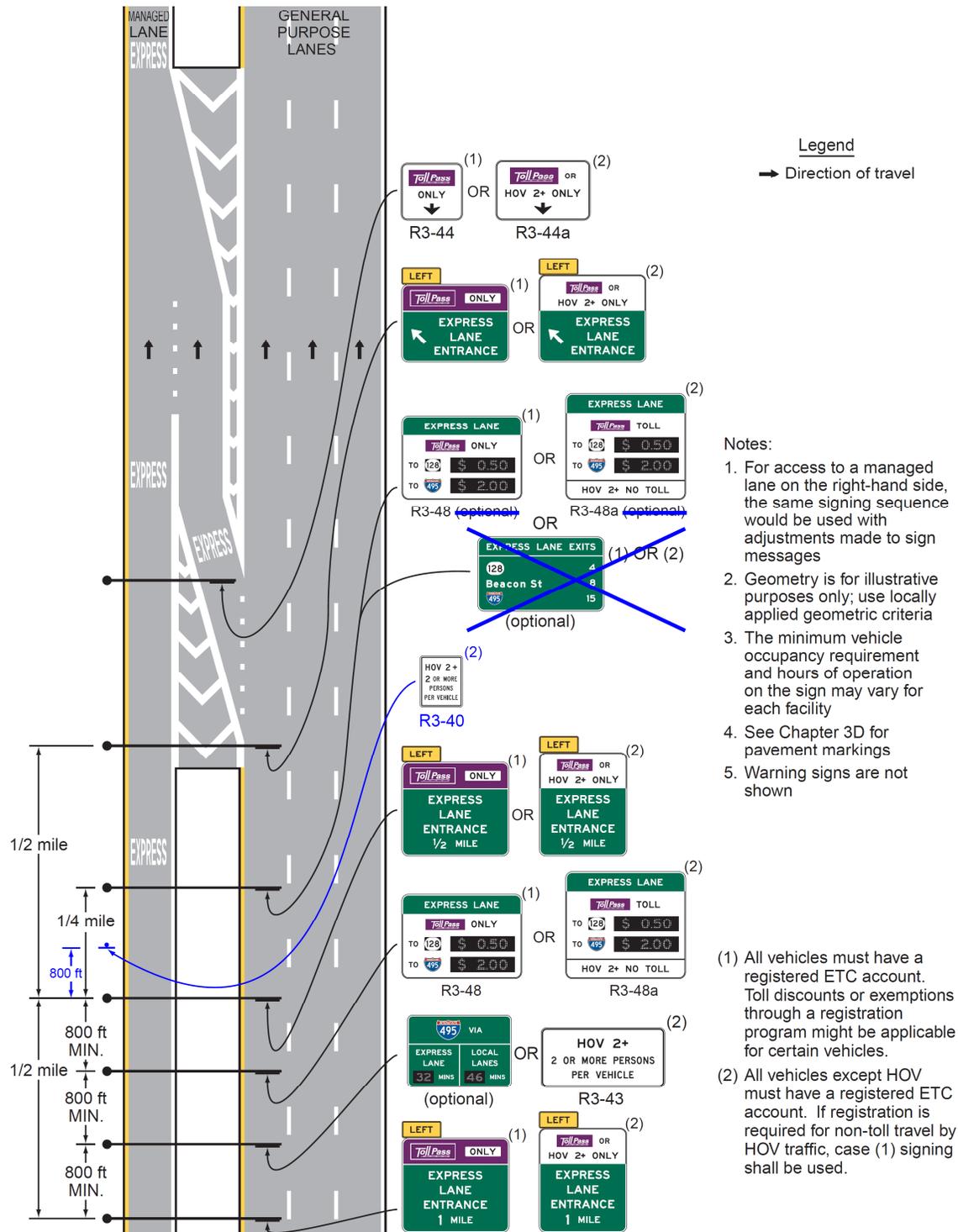
**Notes:**

1. For access to a managed lane on the right-hand side, the same signing sequence would be used with adjustments made to sign messages
2. Geometry is for illustrative purposes only; use locally applied geometric criteria
3. The minimum vehicle occupancy requirement and hours of operation on the sign may vary for each facility
4. See Chapter 3D for pavement markings
5. See Figure 2G-21 for additional signing

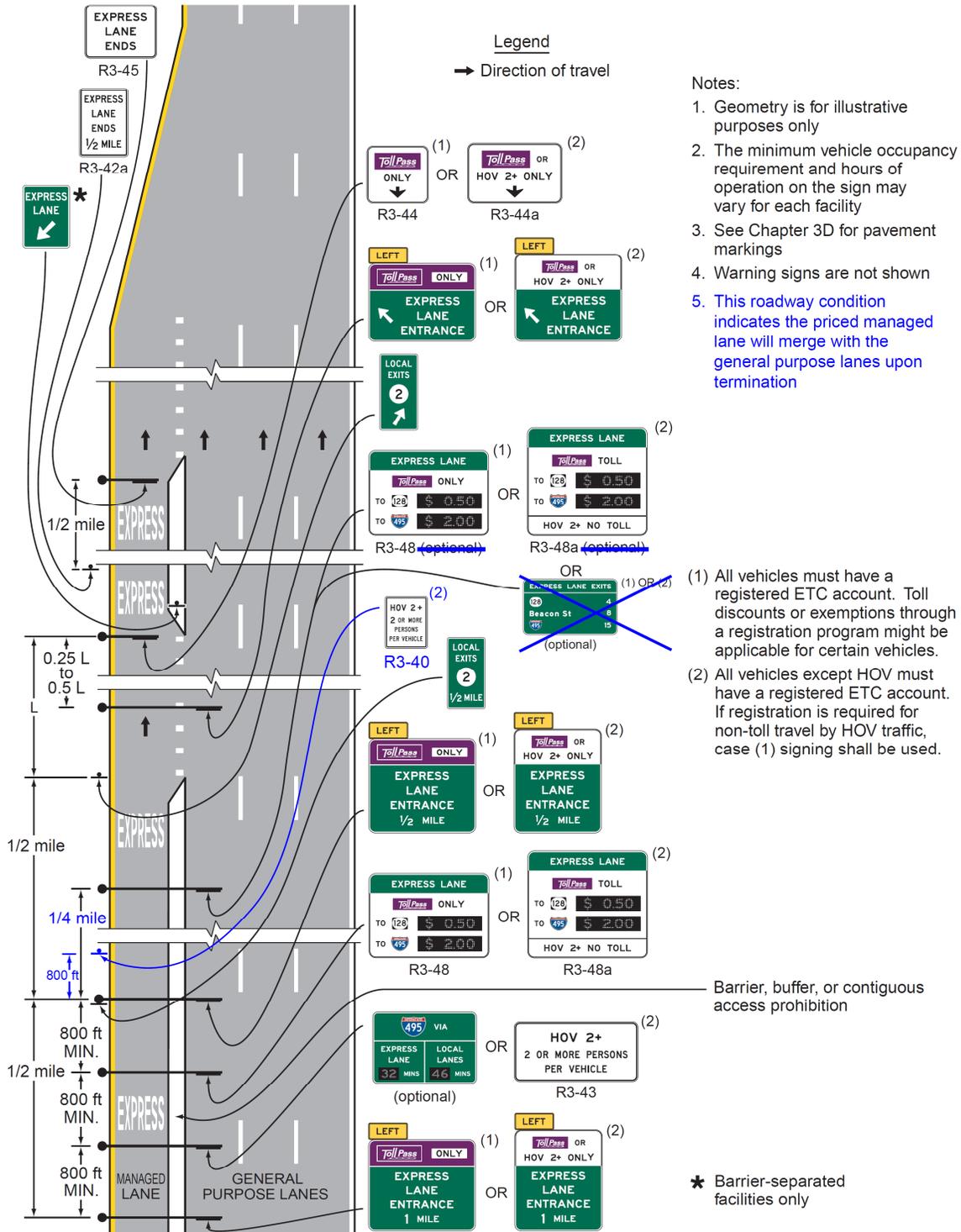
- ★ Potential location of a Changeable Message Sign (CMS) for reversible or contraflow operations
- ★★ Barrier-separated facilities only

- (1) All vehicles must have a registered ETC account. Toll discounts or exemptions through a registration program might be applicable for certain vehicles.
- (2) All vehicles except HOV must have a registered ETC account. If registration is required for non-toll travel by HOV traffic, case (1) signing shall be used.

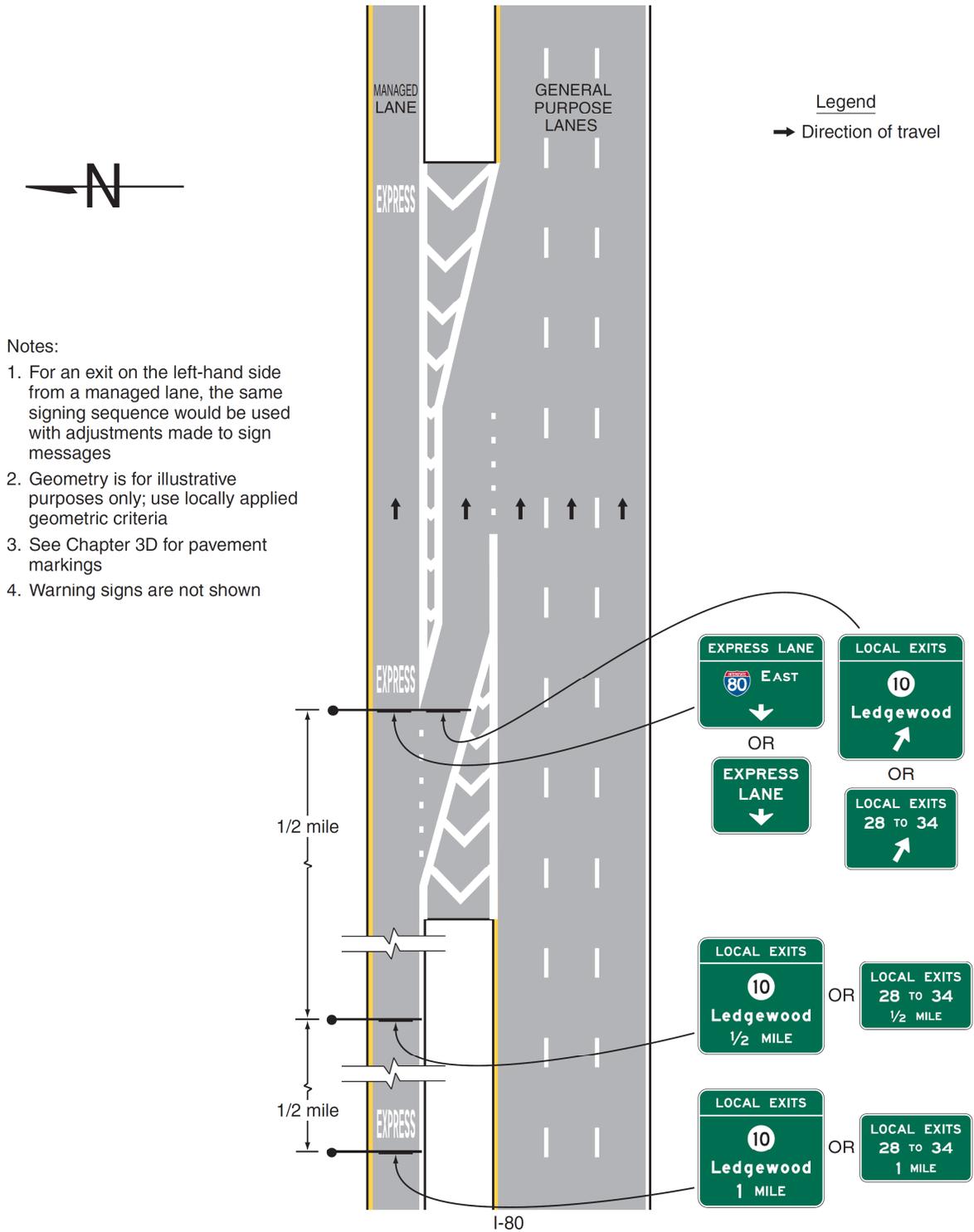
**Figure 2G-23. Example of Signing for an Intermediate Entry to a Barrier- or Buffer-Separated Priced Managed Lane**



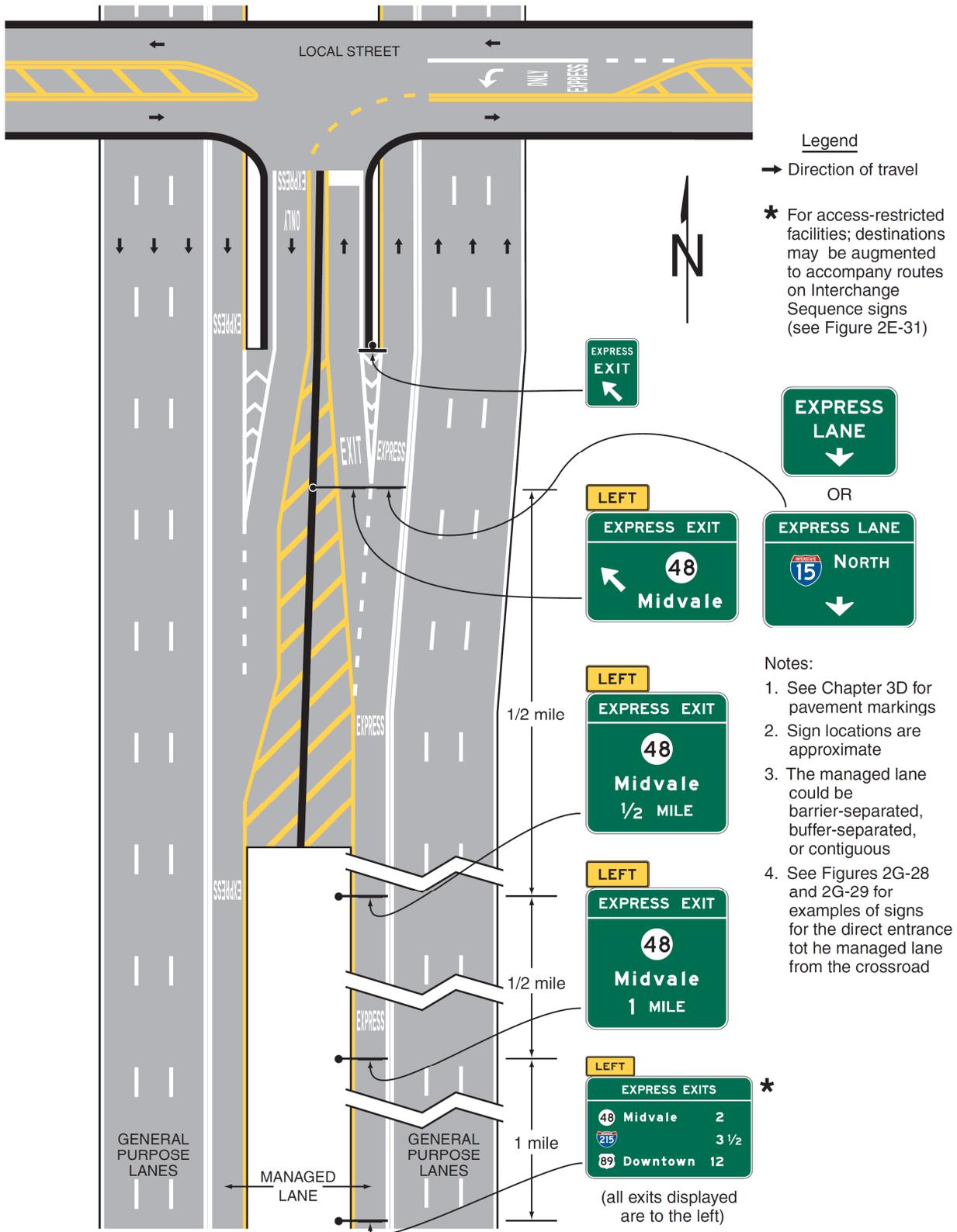
**Figure 2G-24. Example of Signing for the Intermediate Entry to, Egress from, and End of Access-Restricted Priced Managed Lanes**



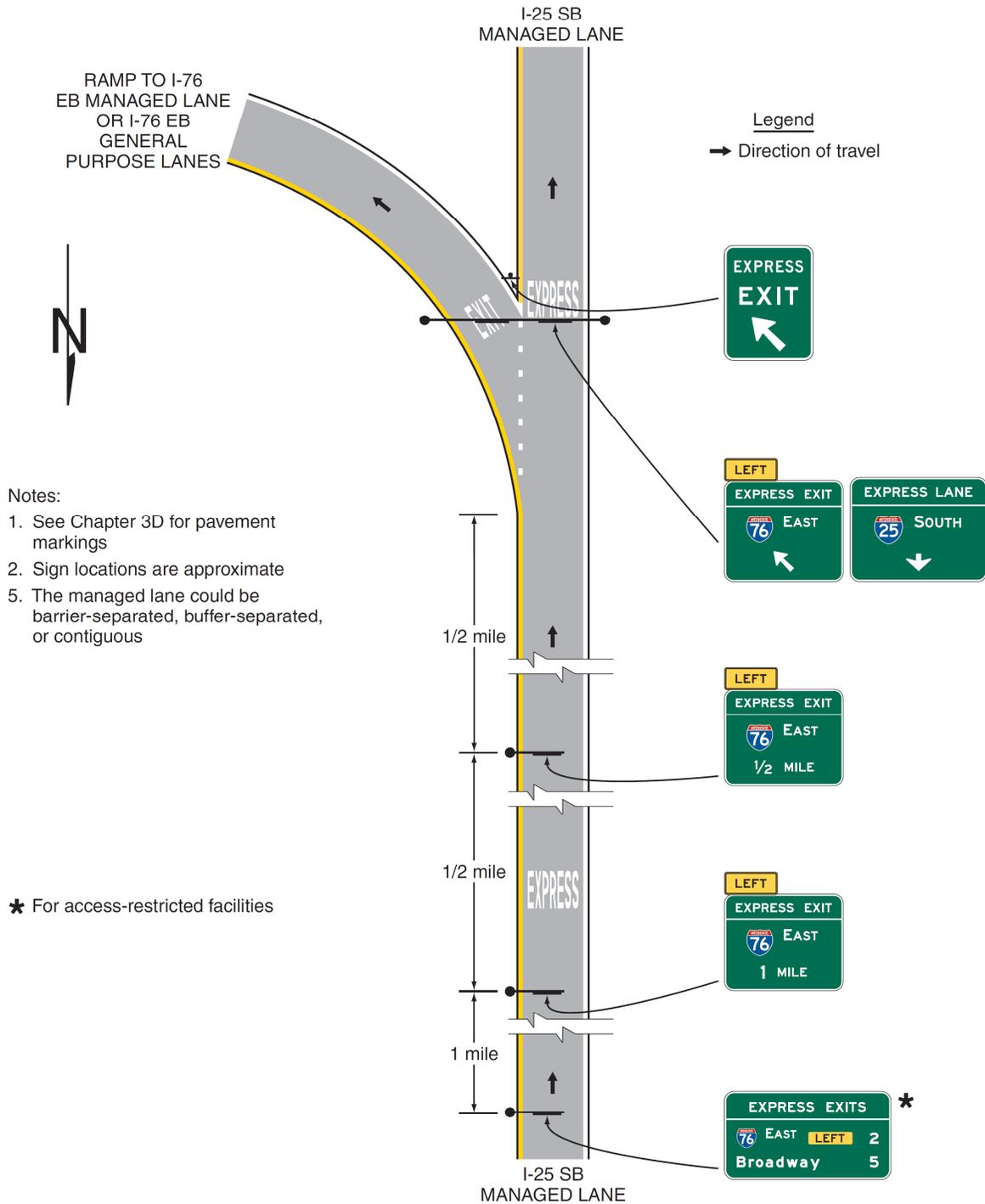
**Figure 2G-25. Examples of Guide Signs for an Intermediate Egress from a Barrier- or Buffer-Separated Managed Lane**



**Figure 2G-26. Examples of Guide Signs for Direct Managed Lane Entrance and Exit Ramps**

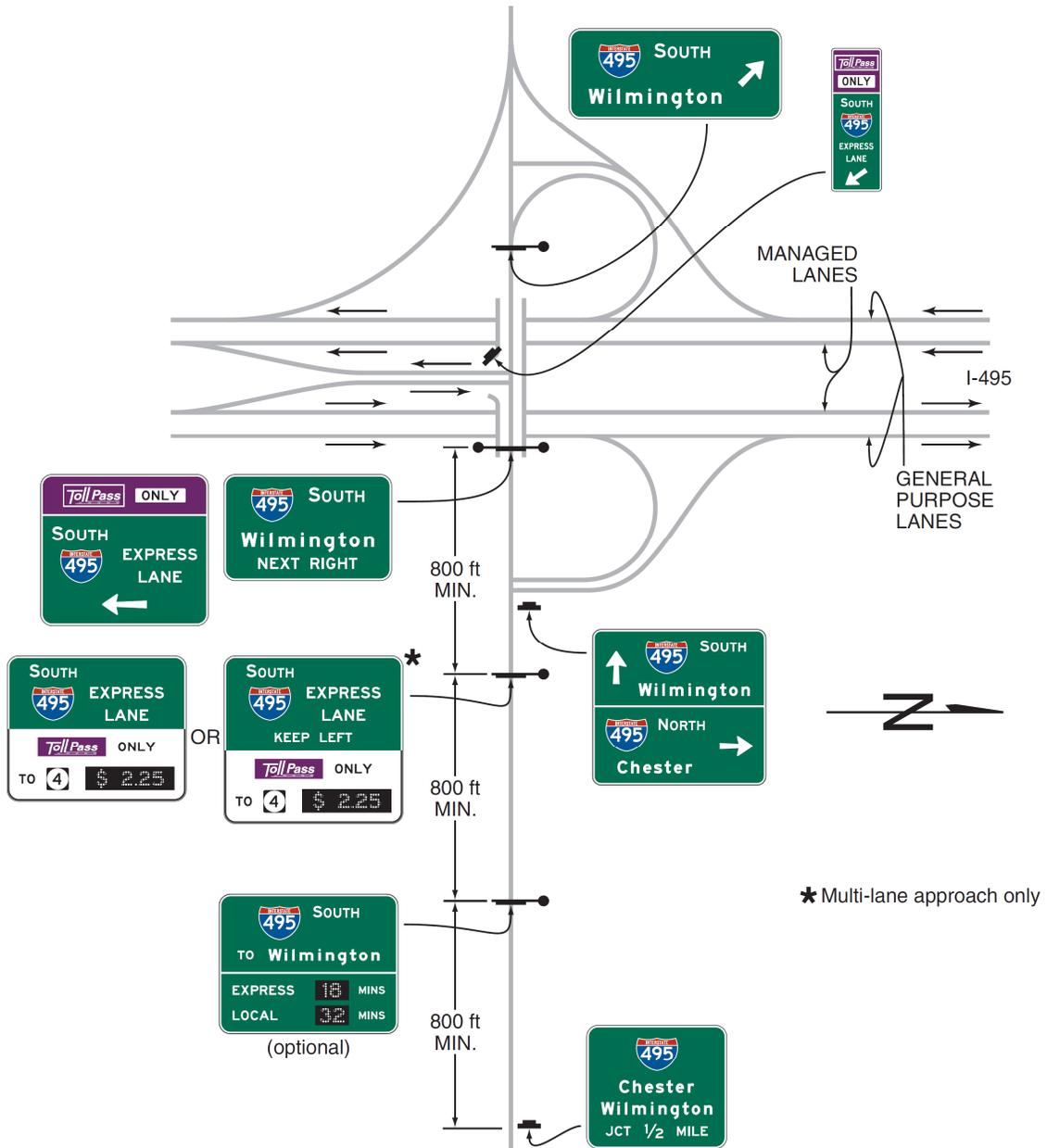


**Figure 2G-27. Examples of Guide Signs for a Direct Access Ramp between Managed Lanes on Separate Freeways**





**Figure 2G-29. Examples of Guide Signs for Separate Entrance Ramps to General-Purpose and Priced Managed Lanes from the Same Crossroad**



**Table 2G-1. Managed and Preferential Lanes Sign and Plaque Minimum Sizes**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road		Expressway	Freeway	Oversized
			Single Lane	Multi-Lane			
<del>Preferential Lane Vehicle Occupancy Definition (post-mounted)</del>	<del>R3-10,10a</del>	<del>2G-04</del>	<del>30 x 42</del>	<del>30 x 42</del>	<del>36 x 60</del>	<del>70 x 96</del>	<del>70 x 96</del>
Preferential Lane Periods of Operation (post-mounted)	R3-11 series	2G.05	30 x 42	30 x 42	36 x 60	<del>70 x 96</del> 36 x 60	78 x 96
<del>Motorcycles Allowed (plaque)</del>	<del>R3-11P</del>	<del>2G-09</del>	<del>30 x 42</del>	<del>30 x 42</del>	<del>36 x 60</del>	<del>70 x 96</del>	<del>70 x 96</del>
Preferential Lane Ahead or Ends (post-mounted)	R3-12 series	2G.06	30 x 42	30 x 42	36 x 60	<del>48 x 84</del> 36 x 60	48 x 84
Preferential Lane Vehicle Occupancy Definition (overhead)	R3-13,13a	2G.04	66 x 36	66 x 36	84 x 48	144 x 78	144 x 78
HOV Lane Periods of Operation (overhead)	R3-14,14a,14b	2G.05	72 x 60	72 x 60	96 x 72	144 x 108	144 x 108
Preferential Lane Periods of Operation (overhead)	R3-14c	2G.05	90 x 60	90 x 60	108 x 72	156 x 102	168 x 102
HOV Lane Ahead (overhead)	R3-15	2G.06	66 x 36	66 x 36	84 x 48	102 x 60	102 x 60
HOV Lane Begins XX Miles (overhead)	R3-15a	2G.06	78 x 42	78 x 42	102 x 54	132 x 72	132 x 72
HOV Lane Ends (overhead)	R3-15b,15c	2G.07	66 x 36	66 x 36	84 x 48	102 x 60	102 x 60
Preferential Lane Ahead or Ends (overhead)	R3-15d,15e	2G.07	42 x 36	42 x 36	54 x 48	72 x 60	72 x 60
Priced Managed Lane Vehicle Occupancy Definition (post-mounted)	R3-40	2G.17	—	—	54 x 66	54 x 66	66 x 78
Priced Managed Lane Ends (post-mounted)	R3-42,42b	2G.17	—	—	48 x 60	48 x 60	60 x 78
Priced Managed Lane Ends Advance (post-mounted)	R3-42a,42c	2G.17	—	—	48 x 66	48 x 66	60 x 84
Priced Managed Lane Vehicle Occupancy Definition	R3-43	2G.17	—	—	138 x 66	138 x 66	—
Priced Managed Lane Periods of Operation (overhead)	R3-44	2G.17	—	—	90 x 84	90 x 84	—
Priced Managed Lane Periods of Operation (overhead)	R3-44a	2G.17	—	—	132 x 84	132 x 84	—
Priced Managed Lane Ends (overhead)	R3-45	2G.17	—	—	90 x 66	90 x 66	—
Priced Managed Lane Ends (overhead)	R3-45a	2G.17	—	—	114 x 66	114 x 66	—
Priced Managed Lane Toll Rate	R3-48	2G.17	—	—	Varies	Varies	—
Priced Managed Lane Toll Rate	R3-48a	2G.17	—	—	Varies	Varies	—
HOV (plaque)	W16-11P	2G.09	24 x 12	24 x 12	30 x 18	30 x 18	30 x 18
Preferential Lane Entrance Gore	E8-1	2G.10	—	—	48 x 96	48 x 96	—
Preferential Lane Intermediate Entrance Gore	E8-1a	2G.10	—	—	48 x 84	48 x 84	—
Preferential Lane Entrance Direction (overhead)	E8-2	2G.11	—	—	222 x 72	222 x 72	—
Preferential Lane Entrance Direction (post-mounted)	E8-2a	2G.11	—	—	186 x 108	186 x 108	—
Preferential Lane Entrance Advance	E8-3	2G.11	—	—	186 x 96	186 x 96	—
Preferential Lane Direct Exit Gore	E8-4	2G.15	—	—	60 x 78	60 x 78	—
Preferential Lane Intermediate Egress Direction	E8-5	2G.13	—	—	Varies x 90	Varies x 90	—
Preferential Lane Intermediate Egress Advance	E8-6	2G.13	—	—	Varies x 84	Varies x 84	—

Notes: 1. Larger signs may be used when appropriate  
2. Dimensions in inches are shown as width x height

**Table 2G-1(CA). California Managed and Preferential Lanes Sign and Plaque Minimum Sizes (Sheet 1 of 2)**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road		Expressway	Freeway	Oversized
			Single Lane	Multi-Lane			
HOV Advance Lane Assignment	G20-9(CA)	2G.14	108 x 72	108 x 72	108 x 72	---	---
HOV Advance Guide	G83-6(CA)	2G.15	---	---	---	---	---
HOV Exit Direction	G85-12(CA)	2G.15	---	---	---	---	---
HOV Supplemental Destination	G86-15(CA)	2G.15	---	---	---	---	---
HOV LANE ENTRANCE	G92-1(CA)	2G.14	36 x 36	36 x 36	48 x 42	---	---
No Left Turn Specific Hours EXCEPT BUSES AND HOV ___+	R33B(CA)	2G.102(CA)	24 x 60	24 x 60	---	---	---
No Left Turn WHEN METERED EXCEPT BUSES AND HOV ___+	R33C(CA)	2G.102(CA)	24 x 60	24 x 60	---	---	---
Specific Hours/Days Plaque	R82A(CA)	2G.06	30 x 12	30 x 12	36 x 18	36 x 18	48 x 24
Specific Hours/Days Plaque	R82B(CA)	2G.06	30 x 24	30 x 24	36 x 24	36 x 24	48 x 36
LEFT LANE HOV ___+ ONLY Specific Hours/Days	R86-3(CA)	2G.05	30 x 66	30 x 66	36 x 66	36 x 66	48 x 78
LEFT LANE HOV ___+ ONLY 24 HOURS	R86-4(CA)	2G.05	30 x 66	30 x 66	36 x 66	36 x 66	48 x 78
HOV ___+ ONLY Specific Hours/Days	R87-3(CA)	2G.05	90 x 60	90 x 60	108 x 70	108 x 70	108 x 70
Route Shield HOV ___+ ONLY Specific Hours/Days	R87-4(CA)	2G.05	104 x 70	104 x 70	---	---	---
Route Shield HOV ___+ ONLY 24 HOURS	R87-5(CA)	2G.05	104 x 70	104 x 70	---	---	---
LEFT (CENTER OR RIGHT) LANE DO NOT STOP (BUSES ONLY)	R88(CA)	2G.102(CA)	30 x 30	30 x 30	---	---	---
ALL VEHICLES STOP ON RED	R90-1(CA)	2G.102(CA)	24 x 30	24 x 30	---	---	---
LEFT (CENTER OR RIGHT) LANE HOV ___+ ___ OR MORE ONLY WHEN METERED (24 HOURS)	R91-1(CA)	2G.102(CA)	30 x 54	30 x 54	---	---	---
(HOV) NO TRUCKS 3 AXLES OR MORE - NO VEHICLES WITH TRAILERS	R91-4(CA)	2G.04	36 x 66	36 x 66	36 x 66	36 x 66	48 x 78
AUTOS/PICKUPS 2 SEATERS WITH 2 PERSONS OK	R91B(CA)	2G.04	30 x 18	36 x 18	36 x 18	36 x 18	48 x 24
HOV ___+ IS ___ OR MORE PERSONS PER VEHICLE	R93-2(CA)	2G.04	30 x 72	30 x 72	36 x 84	36 x 84	---
VEHICLES WITH DMV CLEAN AIR DECAL OK	R93A(CA)	2G.04	30 x 12	30 x 12	36 x 15	36 x 15	---
Mandatory/Optional HOV Movement Lane Control	R94(CA)	2G.05	60 x 42	60 x 42	---	---	---
HOV VIOLATION \$ ___ MINIMUM FINE	SR50-1(CA)	2G.101(CA)	---	---	192 x 70	192 x 70	---
HOV VIOLATION \$ ___ MINIMUM FINE	SR50-2(CA)	2G.101(CA)	30 x 66	30 x 66	36 x 78	36 x 78	48 x 96
RIGHT LANE BUS LANE AHEAD	SR60-1(CA)	2G.06	30 x 42	30 x 42	30 x 42	---	---
RIGHT LANE BUS LANE AHEAD ON X ST.	SR60-2(CA)	2G.06	30 x 42	30 x 42	30 x 42	---	---
RIGHT LANE BUSES TAXIS ONLY Specific Hours/Days	SR60-3(CA)	2G.05	30 x 42	30 x 42	30 x 42	---	---
RIGHT LANE BUSES TAXIS ONLY 24 HOURS	SR60-4(CA)	2G.05	30 x 42	30 x 42	30 x 42	---	---
RIGHT LANE BUSES ONLY 24 HOURS	SR60-5(CA)	2G.05	30 x 42	30 x 42	30 x 42	---	---
RIGHT LANE TRAINS RIGHT TURNS ONLY 24 HOURS	SR60-6(CA)	2G.05	30 x 42	30 x 42	30 x 42	---	---
RIGHT LANE BUS LANE ENDS	SR60-7(CA)	2G.07	30 x 42	30 x 42	30 x 42	---	---
RIGHT LANE BUSES TAXIS ONLY Specific Hours/Days w/Downward Arrow	SR60-8(CA)	2G.05	30 x 42	30 x 42	30 x 42	---	---
RIGHT LANE BUSES TAXIS ONLY 24 HOURS w/Downward Arrow	SR60-9(CA)	2G.05	30 x 42	30 x 42	30 x 42	---	---
(HOV) Lane Reduction	W11-1(CA)	2G.08	30 x 60	30 x 60	36 x 60	36 x 60	48 x 72
(HOV) Merge	W59-1(CA)	2G.08	30 x 60	30 x 60	36 x 60	36 x 60	48 x 72
(HOV) Advisory Exit(Ramp) Speed	W72B(CA)	2G.08	36 x 66	36 x 66	48 x 78	48 x 78	60 x 102

**Table 2G-1(CA). California Managed and Preferential Lanes Sign and Plaque Minimum Sizes (Sheet 2 of 2)**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road		Expressway	Freeway	Oversized
			Single Lane	Multi-Lane			
(HOV) THRU TRAFFIC MERGE LEFT (RIGHT)	W74-1(CA)	2G.08	30 x 60	30 x 60	36 x 60	36 x 60	48 x 72
(HOV) Lane Selection (Left or Right Arrow)	SW54(CA)	2G.08	36 x 36	36 x 36	48 x 48	---	---
(HOV) Lane Selection (Left or Right and Vertical Arrow)	SW54-1(CA)	2G.08	36 x 36	36 x 36	48 x 48	---	---
HOV ___ + IS ___ OR MORE PER VEHICLE WHEN METERED (24 HOURS)	SW54C(CA)	2G.08	30 x 30	30 x 30	36 x 36	---	---



## CHAPTER 2H. GENERAL INFORMATION SIGNS

### Section 2H.01 Sizes of General Information Signs

**Standard:**

**01 Except as provided in Section 2A.11, the sizes of General Information signs that have a standardized design shall be as shown in Table 2H-1.**

**Support:**

02 Section 2A.11 contains information regarding the applicability of the various columns in Table 2H-1.

**Option:**

03 Signs larger than those shown in Table 2H-1 may be used (see Section 2A.11).

### Section 2H.02 General Information Signs (I Series)

**Support:**

01 Of interest to the traveler, though not directly necessary for guidance, are numerous kinds of information that can properly be conveyed by General Information signs (see Figure 2H-1 and 2H-1(CA)) or miscellaneous information signs (see Section 2H.04). They include such items as State lines, city limits, other political boundaries, time zones, stream names, elevations, landmarks, and similar items of geographical interest, and safety and transportation-related messages. Chapter 2M contains recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs that are sometimes used in combination with General Information signs.

**Guidance:**

02 *General Information signs should not be installed within a series of guide signs or at other equally critical locations, unless there are specific reasons for orienting the road user or identifying control points for activities that are clearly in the public interest. On all such signs, the designs should be simple and dignified, devoid of any advertising, and in general compliance with other guide signing.*

**Standard:**

**03 Except for political boundary signs, General Information signs shall have white legends and borders on green rectangular-shaped backgrounds.**

**Option:**

04 An information symbol sign (I-5 through I-9 and SG60(CA)) may be used to identify a route leading to a transportation or general information facility, or to provide additional guidance to the facility. The symbol sign may be supplemented by an educational plaque where necessary; also, the name of the facility may be used if needed to distinguish between similar facilities.

05 The Advance Turn (M5 series) or Directional Arrow (M6 series) auxiliary signs shown in Figure 2H-1 with white arrows on green backgrounds may be used with General Information symbol signs to create a General Information Directional Assembly.

06 Guide signs for commercial service airports and non-carrier airports may be provided from the nearest Interstate, other freeway, or conventional highway intersection directly to the airport, normally not to exceed 15 miles. The Airport (I-5) symbol sign along with a supplemental plaque may be used to indicate the specific name of the airport. An Airport symbol sign, with or without a supplemental name plaque or the word AIRPORT, and an arrow may be used as a trailblazer.

**Standard:**

**07 Adequate trailblazer signs shall be in place prior to installing the ~~airport~~ transportation or general information facility guide signs.**

**Support:**

08 Location and placement of all ~~airport~~ transportation or general information facility guide signs depends upon the availability of longitudinal spacing on highways.

**Option:**

08a The POST OFFICE SG60(CA) sign with Symbol and Arrow may be used to indicate direction to a local post office which is located off the arterial network.

09 The Recycling Collection Center (I-11) symbol sign may be used to direct road users to recycling collection centers.

*Guidance:*

10 *The Recycling Collection Center symbol sign should not be used on freeways and expressways.*

**Standard:**

11 **If used on freeways or expressways, the Recycling Collection Center symbol sign shall be considered one of the supplemental sign destinations.**

12 **When a sign is used to display a safety or transportation-related message, the display format shall not be of a type that would be considered similar to advertising displays. Messages and symbols that resemble any official traffic control device shall not be used on safety or transportation-related message signs.**

*Option:*

13 The pictograph of a political jurisdiction (such as a State, county, or municipal corporation) may be displayed on a political boundary General Information sign.

**Standard:**

14 **If used, the height of a pictograph on a political boundary General Information sign shall not exceed two times the height of the upper-case letters of the principal legend on the sign. The pictograph shall comply with the provisions of Section 2A.06.**

**Unincorporated Community and City Limit (G9-2(CA) and G9-5(CA)) Signs**

**Standard:**

15 **The Unincorporated Community (G9-2(CA)) and City Limit (G9-5(CA)) signs shall be used to mark the limits of cities and to identify unincorporated towns. Refer to S&H Section 101.1.**

*Guidance:*

16 *The G9-2(CA) signs should be placed on the right, as close as practical to the outer town limits of unincorporated towns, facing traffic entering the named town.*

17 *The G9-5(CA) sign should be placed on the right, as close as practical to the outer city limits of incorporated cities, facing traffic entering the named city.*

*Option:*

18 The population may be obtained from:

- A. Federal census
- B. California Dept. of Finance
- C. County Board of Supervisors
- D. County Planning Commission

19 The elevation shown may be that of the courthouse, post office, railroad station, or benchmark in the central district of the city.

**Standard:**

20 **See Section 101.1 of the Streets and Highways Code, which makes these changes mandatory, and Section 101.2 and 101.4, which provides that the Department of Transportation, under certain conditions, shall replace any city limit signs.**

*Guidance:*

21 *If a city or community desires to install a distinctive type city limits or "Welcome" sign on conventional highways at its city limits in place of the standard G9-5(CA) sign, the following criteria should be followed:*

**Standard:**

- A. **The signs shall be installed by local authorities at no expense to the State, and an approved encroachment permit will be obtained prior to installation. They shall be maintained by the permittee to the satisfaction of the permitter.**
- B. **Such signs shall be installed in accordance with current Department practices.**
- C. **Signs shall be of reasonable size and proportional to other guide signs in the area.**
- D. **Signs shall be positioned so they do not obstruct the view of official traffic control devices.**
- E. **No moving or flashing displays or advertising of any kind will be permitted.**
- F. **No sign shall encroach over the highway.**

Option:

- G. Political jurisdiction logos may be displayed on the city limit signs, but the predominant characteristics of the sign will be white legend on a green rectangular shaped background. Distinctive type city limit signs not conforming to the above may remain in place until normal replacement is required.

**County Line (G10(CA)) Sign**

Guidance:

- 22 The County Line (G10(CA)) sign should be used at the point where the county boundary line crosses the State highway.*
- 23 The G10(CA) sign should be placed on the right, as close as practical to the outer limits of the county, facing traffic entering the named county.*

Option:

*24 The County Line (G10-3(CA)) sign may be used in lieu of G10(CA) sign to include wording "WHERE WE HONOR VETERANS". The WHERE WE HONOR VETERANS (G10-4(CA)) sign may be used below the G10(CA) sign. Refer to Streets & Highways Code, Section 1978.*

**Welcome to California (G10B(CA)) Sign**

Guidance:

*25 The Welcome to California (G10B(CA)) sign should be used to indicate the California State line. The sign should be placed on the right near the State boundary facing traffic entering the State.*

**River Name (I-3) Sign**

Option:

*26 The River Name (I-3) sign may be used to identify bridges or structures across rivers and creeks and provide motorist orientation that is not otherwise included in the primary signing.*

Guidance:

- 27 The I-3 sign should be used on freeways to identify major river crossings.*

Option:

*28 The Watershed Boundary (S36(CA)) sign may be installed to identify the boundary of recognized watershed areas, by its appropriate name (before "WATERSHED"). The sign assembly may provide road user orientation with the directional information plaque, ENTERING (S36A(CA)), or LEAVING (S36B(CA)), as appropriate, included above the S36(CA) sign.*

Support:

*29 The Watershed Boundary (S36(CA)) sign provides information for road users to be aware of the geographic boundary of the geographically-named watershed, as recognized by the United States Geological Survey, and promotes environmental stewardship of watersheds by the community. The purpose of the sign is to serve as a reminder to road users that they are traveling through a watershed, and to promote awareness that the responsibility of preserving the cleanliness of our watersheds is shared by all in the community.*

**Standard:**

***30 The agency installing the Watershed Boundary (S36(CA)) sign, with or without the ENTERING (S36A(CA)) or LEAVING (S36B(CA)) supplemental plaque, shall be responsible for furnishing, installing, maintaining and replacing the signs, as needed. The agency installing the signs shall receive approval from the agency having jurisdiction of the roadway prior to installation of these signs.***

**Elevation (G16(CA) and G17(CA)) Signs**

Option:

*31 The Mountain Pass Elevation (G16(CA)) sign may be used at the summit to inform the public of a mountain pass name and elevation.*

Guidance:

- 32 The G16(CA) sign should be placed facing traffic in each direction on the right.*

Option:

*33 The Elevation (G17(CA)) sign may be used to inform motorists of changes in elevation. Feet will be shown in multiples of 1,000 feet above sea level, and multiples of 100 feet below sea level.*

Guidance:

- 34 The G17(CA) sign should be placed facing traffic in each direction on the right.*

### **Conventional Airport (G94-1(CA)) Sign**

**Support:**

<sup>35</sup> The Conventional Airport (G94-1(CA)) sign typifies smaller conventional type aircraft.

**Guidance:**

<sup>36</sup> *The G94-1(CA) sign should be used in lieu of the Airport (I-5) sign to direct to airports, which do not accommodate large commercial jet aircraft.*

### **Coastal Access (SG28(CA)) Sign**

**Option:**

<sup>37</sup> The Coastal Access (SG28(CA)) sign may be used to identify only those improved coastal access points selected by the Coastal Commission in accordance with the agreement between the California Coastal Commission and Department of Transportation dated April, 30, 1980.

### **USING RECLAIMED WATER (S28(CA)) Sign**

**Standard:**

<sup>38</sup> **The USING RECLAIMED WATER (S28(CA)) sign shall be placed to identify locations where reclaimed water is being used for irrigating landscaped areas and other maintenance operations. Refer to Department of Transportation's Maintenance Manual Chapter 8, Section 8.45. See Section 1A.11 for information regarding this publication.**

## **Section 2H.03 Traffic Signal Speed Sign (I1-1)**

**Option:**

<sup>01</sup> The Traffic Signal Speed (I1-1) sign (see Figure 2H-1), reading SIGNALS SET FOR XX MPH, may be used to indicate a section of street or highway on which the traffic control signals are coordinated into a progressive system timed for a specified speed at all hours during which they are operated in a coordinated mode.

<sup>02</sup> If different system progression speeds are set for different times of the day, a changeable message element may be used for the numerals of the Traffic Signal Speed (I1-1) sign. If the system is operated in coordinated mode only during certain times, a blank-out version of the Traffic Signal Speed (I1-1) sign may be used to display the message only during those times.

**Guidance:**

<sup>03</sup> *If used, the sign should be mounted as near as practical to each intersection where the timed speed changes, and at intervals of several blocks throughout any section where the timed speed remains constant.*

**Standard:**

<sup>04</sup> **The Traffic Signal Speed sign shall be a minimum of 24 x 36 inches with the longer dimension vertical. It shall have a white message and border on a green background.**

**Option:**

<sup>05</sup> The local authorities may set traffic signal timing for speeds in slight variance from the posted speed limits.

**Guidance:**

<sup>06</sup> *The Traffic Signal Speed (I1-1) sign should not display a speed above the posted speed limit because of the enticement to exceed that posted speed limit. Refer to CVC 22401.*

## **Section 2H.04 Miscellaneous Information Signs**

**Support:**

<sup>01</sup> Miscellaneous information are used to point out geographical features, such as rivers and summits, and other jurisdictional boundaries (see Section 2H.02). Figure 2H-1 and 2H-1(CA) shows examples of miscellaneous information (I-2 and I-3) signs.

**Option:**

<sup>02</sup> Miscellaneous information signs may be used if they do not interfere with signing for interchanges or other critical points.

**Guidance:**

<sup>03</sup> *Miscellaneous information signs should not be installed unless there are specific reasons for orienting the road users or identifying control points for activities that are clearly in the public interest. If Miscellaneous information signs are to be of value to the road user, they should be consistent with other guide signs in design*

*and legibility. On all such signs, the design should be simple and dignified, devoid of any ~~tendency toward flamboyant~~ advertising, and in general compliance with other signing.*

## **Section 2H.05 Reference Location Signs (D10-1 through D10-3) and Intermediate Reference Location Signs (D10-1a through D10-3a)**

### **Support:**

01 There are two types of reference location signs:

A. Reference Location (D10-1, 2, and 3) signs show an integer distance point along a highway, and

B. Intermediate Reference Location (D10-1a, 2a, and 3a) signs also show a decimal between integer distance points along a highway.

### **Standard:**

#### **Option:**

02 ~~Except when Enhanced Reference Location signs (see Section 2H.06) are used instead,~~ Reference Location (D10-1 through D10-3) signs ~~shall~~ **may** be placed on all expressway facilities that are located on a route where there is reference location sign continuity and on all freeway facilities to assist road users in estimating their progress, to provide a means for identifying the location of emergency incidents and traffic crashes, and to aid in highway maintenance and servicing.

#### **Option:**

03 Reference Location (D10-1 to D10-3) signs (see Figure 2H-2) may be installed along any section of a highway route or ramp to assist road users in estimating their progress, to provide a means for identifying the location of emergency incidents and traffic crashes, and to aid in highway maintenance and servicing **on the highway.**

04 To augment the reference location sign system, Intermediate Reference Location (D10-1a to D10-3a) signs (see Figure 2H-3), which show the tenth of a mile with a decimal point, may be installed at one tenth of a mile intervals, or at some other regular spacing.

### **Standard:**

05 **When Intermediate Reference Location (D10-1a to D10-3a) signs are used to augment the reference location sign system, the reference location sign at the integer mile point shall display a decimal point and a zero numeral.**

06 **When placed on freeways or expressways, reference location signs shall contain 10-inch white numerals on a 12-inch wide green background with a white border. The signs shall be 24, 36, or 48 inches in height for one, two, or three digits, respectively, and shall contain the word MILE in 4-inch white letters.**

07 **When placed on conventional roads, reference location signs shall contain 6-inch white numerals on a green background that is at least 10 inches wide with a white border. The signs shall contain the word MILE in 4-inch white letters.**

08 **Reference location signs shall have a minimum mounting height of 4 feet, measured vertically from the bottom of the sign to the elevation of the near edge of the roadway, and shall not be governed by the mounting height requirements prescribed in Section 2A.18.**

09 **The distance numbering shall be continuous for each route within a State, except where overlaps occur (see Section 2E.31). Where routes overlap, reference location sign continuity shall be established for only one of the routes. If one of the overlapping routes is an Interstate route, that route shall be selected for continuity of distance numbering.**

#### *Guidance:*

10 *The route selected for continuity of distance numbering should also have continuity in interchange exit numbering (see Section 2E.31).*

11 *On a route without reference location sign continuity, the first reference location sign beyond the overlap should indicate the total distance traveled on the route so that road users will have a means of correlating their travel distance between reference location signs with that shown on their odometer.*

### **Standard:**

12 **For divided highways, the distance measurement shall be made on the northbound and eastbound roadways. The reference location signs for southbound or westbound roadways shall be set at locations directly opposite the reference location signs for the northbound or eastbound roadways.**

*Guidance:*

<sup>13</sup> Zero distance should begin at the south and west State lines, or at the south and west terminus points where routes begin within a State.

**Standard:**

<sup>14</sup> **Except as provided in Paragraph 15, reference location signs shall be installed on the right-hand side of the roadway.**

*Option:*

<sup>15</sup> Where conditions limit or restrict the use of reference location signs on the right-hand side of the roadway, they may be installed in the median. On two-lane conventional roadways, reference location signs may be installed on one side of the roadway only and may be installed back-to-back. Reference location signs may be placed up to 30 feet from the edge of the pavement.

<sup>16</sup> If a reference location sign cannot be installed in the correct location, it may be moved in either direction as much as 50 feet.

*Guidance:*

<sup>17</sup> If a reference location sign cannot be placed within 50 feet of the correct location, it should be omitted.

**Standard:**

<sup>18</sup> **In California, reference posts shall be mileage based.**

<sup>19</sup> **Reference posts shall be mounted so that the bottom of the sign is a minimum of 2 feet above the near roadway edge. For lateral position, see Section 2A.16, 2A.19 and Figure 2A-2(CA).**

<sup>20</sup> **The placement and location of reference posts on State highways shall conform to the database maintained by Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Operations for reference posts. This database is different from the TASAS Highway database.**

## **Section 2H.06 Enhanced Reference Location Signs (D10-4, D10-5)**

*Support:*

<sup>01</sup> There are two types of enhanced reference location signs:

- A. Enhanced Reference Location signs (D10-4), and
- B. Intermediate Enhanced Reference Location signs (D10-5).

*Option:*

<sup>02</sup> Enhanced Reference Location (D10-4) signs (see Figure 2H-4), which enhance the reference location sign system by identifying the route, may be placed on freeways or expressways (instead of Reference Location signs) or on conventional roads.

<sup>03</sup> To augment an enhanced reference location sign system, Intermediate Enhanced Reference Location (D10-5) signs (see Figure 2H-4), which show the tenth of a mile with a decimal point, may be installed along any section of a highway route or ramp at one tenth of a mile intervals, or at some other regular spacing.

**Standard:**

<sup>04</sup> **If enhanced reference location signs are used, they shall be vertical signs having blue or green backgrounds with white numerals, letters, and borders, except for the route shield, which shall be the standard color and shape. The top line shall consist of the cardinal direction for the roadway. The second line shall consist of the applicable route shield for the roadway. The third line shall identify the mile reference for the location and the bottom line of the Intermediate Enhanced Reference Location sign shall give the tenth of a mile reference for the location. The bottom line of the Intermediate Enhanced Reference Location sign shall contain a decimal point. The height of the legend on enhanced reference location signs shall be a minimum of 6 inches. The height of the route shield on enhanced reference location signs shall be a minimum of 12 inches.**

<sup>05</sup> **The background color shall be the same for all enhanced reference location signs within a jurisdiction.**

*Support:*

<sup>06</sup> The provisions in Section 2H.05 regarding mounting height, distance numbering and measurements, sign continuity, and placement with respect to the right-hand shoulder and/or median for reference location signs also apply to enhanced reference location signs.

## **Section 2H.07 Auto Tour Route Signs**

### **Support:**

01 Auto Tour Route signs are informational signs, plaques, or shields designed to provide road users with route guidance in following an auto tour route of particular cultural, historical, or educational significance.

02 Signed auto tour routes are used in some cases to generally follow the historical route of a trail, such as the National Historic Trails administered by the National Park Service. Examples include auto tour routes that parallel the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon National Historic Trail, and the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

### **Guidance:**

03 *If shields or other similar signs are used to provide route guidance in following an auto tour route, they should be designed in accordance with the sizes and other design principles for route signs, such as those described in Sections 2D.10 through 2D.12.*

### **Option:**

04 Auto Tour Route signs may be installed on a highway if they have been approved by the appropriate transportation agency.

### **Standard:**

05 **Auto Tour Route signs shall not be installed on freeways or expressways, except as necessary to provide continuity between discontinuous segments of conventional roadways that are designated as auto tour routes, for which the freeway or expressway provides the only connection between the segments. If installed on freeways or expressways, Auto Tour Route signs shall be installed as independent trailblazer assemblies (see Sections 2D.35 and 2E.27) and shall not be installed with other Route signs or confirmation assemblies or on guide signs. If installed on freeways or expressways, Auto Tour Route trailblazer assemblies shall be installed at less frequent intervals than route confirmation assemblies.**

## **Section 2H.08 Acknowledgment Signs**

### **Support:**

01 Acknowledgment signs are a way of recognizing ~~a company, business, or volunteer group~~ **an entity** that provides a highway-related service. Acknowledgment signs include ~~sponsorship~~ **courtesy** signs for ~~the Department's adopt-a-highway program, litter removal programs, maintenance of a parkway or interchange, and other highway maintenance or beautification sponsorship programs.~~

### **Guidance:**

02 *A State or local highway agency that elects to have an acknowledgment sign program should develop an acknowledgment sign policy. The policy should require that eligible sponsoring organizations comply with State laws prohibiting discrimination based on race, religion, color, age, sex, national origin, and other applicable laws. The acknowledgment sign policy should include all of the provisions regarding sign placement and sign design that are described in this Section.*

### **Standard:**

03 **Because regulatory, warning, and guide signs have a higher priority, acknowledgment signs shall only be installed where adequate spacing is available between the acknowledgment sign and other higher priority signs. Acknowledgment signs shall not be installed in a position where they would obscure the road users' view of other traffic control devices.**

04 **Acknowledgment signs shall not be installed at any of the following locations:**

- A. On the front or back of, adjacent to, or around any other traffic control device, including traffic signs, highway traffic signals, and changeable message signs;**
- B. On the front or back of, adjacent to, or around the supports or structures of other traffic control devices, or bridge piers; or**
- C. At key decision points where a road user's attention is more appropriately focused on other traffic control devices, roadway geometry, or traffic conditions, including exit and entrance ramps, intersections, grade crossings, toll plazas, temporary traffic control zones, and areas of limited sight distance.**

*Guidance:*

<sup>05</sup> *The minimum spacing between acknowledgment signs and any other traffic control signs, except parking regulation signs, should be:*

- A. 150 feet on roadways with speed limits of less than 30 mph,
- B. 200 feet on roadways with speed limits of 30 to 45 mph, and
- C. 500 feet on roadways with speed limits greater than 45 mph.

<sup>06</sup> *If the placement of a newly-installed higher-priority traffic control device, such as a higher-priority sign, a highway traffic signal, or a temporary traffic control device, conflicts with an existing acknowledgment sign, the acknowledgment sign should be relocated, covered, or removed.*

*Option:*

<sup>07</sup> State or local highway agencies may develop their own acknowledgment sign designs and may also use their own pictograph (see definition in Section 1A.13) and/or a brief jurisdiction-wide program slogan as part of any portion of the acknowledgment sign, provided that the signs comply with the provisions for shape, color, and lettering style in this Chapter and in Chapter 2A.

*Guidance:*

<sup>08</sup> *Acknowledgment signs should clearly indicate the type of highway services provided by the sponsor.*

**Standard:**

<sup>09</sup> **In addition to the general provisions for signs described in Chapter 2A and the sign design principles covered in the “Standard Highway Signs and Markings” book (see Section 1A.11), acknowledgment sign designs developed by State or local highway agencies shall comply with the following provisions:**

- A. Neither the sign design nor the sponsor acknowledgment logo shall contain any contact information, directions, slogans (other than a brief jurisdiction-wide program slogan, if used), telephone numbers, or Internet addresses, including domain names and uniform resource locators (URL);**

*Option:*

Entities that operate exclusively on the Internet and whose legal name is the same as appears in their Internet web address' domain name, may be permitted to display their name on their recognition panel.

**Standard:**

- B. Except for the lettering, if any, on the sponsor acknowledgment logo, all of the lettering shall be in upper-case letters or a combination of lower-case letters with initial upper-case letters as provided in the “Standard Highway Signs and Markings” book or Department’s California Sign Specifications (see Section 1A.11). Combining large and small upper-case letters or displaying some letters in all uppercase and some in upper- and lowercase shall not be permitted.;**
- C. In order to keep the main focus on the highway-related service and not on the sponsor acknowledgment logo, the area reserved for the sponsor acknowledgment logo shall not exceed 1/3 of the total area of the sign and shall be a maximum of 8 square feet, and shall not be located at the top of the sign;**
- D. The entire sign display area shall not exceed 24 square feet;**
- E. The sign shall not contain any messages, lights, symbols, or trademarks that resemble any official traffic control devices;**
- F. The sign shall not contain any external or internal illumination, light-emitting diodes, luminous tubing, fiber optics, luminescent panels, or other flashing, moving, or animated features; and**
- G. The sign shall not distract from official traffic control messages such as regulatory, warning, or guidance messages.**

*Support:*

<sup>10</sup> Examples of acknowledgment sign designs are shown in Figure 2H-5 and Adopt-A-Highway program signs are shown in Figure 2H-5(CA).

**[Adopt-A-Highway Program Signs \(S32\(CA\) Series\)](#)**

*Support:*

<sup>11</sup> Refer to Streets and Highways Code Section 91.5 and Department of Transportation's Maintenance Manual. See Section 1A.11 for information regarding this publication.

Option:

<sup>12</sup> The Adopt-A-Highway (S32(CA)) sign (see Figure 2H-5(CA)) may be installed near the beginning of each section of State highway that is being maintained under the Department's Encroachment Permit (Adopt-A-Highway), form TR-0121.

**Standard:**

<sup>13</sup> **The Adopt-A-Highway Symbol (S32A(CA)) sign shall be installed on the Adopt-A-Highway (S32(CA)) sign.**

Support:

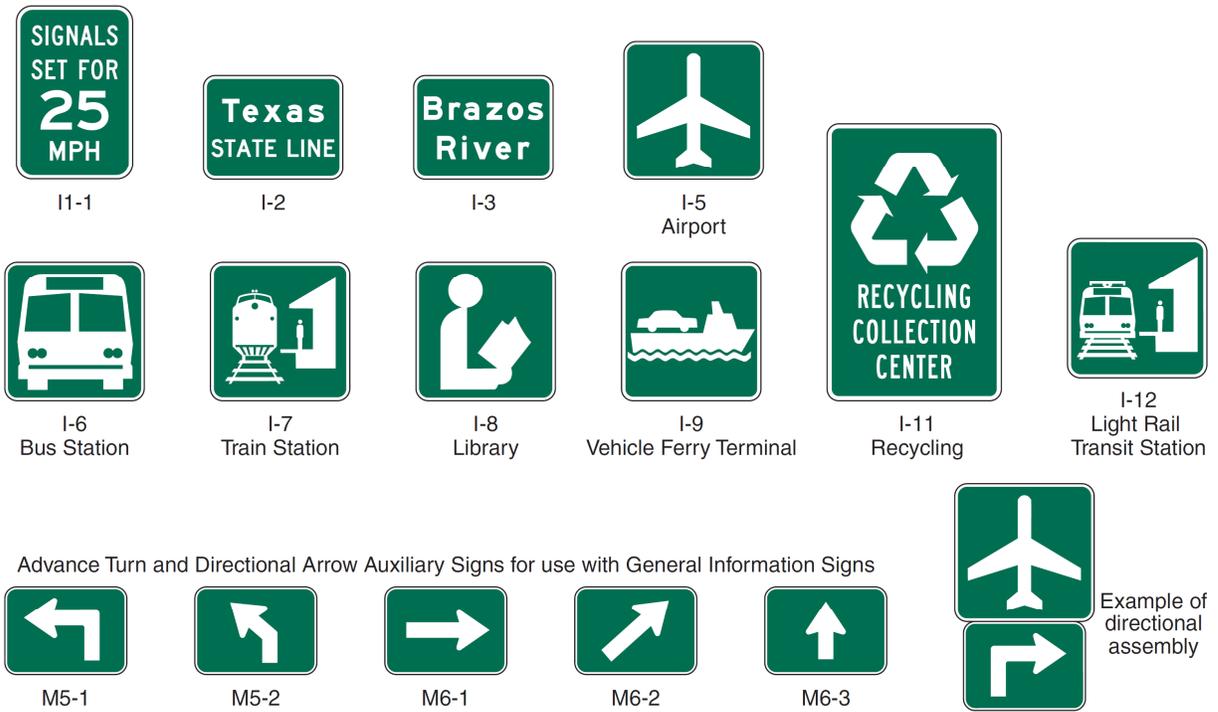
<sup>14</sup> The 10 x 12 inch symbol size is used on the 36 x 30 inch size S32(CA) sign and the 15 x 18 inch symbol size is used on the 54 x 42 inch size S32(CA) sign.

<sup>15</sup> The Adopt-A-Highway Recognition Panel (S32B(CA)) with a participant's name and/or logo is placed over the information area of the S32(CA) sign when a section of State highway has been adopted.

**Standard:**

<sup>16</sup> **When used, the Litter Removal (S32-1(CA)), Wildflower Planting (S32-2(CA)), Tree Planting (S32-3(CA)), Graffiti Removal (S32-4(CA)) or Vegetation Control (S32-5(CA)) signs shall be placed below the S32(CA) sign.**

**Figure 2H-1. General Information and Miscellaneous Information Signs**



**Figure 2H-1 (CA). General Information and Miscellaneous Information Signs**

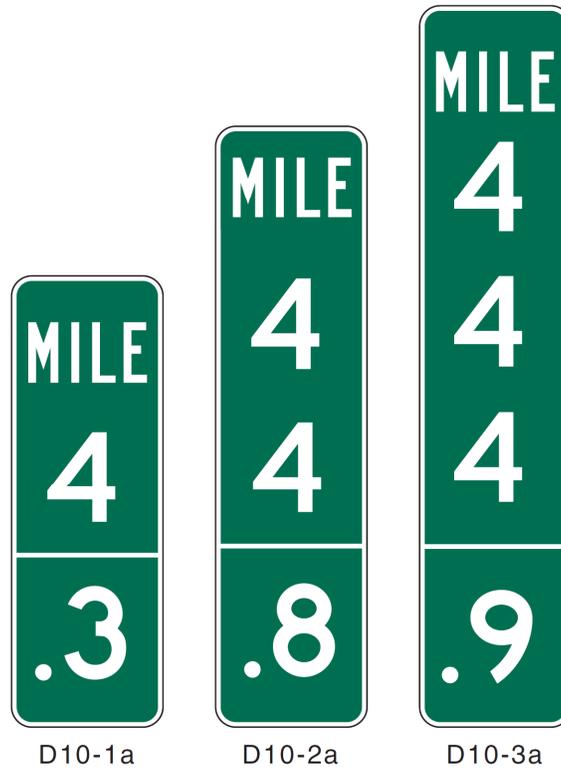


**Figure 2H-2. Reference  
Location Signs**



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**Figure 2H-3. Intermediate  
Reference Location Signs**



**Figure 2H-4. Enhanced Reference  
Location Signs**



D10-4

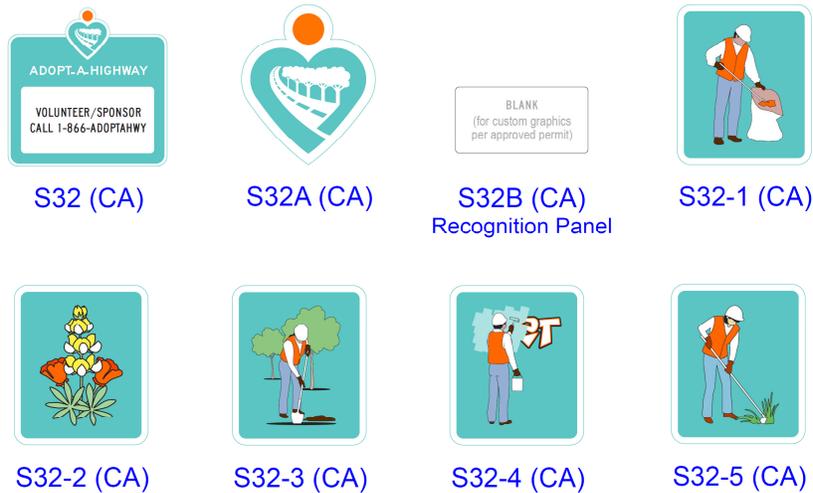


D10-5

**Figure 2H-5. Examples of Acknowledgment Sign Designs**



**Figure 2H-5 (CA). Examples of Adopt-A-Highway Sign Designs**



**Table 2H-1. General Information Sign Sizes**

Sign	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
Reference Location (1 digit)	D10-1	2H.05	10 x 18	12 x 24
Intermediate Reference Location (2 digits)	D10-1a	2H.05	10 x 27	12 x 36
Reference Location (2 digits)	D10-2	2H.05	10 x 27	12 x 36
Intermediate Reference Location (3 digits)	D10-2a	2H.05	10 x 36	12 x 48
Reference Location (3 digits)	D10-3	2H.05	10 x 36	12 x 48
Intermediate Reference Location (4 digits)	D10-3a	2H.05	10 x 48	12 x 60
Enhanced Reference Location	D10-4	2H.06	18 x 54	18 x 54
Intermediate Enhanced Reference Location	D10-5	2H.06	18 x 60	18 x 60
Acknowledgement	D14-1	2H.08	36 x 30*	72 x 48*
Acknowledgement	D14-2	2H.08	36 x 30*	72 x 48*
Acknowledgement	D14-3	2H.08	42 x 24*	96 x 36*
Signals Set for XX MPH	I1-1	2H.03	24 x 36	—
Jurisdictional Boundary	I-2	2H.04	Varies x 18**	Varies x 36**
Geographical Features	I-3	2H.04	Varies x 18**	Varies x 36**
Airport	I-5	2H.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Bus Station	I-6	2H.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Train Station	I-7	2H.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Library	I-8	2H.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Vehicle Ferry Terminal	I-9	2H.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Recycling Collection Center	I-11	2H.02	30 x 48	—
Light Rail Transit Station	I-12	2H.02	24 x 24	—

\* The size shown is the maximum size for the corresponding roadway classification. The size of the sign and acknowledgement logo should be appropriately reduced where shorter legends are used.

\*\* The size shown is for the typical sign illustrated in the figure. The size should be determined based on the amount of legend required for the sign.

Notes: 1. Larger signs may be used when appropriate, except for the D14 series signs  
2. Dimensions in inches are shown as width x height

**Table 2H-1(CA). California General Information Sign Sizes**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
Unincorporated Community	G9-2(CA)	2H.02	VAR x 18	VAR x 30
City Limit	G9-5(CA)	2H.02	VAR x 24	VAR x 42
County Line	G10(CA)	2H.02	VAR x 24	VAR x 36
Welcome To California	G10B(CA)	2H.02	60 x 36	132 x 84
County Line	G10-3(CA)	2H.02	60 x 30	90 x 42
WHERE WE HONOR VETERANS	G10-4(CA)	2H.02	60 x 9	90 x 12
Mountain Pass Elevation	G16(CA)	2H.02	VAR x 18	VAR x 36
Elevation	G17(CA)	2H.02	36 x 18	72 x 36
Conventional Airport	G94-1(CA)	2H.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Coastal Access	SG28(CA)	2H.02	30 x 30	48 x 48
POST OFFICE with Symbol and Arrow	SG60(CA)	2H.02	42 x 30	---
USING RECLAIMED WATER	S28(CA)	2H.02	36 x 24	54 x 36
Watershed Boundary	S36(CA)	2H.02	48 x 54	48 x 54
ENTERING	S36A(CA)	2H.02	48 x 12	48 x 12
LEAVING	S36B(CA)	2H.02	48 x 12	48 x 12
Adopt-A-Highway	S32(CA)	2H.08	36 x 30*	54 x 42*
Adopt-A-Highway Symbol	S32A(CA)	2H.08	10 x 12*	15 x 18*
Adopt-A-Highway Recognition Panel	S32B(CA)	2H.08	30 x 15*	45 x 21*
Litter Removal	S32-1(CA)	2H.08	15 x 18*	15 x 18*
Wildflower Planting	S32-2(CA)	2H.08	15 x 18*	15 x 18*
Tree Planting	S32-3(CA)	2H.08	15 x 18*	15 x 18*
Graffiti Removal	S32-4(CA)	2H.08	15 x 18*	15 x 18*
Vegetation Control	S32-5(CA)	2H.08	15 x 18*	15 x 18*

\* The size shown is the maximum size for the corresponding roadway classification. The size of the sign and Adopt-A-Highway logo should be appropriately reduced where shorter legends are used.



## CHAPTER 2I. GENERAL SERVICE SIGNS

### Section 2I.01 Sizes of General Service Signs

**Standard:**

<sup>01</sup> Except as provided in Section 2A.11, the sizes of General Service signs that have a standardized design shall be as shown in Table 2I-1.

**Support:**

<sup>02</sup> Section 2A.11 contains information regarding the applicability of the various columns in Table 2I-1.

**Option:**

<sup>03</sup> Signs larger than those shown in Table 2I-1 may be used (see Section 2A.11).

### Section 2I.02 General Service Signs for Conventional Roads

**Support:**

<sup>01</sup> On conventional roads, commercial services such as gas-fuel, food, and lodging generally are within sight and are available to the road user at reasonably frequent intervals along the route. Consequently, on this class of road there usually is no need for special signs calling attention to these services. Moreover, General Service signing is usually not required in urban areas except for hospitals, law enforcement assistance, tourist information centers, and camping.

**Option:**

<sup>02</sup> General Service signs (see Figure 2I-1 and 2I-1(CA)) may be used where such services are infrequent and are found only on an intersecting highway or crossroad.

**Standard:**

<sup>03</sup> All General Service signs and supplemental sign panels shall have white letters, symbols, arrows, and borders on a blue background.

**Guidance:**

<sup>04</sup> General Service signs should be installed at a suitable distance in advance of the turn-off point or intersecting highway.

<sup>05</sup> States that elect to provide General Service signing should establish a statewide policy or warrant for its use, and criteria for the availability of services. Local jurisdictions electing to use such signing should follow State policy for the sake of uniformity.

**Option:**

<sup>06</sup> Individual States may sign for whatever alternative fuels are available at appropriate locations.

**Standard:**

<sup>07</sup> General Service signs, if used at intersections, shall be accompanied by a directional message.

**Option:**

<sup>08</sup> The Advance Turn (M5 series) or Directional Arrow (M6 series) auxiliary signs with white arrows on blue backgrounds as shown in Figure 2I-1 may be used with General Service symbol signs to create a General Service Directional Assembly.

<sup>08a</sup> The NEXT RIGHT/LEFT (G58(CA)) Auxiliary sign may also be used in conjunction with the General Service signs.

<sup>09</sup> The General Service sign legends may be either symbols or word messages.

**Standard:**

<sup>10</sup> Symbols and word message General Service legends shall not be intermixed on the same sign. ~~The Pharmacy (D9-20) sign shall only be used to indicate the availability of a pharmacy that is open, with a State-licensed pharmacist present and on duty, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and that is located within 3 miles of an interchange on the Federal-aid system. The D9-20 sign shall have a 24 HR (D9-20aP) plaque mounted below it.~~

**Support:**

<sup>11</sup> Formats for displaying different combinations of these services are described in Section 2I.03.

**Option:**

<sup>12</sup> If the distance to the next point at which services are available is 10 miles or more, a NEXT SERVICES XX MILES (D9-17P) plaque (see Figure 2I-2) may be installed below the General Service sign.

13 The International Symbol of Accessibility for the Handicapped (D9-6) sign may be used beneath General Service signs where paved ramps and rest room facilities accessible to, and usable by, the physically handicapped are provided.

*Guidance:*

14 *When the D9-6 sign is used in accordance with Paragraph 13, and van-accessible parking is available at the facility, a VAN ACCESSIBLE (D9-6P) plaque (see Figure 2I-1) should be mounted below the D9-6 sign.*

*Option:*

15 The Recreational Vehicle Sanitary Station (D9-12) sign may be used as needed to indicate the availability of facilities designed for the use of dumping wastes from recreational vehicle holding tanks.

16 The Litter Container (D9-4) sign may be placed in advance of roadside turnouts or rest areas, unless it distracts the driver's attention from other more important regulatory, warning, or directional signs.

17 The Emergency Medical Services (D9-13) symbol sign may be used to identify medical service facilities that have been included in the Emergency Medical Services system under a signing policy developed by the State and/ or local highway agency.

**Standard:**

18 **The Emergency Medical Services symbol sign shall not be used to identify services other than qualified hospitals, ambulance stations, and qualified free-standing emergency medical treatment centers. If used, the Emergency Medical Services symbol sign shall be supplemented by a sign identifying the type of service provided.**

*Option:*

19 The Emergency Medical Services symbol sign may be used above the HOSPITAL (D9-13aP) sign plaque or Hospital (D9-2) symbol sign plaque or above a sign with the legend AMBULANCE STATION (D9-13bP), EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE (D9-13cP), or TRAUMA CENTER (D9-13dP). The Emergency Medical Services symbol sign may also be used to supplement Telephone (D9-1), Channel 9 Monitored (D12-3), or POLICE (D9-14) signs.

**Standard:**

20 **The legend EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE shall not be used for services other than qualified free-standing emergency medical treatment centers.**

*Guidance:*

21 *Each State should develop guidelines for the implementation of the Emergency Medical Services symbol sign.*

22 *The State should consider the following guidelines in the preparation of its policy:*

**A. AMBULANCE**

1. *24-hour service, 7 days per week.*
2. *Staffed by two State-certified persons trained at least to the basic level.*
3. *Vehicular communications with a hospital emergency department.*
4. *Operator should have successfully completed an emergency-vehicle operator training course.*

**B. HOSPITAL**

1. *24-hour service, 7 days per week.*
2. *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.*
3. *Licensed or approved for definitive medical care by an appropriate State authority.*
4. *Equipped for radio voice communications with ambulances and other hospitals.*

**C. Channel 9 Monitored**

1. *Provided by either professional or volunteer monitors.*
2. *Available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.*
3. *The service should be endorsed, sponsored, or controlled by an appropriate government authority to guarantee the level of monitoring.*

### **Section 2I.03 General Service Signs for Freeways and Expressways**

**Support:**

01 General Service (D9-18 series) signs (see Figure 2I-3) are generally not appropriate at major interchanges (see definition in Section 2E.32) and in urban areas.

**Standard:**

**<sup>02</sup> General Service signs shall have white letters, symbols, arrows, and borders on a blue background. Letter and numeral sizes shall comply with the minimum requirements of Tables 2E-2 through 2E-5. All approved symbols shall be permitted as alternatives to word messages, but symbols and word service messages shall not be intermixed. If the services are not visible from the ramp of a single-exit interchange, the service signing shall be repeated in smaller size at the intersection of the exit ramp and the crossroad. Such service signs shall use arrows to indicate the direction to the services.**

**Option:**

<sup>03</sup> For numbered interchanges, the exit number may be incorporated within the sign legend (D9-18b) or displayed on an Exit Number (E1-5P) plaque (see Section 2E.31).

**Guidance:**

<sup>04</sup> *Distance to services should be displayed on General Service signs where distances are more than ± 0.5 mile.*

<sup>05</sup> *General Service signing should only be provided at locations where the road user can return to the freeway or expressway and continue in the same direction of travel.*

<sup>06</sup> *Only services that fulfill the needs of the road user should be displayed on General Service signs. If State or local agencies elect to provide General Service signing, there should be a statewide policy for such signing and criteria for the availability of the various types of services. The criteria should consider the following:*

A. ~~Gas-Fuel~~, Diesel, LP ~~Gas-Fuel~~, EV Charging, and/or other alternative fuels if all of the following are available:

1. Vehicle services such as ~~gas fuel~~, oil, and water;
2. Modern sanitary facilities and drinking water;
3. Continuous operations at least 16 hours per day, 7 days per week; and
4. Public telephone.

B. Food if all of the following are available:

1. Licensing or approval, where required;
2. Continuous operation to serve at least two meals per day, at least 6 days per week;
3. Public telephone; and
4. Modern sanitary facilities.

C. Lodging if all of the following are available:

1. Licensing or approval, where required;
2. Adequate sleeping accommodations;
3. Public telephone; and
4. Modern sanitary facilities.

D. Public Telephone if continuous operation, 7 days per week is available.

E. Hospital if continuous emergency care capability, with a physician on duty 24 hours per day, 7 days per week is available. A physician on duty would include the following criteria and should be signed in accordance with the priority as follows:

1. Physician on duty within the emergency department;
2. Registered nurse on duty within the emergency department, with a physician in the hospital on call; or
3. Registered nurse on duty within the emergency department, with a physician on call from office or home.

F. ~~24-Hour Pharmacy if a pharmacy is open, with a State-licensed pharmacist present and on duty, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and is located within 3 miles of an interchange on the Federal-aid system.~~

G. Camping if all of the following are available:

1. Licensing or approval, where required;
2. Adequate parking accommodations; and
3. Modern sanitary facilities and drinking water.

**Standard:**

<sup>07</sup> **For any service that is operated on a seasonal basis only, the General Service signs shall be removed or covered during periods when the service is not available.**

~~<sup>08</sup> **The General Service signs shall be mounted in an effective location, between the Advance Guide sign and the Exit Direction sign, in advance of the exit leading to the available services.**~~

**Option:**

<sup>08a</sup> The General Service signs may be located between the Advance Guide sign and the Exit Direction sign, in advance of the exit leading to the available services.

**Guidance:**

<sup>09</sup> The General Service sign should contain the interchange number, if any, as shown in Figure 2I-3.

**Option:**

<sup>10</sup> If the distance to the next point where services are available is greater than 10 miles, a NEXT SERVICES XX MILES (D9-17P) plaque (see Figure 2I-2) may be installed below the ~~Exit Direction sign~~ Advance Guide sign.

<sup>10a</sup> The NEXT RIGHT/LEFT (G58(CA)) Auxiliary sign may also be used in conjunction with the General Service signs.

**Standard:**

<sup>11</sup> Signs for services shall comply with the format for General Service signs (see Section 2I.02) and as provided in this Manual. No more than six general road user services shall be displayed on one sign, which includes any appended supplemental signs or plaques. General Service signs shall carry the legends for one or more of the following services: Food, Gas **Fuel**, Lodging, Camping, Phone, Hospital, ~~24-Hour Pharmacy~~, or Tourist Information.

<sup>12</sup> The qualified services available shall be displayed at specific locations on the sign.

<sup>13</sup> To provide flexibility for the future when the service might become available, the sign space normally reserved for a given service symbol or word shall be left blank when that service is not present.

**Guidance:**

<sup>14</sup> The standard display of word messages should be FOOD and PHONE in that order on the top line, and ~~GAS FUEL~~ and LODGING on the second line. If used, HOSPITAL and CAMPING should be on separate lines (see Figure 2I-3).

**Option:**

<sup>15</sup> Signing for DIESEL, LP-~~Gas~~ **Fuel**, or other alternative fuel services may be substituted for any of the general services or appended to such signs. The International Symbol of Accessibility for the Handicapped (D9-6) sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be used for facilities that qualify.

**Guidance:**

<sup>16</sup> When symbols are used for the road user services, they should be displayed as follows:

A. Six services:

1. Top row—~~GAS~~ **FUEL**, FOOD, and LODGING
2. Bottom row—PHONE, HOSPITAL, and CAMPING

B. Four services:

1. Top row—~~GAS~~ **FUEL** and FOOD
2. Bottom row—LODGING and PHONE

C. Three services:

1. Top row—~~GAS~~ **FUEL**, FOOD, and LODGING

**Option:**

<sup>17</sup> Substitutions of other services for any of the services described in Paragraph 16 may be made by placing the substitution in the lower right (four or six services) or extreme right (three services) portion of the sign. An action message or an interchange number may be used for symbol signs in the same manner as they are used for word message signs. The Diesel Fuel (D9-11) symbol or the LP-~~Gas~~ **Fuel** (D9-15) symbol may be substituted for the symbol representing fuel or appended to such assemblies. The Tourist Information (D9-10) symbol ~~or the 24-Hour Pharmacy (D9-20 and D9-20aP) symbol~~ may be substituted on any of the configurations provided in Paragraph 16.

**Guidance:**

<sup>18</sup> At rural interchange areas where limited road user services are available and where it is unlikely that additional services will be provided within the near future, a supplemental plaque displaying one to three services (words or symbols) ~~may~~ **should** be appended below a post-mounted interchange guide sign.

**Standard:**

<sup>19</sup> ~~If more than three services become available at rural interchange areas where limited road user services were anticipated, the appended supplemental plaque described in Paragraph 18 shall be removed and replaced with an independently mounted General Service sign as described in this Section.~~

**19a If more than four services become available, any appended sign panel shall be removed and replaced with an independently mounted General Service sign as described in this Section.**

**Option:**

20 A separate Telephone Service (D9-1) sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be installed if telephone facilities are located adjacent to the route at places where public telephones would not normally be expected.

21 The Recreational Vehicle Sanitary Station (D9-12) sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be used as needed to indicate the availability of facilities designed for dumping wastes from recreational vehicle holding tanks.

22 In some locations, signs may be used to indicate that services are not available.

23 A separate Truck Parking (D9-16) sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be mounted below the other general road user services to direct truck drivers to designated parking areas.

**Option:**

24 General Service signs may be placed where appropriate, on freeways and expressways and for bypassed communities reasonably accessible from the highway.

**Guidance:**

25 *General Service signs should be considered only when there is an easy route for the road user to return to the freeway from the service facility.*

**Support:**

26 General Service signs are not normally used on conventional highways except in rural areas where the service facilities are not visible from the highway or where commercial services are infrequent and the road users may need the information to enable them to plan their stops. Service signing is intended to be a service to the road user and not to be advertising for individual businesses. When private advertising for a service is provided, there is no need to place General Service signs.

27 In urban areas, commercial services (such as fuel, food and lodging) are generally within sight and available to the road user at reasonably frequent intervals along the route. However, they can be desirable or necessary where services are infrequent or in areas that are predominately residential or industrial where such services are not readily apparent. Also, if the visibility of the private advertising signs have impaired or eliminated either by sound-walls or other items constructed on State right-of-way, or by landscaping or other vegetation that cannot be trimmed or removed, the location can qualify for General Service signing.

**Standard:**

28 **The following criteria shall apply to General Service signs:**

1. **The business shall be within 1,000 feet of the intersection.**
2. **Only Fuel, Food and Lodging symbol (G66(CA)) signs shall be used.**
3. **All other qualifying criteria for Fuel, Food and Lodging listed below shall be met.**
4. **New installations shall be mounted on existing sign supports.**

**Support:**

29 Except for the conditions stated above, General Service signing will not normally be provided in urban areas except for signs directing to a hospital and camping.

**Standard:**

30 **General Service signs shall have a white retroreflective symbol or legend and border on a blue retroreflective background. Letter and numeral sizes shall conform to the minimum requirements of Table 2E-1 through 2E-5. Approved symbol signs shall be used in lieu of word messages, but symbol and word service message shall not be intermixed.**

31 **Follow-up signing, if necessary, shall be placed by local jurisdictions before General Service signs are placed on the State highway.**

**Guidance:**

32 *Whenever possible, General Service signs should be placed below the ground mounted Advance Guide (G83(CA) Series) signs. No more than four symbols should be mounted beneath a single advance directional sign.*

**Option:**

33 If there are no ground mounted Advance Guide (G83(CA) Series) signs available, the General Service signs may be placed as separate installations with a Directional Arrow Auxiliary (M6 Series) sign or NEXT RIGHT/LEFT (G58(CA)) plaque.

*Guidance:*

<sup>34</sup> To avoid misleading the road user, those services that are more than 0.5 mile from the access point on the major route to the service, should have a distance plaque installed below the service sign.

*Support:*

<sup>35</sup> Accordingly, it would be a disservice to the traveler to lead them off on to a minor road to a business providing a service when that same service can be obtained in a shorter distance by remaining on the major road.

*Guidance:*

<sup>36</sup> General Service signing should only be provided at locations where the road user can return to the freeway or expressway and continue in the same direction of travel.

<sup>37</sup> Only services that fulfill the needs of the road user should be shown on General Service signs.

**Standard:**

<sup>38</sup> **Symbol signs shall be used for all new installations of the General Service signs and for all routine maintenance replacements.**

*Guidance:*

<sup>39</sup> The symbols should be placed below the first ground mounted Advance Guide (G83(CA) Series) sign.

*Option:*

<sup>40</sup> Where it is not possible to place them below an existing guide sign, they may be used individually on conventional highways or at the terminus of exit ramps.

*Guidance:*

<sup>41</sup> If placed separately, the NEXT RIGHT/LEFT (G58(CA)) auxiliary sign should be used with the symbol sign.

**Fuel (Gasoline, Diesel and Alternative Fuels) Signs (D9-7, D9-11, G66-11(CA), G66-11A(CA), G66-22A(CA), G66-22B(CA), G66-22C(CA), G66-22D(CA), G66-22E(CA), G66-22F(CA), G66-22G(CA), G66-22H(CA), G66-22J(CA), G66-22K(CA) and G81-52(CA))**

**Standard:**

- 1. The maximum distance to a service station shall be 0.5 mile and have reasonably direct access from and return to the highway.**

*Option:*

2. Service may be signed to in bypassed communities, if the distance to the service is less than the distance to the next service on the through route.

**Standard:**

- 3. Fuel, oil, compressed air, air gauge, radiator water, drinking water, telephone and restrooms shall be available during all service hours.**

*Guidance:*

4. The station should be open at least 12 hours a day.

**Standard:**

- 5. Where gasoline is available, the Gas (D9-7) symbol sign shall be used.**
- 6. Where gasoline and diesel is available, the Diesel Fuel (D9-11) symbol sign (with a superimposed "D") shall be used.**

*Option:*

7. The DIESEL (G66-12A(CA)) plaque may be used in addition to other appropriate service signs. Where neat (B100) Biodiesel (BD) fuel is available, the Biodiesel (G66-22C(CA)) symbol sign and BIODIESEL (G66-22D(CA)) supplemental plaque may be used in addition to the other appropriate signs.
8. Where liquefied petroleum gas is available; a LP GAS (G81-52(CA)) plaque may be used below either D9-7 or D9-11 sign.
9. Where methanol fuel is available, the Methanol Fuel (G66-11(CA)) symbol sign and METHANOL (G66-11A(CA)) plaque may be used in addition to other appropriate service signs.
10. The Compressed Natural Gas (G66-22A(CA)) sign may be used for Compressed Natural Gas Refueling Stations within 3 mile of a State highway and be available to the public at least 16 hours a day.
11. The Liquefied Natural Gas (G66-22B(CA)) sign may be used for Liquefied Natural Gas Refueling Stations within 3 mile of a State highway and be available to the public at least 16 hours a day.

- 12. Where ethanol E85 fuel is available, the Ethanol E85 (G66-22E(CA)) symbol sign and ETHANOL (G66-22F(CA)) supplemental plaque may be used in addition to the other appropriate signs.
- 13. Where hydrogen (H) fuel is available, the Hydrogen (G66-22G(CA)) symbol sign and HYDROGEN (G66-22H(CA)) supplemental plaque may be used in addition to the other appropriate signs.
- 14. Where only alternative fuels are available and gasoline and diesel fuels are not, the Alternative ALT (G66-22J(CA)) symbol sign (with superimposed "ALT") may be used with an Alternative Fuels (G66-22K(CA)) supplemental plaque mounted below.
- 15. Beneath the standard fuel symbol sign, per #5 or #6 above, or, the Alternative-ALT (G66-22J(CA)) symbol sign, the Alternative Fuels (G66-22K(CA)) supplemental plaque may list alternative fuels available with one fuel name or abbreviation per line. This supplemental plaque height may vary from 2 to 6 lines of text; and, may intentionally leave space(s) for an alternate fuel legend overlay(s) to be added at a future time.

**Standard:**

**16. Follow-up signing, if necessary, shall be placed by local agencies before signs are placed on the State highway.**

**Support:**

<sup>42</sup> The Department of Transportation may develop signs for future requests for alternative fuel signs, then share the signs with the California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC) in a subsequent meeting for informational purposes.

**Electric Vehicle Charging Station Signs (G66-21(CA))**

**Option:**

<sup>43</sup> The ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION (G66-21(CA)) sign may be used for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations within 3 mile of a State highway and be available to the public at least 16 hours a day.

**Standard:**

<sup>44</sup> **Follow-up signing, if necessary, shall be placed by local agencies before signs are placed on the State highway.**

**Option:**

<sup>45</sup> The Distance with Arrow (G66-21A(CA)) plaque may be used to supplement the G66-21(CA) sign to provide distance and directional information to the motorist.

**Food or Lodging Signs (D9-8 and D9-9)**

**Standard:**

<sup>46</sup> **To qualify for food signs, single establishments shall be open to serve at least two meals a day. Both food and lodging establishments shall score at least 10 points in the following categories, including at least one point in Category 4, to qualify for signs.**

**1. Maximum distance from the highway exit to the first service facility:**

0 – 1 mile	3 Points
1 – 2 mile	2 Points
2 – 5 mile	1 Point
More than 5 mile	0 Points

**2. Number of traffic control devices (signals or stop signs) between the exit and the facility:**

0 - 1 Devices	3 Points
2 – 3 Devices	2 Points
4 – 4 Devices	1 Point
More than 5	0 Points

**3. Number of seats available in food facilities:**

50 or more	3 Points
30 – 49	2 Points
15 – 29	1 Point
Less than 15	0 Points

- 4. Number of rooms available with private baths at lodging facilities:**
- |             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| 30 or more  | 3 Points |
| 10 – 30     | 2 Points |
| 2 – 10      | 1 Point  |
| Less than 2 | 0 Points |
- 5. Distance to the next highway exit served by a food or lodging establishment:**
- |                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| 15 mile or more | 3 Points |
| 7 – 15 mile     | 2 Points |
| 3 – 7 mile      | 1 Point  |
| 3 mile or less  | 0 Points |

*Guidance:*

6. *Judgment factors include comfort, appearance, scope of service provided, etc., should be scored 0 to 3 points by the inspecting official.*

**Camping Signs (D9-3 and D9-3a)**

**Option:**

<sup>47</sup> The Camping (D9-3 and D9-3a) signs may be placed for campgrounds providing individual service and utility hookups for one-night stops for travel trailers, campers and other recreational vehicles.

**Standard:**

<sup>48</sup> **To qualify for Camping (D9-3 and D9-3a) signs, the facility shall meet all the following criteria:**

1. **It shall be licensed for private operation or be operated by a governmental agency.**
2. **It shall be accessible to and capable of handling all types of recreational vehicles.**
3. **It shall be open to the public for 24 hours each day during the time the signs are in place.**
4. **It shall be no more than 10 mile from the highway exit designated by the sign.**
5. **It shall be equipped to handle a minimum of 25 travel trailers, campers, and other recreational vehicles for overnight stops, including individual service, utility hook-ups and individual sewer connections or a central sewer holding tank.**
6. **Follow-up signing shall be installed and maintained by local agencies where required for the logical direction of traffic.**

**Hospital Sign (D9-2 and D9-13)**

**Option:**

<sup>49</sup> Hospitals, as defined in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 5, Chapter 1, Article 1, Section 70005 and licensed by the Department of Health Services, which provide 24 hour inpatient care, in urban and rural areas which are located in close proximity to a highway and provide specified medical services, may qualify for the Hospital (D9-2) symbol sign.

<sup>50</sup> The D9-2 signs may be provided for hospitals in urban areas within 1 mile of a highway, accept emergency cases and have a medical doctor in attendance 24 hours a day.

<sup>51</sup> The D9-2 signs may be provided for hospitals in rural areas within 3 mile of a highway, accept emergency cases and have a doctor on call 24 hours a day.

<sup>52</sup> Exceptions to the distance requirement may be made in areas where hospitals are a great distance apart.

**Telephone Signs (D9-1, D9-1a and D9-1b)**

**Option:**

<sup>53</sup> The Telephone (D9-1, D9-1a and D9-1b) signs are placed where a telephone is available 24 hours a day and is located in a remote area where it would not be expected.

**STAA Truck Service and Terminal Access Signs (G66-55(CA) and G66-56(CA))**

**Option:**

<sup>54</sup> The STAA Truck Service (G66-55(CA)) and STAA Truck Terminal Access (G66-56(CA)) signs may be placed by the Department of Transportation on the National Network of Highways to identify locations where STAA trucks may leave the National Network to access services and terminals per CVC 35401.5(c) and (d). The G66-55(CA) and G66-56(CA) signs may also be used on Terminal Access routes to indicate turns and access ending points.

Support:

<sup>55</sup> More information on the National Network and State Terminal Access routes is available from the Office of Truck Services in Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Operations. Some of this information can also be accessed on the Internet at the following web site:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/trucks/>

**STAA Definitions**

Support:

- **STAA** - Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982, federal funding authorization that declared, among other things;
  1. Semitrailers up to and including 48 feet in length are exempt from state kingpin to rear axle (KPRI) and overall combination length limits,
  2. Semitrailers over 48 feet long and up to and including 53 feet in length are exempt from state overall length limits. (These semitrailers are subject to state KPRI limits in California.),
  3. Double trailers in combination where each does not exceed 28.5 feet in length are exempt from any state overall length limits.
  4. Federal length rules apply to these combination vehicles only when operating on a federally declared system of highways called the National Network and the state and local determined terminal access and service access highways.

Note: Tour buses up to 45 feet long (motorcoaches) were added to the federal regulations under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). Motorhomes (housecars) up to 45 feet in length were legalized in California in October 2001. Although highway restrictions apply to both these vehicle types, they may operate beyond the STAA Network. However, the Motorcoach and Motorhome Network map defines highway access restrictions imposed at the limits of turning performance (i.e., the 45 feet vehicles would need to cross centerlines).

- **National Network** – federally designated state highways for STAA vehicles as defined and listed in the Federal Code of Regulations, Title 23, Part 658 (23CFR658) and 658.23 Appendix A.
- **Terminal Access** – state and local agency highways designated for “reasonable access” to/from the National Network by STAA vehicles as provided for in the CVC 35401.5(c) and (d). All transitions (egress) from National Network to Terminal Access highways, critical decision points (all turns) and Terminal Access end points should be so designated with a G66-56(CA) sign.
- **STAA Network** – the California network of Terminal Access and National Network highways. A map and Truck Route List identifying the STAA Network (includes State highway system only, does not include local streets and roads) are available from Office of Truck Services in Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Operations.
- **Service Access (SA)** – state and local agency highways identified for service use by STAA vehicles. Service access is limited to 1 mile off the STAA network and must be “identified.” Identification may include a map indicating service access for STAA vehicles, an approved list, or by G66-55(CA) signs.
- **STAA trucks** – are truck tractor-semi-trailer combinations, or doubles with a long length configuration such that the vehicles may operate legally only on the STAA Network and SA routes.

**STAA Truck Service (G66-55(CA)) Sign**

Option:

<sup>56</sup> The STAA Truck Service (G66-55(CA)) Sign may be placed on the STAA Network to identify locations where STAA trucks may exit the network to obtain services as provided for by CVC 35401.5(c) and (d).

**Standard:**

<sup>57</sup> **STAA trucks shall not exit the STAA Network to obtain services unless the G66-55(CA) sign indicates egress.**

<sup>58</sup> **STAA Truck Service (G66-55(CA)) signs shall be provided as follows:**

1. **Access – All the following requirements shall be met:**
  - **Fuel, food, lodging and/or repair facilities shall be located within 1 mile of the point of ingress and egress from the designated system.**
  - **Ramps, intersections and streets shall have adequate turning radii and lane widths to safely accommodate STAA trucks.**
  - **The service being made accessible shall have parking provisions for STAA trucks, or alternative parking within 1 mile shall be identified.**

2. **Facilities** – Two of the four services - fuel, food, lodging & repair - shall be provided:
  - Fuel (Diesel) - Fuel is available at least 12 hours during the working day.
  - Food - Conforms to requirements for Food (D9-8) signs in this section.
  - Lodging - Conforms to requirements for Lodging (D9-9) signs in this section.
  - Repair Services - Oil, tire repair, engine and brake services are available.
3. **Concurrence:**
  - The proposal for G66-55(CA) signing has written concurrence by the local jurisdiction(s) having responsibility for maintenance of the roadways within 1 mile of ingress/egress.
4. **Sign Placement:**
  - The G66-55(CA) sign on the STAA Network shall be displayed in advance of the ramp or intersection.
  - Although no follow-up signing is required, trailblazer signs may be used where applicable.

#### **STAA Truck Terminal Access (G66-56(CA)) Sign**

##### **Option:**

<sup>59</sup> STAA Truck Terminal Access (G66-56(CA)) signs may be placed to identify Terminal Access routes leading from the National Network, as trailblazers and to indicate the end of a Terminal Access route. STAA trucks can exit the National Network onto Terminal Access routes only where indicated by a G66-56(CA) sign. (Note: In California, no signs indicate the National Network highways.) Highways may be designated Terminal Access only if the curves, ramps, and intersections meet the geometric criteria for STAA trucks, including adequate turning radii and lane width.

##### **Standard:**

<sup>60</sup> STAA Truck Terminal Access (G66-56(CA)) signs shall be provided as follows:

1. **On State Highways:**
  - State route segments under consideration for Terminal Access shall meet all geometric criteria for STAA trucks.
  - The end of any Terminal Access route segment shall be signed as such.
  - Trail-blazing signs shall be placed at decision points indicating direction(s) a STAA truck may proceed.
  - The G66-56(CA) sign shall be placed in advance of the ramp or intersection where a STAA truck may exit the designated system.
2. **On Local Highways:**
  - Signing of egress from a State Terminal Access route to a local Terminal Access route shall be done only if requested by the local jurisdiction and:
    - a) the local jurisdiction has informed the Department in writing that the local roads and intersections on the proposed local Terminal Access route meet all geometric criteria\* for STAA trucks and,
    - b) the State highway ramp or intersection meets all geometric criteria for STAA trucks.
  - \* - The geometric criteria involves using a STAA vehicle to design the intersection or ramp so that the STAA vehicle can stay in its lane without encroaching into the adjacent or opposing lane.
  - If the route passes through more than one local jurisdiction, the city or county where the terminal is located shall acquire concurrence from all affected jurisdictions before requesting access from the STAA Network. Per CVC 35401.5(d)(1)(2) "The denial of a request for access to terminals and services shall be only on the basis of safety and an engineering analysis of the proposed access route. If a written request for access has been properly submitted and has not been acted upon within 90 days of receipt by the Department or the appropriate local agency, the access shall be deemed automatically approved."
  - Local agency shall place G66-56(CA) signs at every critical decision point on the Terminal Access route, including a G66-56(CA) sign with END Auxiliary (M4-6) sign.
  - The State shall place a G66-56(CA) sign on the State route in advance of the ramp or intersection to the local Terminal Access highway.

##### **Guidance:**

- Local agencies should furnish Terminal Access route information to the Office of Truck Services for web publication. Some examples are available on the following web site: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/trucks/truckmap/local-truck-routes.htm>

### **NEXT EXIT OK Sign (G66-56A(CA))**

Option:

<sup>61</sup> The NEXT EXIT OK (G66-56A(CA)) sign may be used below the appropriate G66-55(CA) or G66-56(CA) signs.

### **Law Enforcement Signs (G66-57(CA), G66-61(CA) and G66-62(CA))**

Option:

<sup>62</sup> The Highway Patrol (G66-57(CA)) signs may be placed for California Highway Patrol offices located within 1 mile of a highway.

<sup>63</sup> The Sheriff (G66-61(CA)) sign may be placed for a sheriff office located within 1 mile of a highway.

<sup>64</sup> The Police (G66-62(CA)) sign may be placed for a police station located within 1 mile of a highway.

### **Emergency Services Signs**

Option:

<sup>65</sup> Emergency Service signs, such as DRINKING WATER, RADIATOR WATER; etc. may be placed when appropriate.

### **Call Box Signs (SG25(CA), SG25A(CA) and SG41(CA))**

Support:

<sup>66</sup> The Call Box (SG25(CA)) sign is used to designate call boxes on the county SAFE (Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies) Call Box System. The special sign sizes are intended for use only on scenic highways, within designated coastal zones and National or State parks, to keep signing compatible with scenic values.

<sup>67</sup> The call box identification number is established by using the route number to the left of the hyphen. The first two numbers to the right of the hyphen are the post mile numbers (or three numbers if applicable); the last number locates the call box within the post mile.

<sup>68</sup> For northbound and eastbound routes, this number will be 2 for the call box in the first quarter mile; 4 for the call box between one quarter and one half mile; 6 for the call box between one half and three quarter mile; and 8 for the call box between three quarter and one mile, within a given post mile. 0 will be used for infills or for call boxes at the post mile.

<sup>69</sup> For southbound and westbound routes, this number will be 3 for the call box in the first quarter mile; 5 for the call box between one quarter and one half mile; 7 for the call box between one half and three quarter mile; and 9 for the call box between three quarter and one mile, within a given post mile. 1 will be used for infills or for call boxes at the post mile.

Option:

- A letter code may precede the post mile (R for realignment, etc.).

#### **Standard:**

- Call boxes located in the median shall be designated by the letter "M" following the post mile.
- Call boxes located on a transition or connector shall be designated by the letter "T" following the post mile.
- Call boxes located at a park and ride lot shall be designated by the letter "A" following the post mile.
- Call boxes located on a carpool lane shall be designated by the letter "P" following the post mile.
- Call boxes located on a split (i.e. Cypress) shall be designated by the letter "S" following the post mile.

Option:

<sup>70</sup> The Call Box Adoption Plaque (SG25A(CA)) may be used to inform motorists on highways, that have the SAFE Call Box System, that a particular call box location or segment of highway has been adopted by an individual, organization or company.

#### **Standard:**

<sup>71</sup> When used, the SG25A(CA) sign shall be placed below the SG25(CA) sign.

Option:

<sup>72</sup> The END CALL BOXES (SG41(CA)) sign may be used to inform motorists of the end of the SAFE Call Box System for a particular segment of highway.

### **CAL Fire Station Signs (SG38(CA) and SG39(CA))**

Option:

<sup>73</sup> The CAL FIRE STATION NEXT RIGHT (SG38(CA)) sign may be used on freeways in rural areas to give advance notice of an exit to a California Department of Forestry Fire Station which is within 0.5 mile of the exit and is open 24 hours each day of the year.

<sup>74</sup> The CAL FIRE STATION with Arrow (SG39(CA)) sign may be used in rural areas on expressways, conventional highways and freeway ramp terminals in advance of the turn off to a California Department of Forestry Fire Station which is within 0.5 mile of the exit and is open 24 hours each day of the year.

#### **Fire Hydrant Signs (S9(CA) and S10(CA))**

<sup>75</sup> The Fire Hydrant Street Name (S9(CA)) or Fire Hydrant with Distance and Arrow (S10(CA)) sign may be used to mark the location of off right-of-way fire hydrants adjacent to freeways. A public entity may place blue reflective pavement markers on a State highway after first obtaining an encroachment permit from Department of Transportation. Refer to Health and Safety Code Section 13060. In many locations the off right-of-way fire hydrants may be out of view from the freeway. Some fire districts may want to install the S9(CA) and S10(CA) signs to identify the hydrant. These S9(CA) and S10(CA) sign installations are optional and at the discretion of the Department of Transportation District Engineer.

### **Section 2I.04 Interstate Oasis Signing**

#### **Support:**

<sup>01</sup> An Interstate Oasis is a facility near an Interstate highway that provides products and services to the public, 24-hour access to public restrooms, and parking for automobiles and heavy trucks. Interstate Oasis guide signs inform road users on Interstate highways as to the presence of an Interstate Oasis at an interchange and which businesses have been designated by the State within which they are traveling as having met the eligibility criteria of the Federal Highway Administration's Interstate Oasis policy. The FHWA's policy, which is dated October 18, 2006, and which can be viewed on the MUTCD website at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/res-policy.htm>, provides a more detailed definition of an Interstate Oasis and specifies the eligibility criteria for an Interstate Oasis designation in compliance with the requirements of laws enacted by Congress.

#### **Guidance:**

<sup>02</sup> *If a State elects to provide or allow Interstate Oasis signing (see Figure 2I-4), there should be a statewide policy, program, procedures, and criteria for the designation and signing of a facility as an Interstate Oasis that complies with FHWA's policy and with the provisions of this Section.*

<sup>03</sup> *States electing to provide or allow Interstate Oasis signing should use the following signing practices on the freeway for any given exit to identify the availability of a designated Interstate Oasis:*

- A. If adequate sign spacing allows, a separate Interstate Oasis (D5-12) sign should be installed in an effective location with spacing of at least 800 feet from other adjacent guide signs, including any Specific Service signs. This Interstate Oasis sign should be located upstream from the Advance Guide sign or between the Advance Guide sign and the Exit Direction sign for the exit leading to the Interstate Oasis. The Interstate Oasis sign should have a white legend with a letter height of at least 10 inches and a white border on a blue background and should contain the words INTERSTATE OASIS and the exit number or, for an unnumbered interchange, an action message such as NEXT RIGHT. The names or logos of the businesses designated as Interstate Oases should not be included on this sign.*
- B. If the spacing of the other guide signs precludes the use of a separate sign as described in Item A, an INTERSTATE OASIS (D5-12P) supplemental plaque with a letter height of at least 10 inches and with a white legend and border on a blue background should be appended above or below an existing D9-18 series General Service sign for the interchange.*

<sup>04</sup> *If a separate Interstate Oasis (D5-12) sign is installed, an Interstate Oasis sign panel should be incorporated into the design of the sign (see Figure 2I-4).*

#### **Standard:**

<sup>05</sup> **The Interstate Oasis sign panel shall only be used on the separate Interstate Oasis sign where it is accompanied by the words INTERSTATE OASIS and shall not be used independently without the words.**

#### **Option:**

<sup>06</sup> If Specific Service signing is provided at the interchange, a business designated as an Interstate Oasis and having a business logo sign panel on the Food and/or Gas Specific Service signs may use the bottom portion of the business logo sign panel to display the word OASIS.

#### **Standard:**

<sup>07</sup> **If Specific Services signs containing the OASIS legend as a part of the business logo(s) are not used on the ramp and if the Interstate Oasis is not clearly visible and identifiable from the exit ramp, a sign with a white INTERSTATE OASIS legend with a letter height of at least 6 inches and a white border on a blue**

**background shall be provided on the exit ramp to indicate the direction and distance to the Interstate Oasis.**

**08 If needed, additional trailblazer guide signs shall be used along the crossroad to guide road users to an Interstate Oasis.**

## **Section 2I.05 Rest Area and Other Roadside Area Signs**

### **Standard:**

**01 Rest Area signs (see Figure 2I-5 and 2I-5(CA)) shall have a retroreflective white legend and border on a blue background.**

**02 Signs that include the legend REST AREA shall be used only where parking and restroom facilities are available.**

### *Guidance:*

*03 A roadside area that does not contain restroom facilities should be signed to indicate the major road user service that is provided. For example, the sign legends for an area with only parking should use the words PARKING AREA instead of REST AREA. The sign legends for an area with only picnic tables and parking should use words such as PICNIC AREA, ROADSIDE TABLE, or ROADSIDE PARK instead of REST AREA.*

*04 Rest areas that have tourist information and welcome centers should be signed as discussed in Section 2I.08.*

*05 Scenic area signing should be consistent with that provided for rest areas, except that the legends should use words such as SCENIC AREA, SCENIC VIEW, or SCENIC OVERLOOK instead of REST AREA.*

*06 If a rest area or other roadside area is provided on a conventional road, a D5-1 and/or ~~D5-1b~~ D5-1a sign should be installed in advance of the rest area or other roadside area to permit the driver to reduce speed in preparation for leaving the highway. A D5-5 sign (or a D5-2 sign if an exit ramp is provided) should be installed at the turnoff point where the driver needs to leave the highway to access the rest area or other roadside area.*

*07 If a rest area or other roadside area is provided on a freeway or expressway, a D5-1 sign should be placed 1 mile and/or 2 miles in advance of the rest area.*

### **Standard:**

**08 A ~~D5-2~~ D5-2a sign shall be placed at the rest area or other roadside area exit gore.**

### **Option:**

**09 A ~~D5-1b~~ D5-1a sign may be placed between the D5-1 sign and the exit gore on a freeway or expressway. A second D5-1 sign may be used in place of the D5-1b sign with a distance to the nearest 1/2 or 1/4 mile displayed as a fraction rather than a decimal for distances of less than 1 mile.**

**10 To provide the road user with information on the location of succeeding rest areas, a NEXT REST AREA XX MILES (D5-6) sign (see Figure 2I-5) may be installed independently or as a supplemental sign mounted below one of the REST AREA advance guide signs.**

### **Standard:**

**11 All signs on freeways and expressways for rest and other roadside areas shall have letter and numeral sizes that comply with the minimum requirements of Tables 2E-2 through 2E-5. The sizes for General Service signs that have standardized designs shall be as shown in Table 2I-1.**

### **Option:**

**12 If the rest area has facilities for the physically impaired (see Section 2I.02), the International Symbol of Accessibility for the Handicapped (D9-6) sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be placed with or beneath the REST AREA advance guide sign.**

**13 If telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) are available at the rest area, the TDD (D9-21) symbol sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be used to supplement the advance guide signs for the rest area.**

**14 If wireless Internet services are available at the rest area, the Wi-Fi (D9-22) symbol sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be used to supplement the advance guide signs for the rest area.**

**15 The alternate message VISTA POINT may be used on D5-1 signs in advance of a vista point.**

**16 When several rest areas are provided (or planned) on the same route, generally within one hour's drive, a NEXT REST (X MILE) Plaque (G79A(CA)) may be placed below the REST AREA (X MILE) (D5-1) sign.**

**17 The PATROLLED BY HIGHWAY PATROL (G80B(CA)) sign may be used below the REST AREA (D5-2) sign where the California Highway Patrol has made an agreement with the Department of Transportation to patrol a specific rest area.**

Support:

<sup>18</sup> Until all of a planned series of roadside rests are constructed, it will be appropriate to sign to rest areas greater than one hour's drive ahead.

Guidance:

<sup>19</sup> The REST AREA w/Arrow (D5-2b) sign should be placed, as a supplement to REST AREA (X MILE) (D5-1) sign, at the beginning of the deceleration lane leading to a roadside rest area. The sign should be used in lieu of an EXIT with Arrow (E5-1) sign at roadside rests.

Option:

<sup>20</sup> The Opposite Sex Attendant (S19(CA)) sign may be used for the use of restroom facilities at Safety Roadside Rest Areas to indicate that it is permissible for a disabled person to be accompanied in the restroom by his or her attendant, who may be a person of the opposite sex, to assist the disabled person. Refer to Streets and Highways Code Section 223.5.

<sup>21</sup> The Highway Patrol PARKING ONLY (S34(CA)) sign may be used in a Safety Roadside Rest Area to designate a parking stall(s) dedicated for California Highway Patrol Vehicles only. The S34(CA) sign may be supplemented with a "CHP" pavement marking.

Guidance:

<sup>22</sup> When used, the pavement marking should be located so that it is visible when a vehicle is parked in the space.

Option:

<sup>23</sup> The Rattlesnakes Caution (S26(CA)) sign may be used in locations such as vista points and rest areas where pedestrians are present and rattlesnakes have been known to inhabit the area.

<sup>24</sup> The Rest Area/Vista Point 8 HOUR PARKING (S23(CA)) sign may be used to discourage extended stays in roadside rests or vista points.

<sup>25</sup> The NO SOLICITING (S24(CA)) sign may be used to prohibit the vending of merchandise, foodstuff, or services and the soliciting of money within any roadside rest areas or vista points. Refer to Streets and Highways Code 225.5. See Section 1A.11 for information regarding this publication.

<sup>26</sup> The VENDING MACHINES (G81-63(CA)) sign may be placed below the REST AREA X MILE (D5-1) sign at those rest areas which provide vending machine services to the motorists on a 24 hour basis.

Guidance:

<sup>27</sup> The G81-63(CA) sign should be installed similar to the General Service (G66(CA) Series) signs in Section 2I.03, below the D5-1 sign.

Option:

<sup>28</sup> The REST AREA (X MILE) (D5-1) and REST AREA with Arrow (D5-2) signs may also be used with the message VISTA POINT, where appropriate.

### **Section 2I.06 Brake Check Area Signs (D5-13 and D5-14)**

Guidance:

<sup>01</sup> If an area has been provided for drivers to check the brakes on their vehicle, a BRAKE CHECK AREA XX MILES (D5-13) sign (see Figure 2I-6) should be installed in advance of the brake check area, and a D5-14 sign (see Figure 2I-6) should be placed at the entrance to the brake check area.

Support:

<sup>02</sup> The Brake Check Area (G66-58(CA), G66-59(CA) and G66-60(CA)) signs (see Figure 2I-6(CA)) are provided to give notice to motorists, particularly truck operators, of an area provided to allow vehicle operators to stop and check the condition and adjustment of their brakes. These areas are generally provided just prior to a significant downgrade.

### **Section 2I.07 Chain-Up Area Signs (D5-15 and D5-16)**

Guidance:

<sup>01</sup> If an area has been provided for drivers to pull off of the roadway to install chains on their tires, a CHAINUP AREA XX MILES (D5-15) sign (see Figure 2I-6) should be installed in advance of the chain-up area, and a D5-16 sign (see Figure 2I-6) should be placed at the entrance to the chain-up area.

## **Section 2I.08 Tourist Information and Welcome Center Signs**

### **Support:**

<sup>01</sup> Tourist information and welcome centers have been constructed within rest areas on freeways and expressways and are operated by either a State or a private organization. Others have been located within close proximity to these facilities and operated by civic clubs, chambers of commerce, or private enterprise.

### **Guidance:**

<sup>02</sup> *An excessive number of supplemental sign panels should not be installed with Tourist Information or Welcome Center signs so as not to overload the road user.*

### **Standard:**

<sup>03</sup> **Tourist Information or Welcome Center signs (see Figure 2I-7 and 2I-7(CA)) shall have a white legend and border on a blue background. Continuously staffed or unstaffed operation at least 8 hours per day, 7 days per week, shall be required.**

<sup>04</sup> **If operated only on a seasonal basis, the Tourist Information or Welcome Center signs shall be removed or covered during the off seasons.**

### **Guidance:**

<sup>05</sup> *For freeway or expressway rest area locations that also serve as tourist information or welcome centers, the following signing criteria should be used:*

- A. *The locations for tourist information and welcome center Advance Guide, Exit Direction, and Exit Gore signs should meet the General Service signing requirements described in Section 2I.03.*
- B. *If the signing for the tourist information or welcome center is to be accomplished in conjunction with the initial signing for the rest areas, the message on the Advance Guide (D5-7) sign should be REST AREA, TOURIST INFO CENTER, XX MILES or REST AREA, STATE NAME (optional), WELCOME CENTER XX MILES. On the Exit Direction (D5-8 or D5-11) sign the message should be REST AREA, TOURIST INFO CENTER with a diagonally upward-pointing directional arrow (or NEXT RIGHT), or REST AREA, STATE NAME (optional), WELCOME CENTER with a diagonally upward-pointing directional arrow (or NEXT RIGHT).*
- C. *If the initial rest area Advance Guide and Exit Direction signing is in place, these signs should include, on supplemental signs, the legend TOURIST INFO CENTER or STATE NAME (optional), WELCOME CENTER.*
- D. *The Exit Gore sign should contain only the legend REST AREA with the arrow and should not be supplemented with any legend pertaining to the tourist information center or welcome center.*

### **Option:**

<sup>06</sup> An alternative to the supplemental TOURIST INFO CENTER legend is the Tourist Information (D9-10) sign (see Figure 2I-1), which may be appended beneath the REST AREA advance guide sign.

<sup>07</sup> The name of the State or local jurisdiction may appear on the Advance Guide and Exit Direction tourist information/welcome center signs if the jurisdiction controls the operation of the tourist information or welcome center and the center meets the operating criteria set forth in this Manual and is consistent with State policies.

### **Guidance:**

<sup>08</sup> *For tourist information centers that are located off the freeway or expressway facility, additional signing criteria should be as follows:*

- A. *Each State should adopt a policy establishing the maximum distance that a tourist information center can be located from the interchange in order to be included on official signs.*
- B. *The location of signing should be in accordance with requirements pertaining to General Service signing (see Section 2I.03).*
- C. *Signing along the crossroad should be installed to guide the road user from the interchange to the tourist information center and back to the interchange.*

### **Option:**

<sup>09</sup> As an alternative, the Tourist Information (D9-10) sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be appended to the guide signs for the exit that provides access to the tourist information center. As a second alternative, the Tourist Information sign may be combined with General Service signing.

### **Tourist Information Signs (G81-21(CA) and G81-24(CA))**

**Option:**

10 The TOURIST INFORMATION (G81-21(CA) and G81-24(CA)) signs may be placed directing to off-highway facilities.

**Standard:**

11 **These signed facilities shall have a principal function of providing local tourist information. Those facilities provided by local chamber of commerce (or other official body) representing a group of people or businesses shall be given initial priority for signing.**

**Guidance:**

12 *The G81-21(CA) or G81-24(CA) signs should be placed on State highways only where privately-owned off-highway signs would not reasonably provide adequate directions to motorists. These signs should be restricted to those facilities which are spaced no closer than 15 mile apart in each direction along any highway. An excessive number of supplemental panels should not be installed with Tourist Information or Welcome Center signs so as not to overload the road user.*

**Standard:**

13 **The TOURIST INFORMATION (G81-21(CA) and G81-24(CA)) signs shall have a white legend and border on a blue background.**

**Guidance:**

14 *These signs should be placed beneath another primary guide sign.*

**Option:**

15 If no guide signs are available, the G81-21(CA) or G81-24(CA) signs may be placed as separate installations.

**Guidance:**

16 *Facilities should be within 0.5 mile of the highway and have reasonably direct access from, and return to, the highway.*

17 *Facilities should provide lighting, telephone and information on a 24-hour basis and cover the entire area served. Information should include area and regional maps, and 24-hour service information including, but not limited to medical, police, fire, restrooms, auto repair service and fuel. Outside maps and displays must be provided at all manned centers for use during periods when the facility is not manned.*

18 *Facilities should have adequate on premise and off right-of-way signing, where necessary, denoting "Tourist Information". Displays should be professionally designed and constructed and provide resistance to fading, chipping and vandalism.*

**Standard:**

19 **If operated only on a seasonal basis, where criteria cannot be met during closed periods, these signs shall be covered or removed.**

**Guidance:**

20 *For freeway or expressway rest area locations that also serve as tourist information centers, the following signing criteria should be used:*

- A. *The locations for the Advance Guide (G83(CA) Series), Exit Direction (G85(CA) Series), and Exit Gore (E5-1) signs should meet the General Service signing requirements.*
- B. *The TOURIST INFORMATION (G81-21(CA) and G81-24(CA)) signs should be placed beneath the REST AREA (D5-2) sign or other primary guide sign. If no guide signs are available, they may be placed as a separate installation.*
- C. *The gore sign should contain only the legend REST AREA with the arrow and should not be supplemented with any legend pertaining to the tourist information.*

**Option:**

21 As an alternative, the Information Symbol (D9-10) sign may be appended to the guide signs for the exit providing access to the tourist information center. As a second alternative, the D9-10 sign may be combined with General Service signing.

### **California Welcome Center Signs (SG47(CA) Series)**

**Option:**

22 The CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER (SG47(CA) Series) signs may be placed directing to a statewide network of visitor information centers as designated by the California Office of Tourism to encourage tourism in California and provide benefits to the State economy.

**Standard:**

**23 The facilities signed shall have a principal function of providing statewide tourist information. Centers that can be so designated shall include, but not be limited to, centers operated by convention centers and visitor bureaus, chambers of commerce, federal, state or local governments, or private entities.**

**24 Designation of an entity as a California Welcome Center shall be based on conditions established by the Office of Tourism through written agreement with the entity.**

**25 The SG47(CA) Series signs shall have a yellow welcome center logo, and a white legend and border on a blue background.**

*Guidance:*

*26 The SG47(CA) Series signs should be placed as separate installations with the individual welcome centers being charged directly for the initial and ongoing cost and fees related production, maintenance and permitting of the signs.*

*27 Facilities should be within 3 mile in urban areas and 5 mile of a State highway and have reasonably direct access from, and return to, the highway.*

**Standard:**

**28 Follow-up signing, if necessary, shall be placed by local jurisdictions before these signs are placed on the State highway.**

**29 If operated only on a seasonal basis, where criteria cannot be met during closed periods, signs shall be covered or removed as directed by the Office of Tourism.**

*Option:*

*30 The CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER X MILES (SG47A(CA)) sign may be placed on the nearest freeway approximately 2 mile, or more as appropriate, in advance of the exit to a California Welcome Center that has been established under the authority of the California Office of Tourism.*

*31 The CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER NEXT RIGHT (SG47B(CA)) sign may be placed on the nearest freeway, at the appropriate exit to a California Welcome Center that has been established under the authority of the California Office of Tourism.*

*32 The CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER with Arrow (SG47C(CA)) sign may be placed at a freeway ramp terminal, conventional highway or local road to provide direction to a California Welcome Center that has been established under the authority of the California Office of Tourism.*

*33 The CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER X MILES with Arrow (SG47D(CA)) sign may be placed at a freeway ramp terminal to provide direction and distance to a California Welcome Center that has been established under the authority of the California Office of Tourism.*

*Guidance:*

*34 The distance on the SG47D(CA) sign should be no more than 3 mile from the State highway.*

*Support:*

*35 The Welcome Center will be charged directly for the initial and ongoing cost and fees related to production, maintenance and permitting of the SG47A(CA), SG47B(CA), SG47C(CA) and SG47D(CA) signs.*

**Section 2I.09 Radio Information Signing**

*Option:*

*01 Radio-Weather Information (D12-1) signs (see Figure 2I-8) may be used in areas where difficult driving conditions commonly result from weather systems. Radio-Traffic Information signs may be used in conjunction with traffic management systems.*

**Standard:**

**02 Radio-Weather and Radio-Traffic Information signs shall have a white legend and border on a blue background. Only the numerical indication of the radio frequency shall be used to identify a station broadcasting travel-related weather or traffic information. No more than three frequencies shall be displayed on each sign. Only radio stations whose signal will be of value to the road user and who agree to broadcast either of the following two items shall be identified on Radio-Weather and Radio-Traffic**

**Information signs:**

- A. Periodic weather warnings at a rate of at least once every 15 minutes during periods of adverse weather; or**
- B. Driving condition information (affecting the roadway being traveled) at a rate of at least once every 15 minutes, or when required, during periods of adverse traffic conditions, and when supplied by an official agency having jurisdiction.**

**03 If a station to be considered operates only on a seasonal basis, its signs shall be removed or covered during the off season.**

*Guidance:*

*04 The radio station should have a signal strength to adequately broadcast 70 miles along the route. Signs should be spaced as needed for each direction of travel at distances determined by an engineering study. The stations to be included on the signs should be selected in cooperation with the association(s) representing major broadcasting stations in the area to provide: (1) maximum coverage to all road users on both AM and FM frequencies; and (2) consideration of 24 hours per day, 7 days per week broadcast capability.*

*Option:*

*05 In roadway rest area locations, a smaller sign using a greater number of radio frequencies, but of the same general design, may be used.*

**Standard:**

**06 Radio-Weather and Radio-Traffic Information signs installed in rest areas shall be positioned such that they are not visible from the main roadway.**

*Option:*

*07 A Channel 9 Monitored (D12-3) sign (see Figure 2I-8) may be installed as needed. Official public agencies or their designees may be displayed as the monitoring agency on the sign.*

**Standard:**

**08 Only official public agencies or their designee shall be displayed as the monitoring agency on the Channel 9 Monitored sign.**

*08a There are three types of radio information signs:*

- 1. Radio – Weather Information (D12-1)*
- 2. Radio – Traffic Information (D12-1)*
- 3. Radio – Recreational Information (G81-65(CA))*

**Standard:**

**08b Stations shall broadcast on AM or FM frequencies licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for traveler information stations.**

**Radio – Weather Information (D12-1)**

*Option:*

*08c The D12-1 sign with alternate “Weather” message may be used on rural highways where weather conditions result in driving conditions less than optimum or to inform motorists of road or traffic conditions for highways and public inter-modal transportation facilities.*

*08d The criteria for D12-1 sign is as follows:*

**Standard:**

- 1 Only the numerical indication of the radio frequency shall be used to identify the broadcasting stations.**
- 2 If a station to be considered operates only on a seasonal basis, its signs shall be removed or covered during the off-season.**

*Guidance:*

- 3 The radio stations should have signal strength to adequately serve 70 mile along the roadway.*
- 4 Signs should be spaced according to need, but ordinarily not closer than 30 mile apart for each direction of travel.*
- 5 Only radio stations whose signal will be of value to the traveler and who agree to carry the two items below should be identified on this sign:
  - a. Periodic weather warnings at no more than 15-minute intervals during periods of adverse weather.*
  - b. Road condition information affecting the roadway being traveled, broadcasted once every half-hour when required, to be supplied by an official agency having jurisdiction.**

- 6 The stations to be included on the signs should be selected in cooperation with the association(s) representing major broadcasting stations in the area to provide:
- a. Maximum coverage to all motorists on both AM and FM frequencies, and
  - b. Consideration of 24 hours a day, 7 days a week broadcast capabilities.

Option:

- 7 A maximum of three frequencies may be shown on each sign.
  - 8 A particular radio frequency may be shown a maximum of twice in one direction along the mainline.
- <sup>08e</sup> The WHEN FLASHING (G81-64A(CA)) sign may be used with the D12-1 sign when messages are not broadcast full time and to accommodate "real-time" usage.

Guidance:

<sup>08f</sup> The G81-64A(CA) sign should be placed with flashing yellow beacons, above and on the same posts with the D12-1 sign.

### **Radio – Traffic Information (D12-1)**

Option:

<sup>08g</sup> The D12-1 sign with alternate "Traffic" message may be used to inform motorists of broadcasts about traffic conditions for highways and public inter-modal transportation facilities.

**Standard:**

<sup>08h</sup> **The radio station shall be operated by the public agency having jurisdiction over the transportation facility. The agency operating the station shall be responsible for monitoring and maintaining the system and changing the message content as situations warrant.**

### **Radio – Recreation Information (G81-65(CA))**

Option:

<sup>08i</sup> The G81-65(CA) sign (see Figure 2I-8(CA)) may be used on rural highways to inform travelers of broadcasts about State or federal parks and recreational facilities.

**Standard:**

<sup>08j</sup> **The G81-65(CA) sign shall have a white legend and border on a brown background. The sign and sign structure shall be free of extraneous messages or logos, and must stand alone with no external lights or flashing beacons. Only the numerical indication of the radio frequency shall be used to identify a station. No more than three frequencies shall be shown on each sign. Only radio stations whose signal will be of value to the road user and who agree to broadcast in accordance with the items below shall be identified on this sign:**

- A. Provides information about State or federal recreational facilities located in rural areas.
- B. Message content is devoted to public highway purposes.
- C. Broadcasts operate 24 hours per day and 7 days per week.
- D. Broadcasts contain no commercial messages.

<sup>08k</sup> **For installation of G81-65(CA) sign on State highways, the sign shall be installed by the permittee through the Department of Transportation's encroachment permit process. The costs, conditions of operation, and specific message content shall be clearly specified in the encroachment permit subject to the following terms and conditions:**

- A. The permittee is the State or federal agency that owns and/or operates the recreational facility.
- B. The permittee possesses a valid FCC license to operate the radio station as a traveler information station.
- C. The permittee is responsible for the accuracy of the message and message content.
- D. The permittee bears all costs, including but not limited to, FCC approval and licensing; fabrication and installation of signs; and the installation, operation and maintenance of appurtenant radio equipment and facilities.

Option:

<sup>09</sup> An Emergency CALL XX (D12-4) sign (see Figure 2I-8), along with the appropriate number to call, may be used for cellular phone communications.

### **EMERGENCY CALL 9-1-1 (G81-61(CA) and G81-62(CA)) Signs**

**Option:**

<sup>10</sup> The EMERGENCY CALL 9-1-1 (G81-61(CA)) sign (see Figure 2I-8(CA)) may be placed below all new Unincorporated Community (G9-2(CA)), City Limit (G9-5(CA)) and County Line (G10(CA)) signs. The G81-61(CA) may also be placed below the existing G9-2(CA), G9-5(CA) and G10(CA) signs when they are changed for other purposes, such as updating population figures. The G81-61(CA) sign panel may be shorter than the G9-2(CA), G9-5(CA) and G10(CA) sign panel under which it is placed.

**Guidance:**

<sup>11</sup> *The G81-61(CA) sign panel should not be longer than the G9-2(CA), G9-5(CA) and G10(CA) sign panel under which it is placed.*

**Standard:**

<sup>12</sup> **The letter size used in the G81-61(CA) sign shall not exceed that of the words "City Limit" on the G9-5(CA) sign or the words "County Line" on the G10(CA) sign.**

**Option:**

<sup>13</sup> The EMERGENCY CALL 9-1-1 (G81-62(CA)) sign (see Figure 2I-8(CA)) may be installed on all State highways at state entry points.

**Guidance:**

<sup>14</sup> *The G81-62(CA) sign should be installed as a separate installation in an appropriate location following the Welcome To California (G10B(CA)) sign.*

**Option:**

<sup>15</sup> The G81-62(CA) sign (particularly the smaller version) may be used in place of the G81-61(CA) sign in installations requiring a shorter sign panel.

### **REPORT DRUNK DRIVERS CALL 911 (G81-66(CA)) Sign**

**Option:**

<sup>16</sup> The REPORT DRUNK DRIVERS CALL 911 (G81-66(CA)) Sign (see Figure 2I-8(CA)) may be installed on the roadway for safety enhancement.

## **Section 2I.10 TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 Signs (D12-5 and D12-5a)**

**Option:**

<sup>01</sup> A TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 (D12-5 or SG49A(CA)) sign (see Figure 2I-8 and 2I-8(CA)) may be installed if a 511 travel information services telephone number is available to road users for obtaining traffic, public transportation, weather, construction, or road condition information.

<sup>02</sup> The pictograph of the transportation agency or the travel information service or program that is providing the travel information may be incorporated within the D12-5 sign either above or below the TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 legend.

**Standard:**

<sup>03</sup> **The logo of a commercial entity shall not be incorporated within the TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 sign.**

<sup>04</sup> **The TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 sign shall have a white legend and border on a blue background.**

**Guidance:**

<sup>05</sup> *If the pictograph of the transportation agency or the travel information service or program is used, the pictograph's maximum height should not exceed two times the letter height used in the legend of the sign.*

## **Section 2I.11 Carpool and Ridesharing Signing**

**Option:**

<sup>01</sup> In areas having carpool matching services, Carpool Information (D12-2) signs (see Figure 2I-8) may be provided adjacent to highways with preferential lanes or along any other highway.

<sup>02</sup> Carpool Information signs may include an Internet domain name or telephone number of more than four characters within the legend.

**Guidance:**

<sup>03</sup> *Because this is an information sign related to road user services, the Carpool Information sign should have a white legend and border on a blue background.*

**Standard:**

**<sup>04</sup> If a local transit pictograph or carpool symbol is incorporated into the Carpool Information sign, the maximum vertical dimension of the logo or symbol shall not exceed 18 inches.**

**Option:**

<sup>05</sup> The Ridesharing Information (SG19(CA)) sign (see Figure 2I-8(CA)) may be placed at selected locations for incoming traffic in urban areas.

<sup>06</sup> The Park & Ride Facility Information (SG20(CA)) sign (see Figure 2I-8(CA)) may be used to identify park and ride facilities provided for the use of car-poolers and transit users.

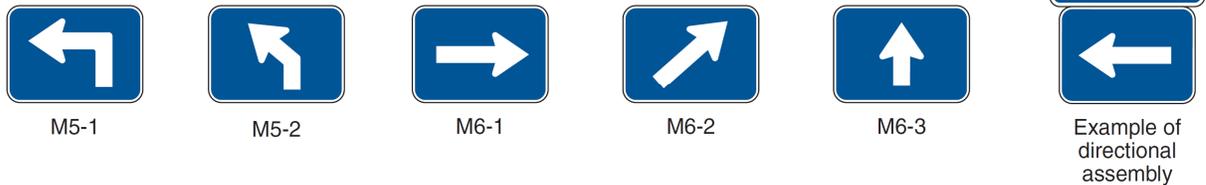
**Guidance:**

<sup>07</sup> *For freeways and expressways, the SG19(CA) sign locations should be no closer than 10 mile apart.*

**Figure 2I-1. General Service Signs and Plaques**



Advance Turn and Directional Arrow Auxiliary Signs for use with General Service Signs



**Figure 2I-1 (CA). General Service Signs and Plaques**

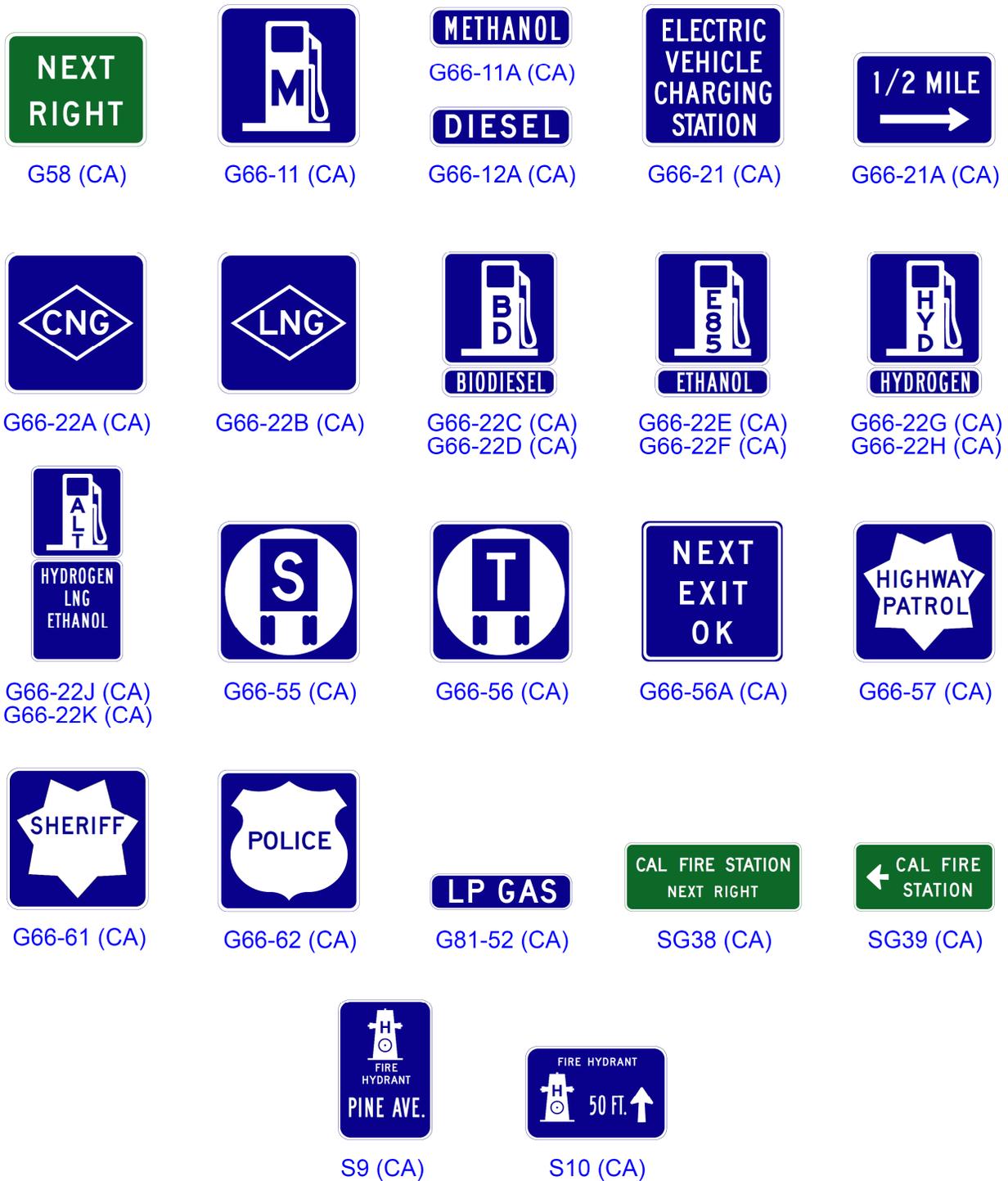
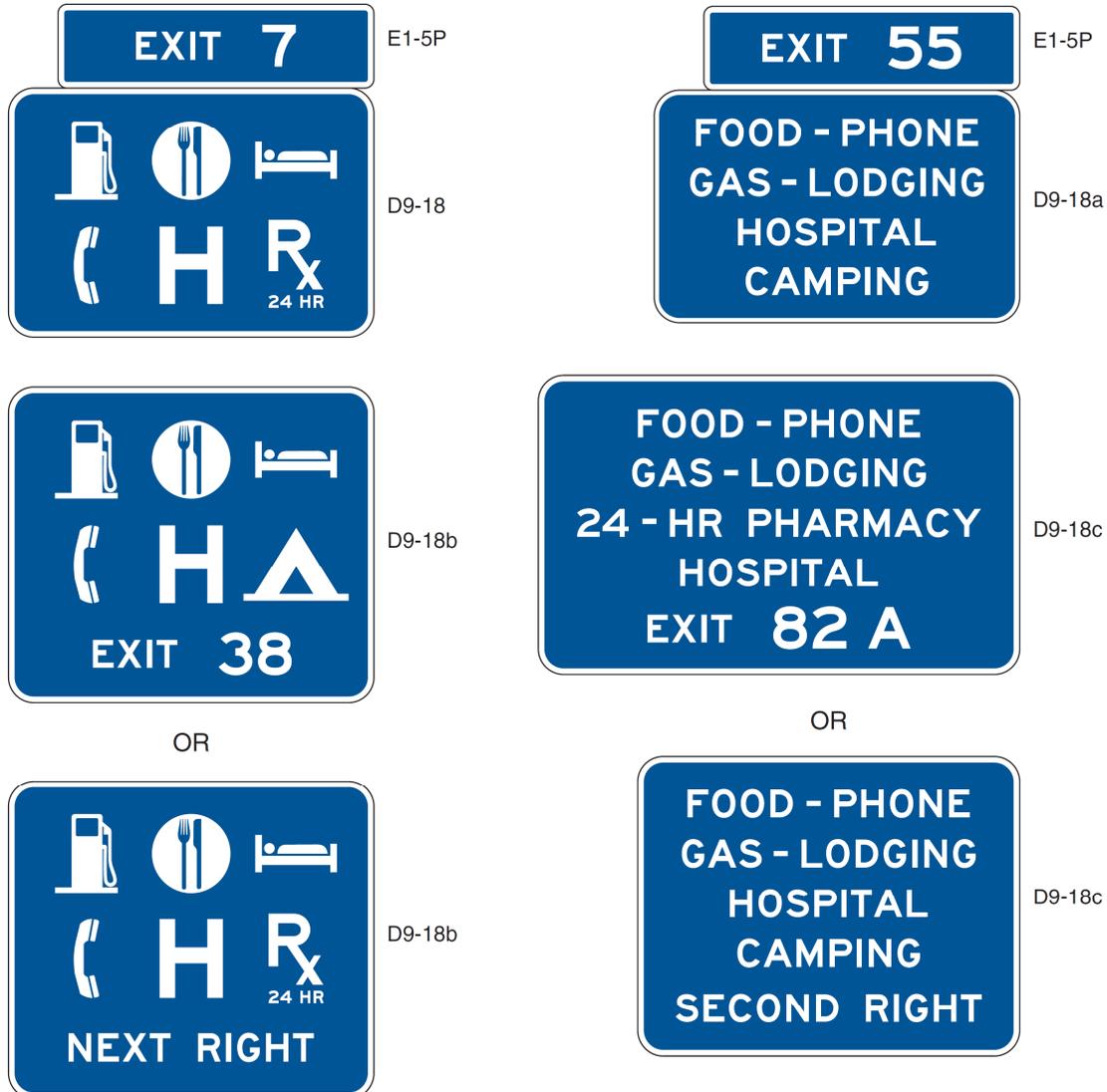


Figure 2I-2. Example of Next Services Plaque

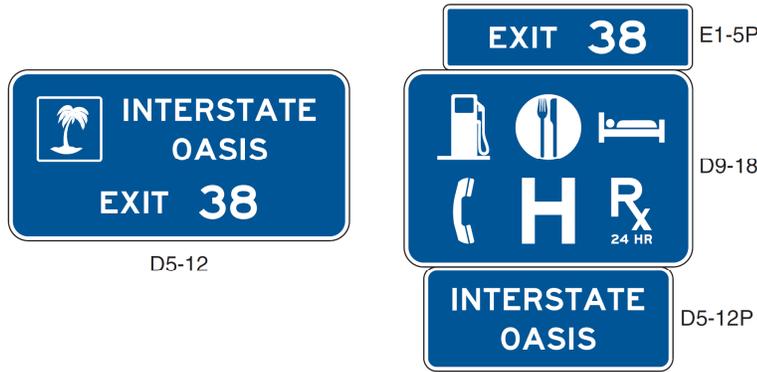


D9-17P

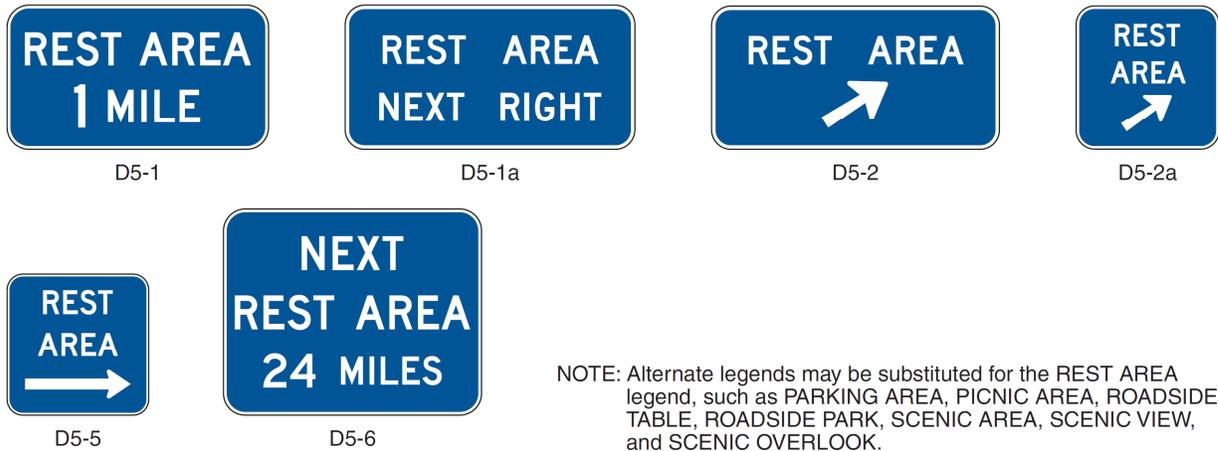
Figure 2I-3. Examples of General Service Signs with and without Exit Numbering



**Figure 2I-4. Examples of Interstate Oasis Signs and Plaques**



**Figure 2I-5. Rest Area and Other Roadside Area Signs**



**Figure 2I-5 (CA). Rest Area and Other Roadside Area Signs**



**Figure 2I-6. Brake Check Area and Chain-Up Area Signs**



**Figure 2I-6 (CA). Brake Check Area and Chain-Up Area Signs**



**Figure 2I-7. Examples of Tourist Information and Welcome Center Signs**



Note: Alternate legends may be substituted for the TOURIST INFO CENTER legend, such as WELCOME CENTER and (State Name) WELCOME CENTER.

**Figure 2I-7 (CA). Examples of Tourist Information and Welcome Center Signs**



**Figure 2I-8. Radio, Telephone, and Carpool Information Signs**



D12-1



D12-2



D12-3



D12-4

\* The pictograph of the transportation agency or the travel information service or program may be used in place of the 511 pictograph (see Section 2I.08)

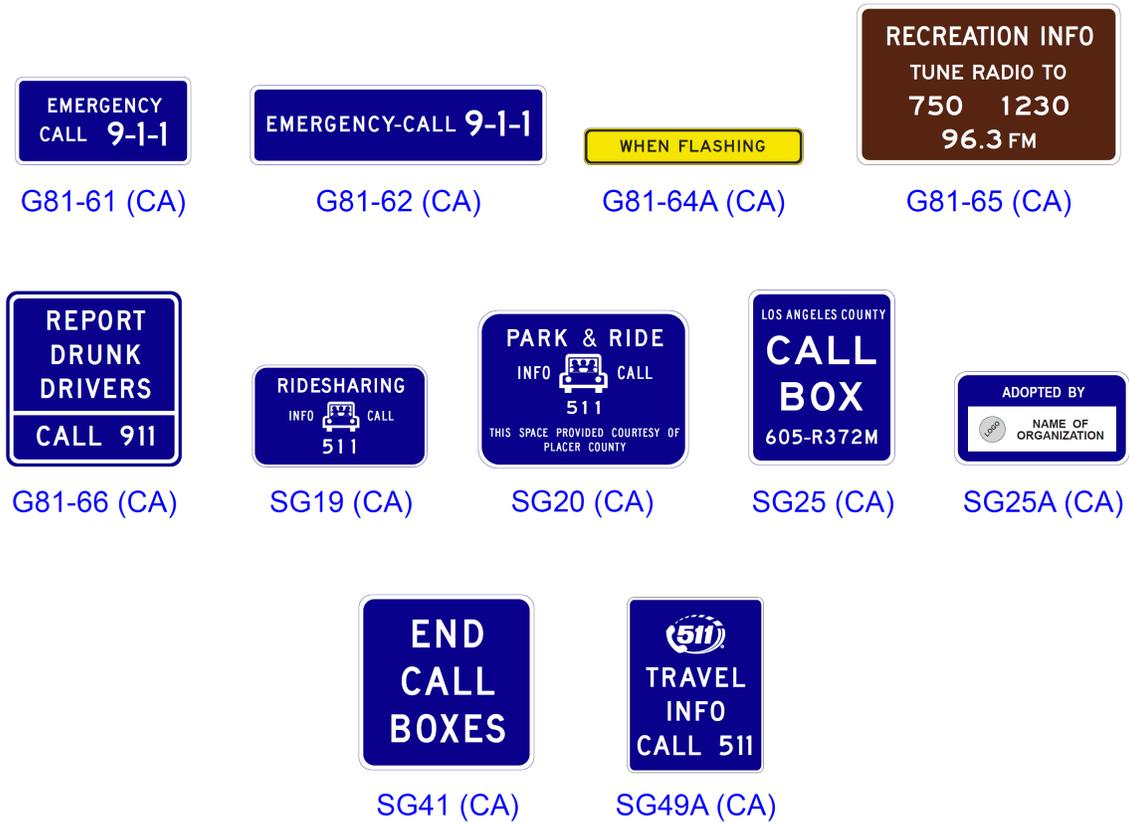


D12-5\*



D12-5a

**Figure 2I-8 (CA). Radio, Telephone, and Carpool Information Signs**



**Table 2I-1. General Service Sign and Plaque Sizes (Sheet 1 of 2)**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
Rest Area XX Miles	D5-1	2I.05	66 x 36*	96 x 54*
Rest Area Next Right	D5-1a	2I.05	78 x 36*	120 x 60* (F) 114 x 48* (E)
Rest Area (with arrow)	D5-2	2I.05	66 x 36*	96 x 54*
Rest Area Gore	D5-2a	2I.05	42 x 48*	78 x 78* (F) 66 x 72* (E)
Rest Area (with horizontal arrow)	D5-5	2I.05	42 x 48*	—
Next Rest Area XX Miles	D5-6	2I.05	60 x 48*	90 x 72*
Rest Area Tourist Info Center XX Miles	D5-7	2I.08	90 x 72*	114 x 102* (F) 132 x 96* (E)
Rest Area Tourist Info Center (with arrow)	D5-8	2I.08	84 x 72*	120 x 102* (F) 120 x 96* (E)
Rest Area Tourist Info Center Next Right	D5-11	2I.08	90 x 72*	144 x 102* (F) 132 x 96* (E)
Interstate Oasis	D5-12	2I.04	—	156 x 78
Interstate Oasis (plaque)	D5-12P	2I.04	—	114 x 48
Brake Check Area XX Miles	D5-13	2I.06	84 x 48	126 x 72
Brake Check Area (with arrow)	D5-14	2I.06	78 x 60	96 x 72
Chain-Up Area XX Miles	D5-15	2I.07	66 x 48	96 x 72
Chain-Up Area (with arrow)	D5-16	2I.07	72 x 54	96 x 66
Telephone	D9-1	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Hospital	D9-2	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Camping	D9-3	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Trailer Camping	D9-3a	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Litter Container	D9-4	2I.02	24 x 30	36 x 48
Handicapped	D9-6	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Van Accessible (plaque)	D9-6P	2I.02	18 x 9	—
Gas	D9-7	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Food	D9-8	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Lodging	D9-9	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Tourist Information	D9-10	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Diesel Fuel	D9-11	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Alternative Fuel - Compressed Natural Gas	D9-11a	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Electric Vehicle Charging	D9-11b	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Electric Vehicle Charging (plaque)	D9-11bP	2I.02	24 x 18	30 x 24
Alternative Fuel - Ethanol	D9-11c	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
RV Sanitary Station	D9-12	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Emergency Medical Services	D9-13	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30

**Table 2I-1. General Service Sign and Plaque Sizes (Sheet 2 of 2)**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
Hospital (plaque)	D9-13aP	2I.02	24 x 12	30 x 12
Ambulance Station (plaque)	D9-13bP	2I.02	24 x 12	30 x 15
Emergency Medical Care (plaque)	D9-13cP	2I.02	24 x 18	30 x 24
Trauma Center (plaque)	D9-13dP	2I.02	24 x 12	30 x 15
Police	D9-14	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Propane Gas	D9-15	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Truck Parking	D9-16	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Next Services XX Miles (plaque)	D9-17P	2I.02	102 x 24	156 x 30
General Services (up to 6 symbols)	D9-18	2I.03	—	96 x 60
General Services	D9-18a	2I.03	—	96 x 60
General Services (up to 6 symbols) with Action or Exit Information	D9-18b	2I.03	108 x 84	132 x 114 (F) 132 x 108 (E)
General Services with Action or Exit Information	D9-18c	2I.03	72 x 60**	132 x 108** (F) 108 x 84** (E)
Pharmacy	D9-20	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
24-Hour (plaque)	D9-20aP	2I.02	24 x 12	30 x 12
Telecommunication Device for the Deaf	D9-21	2I.05	24 x 24	30 x 30
Wireless Internet	D9-22	2I.05	24 x 24	30 x 30
Weather Information	D12-1	2I.09	84 x 48	132 x 84
Carpool Information	D12-2	2I.11	60 x 42	96 x 66
Channel 9 Monitored	D12-3	2I.09	84 x 48	132 x 84
Emergency Call 911	D12-4	2I.09	66 x 30	96 x 48
Travel Info Call 511 (pictograph)	D12-5	2I.10	42 x 60	66 x 78
Travel Info Call 511	D12-5a	2I.10	48 x 36	66 x 48

\* The size shown is for a sign with a REST AREA and/or TOURIST INFO CENTER legend. The size should be appropriately adjusted if an alternate legend is used.  
\*\* The size shown is for a sign with four lines of services. The size should be appropriately adjusted depending on the amount of legend displayed.

Notes: 1. Larger signs may be used when appropriate  
2. Dimensions in inches are shown as width x height  
3. Where two sizes are shown, the larger size is for freeways (F) and the smaller size is for expressways (E)

**Table 2I-1(CA). California General Service Sign and Plaque Sizes**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
Next Right/Left	G58(CA)	2I.02, 2I.03	30 x 24	30 x 24
Methanol Fuel	G66-11(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
METHANOL	G66-11A(CA)	2I.03	24 x 6	30 x 8
DIESEL	G66-12A(CA)	2I.03	24 x 6	30 x 8
ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION	G66-21(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
Distance with Arrow	G66-21A(CA)	2I.03	24 x 16	30 x 18
Compressed Natural Gas	G66-22A(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
Liquefied Natural Gas	G66-22B(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
Biodiesel	G66-22C(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
BIODIESEL	G66-22D(CA)	2I.03	24 x 6	30 x 8
Ethanol E85	G66-22E(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
ETHANOL	G66-22F(CA)	2I.03	24 x 6	30 x 8
Hydrogen	G66-22G(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
HYDROGEN	G66-22H(CA)	2I.03	24 x 6	30 x 8
Alternative ALT	G66-22J(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
Alternative Fuels	G66-22K(CA)	2I.03	24 x 30	30 x 36
STAA Truck Service	G66-55(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
STAA Truck Terminal Access	G66-56(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
NEXT EXIT OK	G66-56A(CA)	2I.03	30 x 30	30 x 30
Highway Patrol	G66-57(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
BRAKE CHECK AREA	G66-58(CA)	2I.06	VAR x 36	VAR x 42
BRAKE CHECK AREA with Arrow	G66-59(CA)	2I.06	VAR x 42	VAR x 54
BRAKE CHECK AREA (X MILE)	G66-60(CA)	2I.06	VAR x 48	VAR x 66
Sheriff	G66-61(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
Police	G66-62(CA)	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
NEXT REST (X MILE)	G79A(CA)	2I.05	72 x 12	144 x 24
PATROLLED BY HIGHWAY PATROL	G80B(CA)	2I.05	72 x 12	144 x 24
TOURIST INFORMATION	G81-21(CA)	2I.08	144 x 24	204 x 30
TOURIST INFORMATION	G81-24(CA)	2I.08	96 x 42	132 x 48
LP GAS	G81-52(CA)	2I.03	24 x 6	30 x 8
EMERGENCY CALL 9-1-1	G81-61(CA)	2I.09	VAR x 6	VAR x 18
EMERGENCY CALL 9-1-1	G81-62(CA)	2I.09	36 x 18	60 x 30
VENDING MACHINES	G81-63(CA)	2I.05	36 x 18	48 x 30
WHEN FLASHING	G81-64A(CA)	2I.09	84 x 12	108 x 18
Radio-Recreation Information	G81-65(CA)	2I.09	84 x 48	108 x 66
REPORT DRUNK DRIVERS CALL 911	G81-66(CA)	2I.09	36 x 36	48 x 48
Ridesharing Information	SG19(CA)	2I.11	48 x 30	72 x 42
Park & Ride Facility Information	SG20(CA)	2I.11	48 x 36	66 x 54
Call Box	SG25(CA)	2I.03	18 x 24	30 x 36
Call Box Adoption Plaque	SG25A(CA)	2I.03	18 x 12	30 x 18
CAL FIRE STATION NEXT RIGHT	SG38(CA)	2I.03	78 x 30	102 x 36
CAL FIRE STATION with Arrow	SG39(CA)	2I.03	48 x 21	60 x 30
END CALL BOXES	SG41(CA)	2I.03	36 x 36	48 x 48
CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER X MILES	SG47A(CA)	2I.08	66 x 48	108 x 66
CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER NEXT RIGHT	SG47B(CA)	2I.08	66 x 48	108 x 66
CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER with Arrow	SG47C(CA)	2I.08	42 x 24	54 x 30
CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER X MILES with Arrow	SG47D(CA)	2I.08	42 x 28	54 x 36
TRAVEL INFO CALL 511	SG49A(CA)	2I.10	42 x 54	54 x 72
Fire Hydrant Street Name	S9(CA)	2I.03	12 x 18	---
Fire Hydrant with Distance and Arrow	S10(CA)	2I.03	18 x 12	---
Opposite Sex Attendant	S19(CA)	2I.05	12 x 12	---
Rest Area/Vista Point 8 HOUR PARKING	S23(CA)	2I.05	24 x 24	---
NO SOLICITING	S24(CA)	2I.05	24 x 18	---
Rattlesnakes Caution	S26(CA)	2I.05	26.75 x 23.5	---
Highway Patrol PARKING ONLY	S34(CA)	2I.05	12 x 18	---

## CHAPTER 2J. SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNS

### Section 2J.01 Eligibility

#### Standard:

**<sup>01</sup> Specific Service signs shall be defined as guide signs that provide road users with business identification and directional information for services ~~and for eligible attractions~~. Eligible service categories shall be limited to gas, food, lodging, camping, attractions, and 24-hour pharmacies.**

#### Support:

<sup>01a</sup> California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 3, Section 101.7 and California Code of Regulations, Title 21, Division 2, Chapter 19, Sections 2100 through 2120, do not include the "attractions" category.

#### ~~Guidance:~~

#### Standard:

**<sup>02</sup> The use of Specific Service signs ~~should~~ shall be limited to areas primarily rural in character or to areas where adequate sign spacing can be maintained. Refer California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 3, Section 101.7.**

#### Option:

~~<sup>03</sup> Where an engineering study determines a need, Specific Service signs may be used on any class of highways.~~

#### Support:

<sup>03a</sup> California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 3, Section 101.7 includes the use of specific service signs for freeways only.

#### ~~Guidance:~~

#### Standard:

**<sup>04</sup> Specific Service signs ~~should~~ shall not be installed at an interchange where the road user cannot conveniently reenter the freeway or expressway and continue in the same direction of travel.**

#### Support:

<sup>04a</sup> Refer California Code of Regulations, Title 21, Division 2, Chapter 19, Section 2108(d).

#### Standard:

**<sup>05</sup> Eligible service facilities shall comply with laws concerning the provisions of public accommodations without regard to race, religion, color, age, sex, or national origin, and laws concerning the licensing and approval of service facilities.**

~~**<sup>06</sup> The attraction services shall include only facilities which have the primary purpose of providing amusement, historical, cultural, or leisure activities to the public.**~~

~~**<sup>07</sup> Distances to eligible 24-hour pharmacies shall not exceed 3 miles in any direction of an interchange on the Federal-aid system.**~~

#### ~~Guidance:~~

~~<sup>08</sup> Except as provided in Paragraph 9, distances to eligible services other than pharmacies should not exceed 3 miles in any direction.~~

#### Option:

~~<sup>09</sup> If, within the 3-mile limit, facilities for the services being considered other than pharmacies are not available or choose not to participate in the program, the limit of eligibility may be extended in 3-mile increments until one or more facilities for the services being considered chooses to participate, or until 15 miles is reached, whichever comes first.~~

#### Guidance:

<sup>10</sup> If State or local agencies elect to provide Specific Service signing, there should be a statewide policy for such signing and criteria for the availability of the various types of services. The criteria should consider the following:

A. To qualify for a ~~GAS~~ **FUEL** logo sign panel, a business should have:

1. Vehicle services including gas and/or alternative fuels, oil, and water;
2. Continuous operation at least 16 hours per day, 7 days per week for freeways and expressways, and continuous operation at least 12 hours per day, 7 days per week for conventional roads;
3. Modern sanitary facilities and drinking water; and

4. Public telephone.
- B. To qualify for a *FOOD* logo sign panel, a business should have:
  1. Licensing or approval, where required;
  2. Continuous operations to serve at least two meals per day, at least 6 days per week;
  3. Modern sanitary facilities; and
  4. Public telephone.
- C. To qualify for a *LODGING* logo sign panel, a business should have:
  1. Licensing or approval, where required;
  2. Adequate sleeping accommodations;
  3. Modern sanitary facilities; and
  4. Public telephone.
- D. To qualify for a *CAMPING* logo sign panel, a business should have:
  1. Licensing or approval, where required;
  2. Adequate parking accommodations; and
  3. Modern sanitary facilities and drinking water.
- E. To qualify for an *ATTRACTION* logo sign panel, a facility should have:
  1. Regional significance, in compliance with the provisions of Paragraph 6; and
  2. Adequate parking accommodations.

**Standard:**

~~11 If State or local agencies elect to provide Specific Service signing for pharmacies, both of the following criteria shall be met for a pharmacy to qualify for signing:~~

- ~~A. The pharmacy shall be continuously operated 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and shall have a State licensed pharmacist present and on duty at all times; and~~
- ~~B. The pharmacy shall be located within 3 miles of an interchange on the Federal aid system.~~

Support:

<sup>12</sup> Section 2I.04 contains information regarding the Interstate Oasis program.

Support:

<sup>13</sup> Refer California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 3, Section 101.7 and California Code of Regulations, Title 21, Division 2, Chapter 19, Sections 2100 through 2120 for detailed policies on specific service signs. See Section 1A.11 for information regarding these publications.

**Sign Eligibility Criteria**

**Standard:**

<sup>14</sup> A qualified specific service shall meet the following minimum criteria:

**1. Fuel**

The business:

- A. Shall be located not more than 1 mile from the interchange where the Logo Panel is to be displayed according to the State Measured Distance.
- B. Shall provide vehicle services, including but not limited to: fuel, oil, tire repair, battery, and radiator water.
- C. Shall provide public rest room facilities, each containing at least a sink, running water, and a flush toilet.
- D. Shall provide drinking water from a fountain or dispenser for public use.
- E. Shall provide a public telephone.
- F. Shall be open for business, with all of the above services and facilities available, and in a continuous operation, for at least 16 consecutive hours daily, seven (7) days a week, except that the qualified business shall not be considered to be in violation of this requirement when, as a result of a shortage of fuel, the facility is closed or when its hours of operation are reduced.
- G. Shall obtain and display any appropriate license or permit as may be required by law.
- H. A permittee may include the word "Diesel" or a Department of Transportation approved symbol for diesel, or the letters "LPG" for liquid propane fuel, or any other word or symbol that has been approved by the Department of Transportation which represent a type of fuel on the Logo Panel as specifically provided in the permit.

**2. Food**

The business:

- A. Shall be located not more than 3 mile from the interchange where the Logo Panel is to be displayed according to the State Measured Distance.
- B. Shall accumulate at least seven (7) points from the following four (4) categories, but at least one point must be accumulated from Category 3:

Category 1. If the State Measured Distance is:

- a. 0 to 0.5 mile, inclusive assign 3 points
- b. 0.5 to 1.0 mile, inclusive assign 2 points
- c. Over 1.0 to 3.0 mile, inclusive assign 1 point

Category 2. If the number of traffic control devices consisting of traffic signals or stop signs between said gore and said nearest driveway is:

- a. 0-1 device assign 3 points
- b. 2-3 devices assign 2 points
- c. 4-5 devices assign 1 point
- d. More than 5 devices assign 0 points

Category 3.

a. If the number of indoor seats totals:

- (1) 50 or more seats assign 3 points
- (2) 30 seats to 49 seats assign 2 points
- (3) 15 seats to 29 seats assign 1 point
- (4) Less than 15 seats assign 0 points

Or

b. If the parking facilities for drive-in or drive-through service totals:

- (1) 20 or more spaces assign 3 points
- (2) 11 spaces to 19 spaces assign 2 points
- (3) 5 spaces to 10 spaces assign 1 point
- (4) Less than 5 spaces assign 0 points

Category 4. When the distance as measured from said gore of the interchange where the Logo Panel is to be displayed to the gore of the next exit served by a food establishment which business would qualify for signing is:

- a. Over 10 mile assign 3 points
- b. Over 3 to 10 mile, inclusive assign 2 points
- c. 1 to 3 mile, inclusive assign 1 point
- d. Less than 1 mile assign 0 points

- C. Shall be in compliance with respect to licensing, approval, and regulation by any state agency and/or any political subdivision of the state having or exercising jurisdiction over the business premises. Licenses and permits required and issued by the state or its political subdivisions shall be displayed on the premises.
- D. Shall provide a public telephone.
- E. Shall provide public rest room facilities, each containing at least a sink, running water, and a flush toilet.
- F. Shall be open for business, with all the above services and facilities available, and in continuous operation for at least 12 consecutive hours daily, beginning not later than 7 a.m., six (6) days a week, and serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

**3. Lodging**

The business:

- A. Shall be located not more than 3 mile from the interchange where the Logo Panel is to be displayed according to the State Measured Distance.
- B. Shall accumulate at least seven (7) points from the following four (4) categories:

Category 1. If the State Measured Distance is:

- a. 0 to 0.5 mile, inclusive assign 3 points
- b. Over 0.5 to 1.0 mile, inclusive assign 2 points
- c. Over 1.0 to 3.0 mile, inclusive assign 1 point

**Category 2.** If the number of traffic control devices consisting of traffic signals or stop signs between said gore and said nearest driveway is:

- |    |                     |                 |
|----|---------------------|-----------------|
| a. | 0-1 device          | assign 3 points |
| b. | 2-3 devices         | assign 2 points |
| c. | 4-5 devices         | assign 1 point  |
| d. | More than 5 devices | assign 0 points |

**Category 3.** If the number of lodging units, each with private bath facilities, is:

- |     |                      |                 |
|-----|----------------------|-----------------|
| (1) | 50 or more units     | assign 3 points |
| (2) | 30 units to 49 units | assign 2 points |
| (3) | 15 units to 29 units | assign 1 point  |
| (4) | Less than 15 units   | assign 0 points |

**Category 4.** When the distance as measured from said gore of the interchange where the Logo Panel is to be displayed to the gore of the next exit served by a lodging establishment which would qualify for signing is:

- |    |                              |                 |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| a. | Over 10 mile                 | assign 3 points |
| b. | Over 3 to 10 mile, inclusive | assign 2 points |
| c. | 1 to 3 mile, inclusive       | assign 1 point  |
| d. | Less than 1 mile             | assign 0 points |

- C. Shall be in compliance with respect to licensing, approval, and regulation by any state agency and/or any political subdivision of the state having or exercising jurisdiction over the business premises. Any licenses or permits, which are issued by the state or a local governmental body, shall be displayed on the premises.
- D. Shall provide at least one off-street passenger vehicle parking space for each lodging unit available for rent.
- E. Shall provide a public telephone.
- F. Shall be open for business, with all of the above services and facilities available, and in continuous operation 24 hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

#### 4. Camping

The business:

- A. Shall be located not more than 10 mile from the interchange where the Logo Panel is to be displayed according to the State Measured Distance.
- B. Shall be in compliance with respect to licensing, approval, and regulation by any state agency and/or any political subdivision of the state having or exercising jurisdiction over the business premises or be operated by a governmental agency. Any license or permits, which are issued by the state or a local governmental body, shall be displayed on the premises.
- C. Must establish eligibility under at least one of the following three criteria:
  - 1. Shall have not less than 25 vehicular overnight camping units or spaces available for rent. Each unit or space must provide individual service and utility hook-ups suitable for travel trailers, campers, and other recreational vehicles. The facility shall be accessible to and capable of accommodating all types of recreational vehicles, travel trailers and campers.
  - 2. Shall have not less than 15 overnight camping units or spaces available, which will accommodate tents, and have at least one vehicle parking space for each unit or space available for rent. Shall have sanitary facilities, and drinking water for the units or spaces, but not necessarily at each individual campsite.
  - 3. Shall have not less than 30 overnight camping units or spaces available, consisting of a combination of the types specified in items A. and B. herein and above.
- D. Shall have an attendant on duty 24 hours a day to manage and maintain the facility while it is open for business.
- E. Shall be open for business and in continuous operation 24 hours a day, seven (7) days a week, except that seasonally the facility may be closed to the public for not more than 150 consecutive days, provided the Department has received proper notification together with a request to cover or remove all Logo Panels fastened to the Specific Service Signs.

#### 5. "Fuel", "Food", "Lodging" and "Camping"

A Qualified Specific Service Business shall give written assurances of its conformity with all applicable laws concerning the provisions of public accommodations without regard to race, sex, religion, color, or national origin and shall not be in continuing breach of that assurance.

## 6. Equal Access

- A. The order of priority for granting permits to "LODGING" or "CAMPING" businesses for the installation of their Logo Panels on Specific Service (Mainline) Signs or Specific Service (Ramp) Signs, when applications are received from a greater number of Qualified Specific Service Businesses which meet the minimum eligibility criteria than there is space available on the Specific Service Sign, shall be determined based upon the State Measured Distance; with first priority going to the closest business, second priority to the next closest business, and so on until all available space on the Specific Service Sign has been allocated. The same order of priority shall apply when the maximum number of permits has been issued and a new application is received from a Qualified Specific Service Business located closer to the interchange than another qualified business, which is already signed.
- B. The order of priority for granting permits to "FOOD" or "FUEL" businesses for the installation of their Logo Panels on Specific Service (Mainline) Signs or Specific Service (Ramp) Signs, when applications are received from a greater number of Qualified Specific Service Businesses which meet the eligibility criteria than there is space available on the Specific Service Sign, shall be based upon the highest point accumulation from the following two (2) categories:

Category 1. If the State Measured Distance is:

- |    |                                 |                 |
|----|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| a. | 0 to 0.5 mile, inclusive        | assign 3 points |
| b. | Over 0.5 to 1.0 mile, inclusive | assign 2 points |
| c. | Over 1.0 to 3.0 mile, inclusive | assign 1 point  |

Category 2. If the business is open:

- |    |                     |                 |
|----|---------------------|-----------------|
| a. | 20-24 hours per day | assign 3 points |
| b. | 16-20 hours per day | assign 2 points |
| c. | 12-16 hours per day | assign 1 point  |

<sup>15</sup> The same order of priority shall apply when the maximum number of permits has been issued and a new application is received from a Qualified Specific Service Business with a higher point accumulation than another qualified business, which is already signed.

## Section 2J.02 Application

### **Standard:**

<sup>01</sup> The number of Specific Service signs along an approach to an interchange or intersection, regardless of the number of service types displayed, shall be limited to a maximum of four. In the direction of traffic, successive Specific Service signs shall be for ~~24-hour pharmacy, attraction,~~ camping, lodging, food, and gas services, in that order.

<sup>02</sup> A Specific Service sign shall display the word message **GAS FUEL, FOOD, LODGING, CAMPING, ATTRACTION,** or ~~24-HOUR PHARMACY,~~ an appropriate directional legend such as the word message **EXIT XX, NEXT RIGHT, SECOND RIGHT,** or directional arrows, and the related logo sign panels.

<sup>03</sup> No more than ~~three~~ **two** types of services shall be represented on any sign or sign assembly. If ~~three~~ **two** types of services are displayed on one sign, then the logo sign panels shall be limited to ~~two~~ **three** for each service type (for a total of six logo sign panels). Refer California Code of Regulations, Title 21, Division 2, Chapter 19, Section 2110(f). If two types of services are displayed on one sign, then the logo sign panels shall be limited to either three for each service type (for a total of six logo sign panels) or four for one service type and two for the other service type (for a total of six logo sign panels). The legend and logo sign panels applicable to a service type shall be displayed such that the road user will not associate them with another service type on the same sign.

<sup>04</sup> No service type shall appear on more than two signs (see Paragraph 6).

<sup>05</sup> The signs shall have a blue background, a white border, and white legends of upper-case letters, numbers, and arrows.

### **Support:**

<sup>05a</sup> California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 3, Section 101.7 and California Code of Regulations, Title 21, Division 2, Chapter 19, Sections 2100 through 2120, do not include the "attractions" category.

<sup>05b</sup> In California, the generic term FUEL is used for GAS.

*Guidance:*

<sup>06</sup> Where a service type is displayed on two signs, the signs for that service should follow one another in succession.

<sup>07</sup> The Specific Service signs should be located to take advantage of natural terrain, to have the least impact on the scenic environment, and to avoid visual conflict with other signs within the highway right-of-way.

*Option:*

<sup>08</sup> General Service signs (see Sections 2I.02 and 2I.03) may be used in conjunction with Specific Service signs for eligible types of services that are not represented by a Specific Service sign.

*Support:*

<sup>09</sup> Examples of Specific Service signs are shown in Figure 2J-1 and 2J-1(CA). Examples of sign locations are shown in Figure 2J-2.

### **Section 2J.03 Logos and Logo Sign Panels**

**Standard:**

<sup>01</sup> A logo shall be either an identification symbol/trademark or a word message. Each logo shall be placed on a separate logo sign panel that shall be attached to the Specific Service sign. Symbols or trademarks used alone for a logo shall be reproduced in the colors and general shape consistent with customary use, and any integral legend shall be in proportionate size. A logo that resembles an official traffic control device shall not be used.

*Guidance:*

<sup>02</sup> A word message logo, not using a symbol or trademark, should have a blue background with white legend and border.

*Support:*

<sup>03</sup> Section 2J.05 contains information regarding the minimum letter heights for logo sign panels.

*Option:*

<sup>04</sup> Where business identification symbols or trademarks are used alone for a logo, the border may be omitted from the logo sign panel.

<sup>05</sup> A portion of a logo sign panel may be used to display a supplemental message horizontally along the bottom of the logo sign panel, provided that the message displays essential motorist information (see Figure 2J-3).

**Standard:**

<sup>06</sup> All supplemental messages shall be displayed within the logo sign panel and shall have letters and numerals that comply with the minimum height requirements shown in Table 2J-1.

*Guidance:*

<sup>07</sup> A logo sign panel should not display more than one supplemental message.

<sup>08</sup> The supplemental message should be displayed in a color to contrast effectively with the background of the business sign or separated from the other legend or logo by a divider bar.

<sup>09</sup> State or local agencies that elect to allow supplemental messages on logo sign panels should develop a statewide policy for such messages.

*Support:*

<sup>10</sup> Typical supplemental messages might include DIESEL, 24 HOURS, CLOSED and the day of the week when the facility is closed, ALTERNATIVE FUELS (see Section 2I.03), and RV ACCESS.

*Option:*

<sup>11</sup> The RV ACCESS supplemental message may be circular.

**Standard:**

<sup>12</sup> If the RV ACCESS supplemental message is circular, it shall be the abbreviation RV in black letters inside a yellow circle with a black border and it shall be displayed within the logo sign panel near the lower right-hand corner (see Figure 2J-4).

*Guidance:*

<sup>13</sup> If the circular RV ACCESS supplemental message is used, the circle should have a diameter of 10 inches and the letters should have a height of 6 inches.

<sup>14</sup> If a State or local agency elects to display the designation of businesses as providing on-premise accommodations for recreational vehicles with the RV ACCESS supplemental message or the RV Access circular

*message, there should be a statewide policy for such designation and criteria for qualifying businesses. The criteria should include such site conditions as access between the public roadway and the site, on-premise geometry, and parking.*

Option:

15 If a business designated as an Interstate Oasis (see Section 2I.04) has a business logo sign panel on the Food and/or Gas Specific Service signs, the word OASIS may be displayed on the bottom portion of the logo sign panel for that business.

**Standard:**

16 **A logo sign panel shall not display the symbol/trademark or name of more than one business.**

## **Section 2J.04 Number and Size of Signs and Logo Sign Panels**

*Guidance:*

01 *Sign sizes should be determined by the amount and height of legend and the number and size of logo sign panels attached to the sign. All logo sign panels on a sign should be the same size.*

**Standard:**

02 **Each Specific Service sign or sign assembly shall be limited to no more than six logo sign panels. There shall be no more than three logo panels for one of the two service types on the same sign or sign assembly. Refer California Code of Regulations, Title 21, Division 2, Chapter 19, Section 2110(f).**

Option:

03 ~~Where more than six businesses of a specific service type are eligible for logo sign panels at the same interchange, additional logo sign panels of that same specific service type may also be displayed in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 4. The additional logo sign panels may be displayed either by placing more than one specific service type on the same sign (see Paragraph 3 of Section 2J.02) or by using a second Specific Service sign of that specific service type if the additional sign can be added without exceeding the limit of four Specific Service signs at an interchange or intersection approach (see Paragraph 6 of Section 2J.02).~~

**Standard:**

04 ~~Where logo sign panels for more than six businesses of a specific service type are displayed at the same interchange or intersection approach, the following provisions shall apply:~~

~~A. No more than 12 logo sign panels of a specific service type shall be displayed on no more than two Specific Service signs or sign assemblies;~~

~~B. No more than six logo sign panels shall be displayed on a single Specific Service sign; and~~

~~C. No more than four Specific Service signs shall be displayed on the approach.~~

Support:

05 Section 2J.08 contains information regarding Specific Service signs for double-exit interchanges.

**Standard:**

06 **Each logo sign panel attached to a Specific Service sign shall have a rectangular shape with a width longer than the height. A logo sign panel on signs for freeways and expressways shall not exceed 60 inches in width and 36 inches in height. A logo sign panel on signs for conventional roads and freeway and expressway ramps shall not exceed 30 inches in width and 18 inches in height. California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 3, Section 101.7 includes the use of specific service signs for freeways only. The vertical and horizontal spacing between logo sign panels shall not exceed 8 inches and 12 inches, respectively.**

06a **A logo panel on signs for the mainline shall be 48 inch in width and 36 inch in height.**

06b **A logo panel on signs for the ramps shall be 18 inch in width and 12 inch in height.**

Support:

07 Sections 2A.14, 2E.15, and 2E.16 contain information regarding borders, interline spacing, and edge spacing.

## **Section 2J.05 Size of Lettering**

**Standard:**

01 **All Specific Service signs and logo sign panels shall have letter and numeral sizes that comply with the minimum requirements of Table 2J-1.**

*Guidance:*

*02 Any legend on a symbol/trademark should be proportional to the size of the symbol/trademark.*

## **Section 2J.06 Signs at Interchanges**

**Standard:**

**01 The Specific Service signs shall be installed between the preceding interchange and at least 800 feet in advance of the Exit Direction sign at the interchange from which the services are available (see Figure 2J-2).**

*Guidance:*

*02 There should be at least an 800 foot spacing between the Specific Service signs, except for Specific Service ramp signs. However, excessive spacing is not desirable. Specific Service ramp signs should be spaced at least 100 feet from the Exit Gore sign, from each other, and from the ramp terminal.*

**Standard:**

**03 Specific Service signs shall be located between the previous interchange and sufficiently in advance of the approaching interchange so that the last sign is at least 0.25 mile in advance of the gore of the approaching interchange with at least 800 foot spacing between all Specific Service signs and between Specific Service signs and guide signs. Refer California Code of Regulations, Title 21, Division 2, Chapter 19, Section 2108(a).**

*Option:*

*04 At the discretion of the Department of Transportation, the location of the Specific Service signs with respect to their distances from the gore may be increased to avoid conflict with existing guide signs.*

## **Section 2J.07 Single-Exit Interchanges**

**Standard:**

~~**01 At numbered single exit interchanges, the name of the service type followed by the exit number shall be displayed on one line above the logo sign panels. At unnumbered interchanges, the directional legend NEXT RIGHT (LEFT) shall be used.**~~

**02 At single-exit interchanges, Specific Service ramp signs shall be installed along the ramp or at the ramp terminal for facilities that have logo sign panels displayed along the main roadway if the facilities are not readily visible from the ramp terminal. Directions to the service facilities shall be indicated by arrows on the ramp signs. Logo sign panels on Specific Service ramp signs shall be duplicates of those displayed on the Specific Service signs located in advance of the interchange, but shall be reduced in size (see Paragraph 6 of Section 2J.04).**

*Guidance:*

*03 Specific Service ramp signs should include distances to the service facilities.*

*Option:*

*04 An exit number plaque (see Section 2E.31) may be used instead of the exit number on the signs located in advance of an interchange.*

**Standard:**

**05 The Single-Exit Interchange (One Service) Mainline sign (SG42-1(CA)) shall be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) where there are at least four qualified facilities available with the possibility of more.**

**06 The Single-Exit Interchange (One Service) Mainline sign (SG42-2(CA)) shall be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) where there are one or two qualified facilities available and it is not likely that there will be more than three.**

**07 At numbered interchanges, the name of the service type followed by the appropriate exit number shall be displayed on one line above the logo panels for SG42-1(CA) and SG42-2(CA) signs.**

*Option:*

*08 At unnumbered interchanges, the directional legend NEXT RIGHT (LEFT), SECOND RIGHT (LEFT), NEXT EXIT, or SECOND EXIT may be used in place of the exit number for SG42-1(CA) and SG42-2(CA) signs.*

**Standard:**

**09 The Single-Exit Interchange (Two Services) Mainline sign (SG42-6(CA)) shall be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) where there are a limited number of services, three or four, in remote rural areas.**

**10 The Single-Exit Interchange (Two Services) Mainline sign (SG42-7(CA)) shall be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) where there are a limited number of services, one or two, in remote rural areas.**

**11 At numbered interchanges, the appropriate exit number shall be displayed on the first line and the name of each service type shall be displayed above the logo panels for SG42-6(CA) and SG42-7(CA) signs.**

Option:

**12 At unnumbered interchanges, the directional legend NEXT RIGHT (LEFT), SECOND RIGHT (LEFT), NEXT EXIT, or SECOND EXIT may be used in place of the exit number for SG42-6(CA) and SG42-7(CA) signs.**

**Standard:**

**13 The Single-Exit Interchange (One Service) Mainline sign (SG42-9(CA)) shall be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) where there is only one service, in remote rural areas.**

**14 At numbered interchanges, the name of the service type shall be displayed above the logo panel and the appropriate exit number shall be displayed above the service type.**

Option:

**15 At unnumbered interchanges, the directional legend NEXT RIGHT (LEFT), SECOND RIGHT (LEFT), NEXT EXIT, or SECOND EXIT may be used in place of the exit number for the SG42-9(CA) sign.**

**Standard:**

**16 The Single-Exit Interchange (One Service) Mainline sign (SG42-10(CA)) shall be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) where there are at least two qualified facilities and it is not likely that there will be more than four.**

**17 At numbered interchanges, the name of the service type followed by the appropriate exit number shall be displayed on one line above the logo panels for the SG42-10(CA) sign.**

Option:

**18 At unnumbered interchanges, the directional legend NEXT RIGHT (LEFT), SECOND RIGHT (LEFT), NEXT EXIT, or SECOND EXIT may be used in place of the exit number for the SG42-10(CA) sign.**

## **Section 2J.08 Double-Exit Interchanges**

*Guidance:*

*01 At double-exit interchanges, the Specific Service signs should consist of two sections, one for each exit (see Figure 2J-1).*

**Standard:**

**02 At a double-exit interchange, the top section shall display the logo sign panels for the first exit and the bottom section shall display the logo sign panels for the second exit. At numbered interchanges, the name of the service type and the exit number shall be displayed above the logo sign panels in each section. At unnumbered interchanges, the word message NEXT RIGHT (LEFT) and SECOND RIGHT (LEFT) shall be used in place of the exit number. The number of logo sign panels on the sign (total of both sections) or the sign assembly shall be limited to six.**

*Guidance:*

*03 At a double-exit interchange, where a service type is displayed on two Specific Service signs in accordance with the provisions of Section 2J.04, one of the signs should display the logo sign panels for that service type for the businesses that are accessible from one of the two exits and the other sign should display the logo sign panels for that service type for the businesses that are accessible from the other exit.*

Option:

**04 At a double-exit interchange where there are four logo sign panels to be displayed for one of the exits and one or two logo sign panels to be displayed for the other exit, the logo sign panels may be arranged in three rows with two logo sign panels per row.**

**05 At a double-exit interchange, where a service is to be signed for only one exit, one section of the Specific Service sign may be omitted, or a single exit interchange sign may be used. Signs on ramps and crossroads as described in Section 2J.07 may be used at a double-exit interchange.**

**Standard:**

**06 The Double-Exit Interchange Mainline sign (SG42-3(CA)) shall be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) where there are one or two qualified facilities available from each exit and it is not likely that there will be more than three from each exit.**

**07 At numbered interchanges, the name of the service type followed by the appropriate exit number shall be displayed on one line above the logo panels for the SG42-3(CA) sign.**

Option:

**08 At unnumbered interchanges, the directional legend NEXT RIGHT (LEFT), SECOND RIGHT (LEFT), NEXT EXIT, or SECOND EXIT may be used in place of the exit number for the SG42-3(CA) sign.**

**Standard:**

**09 The Double-Exit Interchange Mainline sign (SG42-11(CA)) shall be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) where there is at least one qualified facility available from each exit and it is not likely that there will be more than two from each exit.**

**10 At numbered interchanges, the name of the service type followed by the appropriate exit number shall be displayed on one line above the logo panels for the SG42-11(CA) sign.**

Option:

**11 At unnumbered interchanges, the directional legend NEXT RIGHT (LEFT), SECOND RIGHT (LEFT), NEXT EXIT, or SECOND EXIT may be used in place of the exit number for the SG42-11(CA) sign.**

### **Section 2J.09 Specific Service Trailblazer Signs**

Support:

**01 Specific Service trailblazer signs (see Figure 2J-5) are guide signs with one to four logo sign panels that display business identification and directional information for services and for eligible attractions. Specific Service trailblazer signs are installed along crossroads for facilities that have logo sign panels displayed along the main roadway and ramp, and that require additional vehicle maneuvers.**

**Standard:**

**02 Specific Service trailblazer signs shall be installed along crossroads where the route to the business requires a direction change, where it is questionable as to which roadway to follow, or where additional guidance is needed. Where it is not feasible or practical to install Specific Service trailblazer signs to such businesses, those businesses shall not be considered eligible for signing from the ramp and main roadway. A Specific Service trailblazer sign shall not be required at the point where the business is visible from the roadway and its access is readily apparent.**

*Guidance:*

*03 If used, a Specific Service trailblazer sign should be located a maximum of 500 feet in advance of any required turn.*

**Standard:**

**04 The location of other traffic control devices shall take precedence over the location of a Specific Service trailblazer sign.**

**05 When used, each Specific Service trailblazer sign or sign assembly shall be limited to no more than four logo sign panels. The logo sign panels on Specific Service trailblazer signs shall be duplicates of those displayed on the Specific Service ramp signs.**

**06 Appropriate legends, such as directional arrows or the word message NEXT RIGHT or SECOND RIGHT, shall be displayed with the logo sign panel to provide proper guidance. The directional legend and border shall be white and shall be displayed on a blue background.**

Option:

**07 Specific Service trailblazer signs may contain various types of services on a single sign or on a sign assembly.**

**08 Specific Service trailblazer signs may be placed farther from the edge of the road than other traffic control signs.**

### **Section 2J.10 Signs at Intersections**

**Standard:**

~~**01 Where both tourist-oriented information (see Chapter 2K) and specific service information would be needed at the same intersection, the design of the tourist-oriented directional signs shall be used, and the needed specific service information shall be incorporated.**~~

*Guidance:*

~~02 If Specific Service signs are used on conventional roads or at intersections on expressways, they should be installed between the previous interchange or intersection and at least 300 feet in advance of the intersection from which the services are available.~~

~~03 The spacing between signs should be determined on the basis of an engineering study.~~

~~04 Logo sign panels should not be displayed for a type of service for which a qualified facility is readily visible.~~

**Standard:**

~~05 If Specific Service signs are used on conventional roads or at intersections on expressways, the name of each type of service shall be displayed above its logo sign panel(s), together with an appropriate legend, such as NEXT RIGHT (LEFT) or a directional arrow, either displayed on the same line as the name of the type of service or displayed below the logo sign panel(s).~~

**Option:**

~~06 Signs similar to Specific Service ramp signs as described in Section 2J.07 may be provided on the crossroad.~~

**Standard:**

07 Per California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 3, Section 101.7 includes the use of specific service signs for freeways only.

08 The tourist-oriented information and specific service information signs shall be separate installations. Refer California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1.5, Article 3, Section 229.285.

## Section 2J.11 Signing Policy

*Guidance:*

01 Each highway agency that elects to use Specific Service signs should establish a signing policy that includes, as a minimum, the guidelines of Section 2J.01 and at least the following criteria:

A. Selection of eligible businesses;

B. Distances to eligible services;

C. The use of logo sign panels, legends, and signs conforming with this Manual and State design requirements;

D. Removal or covering of logo sign panels during off seasons for businesses that operate on a seasonal basis;

E. The circumstances, if any, under which Specific Service signs are permitted to be used in non-rural areas;  
and

F. Determination of the costs to businesses for initial permits, installations, annual maintenance, and removal of logo sign panels.

**Support:**

02 California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1, Article 3, Section 101.7 provides for placement of Specific Service Signs (Logo Sign Program) on all rural freeways in California. The term "rural" for this purpose means any area outside of an "urban" area. An urban area is an area encompassing a population of 5,000 or more.

03 California Code of Regulations, Title 21, Division 2, Chapter 19, Sections 2100 through 2120 contain standards for the Specific Service Signs (Logo Sign Program).

**Standard:**

04 No new Specific Service (SG42 Series(CA)) signs shall be installed in a geographic area with a population over 5,000 as identified on maps prepared by the Department of Transportation based on the most recent United States Bureau of Census data.

05 When a geographic area exceeds a population of 5,000, Specific Service signs in that area, which were in place prior to the population increase, shall remain in place until new census data shows population levels exceeding 10,000. The Specific Service signs shall then be removed.

## Section 2J.101(CA) Signs at Ramps (SG42-4(CA), SG42-5(CA), SG42-8(CA) and SG42-12(CA))

**Standard:**

01 Specific Service (Ramp) Signs shall be located on, opposite of, or at the terminus of an off-ramp, in the same direction of travel as the Specific Service (Mainline) Signs (See Section 2J.07 and 2J.08). As viewed in the direction of travel, the successive signs shall be those for "CAMPING," "LODGING," "FOOD," and "FUEL" in that order.

**02 If either the business premises or an On-Site Sign of a Qualified Specific Service Business is not visible from any point on the off-ramp or from the terminus of the off-ramp, the Owner or Responsible Operator shall be required to make application to have a Logo Panel placed on a Specific Service (Ramp) Sign.**

Option:

03 If either the business premises or an on-site sign of a Qualified Specific Service Business is visible from any point on the off-ramp or from the terminus of the off-ramp, the Owner or Responsible Operator may apply for placement of a Logo Panel on the Specific Service (Ramp) Sign.

04 The Department of Transportation may require that a Logo panel be placed on a Specific Service (Ramp) Sign when either the business premises or an On-Site Sign is visible from the off-ramp or from the terminus of the off-ramp, if a sign is necessary to avoid misdirection of the motorist because of the complexity of the interchange.

05 Appropriate trailblazers may be required by the Department along other public highways as necessary to adequately direct motorists to the business referred to on any Logo Panel.

**Standard:**

**06 The Logo Panels fastened to a Specific Service (Ramp) Sign or a trailblazer sign shall be the same in shape, color, and message as those shown on the Specific Service (Mainline) Signs, but shall be of smaller size.**

Support:

07 The Specific Service Ramp sign (SG42-4(CA)) may be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) at an exit ramp where there are one or two qualified facilities available and it is not likely that there will be more than three in each direction.

08 The Specific Service Ramp sign (SG42-5(CA)) may be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) at an exit ramp where there are only one or two qualified facilities in only one direction.

09 The Specific Service Ramp sign (SG42-12(CA)) may be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) where there is only one qualified facility available and it is not likely that there will ever be more.

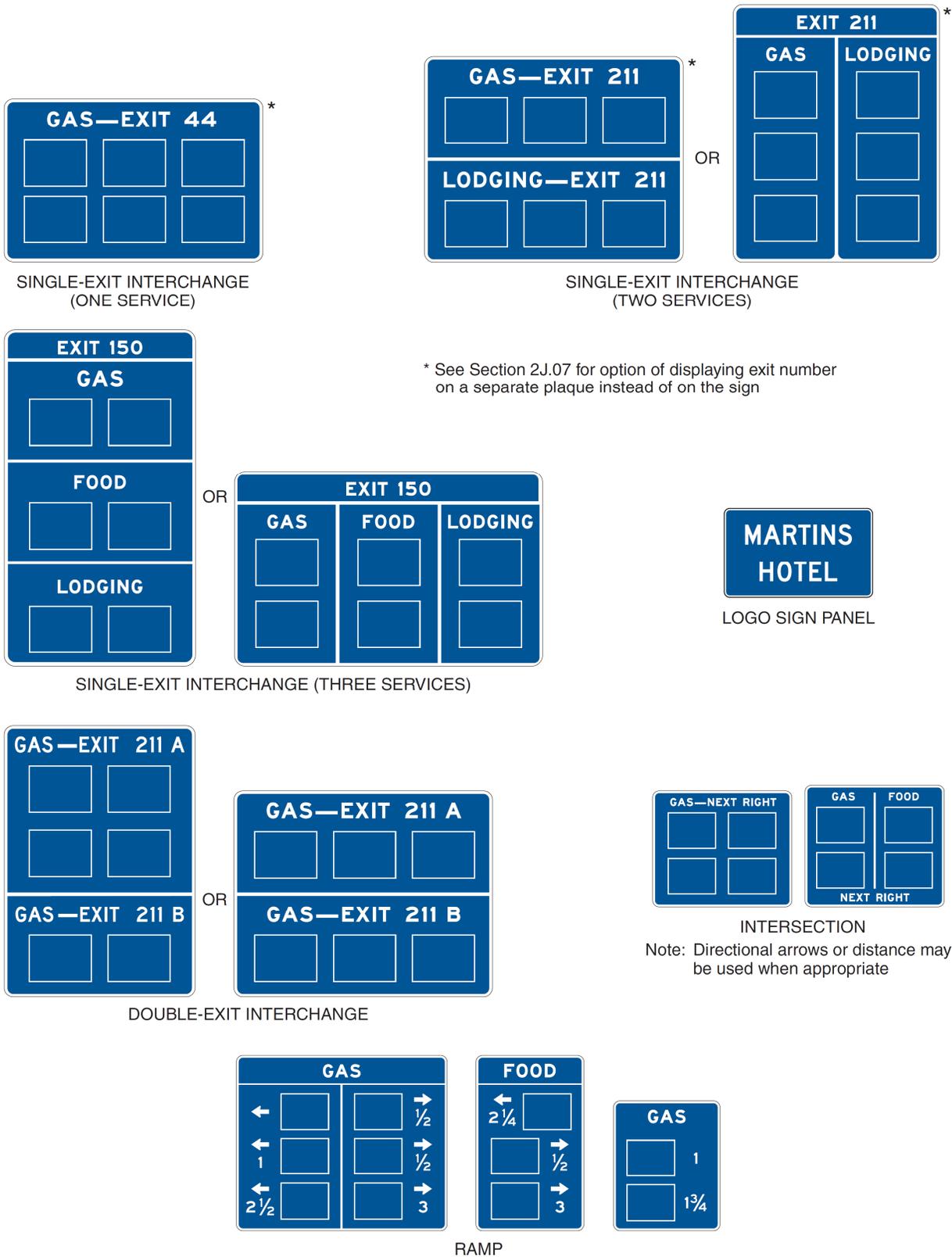
**Standard:**

**10 Ramp signs shall be installed along the ramp or at the ramp terminal for facilities that have logo panels displayed along the main roadway if the facilities are not readily visible from the ramp terminal. Directions to the service facilities shall be indicated by arrows on the ramp signs. Logo panels on Specific Service ramp signs shall be duplicates of those displayed on the mainline signs located in advance of the interchange, but shall be reduced in size.**

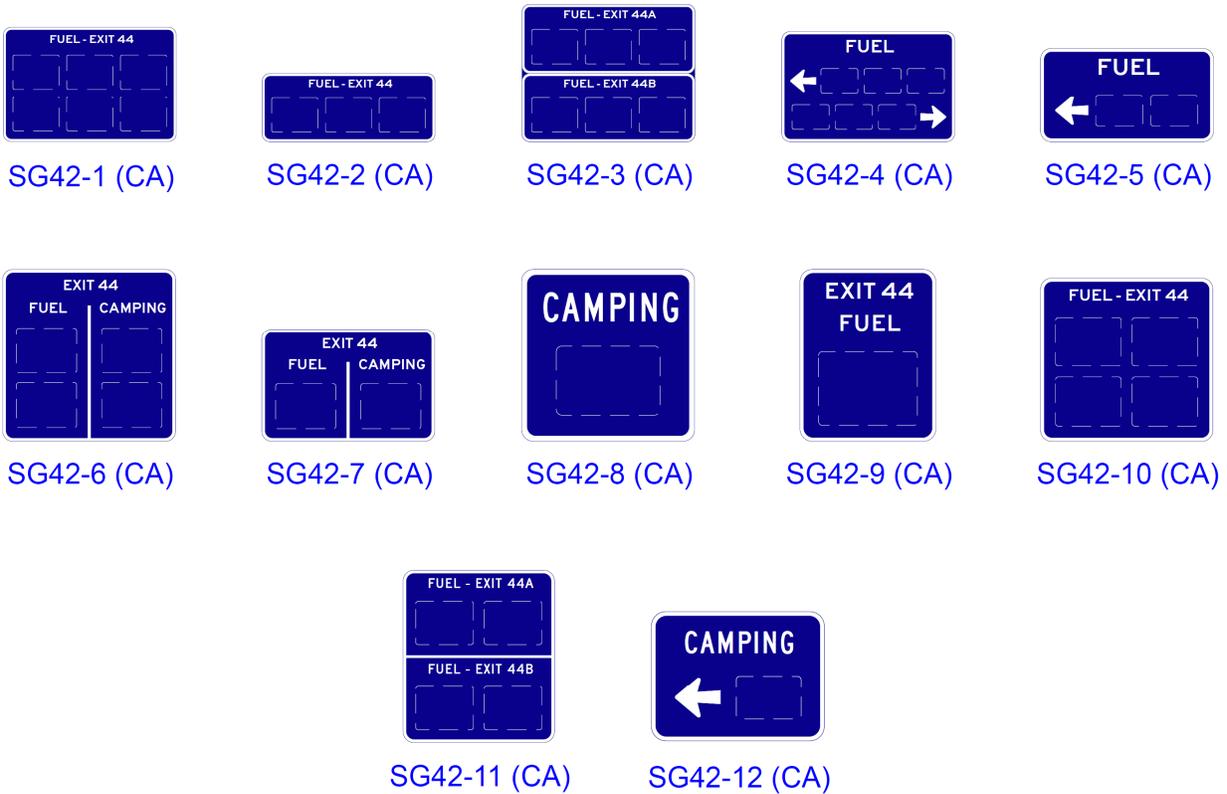
Support:

11 The Specific Service Ramp sign (SG42-8(CA)) may be used for the Specific Service Signing Program (Logo Program) in combination with a Directional Arrow Auxiliary (M6 Series) signs, at an exit ramp terminus, as a follow-up sign to freeway signs. A Mileage Plate may be applied to the sign panel, under the business logo where a business is not visible from the sign's location.

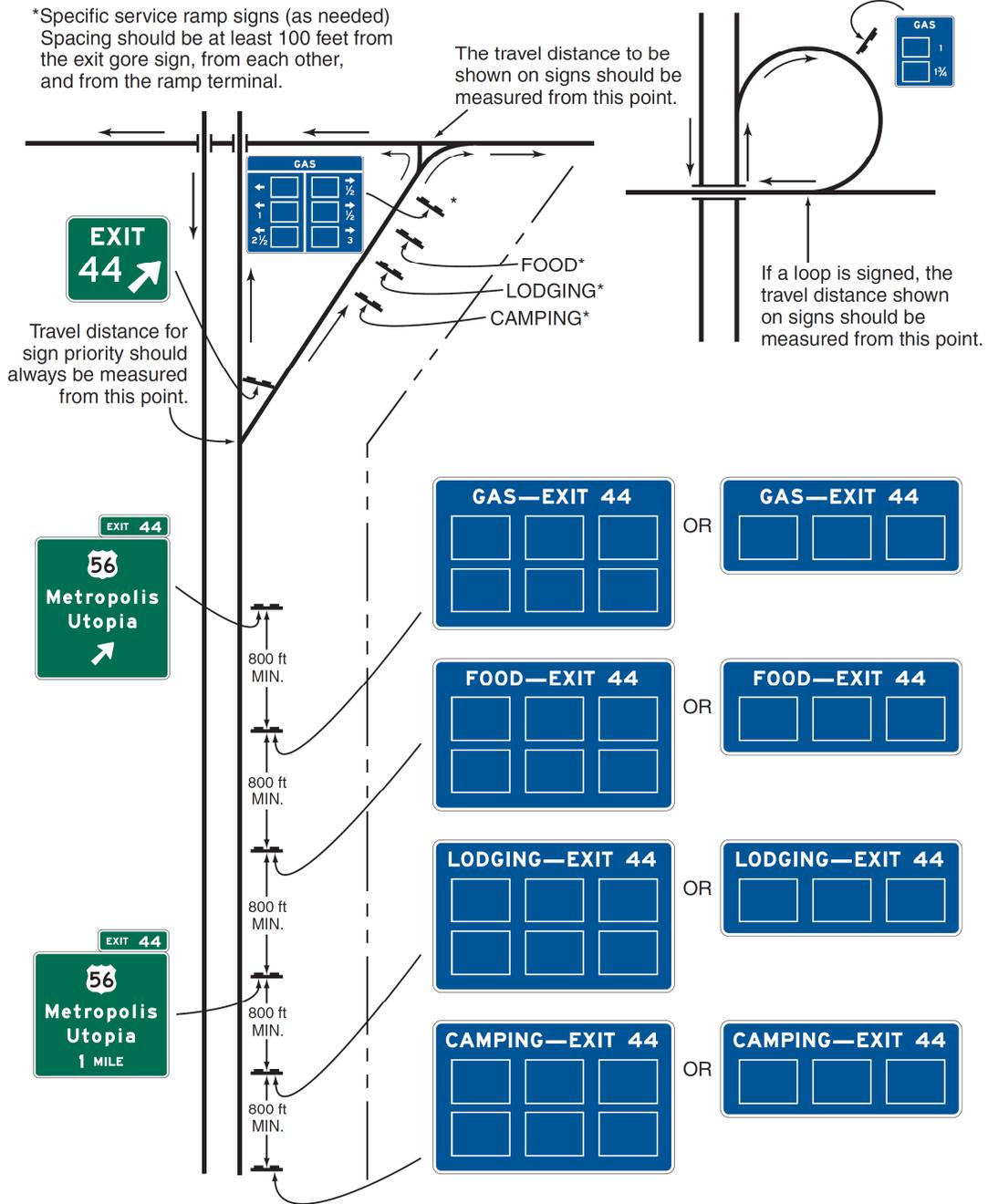
**Figure 2J-1. Examples of Specific Service Signs**



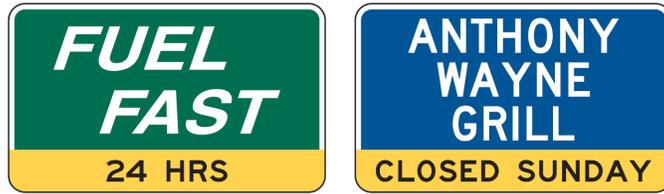
**Figure 2J-1 (CA). Examples of Specific Service Signs**



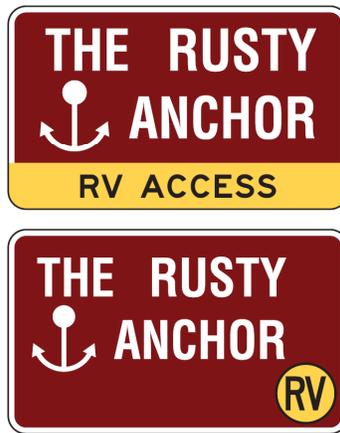
**Figure 2J-2. Examples of Specific Service Sign Locations**



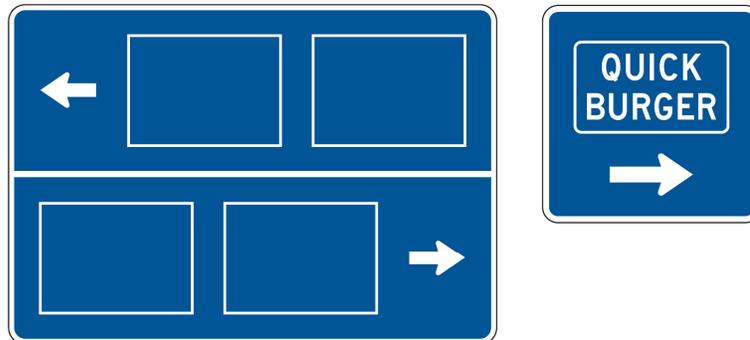
**Figure 2J-3. Examples of Supplemental Messages on Logo Sign Panels**



**Figure 2J-4. Examples of RV Access Supplemental Messages on Logo Sign Panels**



**Figure 2J-5. Examples of Specific Service Trailblazer Signs**



**Table 2J-1. Minimum Letter and Numeral Sizes for Specific Service Signs According to Sign Type**

Type of Sign	Freeway or Expressway	Conventional Road or Ramp
<b>A. Specific Service Signs</b>		
Service Categories	10	6
Exit Number Words	10	—
Exit Number Numerals and Letters	10	—
Action Message Words	10	6
Distance Numerals	—	6
Distance Fraction Numerals	—	4
<b>B. Logo Sign Panels</b>		
Logo Sign Panels	60 x 36	30 x 18
Words and Numerals (Non-Trademark/Graphic Logo)	8	4
Trademark/Graphic Logo	Proportional	Proportional
Supplemental Message Words and Numerals	5	2.5

Note: Sizes are shown in inches and where applicable are shown as width x height

**Table 2J-101(CA). California Specific Service Sign and Plaque Sizes**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
Single-Exit Interchange (One Service) Mainline	SG42-1(CA)	2J.07	180 x 120	180 x 120
Single-Exit Interchange (One Service) Mainline	SG42-2(CA)	2J.07	180 x 72	180 x 72
Double-Exit Interchange Mainline	SG42-3(CA)	2J.08	180 x 144	180 x 144
Specific Service Ramp	SG42-4(CA)	2J.101(CA)	84 x 54	84 x 54
Specific Service Ramp	SG42-5(CA)	2J.101(CA)	66 x 36	66 x 36
Single-Exit Interchange (Two Services) Mainline	SG42-6(CA)	2J.07	138 x 138	138 x 138
Single-Exit Interchange (Two Services) Mainline	SG42-7(CA)	2J.07	138 x 90	138 x 90
Specific Service Ramp	SG42-8(CA)	2J.101(CA)	30 x 30	30 x 30
Single-Exit Interchange (One Service) Mainline	SG42-9(CA)	2J.07	66 x 84	66 x 84
Single-Exit Interchange (One Service) Mainline	SG42-10(CA)	2J.07	126 x 120	126 x 120
Double-Exit Interchange Mainline	SG42-11(CA)	2J.08	126 x 144	126 x 144
Specific Service Ramp	SG42-12(CA)	2J.101(CA)	48 x 36	48 x 36



## CHAPTER 2K. TOURIST-ORIENTED DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

### Section 2K.01 Purpose and Application

Support:

<sup>01</sup> Tourist-oriented directional signs are guide signs with one or more sign panels that display the business identification of and directional information for eligible business, service, and activity facilities.

**Standard:**

<sup>02</sup> **A facility shall be eligible for tourist-oriented directional signs only if it derives its major portion of income or visitors during the normal business season from road users not residing in the area of the facility.**

Option:

<sup>03</sup> Tourist-oriented directional signs may include businesses involved with seasonal agricultural products.

**Standard:**

<sup>04</sup> **When used, tourist-oriented directional signs shall be used only on rural conventional roads and shall not be used on conventional roads in urban areas or at interchanges on freeways or expressways.**

<sup>05</sup> ~~Where both tourist-oriented directional signs and Specific Service signs (see Chapter 2J) would be needed at the same intersection, the tourist-oriented directional signs shall incorporate the needed information from, and be used in place of, the Specific Service signs.~~ **The tourist-oriented information and specific service information signs shall be separate installations.**

Support:

<sup>05a</sup> Refer to California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1.5, Article 3, Section 229.285.

Option:

<sup>06</sup> Tourist-oriented directional signs may be used in conjunction with General Service signs (see Section 2I.02).

Support:

<sup>07</sup> Section 2K.07 contains information on the adoption of a State policy for States that elect to use tourist-oriented directional signs.

<sup>08</sup> Refer to California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1.5 for administration, standards, eligibility, and fees concerning the tourist-oriented directional signs. See Section 1A.11 for information regarding these publications.

### Section 2K.02 Design

**Standard:**

<sup>01</sup> **Tourist-oriented directional signs shall have one or more sign panels for the purpose of displaying the business identification of and directional information for eligible facilities. Each sign panel shall be rectangular in shape and shall have a white legend and border on a blue background.**

<sup>02</sup> **The content of the legend on each sign panel shall be limited to the identification and directional information for no more than one eligible business, service, or activity facility. The legends shall not include promotional advertising.**

*Guidance:*

<sup>03</sup> *Each sign panel should have a maximum of two lines of legend including no more than one symbol, a separate directional arrow, and the distance to the facility displayed beneath the arrow. Arrows pointing to the left or up should be at the extreme left of the sign panel. Arrows pointing to the right should be at the extreme right of the sign panel. Symbols, when used, should be to the left of the word legend or logo sign panel (see Paragraph 7).*

Option:

<sup>04</sup> The General Service sign symbols (see Section 2I.02) and the symbols for recreational and cultural interest area signs (see Chapter 2M) may be used.

<sup>05</sup> ~~Logo sign panels (see Section 2J.03) for specific businesses, services, and activities may also be used. Based on engineering judgment, the hours of operation may be displayed on the sign panels.~~

**Standard:**

<sup>05a</sup> **The tourist-oriented information and specific service information signs shall be separate installations.**

Support:

<sup>05b</sup> Refer to California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1.5, Article 3, Section 229.285.

**Standard:**

<sup>06</sup> When used, symbols and logo sign panels shall be an appropriate size (see Section 2K.04). Logos resembling official traffic control devices shall not be permitted.

Option:

<sup>07</sup> The tourist-oriented directional sign may display the word message TOURIST ACTIVITIES at the top of the sign. The TOURIST ACTIVITIES word message unnecessarily increases the height of the sign.

**Standard:**

~~<sup>08</sup> The TOURIST ACTIVITIES word message shall have a white legend in all upper-case letters and a white border on a blue background. If used, it shall be placed above and in addition to the directional sign panels.~~

Support:

<sup>09</sup> Examples of tourist-oriented directional signs are shown in Figures ~~2K-1 and 2K-2~~ 2K-1(CA).

### Section 2K.03 Style and Size of Lettering

*Guidance:*

~~<sup>01</sup> All letters and numbers on tourist-oriented directional signs, except on the logo sign panels, should be upper-case and at least 6 inches in height. Any legend on a logo should be proportional to the size of the logo.~~

**Standard:**

<sup>02</sup> Design standards for letters, numerals, and spacing shall be as provided in the "Standard Highway Signs and Markings" book (see Section 1A.11).

**Standard:**

<sup>03</sup> Figure 2G-1(CA) and Department of Transportation's California Sign Specifications for Tourist Oriented Directional (SG44-1(CA) and SG44-2(CA)) signs shall be used for arrangement and size of tourist-oriented directional signs. A single sign arrangement is used in California for tourist-oriented directional signs.

### Section 2K.04 Arrangement and Size of Signs

**Standard:**

~~<sup>01</sup> The size of a tourist-oriented directional sign shall be limited to a maximum height of 6 feet. Additional height shall be allowed to accommodate the addition of the optional TOURIST ACTIVITIES message provided in Section 2K.02 and the action messages provided in Section 2K.05.~~

*Guidance:*

~~<sup>02</sup> The number of intersection approach signs (one sign for tourist-oriented destinations to the left, one for destinations to the right, and one for destinations straight-ahead) installed in advance of an intersection should not exceed three. The number of sign panels installed on each sign should not exceed four. The sign panels for right turn, left turn, and straight-through destinations should be on separate signs. The left turn destination sign should be located farthest from the intersection, then the right turn destination sign, with the straight-through destination sign located closest to the intersection (see Figure 2K-2). Signs for facilities in the straight-through direction should be considered only when there are signs for destinations in either the left or right direction.~~

~~<sup>03</sup> If it has been determined to be appropriate to combine the left turn and right turn destination sign panels on a single sign, the left turn destination sign panels should be above the right turn destination sign panels (see Figure 2K-1). When there are multiple destinations in the same direction, they should be in order based on their distance from the intersection. Except as provided in Paragraph 5, a straight-through sign panel should not be combined with a sign displaying left and/or right turn destinations.~~

~~<sup>04</sup> The sign panels should not exceed the size necessary to accommodate two lines of legend without crowding. Symbols and logo sign panels on a directional sign panel should not exceed the height of two lines of a word legend. All directional sign panels and other parts of the sign should be the same width, which should not exceed 6 feet.~~

Option:

~~<sup>05</sup> At intersection approaches where three or fewer facilities are displayed, the left turn, right turn, and straight-through destination sign panels may be combined on the same sign.~~

**Standard:**

**06 Figure 2K-1(CA) and Department of Transportation's California Sign Specifications for Tourist Oriented Directional (SG44-1(CA) and SG44-2(CA)) signs shall be used for arrangement and size of tourist-oriented directional signs. A single sign arrangement is used in California for tourist-oriented directional signs.**

**Section 2K.05 Advance Signs**

*Guidance:*

~~01 Advance signs should be limited to those situations where sight distance, intersection vehicle maneuvers, or other vehicle operating characteristics require advance notification of the destinations and their directions.~~

~~02 The design of the advance sign should be identical to the design of the intersection approach sign. However, the directional arrows and distances to the destinations should be omitted and the action messages NEXT RIGHT, NEXT LEFT, or AHEAD should be placed on the sign above the business identification sign panels. The action messages should have the same letter height as the other word messages on the directional sign panels (see Figures 2K-1 and 2K-2).~~

**Standard:**

**03 The action message sign panels shall have a white legend in all upper-case letters and a white border on a blue background.**

**Option:**

~~04 The legend RIGHT 1/2 MILE or LEFT 1/2 MILE may be used on advance signs when there are intervening minor roads.~~

~~05 The height required to add the directional word messages recommended for the advance sign may be added to the maximum sign height of 6 feet.~~

*Guidance:*

~~06 The optional TOURIST ACTIVITIES message, when used on an advance sign, and the action message should be combined on a single sign panel with TOURIST ACTIVITIES as the top line and the action message as the bottom line (see Figure 2K-2).~~

**Support:**

**07 Advance signs are not used in California for tourist-oriented directional signs.**

**Section 2K.06 Sign Locations**

*Guidance:*

~~01 If used, the intersection approach signs should be located at least 200 feet in advance of the intersection. Signs should be spaced at least 200 feet apart and at least 200 feet from other traffic control devices.~~

~~02 If used, advance signs should be located approximately 1/2 mile from the intersection with 500 feet between these signs. In the direction of travel, the order of advance sign placement should be to show the destinations to the left first, then destinations to the right, and last, the destinations straight ahead. Advance signs are not used in California for tourist-oriented directional signs.~~

~~03 Position, height, and lateral offset of signs should be governed by Chapter 2A except as permitted in this Section.~~

**Option:**

~~04 Tourist-oriented directional signs may be placed farther from the edge of the road than other traffic control signs.~~

**Standard:**

**05 The location of other traffic control devices shall take precedence over the location of tourist-oriented directional signs.**

**Section 2K.07 State Policy**

**Standard:**

**01 To be eligible for tourist-oriented directional signing, facilities shall comply with applicable State and Federal laws concerning the provisions of public accommodations without regard to race, religion, color, age, sex, or national origin, and with laws concerning the licensing and approval of service facilities. Each**

**State that elects to use tourist-oriented directional signs shall adopt a policy that complies with these provisions.**

*Guidance:*

*<sup>02</sup> The State policy should include:*

- A. A definition of tourist-oriented business, service, and activity facilities.*
- B. Eligibility criteria for signs for facilities.*
- C. Provision for incorporating Specific Service signs into the tourist-oriented directional signs as required by Paragraph 5 of Section 2K.01.*
- D. Provision for covering signs during off seasons for facilities operated on a seasonal basis.*
- E. Provisions for signs to facilities that are not located on the crossroad when such facilities are eligible for signs.*
- F. A definition of the immediate area in compliance with the provisions of Paragraph 2 of Section 2K.01.*
- G. Maximum distances to eligible facilities. The maximum distance should be 5 miles.*
- H. Provision for information centers (plazas) when the number of eligible sign applicants exceeds the maximum permissible number of sign panel installations.*
- I. Provision for limiting the number of signs when there are more applicants than the maximum number of signs permitted.*
- J. Criteria for use at intersections on expressways.*
- K. Provisions for controlling or excluding those businesses which have illegal signs as defined by the Highway Beautification Act of 1965 (23 U.S.C. 131).*
- L. Provisions for States to charge fees to cover the cost of signs through a permit system.*
- M. A definition of the conditions under which the time of operation is displayed.*
- N. Provisions for determining if advance signs will be permitted, and the circumstances under which they will be installed.*

**Option:**

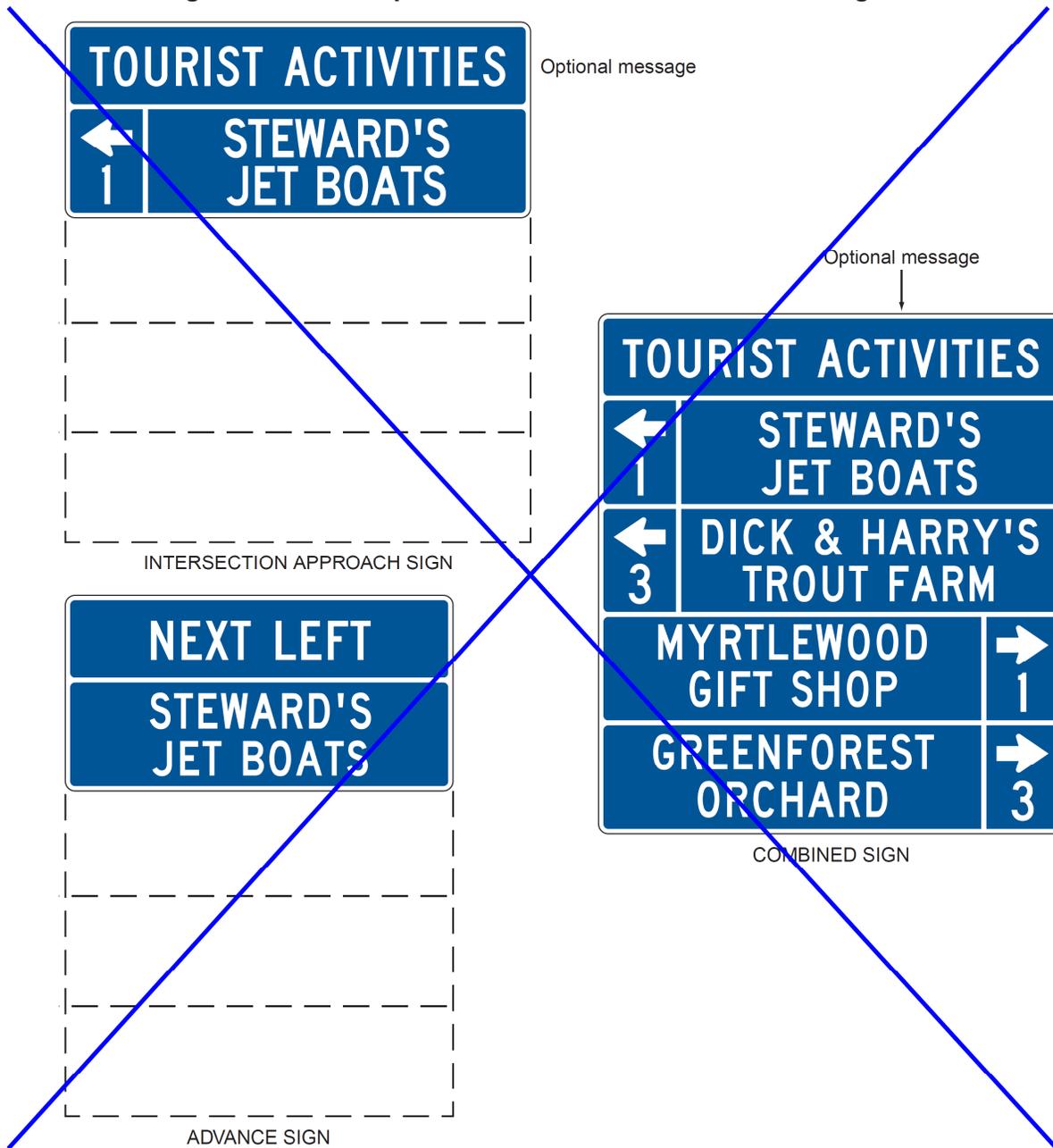
<sup>03</sup> The Tourist Oriented Directional (SG44-1(CA) and SG44-2(CA)) signs may be placed at qualifying conventional rural highway intersections.

**Support:**

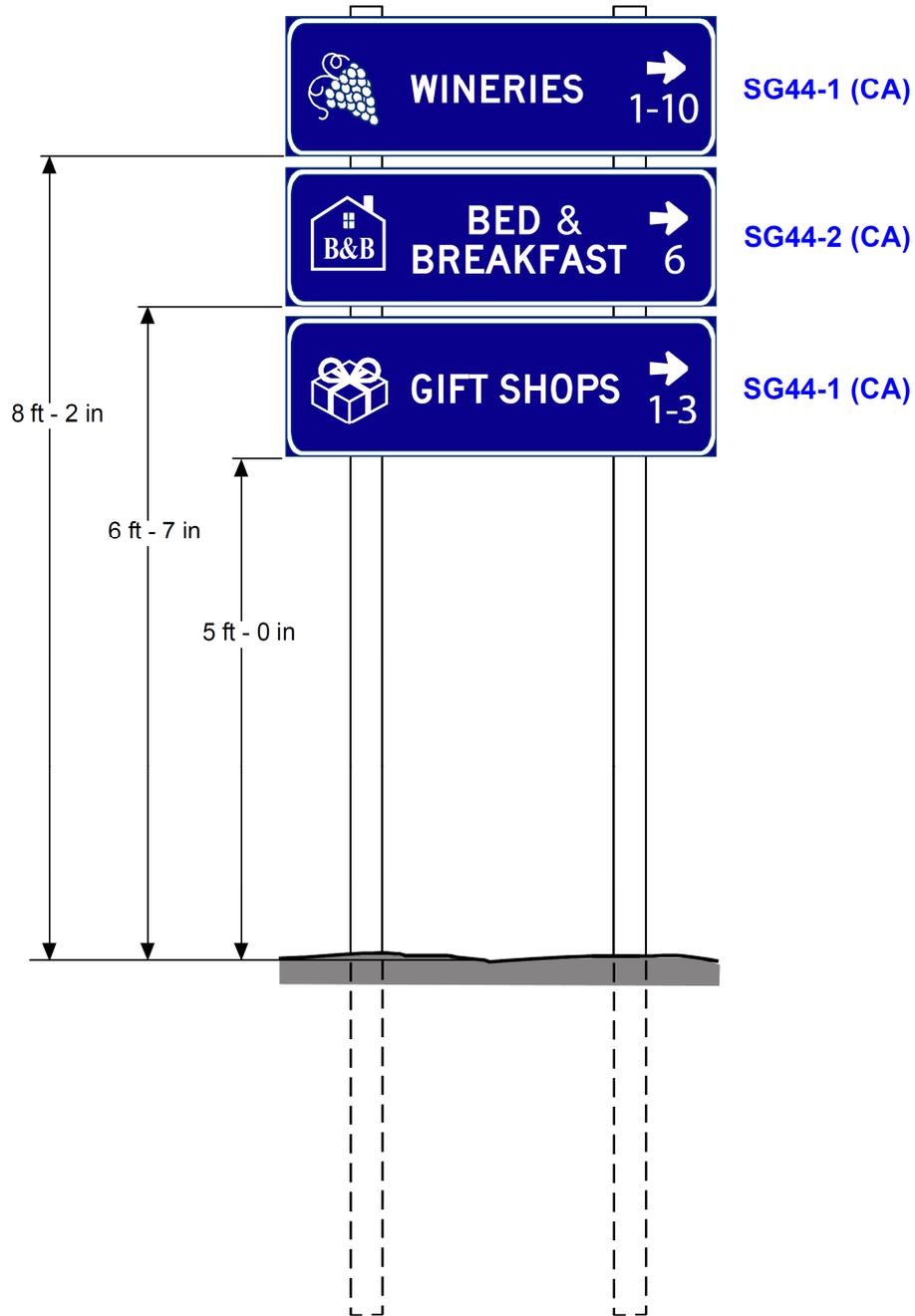
<sup>04</sup> These qualifying intersections are described in Chapter 1.5 of the Streets and Highways Code.

<sup>05</sup> Refer to California Streets and Highways Code, Division 1, Chapter 1.5 for administration, standards, eligibility, and fees concerning the tourist-oriented directional signs. See Section 1A.11 for information regarding these publications.

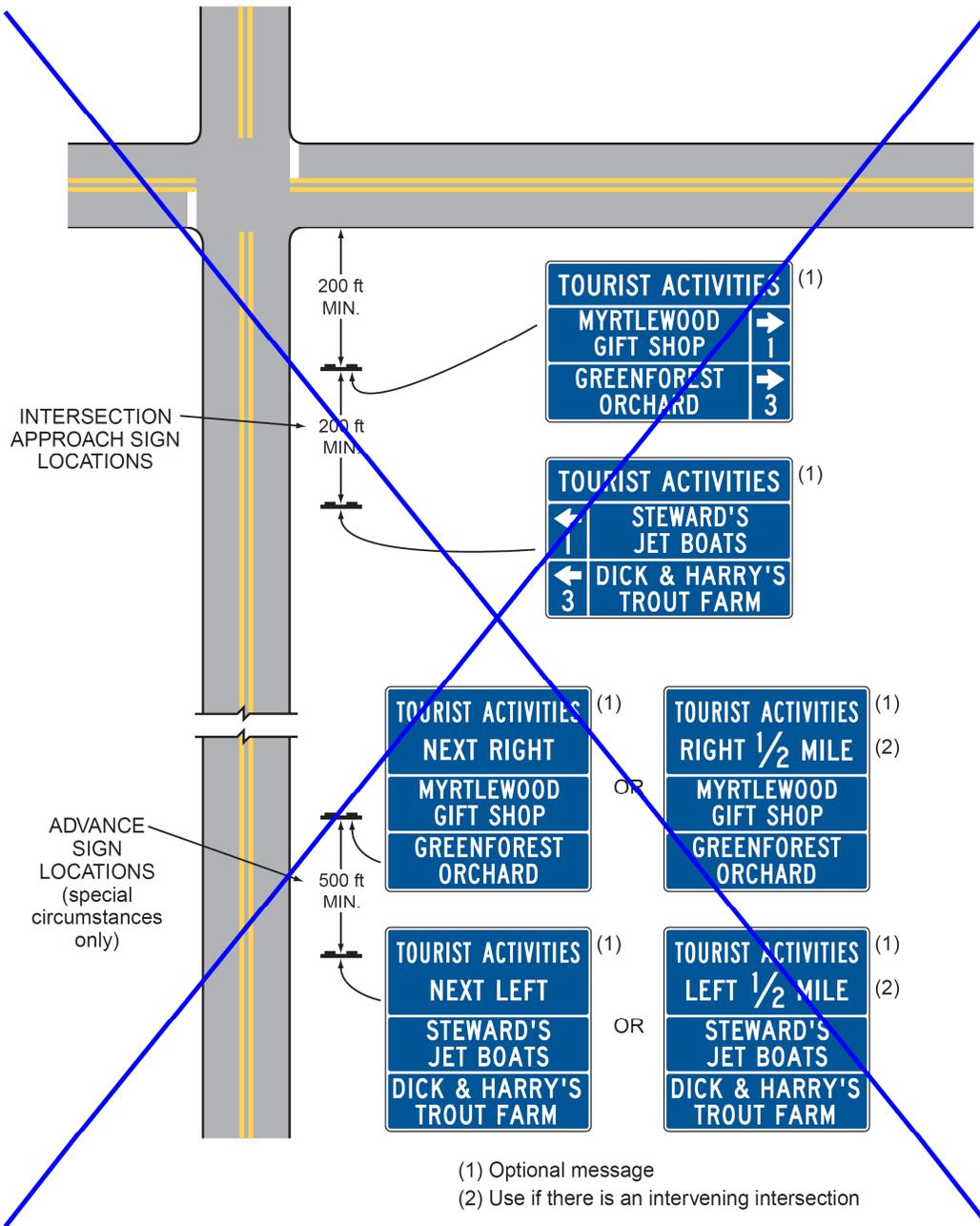
Figure 2K-1. Examples of Tourist-Oriented Directional Signs



**Figure 2K-1 (CA). Examples of Tourist-Oriented Directional Signs**



**Figure 2K-2. Examples of Intersection Approach Signs and Advance Signs for Tourist-Oriented Directional Signs**



**Table 2K-101(CA). California Tourist-Oriented Directional Sign Sizes**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road
Tourist Oriented Directional Sign (TODS)	SG44-1(CA)	2K.03, 2K.04 & 2K.07	72 x 18
Tourist Oriented Directional Sign (TODS)	SG44-2(CA)	2K.03, 2K.04 & 2K.07	72 x 18



## CHAPTER 2L. CHANGEABLE MESSAGE SIGNS

### Section 2L.01 Description of Changeable Message Signs

**Support:**

<sup>01</sup> A changeable message sign (CMS) is a traffic control device that is capable of displaying one or more alternative messages. Some changeable message signs have a blank mode when no message is displayed, while others display multiple messages with only one of the messages displayed at a time (such as OPEN/CLOSED signs at weigh stations).

<sup>02</sup> The provisions in this Chapter apply to both permanent and portable changeable message signs with electronic displays. Additional provisions that only apply to portable changeable message signs can be found in Section 6F.60. The provisions in this Chapter do not apply to changeable message signs with non-electronic displays that are changed either manually or electromechanically, such as a hinged-panel, rotating-drum, or back-lit curtain or scroll CMS.

**Standard:**

<sup>03</sup> **Except as provided in Paragraph 2 of Section 2L.02, changeable message signs shall display only traffic operational, regulatory, warning, and guidance information. Advertising messages shall not be displayed on changeable message signs or its supports or other equipment.**

<sup>04</sup> **The design of legends for non-electronic display changeable message signs shall comply with the provisions of Chapters 2A through 2K, 2M, and 2N of this Manual. All other changeable message signs shall comply with the design and application principles established in this Chapter and in Chapter 2A.**

*Guidance:*

<sup>05</sup> *Blank-out signs that display only single-phase, predetermined electronic-display legends that are limited by their composition and arrangement of pixels or other illuminated forms in a fixed arrangement (such as a blank-out sign indicating a part-time turn prohibition, a blank-out or changeable lane-use sign, or a changeable OPEN/CLOSED sign for a weigh station) should comply with the provisions of the applicable Section for the specific type of sign, provided that the letter forms, symbols, and other legend elements are duplicates of the static messages as detailed in the "Standard Highway Signs and Markings" book (see Section 1A.11). Because such a sign is effectively an illuminated version of a static sign, the size of its legend elements, the overall size of the sign, and placement of the sign should comply with the applicable provisions for the static version of the sign.*

### Section 2L.02 Applications of Changeable Message Signs

**Support:**

<sup>01</sup> Changeable message signs have a large number of applications including, but not limited to, the following:

- A. Incident management and route diversion
- B. Warning of adverse weather conditions
- C. Special event applications associated with traffic control or conditions
- D. Control at crossing situations
- E. Lane, ramp, and roadway control
- F. Priced or other types of managed lanes
- G. Travel times
- H. Warning situations
- I. Traffic regulations
- J. Speed control
- K. Destination guidance

**Option:**

<sup>02</sup> Changeable message signs may be used by State and local highway agencies to display safety messages, transportation-related messages, emergency homeland security messages, and America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER) alert messages.

*Guidance:*

<sup>03</sup> *State and local highway agencies should develop and establish a policy regarding the display of the types of messages provided in Paragraph 2. When changeable message signs are used at multiple locations to address a*

*specific situation, the message displays should be consistent along the roadway corridor and adjacent corridors, which might necessitate coordination among different operating agencies.*

Support:

<sup>04</sup> Examples of safety messages include “SEAT BELT BUCKLED?” and “DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE.” Examples of transportation-related messages include “STADIUM EVENT SUNDAY, EXPECT DELAYS NOON TO 4 PM” and “OZONE ALERT CODE RED—USE TRANSIT.”

Guidance:

<sup>05</sup> *When a CMS is used to display a safety or transportation related message, the message should be simple, brief, legible, and clear. A CMS should not be used to display a safety or transportation-related message if doing so would adversely affect respect for the sign. “CONGESTION AHEAD” or other overly simplistic or vague messages should not be displayed alone. These messages should be supplemented with a message on the location or distance to the congestion or incident, delay and travel time, alternative route, or other similar messages.*

**Standard:**

<sup>06</sup> **When a CMS is used to display a safety, transportation-related, emergency homeland security, or AMBER alert message, the display format shall not be of a type that could be considered similar to advertising displays.**

Support:

<sup>07</sup> Section 2B.13 contains information regarding the design of changeable message signs that are used to display variable speed limits that change based on ambient or operational conditions, or that display the speed at which approaching drivers are traveling.

[Department of Transportation's Policy regarding the use of CMS signs for child abduction \(AMBER\) alert messages on State Highways](#)

Support:

<sup>08</sup> A primary mission of Department of Transportation is the safe and orderly movement of traffic. It is the policy of Department of Transportation to display only real-time information that conveys current traffic safety and congestion information on highway Changeable Message Signs (CMS).

**Standard:**

<sup>09</sup> **An exception to Department of Transportation policy on the use of CMS signs shall be made only for AMBER Alerts. Only credible real-time information, where it is crucial to the safety of the victim to disseminate the information to the public in the near term, shall be displayed on these CMS signs.**

Support:

<sup>10</sup> Law enforcement activates an Amber Alert when circumstances meets the following criteria: the missing child is of a pre-determined age; the law enforcement agency believes the child has been kidnapped; the agency believes the missing child is under threat of serious bodily harm or death.

**Standard:**

<sup>11</sup> **The California Highway Patrol (CHP) shall consult with the investigating agency prior to requesting any CMS sign activation. The Department of Transportation shall only respond to AMBER alert requests from the CHP. The Department of Transportation's District Traffic Management Center (TMC) staff and local CHP staff shall jointly agree upon the most appropriate CMS sign message content(s). The TMC staff shall also consult with CHP staff regarding the length of time to display messages (initially 2-3 hours), and extent of roadway system to display the messages (i.e. radius and/or directions and specific routes).**

Guidance:

<sup>12</sup> *TMC personnel should discuss with the requester the limitations on message content, the number of signs that can be deployed within a given time period, conflicts with other necessary sign messages etc.*

Support:

<sup>13</sup> There is a concern that messages that are too general in describing vehicles might result in inappropriate vigilantism. The preferred response is to display a radio frequency (thus referring the public elsewhere for details) - Department of Transportation's Highway Advisory Radios (HAR) or appropriate commercial radio. Alternatively, a license plate number (or partial number) might be displayed along with a vehicle description. The display of any contact phone number is discouraged.

<sup>14</sup> Nothing in this policy suggests a requirement to pre-empt true motorists safety messages, e.g. unexpected “end of queue” motorist alerts, severe weather advisories (fog, smoke), road closure and detour information etc.

**Option:**

<sup>15</sup> It may be necessary to turn off an AMBER alert sign that creates a traffic hazard.

**Support:**

<sup>16</sup> This policy primarily applies to the use of permanently installed overhead CMS signs. Should the use of mobile CMS signs be necessary and appropriate at a specific location(s); Department of Transportation can expect CHP assistance with mobile sign deployment as needed.

**Guidance:**

<sup>17</sup> *The TMCs should notify the Department of Transportation's HQ Communications Center when responding to an AMBER alert request. The TMCs should monitor and save traffic data in order to determine if unintended consequences of displaying such a message occurred on the highway.*

**Standard:**

<sup>18</sup> **A joint debriefing of Department of Transportation and CHP personnel shall follow every event.**

<sup>19</sup> **In all cases, messages shall maintain the credibility of the CMS system.**

### **Section 2L.03 Legibility and Visibility of Changeable Message Signs**

**Support:**

<sup>01</sup> The maximum distance at which a driver can first correctly identify letters and words on a sign is called the legibility distance of the sign. Legibility distance is affected by the characteristics of the sign design and the visual capabilities of drivers. Visual capabilities, and thus legibility distances, vary among drivers.

<sup>02</sup> For the more common types of changeable message signs, the longest measured legibility distances on sunny days occur during mid-day when the sun is overhead. Legibility distances are much shorter when the sun is behind the sign face, when the sun is on the horizon and shining on the sign face, or at night.

<sup>03</sup> Visibility is the characteristic that enables a CMS to be seen. Visibility is associated with the point where the CMS is first detected, whereas legibility is the point where the message on the CMS can be read. Environmental conditions such as rain, fog, and snow impact the visibility of changeable message signs and can reduce the available legibility distances. During these conditions, there might not be enough viewing time for drivers to read the message.

**Guidance:**

<sup>04</sup> *Changeable message signs used on roadways with speed limits of 55 mph or higher should be visible from 1/2 mile under both day and night conditions. The message should be designed to be legible from a minimum distance of 600 feet for nighttime conditions and 800 feet for normal daylight conditions. When environmental conditions that reduce visibility and legibility are present, or when the legibility distances stated in the previous sentences in this paragraph cannot be practically achieved, messages composed of fewer units of information should be used and consideration should be given to limiting the message to a single phase (see Section 2L.05 for information regarding the lengths of messages displayed on changeable message signs).*

### **Section 2L.04 Design Characteristics of Changeable Message Signs**

**Standard:**

<sup>01</sup> **Changeable message signs shall not include advertising, animation, rapid flashing, dissolving, exploding, scrolling, or other dynamic elements.**

**Support:**

<sup>02</sup> Section 6F.61 contains information regarding the use of arrow boards that use flashing or sequential displays for lane closures.

**Guidance:**

<sup>03</sup> *Except in the case of a limited-legend CMS (such as a blank-out or electronic-display changeable message regulatory sign) that is used in place of a static regulatory sign or an activated blank-out warning sign that supplements a static warning sign at a separate location, changeable message signs should be used as a supplement to and not as a substitute for conventional signs and markings.*

<sup>04</sup> *CMS should be limited to no more than three lines, with no more than 20 characters per line.*

*05 The spacing between characters in a word should be between 25 to 40 percent of the letter height. The spacing between words in a message should be between 75 and 100 percent of the letter height. Spacing between the message lines should be between 50 and 75 percent of the letter height.*

*06 Except as provided in Paragraph 18, word messages on changeable message signs should be composed of all upper-case letters. The minimum letter height should be 18 inches for changeable message signs on roadways with speed limits of 45 mph or higher. The minimum letter height should be 12 inches for changeable message signs on roadways with speed limits of less than 45 mph.*

Support:

*07 Using letter heights of more than 18 inches will not result in proportional increases in legibility distance.*

Guidance:

*08 The width-to-height ratio of the sign characters should be between 0.7 and 1.0. The stroke width-to-height ratio should be 0.2.*

Support:

*09 The width-to-height ratio is commonly accomplished using a minimum font matrix density of five pixels wide by seven pixels high.*

**Standard:**

**10 Changeable message signs shall automatically adjust their brightness under varying light conditions to maintain legibility.**

Guidance:

*11 The luminance of changeable message signs should meet industry criteria for daytime and nighttime conditions. Luminance contrast should be between 8 and 12 for all conditions.*

*12 Contrast orientation of changeable message signs should always be positive, that is, with luminous characters on a dark or less luminous background.*

Support:

*13 Legibility distances for negative-contrast changeable message signs are likely to be at least 25 percent shorter than those of positive-contrast messages. In addition, the increased light emitted by negative-contrast changeable message signs has not been shown to improve detection distances.*

**Standard:**

**14 The colors used for the legends and backgrounds on changeable message signs shall be as provided in Table 2A-5 2A-5(CA).**

Guidance:

*15 If a black background is used, the color used for the legend on a changeable message sign should match the background color that would be used on a standard sign for that type of legend, such as white for regulatory, yellow for warning, orange for temporary traffic control, red for stop or yield, fluorescent pink for incident management, and fluorescent yellow-green for bicycle, pedestrian, and school warning.*

**Standard:**

**16 If a green background is used for a guide message on a CMS or if a blue background is used for a motorist services message on a CMS, the background color shall be provided by green or blue lighted pixels such that the entire CMS would be lighted, not just the white legend.**

Support:

*17 Some CMS that employ newer technologies have the capability to display an exact duplicate of a standard sign or other sign legend using standard symbols, the Standard Alphabets and letter forms, route shields, and other typical sign legend elements with no apparent loss of resolution or recognition to the road user when compared with a static version of the same sign legend. Such signs are of the full-matrix type and can typically display full-color legends. Use of such technologies for new CMS is encouraged for greater legibility of their displays and enhanced recognition of the message as it pertains to regulatory, warning, or guidance information.*

Guidance:

*18 If used, the CMS described in the preceding paragraph should not display symbols or route shields unless they can do so in the appropriate color combinations. For a single-phase message where the Standard Alphabets and other legend elements of standard designs are used, the lettering style, size, and line spacing should comply with the applicable provisions for the type of message displayed as provided elsewhere in this Manual. For two-phase messages, larger legend heights should be used as described previously in this Section because of the need*

*for such messages to be legible at a greater distance. Regardless of the number of phases, the CMS should comply with the legibility and visibility provisions of Section 2L.03.*

### **Section 2L.05 Message Length and Units of Information**

#### *Guidance:*

*01 The maximum length of a message should be dictated by the number of units of information contained in the message, in addition to the size of the CMS. A unit of information, which is a single answer to a single question that a driver can use to make a decision, should not be more than four words.*

#### **Support:**

*02 In order to illustrate the concept of units of information, Table 2L-1 shows an example message that is comprised of four units of information.*

*03 The maximum allowable number of units of information in a CMS message is based on the principles described in this Section, the current highway operating speed, the legibility characteristics of the CMS, and the lighting conditions.*

#### **Standard:**

**04 Each message shall consist of no more than two phases. A phase shall consist of no more than three lines of text. Each phase shall be understood by itself regardless of the sequence in which it is read. Messages shall be centered within each line of legend. Except for signs located on toll plaza structures or other facilities with a similar booth-lane arrangement, if more than one CMS is visible to road users, then only one sign shall display a sequential message at any given time.**

**05 Techniques of message display such as fading, rapid flashing, exploding, dissolving, or moving messages shall not be used. The text of the message shall not scroll or travel horizontally or vertically across the face of the sign.**

#### *Guidance:*

*06 When designing and displaying messages on changeable message signs, the following principles relative to message design should be used:*

- A. The minimum time that an individual phase is displayed should be based on 1 second per word or 2 seconds per unit of information, whichever produces a lesser value. The display time for a phase should never be less than 2 seconds.*
- B. The maximum cycle time of a two-phase message should be 8 seconds.*
- C. The duration between the display of two phases should not exceed 0.3 seconds.*
- D. No more than three units of information should be displayed on a phase of a message.*
- E. No more than four units of information should be in a message when the traffic operating speeds are 35 mph or more.*
- F. No more than five units of information should be in a message when the traffic operating speeds are less than 35 mph.*
- G. Only one unit of information should appear on each line of the CMS.*
- H. Compatible units of information should be displayed on the same message phase.*

#### **Option:**

*07 A unit of information consisting of more than one word may be displayed on more than one line. An additional changeable message sign at a downstream location may be used for the purpose of allowing the entire message to be read twice.*

#### *Guidance:*

*08 If more than two phases would be needed to display the necessary information, additional changeable message signs should be used to display this information as a series of two distinct, independent messages with a maximum of two phases at each location, in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 4.*

*09 When the message on a CMS includes an abbreviation, the provisions of Section 1A.15 should be used.*

**Section 2L.06 Installation of Permanent Changeable Message Signs**

*Guidance:*

01 A CMS that is used in place of a static sign (such as a blank-out or variable legend regulatory sign) should be located in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2A. The following factors should be considered when installing other permanent changeable message signs:

- A. Changeable message signs should be located sufficiently upstream of known bottlenecks and high crash locations to enable road users to select an alternate route or take other appropriate action in response to a recurring condition.
- B. Changeable message signs should be located sufficiently upstream of major diversion decision points, such as interchanges, to provide adequate distance over which road users can change lanes to reach one destination or the other.
- C. Changeable message signs should not be located within an interchange except for toll plazas or managed lanes.
- D. Changeable message signs should not be positioned at locations where the information load on drivers is already high because of guide signs and other types of information.
- E. Changeable message signs should not be located in areas where drivers frequently perform lane-changing maneuvers in response to static guide sign information, or because of merging or weaving conditions.

*Support:*

02 Information regarding the design and application of portable changeable message signs in temporary traffic control zones is contained in Section 6F.60.

**Section 2L.101(CA) Extinguishable Message Signs**

*Support:*

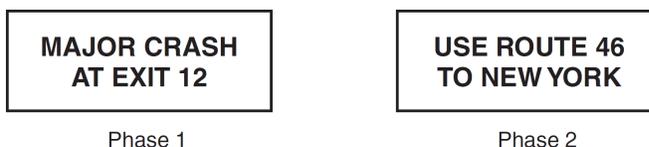
01 Extinguishable message signs are designed to have one or more messages that can be displayed or deleted as required. Such a sign can be changed manually, by remote control, or by automatic controls that can “sense” the conditions that require special sign messages.

02 It is recognized that due to technological limitations, many extinguishable message signs cannot conform to the exact sign shape, color, and dimensions specified in these standards. Nevertheless, it is essential that extinguishable message signs ascribe to the principles established in this California MUTCD, and to the extent practicable, with the design and applications prescribed herein.

**Table 2L-1. Example of Units of Information**

Question	Answer	Number of Information Units
What happened?	MAJOR CRASH	1
Where?	AT EXIT 12	1
Who is the advisory for?	Drivers Heading TO NEW YORK	1
What is advised?	USE ROUTE 46	1

Note: The following is an example of a two-phase message that could be developed from the four information units shown in this table:



## CHAPTER 2M. RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL INTEREST AREA SIGNS

### Section 2M.01 Scope

Support:

01 Recreational or cultural interest areas are attractions or traffic generators that are open to the general public for the purpose of play, amusement, or relaxation. Recreational attractions include such facilities as parks, campgrounds, gaming facilities, and ski areas, while examples of cultural attractions include museums, art galleries, and historical buildings or sites.

02 The purpose of recreation and cultural interest area signs is to guide road users to a general area and then to specific facilities or activities within the area.

Option:

03 Recreational and cultural interest area guide signs directing road users to significant traffic generators may be used on freeways and expressways where there is direct access to these areas as provided in Section 2M.09.

04 Recreational and cultural interest area signs may be used off the road network, as appropriate.

### Section 2M.02 Application of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Signs

Support:

01 Provisions for signing recreational or cultural interest areas are subdivided into two different types of signs: (1) symbol signs and (2) destination guide signs.

Guidance:

02 *When highway agencies decide to provide recreational and cultural interest area signing, these agencies should have a policy for such signing. The policy should establish signing criteria for the eligibility of the various types of services, accommodations, and facilities. These signs should not be used where they might be confused with other traffic control signs.*

Option:

03 Recreational and cultural interest area guide signs may be used on any road to direct persons to facilities, structures, and places, and to identify various services available to the general public. These guide signs may also be used in recreational or cultural interest areas for signing non-vehicular events and amenities such as trails, structures, and facilities.

Support:

04 Section 2A.12 contains information regarding the use of recreational and cultural interest area symbols on other types of signs.

Support:

05 The recreational and cultural interest area signs are supplemental signs and are subject to the same spacing and number of messages limitations set forth in Chapters 2A, 2D and 2E. Under these limitations, the supplemental destination, recreational and cultural interest area signs compete for signing on the basis of traffic service.

Guidance:

06 *Recreational area signs to National Parks and State Parks should normally include the name of the area. County and City Park signs should not normally include the name.*

Option:

07 Recreational area signs may be placed for the following facilities:

- A. National Parks or Monuments.
- B. State Parks, when located within 5 mile of the highway.
- C. County Parks, when located within 3 mile of the highway.
- D. In urban areas, City Parks within 1 mile may be signed from conventional highways. Normally, City Parks will not be signed to from metropolitan freeways.
- E. Campgrounds in National Forests or State Parks may be signed from conventional highways when the entrances are located on the highway. An advance sign reading "Campground 1/4 mile" may be placed. Signs at the immediate entrance will be placed by the agency having jurisdiction over the campground.

- F. Major rural recreational areas may be signed by name. When a recreational area is served by more than a single exit, the appropriate colored NEXT X EXITS (E9) sign may be used. Normally, the sign will include the name of the area and the text "RECREATIONAL AREA".
- G. In rural recreational areas, guide signs may be supplemented with white on brown symbol signs mounted below indicating recreational facilities available to the motorists.

*Guidance:*

*08 On State highways, signs to major rural recreational areas that include a jurisdictional logo or are unique in shape should be placed under an encroachment permit from the Department of Transportation.*

**Standard:**

**09 Placement of these signs to major rural recreational areas shall be by the jurisdiction or agency making the request through the normal permit process as a fee exempt permit.**

**10 These signs shall be installed in accordance with the Department of Transportation's Standard Plans publication. See Section 1A.11 for more information regarding this publication.**

*Guidance:*

*11 These signs to major rural recreational areas should be limited to areas where they do not block or interfere with other signs necessary for safe and efficient operation of the highway. The sign panels should be clearly marked as to the ownership.*

**Standard:**

**12 The use of the following symbol signs shall conform to the warrants shown here and in Chapter 2I:**

**General Information**

*Option:*

*13 The Automobile (RG-010) sign indicates that automobiles may use the signed facility within a recreation area.*

**Standard:**

**14 The RG-010 sign shall not be used on State highways.**

*Option:*

*15 The Lookout Tower (RS-006) sign may be used for lookout facilities that are publicly owned, within 3 mile of the highway, and open for visitors at least 8 hours per day, 180 days per year.*

**Standard:**

**16 Follow up signs to the RS-006 sign, where required, shall be installed by the local authority having jurisdiction in the area.**

*Option:*

*17 The Lighthouse (RS-007) sign may be used for lighthouse facilities that are within 3 mile of the highway and open for visitors at least 8 hours per day, 180 days per year.*

*18 The Dam (RS-009) sign may be used to indicate dams, located within 1 mile of the highway, that have recreational activities with parking, water access, power plant tours and picnicking, which do not meet warrants for other recreational symbols.*

*19 The Fish Hatchery (RS-010) sign may be used to indicate publicly administered hatcheries that are within 3 mile of the highway and open for visitors at least 8 hours per day, 180 days per year.*

*20 The Deer Viewing Area (RS-011) sign may be placed to indicate an area which is determined by the Department of Fish and Game to be particularly well suited for viewing deer and other wild life. This area should have adequate parking and be within 1 mile of the highway, via a well-maintained road.*

*21 The Drinking Water (RS-013) sign may be used to indicate free public drinking water within 0.25 mile of the highway where no other publicly accessible drinking water is available within 10 mile.*

*22 The Information (D9-10) sign may be used to indicate publicly operated informational facilities that are located within 1 mile of the highway and open all year.*

*Option:*

*23 The Ranger Station (RS-015) sign may be used for public agency ranger stations that are within 1 mile of the highway and open all year.*

*24 The Truck (RG-190) sign indicates that trucks may use the signed facility within a recreation area.*

**Standard:**

**25 The RG-190 sign shall not be used on State highways.**

Option:

<sup>26</sup> The Wildlife Viewing (RS-076) sign may be used to direct motorists to the Wildlife Viewing Areas as published in the California Watchable Viewing Guide.

Support:

<sup>27</sup> Refer to the following web link for more information:  
[http://www.cawatchablewildlife.org/viewing\\_guide.htm](http://www.cawatchablewildlife.org/viewing_guide.htm)

**Standard:**

<sup>28</sup> **The WILDLIFE VIEWING (G200-81A(CA)) sign shall be placed below the Wildlife Viewing (RS-076) sign.**

Option:

<sup>29</sup> The Botanical Management Area (G200-82(CA)) sign may be used to identify areas along the State highway right-of-way that are environmentally significant natural remnants of California's botanical diversity, as designated by the Office of State Landscape Architecture.

Guidance:

<sup>30</sup> *The G200-82(CA) sign should be placed in combination with the BOTANICAL MANAGEMENT AREA (G200-82A(CA)) plaque.*

<sup>31</sup> *The G200-82A(CA) plaque should be placed below the G200-82(CA) sign.*

**Motorist Services**

Option:

<sup>32</sup> The Camping (Tent) (D9-3) sign may be used for campsite facilities, either public or private, located within 3 miles of the highway.

**Standard:**

<sup>33</sup> **For the use of D9-3 sign, a minimum of 15 campsites shall be provided. Water and sanitary facilities shall be available, but not necessarily at each individual campsite.**

Option:

<sup>34</sup> The Trailer Site (RS-040) sign may be used to indicate trailer site facilities within a public recreation area, located within 3 miles of the highway.

**Standard:**

<sup>35</sup> **For the use of RS-040 sign, a minimum of 15 trailer sites shall be provided. Water and sanitary facilities shall be available.**

Option:

<sup>36</sup> The Ferry (RM-030) sign may be used to indicate recreational ferry operations within 2 miles of the highway.

<sup>37</sup> The Food Service (D9-8) sign may be used to sign for food service facilities in public recreation areas which meet the criteria for food (D9-8) signs in Chapter 2I. On State highways, only the D9-8 sign is used, where appropriate, to sign for food service facilities.

<sup>38</sup> The Gas (D9-7) sign may be used to indicate fuel stations in public recreation areas, which meet the criteria for Gas (D9-7) signs in Chapter 2I. On State highways, only the D9-7 sign may be used where appropriate.

<sup>39</sup> The Grocery Store (RS-020) sign may be used within public recreation areas for facilities within 1 mile of the highway that provide standard grocery items such as eggs, bread, milk and fruit, provided there are no other similar facilities within 10 miles.

**Standard:**

<sup>40</sup> **For the use of RS-020 sign, services shall be available at least 12 hours per day.**

Option:

<sup>41</sup> The Handicapped (D9-6) sign may be used in public recreation areas where paved ramps and rest room facilities accessible to, and usable by, the physically handicapped are provided. On State highways and at other State facilities, only the International Symbol of Accessibility for the Handicapped (D9-6) sign is to be used.

<sup>42</sup> The Lodging (D9-9) sign may be used to indicate lodging facilities in public recreation areas, which meet the criteria for lodging (D9-9) signs in Section 2D.45. On State highways, only the D9-9 sign is used, where appropriate, to sign to lodging facilities.

<sup>43</sup> The Mechanic (RS-027) sign may be used to indicate facilities in public recreation areas with automotive repair capability.

**Standard:**

<sup>44</sup> **The RS-027 sign shall not be used on State highways.**

Option:

45 The Picnic Area (RS-044) sign may be used for picnic areas, either public or private, located within 1 mile of the highway.

**Standard:**

46 **For the use of RS-044 sign, a minimum of 10 sites with tables shall be provided. Water and sanitary facilities shall be available.**

Option:

47 The Rest Room (RS-022) sign may be used to indicate free public access to a restroom within 0.25 mile of the highway where no other publicly accessible restroom is available within 10 miles.

48 The Telephone (D9-1) sign may be used within public recreation areas where a public telephone is available 24 hours a day and it is located in a remote area where it is not expected. On State highways, only the Telephone (D9-1) sign is used, where appropriate, to indicate the availability of a telephone.

49 The Trailer Sanitary Station (RS-041) sign may be used to indicate dump stations where recreational vehicles may dispose of their holding tank waste.

**Standard:**

50 **For the use of RS-041 sign, the station shall be located within a public recreation area and within 1 mile of the highway.**

Option:

51 The Viewing Area (RS-036) sign may be used to direct motorists to public recreation area sites, located within 0.25 mile of the highway, which have significant views.

*Guidance:*

52 *For the use of RS-036 sign, the sites should have adequate parking and well maintained access. On freeways, the VISTA POINT (D5-1) sign should be used where appropriate. Refer to Chapter 2I.*

### **Accommodation Services**

Option:

53 The Airport (I-5) sign may be used in public recreation areas to direct motorist to airports, which meet the criteria, specified for Airport (I-5) signs. Only the I-5 and Conventional Airport (G94-1(CA)) signs may be used on State highways to indicate nearby airports.

54 The Parking (RS-034) sign may be used to indicate public parking facilities less than 0.25 mile from a highway in recreation areas.

*Guidance:*

55 *Use of RS-034 signs should be restricted to locations outside of urbanized zones, where the Parking Area (D4-1) sign is inappropriate.*

### **Land Recreation**

Option:

56 The Amphitheater (RS-070) sign may be used to identify an amphitheater facility within 1 mile of the highway.

57 The Playground (W15-1) sign may be used to identify playgrounds within a recreation area and not more than 1 mile from the highway.

58 The Trail (Bicycle) (D11-1) sign may be used for identifying bicycle trails located within public recreation areas.

*Guidance:*

59 *On State highways, the Bike Lane (R81(CA)) or the Bike Route (D11-1) signs should be used.*

Option:

60 *The Trail (Hiking) (RS-068) sign may be used for marked and maintained hiking trails.*

**Standard:**

61 **For the use of RS-068 sign, the trailhead shall be within 1 mile of the highway, with sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.**

Option:

62 The Trail (Horse) (RS-064) sign may be used for identifying horse trails located within public recreation areas.

*Guidance:*

63 *For the use of RS-064 sign, the trailhead should be within 3 mile of the highway.*

Option:

64 The Trail (4WD Vehicle) (RS-067) sign may be used to identify recreation vehicle trails located within public recreation areas.

*Guidance:*

<sup>65</sup> For the use of RS-067 sign, the trailhead should be 3 mile or less from the highway. For this application, the term "recreation vehicle" is synonymous with "off highway vehicle" (OHV), which includes vehicles with two or more wheels. The OHV TRAIL (S12(CA)) sign should be used at points where off-highway vehicle trails intersect highways.

*Option:*

<sup>66</sup> The Trail (Trail Bike) (RL-150) sign may be used to identify trail bike trails located within public recreation areas.

*Guidance:*

<sup>67</sup> For the use of RL-150 sign, the trailhead should be 3 mile or less from the highway. The OHV TRAIL (S12(CA)) sign should be used where the trail intersects the highway.

*Option:*

<sup>68</sup> The Tramway (RS-071) sign may be used to identify recreational tramways or gondolas that provide year-round service and are located within 5 mile of the highway.

<sup>69</sup> The Golf Course (G200-80(CA)) sign may be used to identify a 9 hole or more golf course within 3 mile on a conventional highway which does not have its main entrance adjacent to the highway. The G200-80(CA) signs may be installed under permit by local agencies only.

**Standard:**

<sup>70</sup> **The G200-80(CA) signs shall not be used at driving ranges or miniature golf courses.**

*Option:*

<sup>71</sup> The OHV TRAIL (S12(CA)) sign may be used to direct off highway vehicle operators to the location of a OHV trail. The S12(CA) sign may be supplemented by a white on brown Directional Arrow Auxiliary (M6 Series) sign.

**Water Recreation**

*Option:*

<sup>72</sup> The Canoeing (RS-079) sign may be used to indicate where canoeing facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

<sup>73</sup> The Diving (RS-062) sign may be used to indicate a diving facility within a recreational area.

<sup>74</sup> The Diving (Scuba) (RS-060) sign may be used to indicate areas suitable for scuba diving within 3 mile of the highway.

<sup>75</sup> The Fishing (RS-063) sign may be used to indicate a fishing area, either public or private, within 3 mile of the highway.

<sup>76</sup> The Marina (RS-053) sign may be used to indicate an area where boats can be anchored and serviced within 3 mile of the highway.

<sup>77</sup> The Motorboating (RS-055) sign may be used to indicate areas where motorboating facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

<sup>78</sup> The Ramp (Launch) (RS-054) sign may be used to indicate boat launching facilities, either public or private, located within 3 mile of the highway.

<sup>79</sup> The Rowboating (RS-057) sign may be used to indicate areas where Rowboating facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

<sup>80</sup> The Sailboating (RW-056) sign may be used to indicate areas where Sailboating facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

<sup>81</sup> The Skiing (Water) (RW-058) sign may be used to indicate areas where water-skiing facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

<sup>82</sup> The Surfing (RS-059) sign may be used to indicate areas suitable for surfing within 3 mile of the highway.

*Guidance:*

<sup>83</sup> For the use of RS-059 sign, adequate parking should also be available.

*Option:*

<sup>84</sup> The Swimming (RS-061) sign may be used to indicate a swimming facility within a recreational area.

**Winter Recreation**

*Option:*

<sup>85</sup> The Skating (Ice) (RS-050) sign may be used to indicate ice skating facilities within 5 mile of the highway.

<sup>86</sup> The Ski Jumping (RS-048) sign may be used to indicate ski jumping facilities within 5 mile of the highway.

<sup>87</sup> The Skiing (Bobbing) (RS-030) sign may be used to indicate ski bobbing facilities within 1 mile of the highway.

*Guidance:*

<sup>88</sup> For the use of RS-030 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.

Option:

<sup>89</sup> The Skiing (Cross Country) (RS-046) sign may be used to indicate cross country skiing facilities within 1 mile of the highway.

Guidance:

<sup>90</sup> *For the use of RS-046 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.*

Option:

<sup>91</sup> The Skiing (Downhill) (RS-047) sign may be used to indicate down hill skiing facilities located within 5 mile of the highway.

<sup>92</sup> The Sledding (RS-049) sign may be used to indicate sledding facilities within 1 mile of the highway.

Guidance:

<sup>93</sup> *For the use of RS-049 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.*

Option:

<sup>94</sup> The Snowmobiling (RS-052) sign may be used to indicate Snowmobiling facilities within 1 mile of the highway.

Guidance:

<sup>95</sup> *For the use of RS-052 sign, there should be a paved loading area at any such facility which is at least 20 feet wide (measured perpendicular to the traveled way) and sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand. Parking spaces should be sized for vehicles with small trailers.*

Option:

<sup>96</sup> The Snowshoeing (RS-078) sign may be used to indicate an area within 1 mile of the highway where special facilities or services are available for Snowshoeing.

Guidance:

<sup>97</sup> *For the use of RS-078 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.*

Option:

<sup>98</sup> The Winter Recreation Area (RS-077) sign may be used to indicate a winter recreation area within 1 mile of the highway when other recreation symbols are not appropriate.

Guidance:

<sup>99</sup> *For the use of RS-077 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.*

### **Sno-Park Signs**

Option:

<sup>100</sup> Only those specific parking areas designated by the Department of Parks and Recreation may be signed as Sno-Park parking areas. Parking is by permit only.

<sup>101</sup> The SNO-PARK X MILE (SG30(CA)) sign may be used on expressways or conventional highways to give advance notice of a snow plowed parking area. The SNO-PARK with Arrow (SG32(CA)) sign may be used on expressways or conventional highways in advance of a turn off to a snow plowed parking area.

<sup>102</sup> The SNO-PARK NEXT RIGHT (SG31(CA)) sign may be used on freeways to give advance notice of an exit to a snow plowed parking area. The SNO-PARK (SG34(CA)) sign may be placed below an existing Advance Guide (G83(CA) Series) or Supplemental Destination (G86(CA) Series) sign on freeways to indicate an exit to a snow plowed parking area.

**Standard:**

<sup>103</sup> **If the SG31(CA) or SG34(CA) sign is used, a SNO-PARK with Arrow (SG33(CA)) sign shall be placed at the ramp terminal.**

Guidance:

<sup>104</sup> *If used, the PERMIT REQUIRED (SG35(CA)) sign should be placed below the SG30(CA) or SG31(CA) sign and the PERMIT REQUIRED NOV 1 TO MAY 30 (SG35-1(CA)) sign should be placed below the SG32(CA) or SG33(CA) sign. Placement should be under the sign, which is nearest to the Sno-Park entrance.*

<sup>105</sup> *Between November 1 and May 30, during periods when snow is not available for recreational activities, the SG35(CA) and SG35-1(CA) signs should be covered.*

**Standard:**

<sup>105</sup> **At the end of the Sno-Park season, May 30, the SG35(CA) and SG35-1(CA) signs shall be covered or removed.**

### **Section 2M.03 Regulatory and Warning Signs**

#### **Standard:**

**01 All regulatory and warning signs installed on public roads and streets within recreational and cultural interest areas shall comply with the requirements of Chapters 2A, 2B, 2C, 7B, 8B, and 9B.**

### **Section 2M.04 General Design Requirements for Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Guide Signs**

#### **Standard:**

**01 Recreational and cultural interest area symbol guide signs shall be square or rectangular in shape and shall have a white symbol or message and white border on a brown background. The symbols shall be grouped into the following usage and series categories:**

- A. General Applications,**
- B. Accommodations,**
- C. Services,**
- D. Land Recreation,**
- E. Water Recreation, and**
- F. Winter Recreation.**

#### **Support:**

**02 Table 2M-1 contains a listing of the symbols within each series category. Drawings showing the design details for these symbols are found in the "Standard Highway Signs and Markings" book (see Section 1A.11).**

#### **Option:**

**03 Mirror images of symbols may be used where the reverse image will better convey the message.**

### **Section 2M.05 Symbol Sign Sizes**

#### *Guidance:*

*01 Recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs should be 24 x 24 inches. Where greater visibility or emphasis is needed, larger sizes should be used. Symbol sign enlargements should be in 6-inch increments.*

*02 Recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs should be 30 x 30 inches when used on guide signs on freeways or expressways.*

#### **Option:**

**03 A smaller size of 18 x 18 inches may be used on low-speed, low-volume roadways and on non-road applications.**

### **Section 2M.06 Use of Educational Plaques**

#### *Guidance:*

*01 Educational plaques should accompany all initial installations of recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs. The educational plaque should remain in place for at least 3 years after the initial installation. If used, the educational plaque should be the same width as the symbol sign.*

#### **Option:**

**02 Symbol signs that are readily recognizable by the public may be installed without educational plaques.**

#### **Support:**

**03 Figure 2M-1 illustrates some examples of the use of educational plaques.**

### **Section 2M.07 Use of Prohibitive Circle and Diagonal Slash for Non-Road Applications**

#### **Standard:**

**01 Where it is necessary to indicate a prohibition of an activity or an item within a recreational or cultural interest area for non-road use and a standard regulatory sign for such a prohibition is not provided in Chapter 2B, the appropriate recreational and cultural interest area symbol shall be used in combination with a red prohibitive circle and red diagonal slash. The recreational and cultural interest area symbol and the sign border shall be black and the sign background shall be white. The symbol shall be scaled proportionally to fit completely within the circle and the diagonal slash shall be oriented from the upper left to the lower right portions of the circle as shown in Figure 2M-1.**

**02 Requirements for retroreflection of the red circle and red diagonal slash shall be the same as those requirements for backgrounds, legends, symbols, arrows, and borders.**

## **Section 2M.08 Placement of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs**

### **Standard:**

**01 If used, recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs shall be placed in accordance with the general requirements contained in Chapter 2A. The symbol(s) shall be placed as sign panels in the uppermost part of the sign and the directional information shall be placed below the symbol(s).**

**02 Except as provided in Paragraph 3, if the name of the recreational or cultural interest area facility or activity is displayed on a destination guide sign (see Section 2M.09) and a symbol is used, the symbol shall be placed below the name (see Figure 2M-2).**

### **Option:**

**03** When the legend Wildlife Viewing Area is displayed with the RS-076 symbol on a destination guide sign, the symbol may be placed to the left or right of the legend and the arrow may be placed below the symbol (see Figure 2M-2).

**04** The symbols displayed with the facility or activity name may be placed below the destination guide sign as illustrated in Figure 2M-2 instead of as sign panels placed with the destination guide sign.

**05** Secondary symbols of a smaller size (18 x 18 inches) may be placed beneath the primary symbols (see Drawing A in Figure 2M-1), where needed.

### **Standard:**

**06 Recreational and cultural interest area symbols installed for non-road use shall be placed in accordance with the general sign position requirements of the authority having jurisdiction.**

### **Support:**

**07** Figure 2M-3 illustrates typical height and lateral mounting positions. Figure 2M-4 illustrates some examples of the placement of symbol signs within a recreational or cultural interest area. Figures 2M-5 through 2M-10, and 2M-5(CA) and 2M-8(CA) illustrate some of the symbols that can be used.

### **Guidance:**

**08** *The number of symbols used in a single sign assembly should not exceed four.*

### **Option:**

**09** The Advance Turn (M5 series) or Directional Arrow (M6 series) auxiliary signs with white arrows on brown backgrounds shown in Figure 2D-5 may be used with Recreational and Cultural Area Interest symbol guide signs to create a Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Directional Assembly. The symbols may be used singularly, or in groups of two, three, or four on a single sign assembly (see Figures 2M-1, 2M-3, and 2M-4).

### **Guidance:**

**10** *The symbol signs should be placed below the first advance ground-mounted directional sign.*

### **Option:**

**11** The NEXT RIGHT/LEFT (G58(CA)) Auxiliary sign (see Figure 2M-1(CA)) may also be used in conjunction with the recreational and cultural interest area signs.

## **Section 2M.09 Destination Guide Signs**

### **Guidance:**

**01** *When recreational or cultural interest area destinations are displayed on supplemental guide signs, the sign should be rectangular or trapezoidal in shape. The order of preference for use of shapes and colors should be as follows: (1) rectangular with a white legend and border on a green background; (2) rectangular with a white legend and border on a brown background; or (3) trapezoidal with a white legend and border on a brown background.*

### **Standard:**

**02** **Whenever the trapezoidal shape is used, the color combination shall be a white legend and border on a brown background.**

**Option:**

<sup>03</sup> Destination guide signs with a white legend and border on a brown background may be posted at the first point where an access or crossroad intersects a highway where recreational or cultural interest areas are a significant destination along conventional roads, expressways, or freeways. Supplemental guide signs with a white legend and border on a brown background may be used along conventional roads, expressways, or freeways to direct road users to recreational or cultural interest areas. Where access or crossroads lead exclusively to the recreational or cultural interest area, the advance guide sign and the exit direction sign may have a white legend and border on a brown background.

**Standard:**

<sup>04</sup> **All Exit Gore (E5-1 and E5-1a) signs (see Section 2E.37) shall have a white legend and border on a green background. The background color of the interchange Exit Number (E1-5P and E1-5bP) plaque (see Section 2E.31) shall match the background color of the guide sign. Design characteristics of conventional road, expressway, or freeway guide signs shall comply with Chapter 2D or 2E except as provided in this Section for color combination.**

<sup>05</sup> **The advance guide sign and the Exit Direction sign shall retain the white-on-green color combination where the crossroad leads to a destination other than a recreational or cultural interest area.**

**Support:**

<sup>06</sup> Figure 2M-2, and 2M-2(CA) illustrates destination guide signs commonly used for identifying recreational or cultural interest areas or facilities.

<sup>07</sup> The name of a community that is culturally unique and historically significant can be used on supplemental guide signs in accordance with California Streets and Highways Code Section 101.12.

**Option:**

<sup>08</sup> The Historic District Supplemental Destination (G86-11(CA)) signs may be placed directing traffic to a commercial or residential area that is of historic significance to a community and is recognized as such in the National Register of Historic Places.

**Standard:**

<sup>09</sup> **For a Historic District to be signed from a State highway, its boundaries shall be within 3 mile of the highway. Only one sign, for each direction shall be allowed and it will be from the nearest State highway. The type of sign, whether it is a supplemental plate under an existing Supplemental Destination (G86(CA) Series) sign or a stand alone sign shall be determined by the Department of Transportation. Any follow-up signs, if needed, shall be in place before the highway signs are installed.**

<sup>10</sup> **The requesting local agency shall be responsible for consulting with the Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation to verify the Historic District's official name and to insure there are no conflicts with existing historic landmarks or points of historical interest signs which may already be in place.**

<sup>11</sup> **When the above requirements are met, the requesting agency shall adopt a resolution, requesting Department of Transportation to place the signs. The cost of these signs, and their installation shall be the responsibility of the requesting agency.**

## **Section 2M.10 Memorial or Dedication Signing**

**Support:**

<sup>01</sup> Legislative bodies will occasionally adopt an act or resolution memorializing or dedicating a highway, bridge, or other component of the highway.

**Guidance:**

<sup>02</sup> *Such memorial or dedication names should not appear on or along a highway, or be placed on bridges or other highway components. If a route, bridge, or highway component is officially designated as a memorial or dedication, and if notification of the memorial or dedication is to be made on the highway right of way, such notification should consist of installing a memorial or dedication marker in a rest area, scenic overlook, recreational area, or other appropriate location where parking is provided with the signing inconspicuously located relative to vehicle operations along the highway.*

**Option:**

<sup>03</sup> ~~If the installation of a memorial or dedication marker off the main roadway is not practical, memorial or dedication signs may be installed on the mainline.~~

*Guidance:*

*04 Memorial or dedication signs should have a white legend and border on a brown background.*

**Standard:**

**05 Where such memorial or dedication signs are installed on the mainline, (1) memorial or dedication names shall not appear on directional guide signs, (2) memorial or dedication signs shall not interfere with the placement of any other necessary signing, and (3) memorial or dedication signs shall not compromise the safety or efficiency of traffic flow. The memorial or dedication signing shall be limited to one sign at an appropriate location in each route direction, each as an independent sign installation.**

**06 Memorial or dedication signs shall be rectangular in shape. The legend displayed on memorial or dedication signs shall be limited to the name of the person or entity being recognized and a simple message preceding or following the name, such as "Dedicated to" or "Memorial Parkway." Additional legend, such as biographical information, shall not be displayed on memorial or dedication signs. Decorative or graphical elements, pictographs, logos, or symbols shall not be displayed on memorial or dedication signs. All letters and numerals displayed on memorial or dedication signs shall be as provided in the "Standard Highway Signs and Markings" book (see Section 1A.11). The route number or officially mapped name of the highway shall not be displayed on the memorial or dedication sign.**

**07 Memorial or dedication names shall not appear on supplemental signs or on any other information sign on or along the highway or its intersecting routes.**

**Option:**

**08 The lettering for the name of the person or entity being recognized may be composed of a combination of lower-case letters with initial upper-case letters.**

*Guidance:*

*09 Freeways and expressways should not be signed as memorial or dedicated highways.*

**Support:**

**10 Named highways are officially designated and shown on official maps and serve the purpose of providing route guidance, primarily on unnumbered highways. A highway designated as a memorial or dedication is not considered to be a named highway. Section 2D.53 contains provisions for the signing of named highways.**

*Guidance:*

*11 Route numbers and cardinal directions should be used in signing to freeways in metropolitan areas.*

**Option:**

**12 At freeway to freeway interchanges, overhead signing by freeway name may be included in primary directional signs only when the freeway name is well recognized and space permits. At other than freeway to freeway interchanges, Interchange Guide (G77(CA) and G78(CA) series) signs including both the freeway name and appropriate route shield may be used to direct to the named freeway.**

**13 Ground-mounted freeway name signs in rural areas may be installed beyond major freeway interchanges and at approximate 10 mile intervals.**

*Guidance:*

*14 Freeway names should not be used on signs directing to freeways in rural areas.*

**Option:**

**15 The Legislature, by legislative action, may designate names for State highways and bridges. The Legislature may request memorial named highway facilities to be designated with signs instead of a plaque and specify that the signs are to be furnished and installed "at no cost to the State".**

**Support:**

**16 The Department of Transportation is authorized to expend reasonable sums for plaques.**

**Standard:**

**17 When highway facilities are named by the Legislature, the following guidelines shall apply according to the type of facility:**

- 1. Bridges. One sign shall be placed at the approach ends of the bridge, underpass, tunnel or other structure with the name of the memorialized individual. Normally this would consist of an additional plate attached to the existing Memorial Bridge (G11(CA) series) sign. The color and size of the plate shall match the sign. The memorial name shall be smaller so that it does not dominate the G11(CA) sign.**

2. **Freeways and Highways.** One sign shall be placed at each terminal. Signs shall be white on green. When used, the Memorial Highway (G12-1(CA) & G12-2(CA)) signs (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) shall be placed at the beginning of the highway segment memorialized by the Legislature.
3. **Rest Areas.** One sign shall be placed in advance of each named rest area. Normally a one line message would be placed above the REST AREA (X MILE) (D5-1) sign. The sign shall be white on blue.
4. **Interchanges.** One bronze plaque shall be installed at each legislatively named interchange. Memorial name signs shall not be erected at interchanges.
5. **Vista Points.** One bronze plaque shall be installed at each legislatively named vista point. Memorial name signs shall not be installed in advance of vista points.

*Guidance:*

<sup>18</sup> *The size, color, and retroreflectorization of memorial named signs should match existing signs associated with the facility.*

**Standard:**

<sup>19</sup> **Standard letter size, type and stroke widths shall be used.**

*Support:*

<sup>20</sup> The word "memorial" is not normally included on the sign.

*Guidance:*

<sup>21</sup> *Bronze plaques normally should bear the name in 1 inch letters. However, the plaque should be no larger than 30 x 30 inch.*

<sup>22</sup> *When the highway is a State facility, the following procedure should be followed when legislation includes a provision that either memorial signs or plaques be purchased and installed at no cost to the State.*

<sup>23</sup> *The District Director will:*

- A. *Contact the sponsor of the legislation to determine appropriate wording for the signs or plaques.*
- B. *Prepare an estimate of cost for the signs or plaque installation, and submit the estimate to the sponsor.*
- C. *After receipt of the funds from the sponsor, purchase and install the signs or plaque.*
- D. *Notify the author and sponsor when the memorial signs or plaque are ready so that a dedication can be arranged.*
- E. *Maintain all signs and plaques within the right-of-way.*

<sup>24</sup> *The sponsor will:*

- A. *Collect donations from individuals who appreciated the services provided by the memorialized individual.*
- B. *Submit advance payment for the signs or plaque and installation to the department.*
- C. *Arrange for suitable public dedication.*

*Support:*

<sup>25</sup> When legislation does not include the "at no cost to the State" provision, signs and plaques will continue to be furnished and installed at State expense.

<sup>26</sup> Existing named highway facilities that have been designated with a bronze plaque are exempt from the above provisions and no signs are required.

*Option:*

<sup>27</sup> The Memorial Bridge (G11-4A(CA) and G11-4B(CA)) signs (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) may be placed above an existing Inventory Marker (G11-1(CA), G11-2(CA), G11-4(CA) or G11-5(CA)) when an appropriate authority has requested that a highway facility be designated as a memorial facility.

<sup>28</sup> The Memorial Bridge and Inventory Marker (G11-8(CA) and G11-9(CA)) combination signs (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) may be placed when an appropriate authority has requested that a highway facility be designated as a memorial facility.

*Guidance:*

<sup>29</sup> *The Inventory Markers should be placed at each end of a structure, with the bottom of the sign even with the top of the bridge rail.*

*Support:*

<sup>30</sup> The official name and number of structures on State highways are determined by the Department of Transportation's Office of Structures Design.

*Option:*

<sup>31</sup> The Named State Highway (SG1(CA)) sign may be used to identify a named State highway when required by legislation or when determined necessary to provide traveler information.

### **Victims Memorial Program Signs (S35(CA) Series)**

#### **Support:**

<sup>32</sup> Refer to Streets and Highways Code Section 101.10.

#### **Option:**

<sup>33</sup> The PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE (S35(CA)) sign (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) may be placed on any state highway upon request from an immediate family member of a person who was killed by a driver intoxicated with drugs or alcohol, in memory of the victim.

#### **Standard:**

<sup>34</sup> The IN MEMORY OF XXX – 1 PERSON (S35-1(CA)), IN MEMORY OF XXX – 2 PERSONS (S35-2(CA)) or IN MEMORY OF XXX – 3 PERSONS (S35-3(CA)) sign (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) shall be placed below the S35(CA) sign.

<sup>35</sup> The following conditions shall be satisfied to qualify for a S35(CA) sign on a state highway:

- 1 At least one of the deceased victim's immediate family members requests a memorial sign. An immediate family member is a spouse, child, stepchild, brother, stepbrother, sister, stepsister, mother, stepmother, father or stepfather.
- 2 The accident occurred on or after January 1, 1991.
- 3 Either (a) or (b) is true:
  - a. The intoxicated driver was convicted of second degree murder, or gross vehicular manslaughter, or vehicular manslaughter.
  - b. The intoxicated driver died or could not be prosecuted because of mental incompetence.
- 4 Note: An intoxicated driver who died does NOT qualify as a victim.

<sup>36</sup> The placement of the S35(CA) sign on state highways shall be per the following requirements:

1. Signs will be installed in accordance with applicable Caltrans policies and standards for signs. This includes posts, hardware, materials, vertical, longitudinal, and lateral positioning.
2. Caltrans will NOT install or maintain a memorial sign if there is written opposition from any immediate family member.
3. Only one sign will be installed in one direction of travel on the right side of the state highway in close proximity to where the accident occurred at a location where it is safe and practical to do so.
4. Caltrans will maintain the sign for 7 years or until the condition of the sign has deteriorated to a point where it is no longer serviceable, whichever occurs first.
5. Only one sign will be installed per accident. Multiple victim names may appear on the sign.
6. A sign will NOT be installed in the median of any state highway.

### **Section 2M.101(CA) Historical Landmark Signs (G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA))**

#### **Standard:**

<sup>01</sup> The Historical Landmark (G13-1(CA) and G13-2(CA)) signs and the Advance Historical Landmark (G14(CA)) sign shall have a brown legend and border on a cream colored background.

#### **Option:**

<sup>02</sup> The G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA) signs may be in addition to the normal compliment of signs, but minimum spacing will be maintained.

<sup>03</sup> The G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA) signs may be placed directing to Historical Landmarks that are registered with the Department of Parks and Recreation.

#### **Standard:**

<sup>04</sup> On freeways, the G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA) signs shall be limited to those more important and better known landmarks where some physical evidence remains, such as missions, forts, state monuments, etc., rather than mere sites of former buildings or happenings.

<sup>05</sup> The Office of Historic Preservation within the Department of Parks and Recreation (or the Resource Protection Division in the case of State Historic Park sites) shall be notified prior to the removal of existing G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA) signs.

*Guidance:*

*06 The Historical Landmark (G13-1(CA)) sign should be used on conventional highways to guide motorists by the most direct route to registered historical landmarks which are located within 5 mile of the highway. The sign should be placed not more than 150 feet in advance of the intersection on the right.*

*07 The Historical Landmark (G13-2(CA)) sign should be used on freeways to guide motorists to the original 21 California Missions and other important well-known historical landmarks. See Section 123.5 of the Streets and Highways Code for signing to Missions. The G13-2(CA) sign should also be used on freeways to guide motorists to historical landmarks that have a profound impact on the history of California as a whole.*

*Option:*

*08 Supplemental Destination (G86(CA) Series) signs (white text on green background) may be used on freeways where the landmark generates considerable traffic.*

**Standard:**

**09 These G86(CA) Series signs shall be followed up by standard Historical Landmark signs on the next exit ramps.**

*Guidance:*

*10 The Advance Historical Landmark (G14(CA)) sign should be used in advance of a registered historical landmark monument or plaque within or adjacent to the right of way. The sign should be placed 500 to 1500 feet in advance of the landmark or monument on the right, depending on the approach speed of traffic.*

**Section 2M.102(CA) POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST Sign (G15(CA))**

**Standard:**

**01 The POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST (G15(CA)) sign shall have a cream legend on a brown background.**

**02 The G15(CA) sign shall not be used on freeways.**

*Option:*

*03 The POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST (G15(CA)) sign may be used to direct the public to a historical point of interest that has been registered with the Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation. The G15(CA) sign may be used on the right on city streets or conventional rural highways.*

*Support:*

*04 The G15(CA) sign is placed when requested by local authorities, after markers or other identification have been placed at the location and follow-up signs. If necessary, have been installed.*

**Section 2M.103(CA) Historic Route Signs (SG2(CA), SG2A(CA), S18(CA) and S25(CA))**

*Guidance:*

*01 The EL CAMINO REAL (SG2(CA)) sign should be used in combination with the Mission Bell assembly, to identify the original route of El Camino Real.*

*02 The HISTORIC EL CAMINO REAL (SG2A(CA)) sign should be used in combination with the Mission Bell assembly, to identify Historic El Camino Real.*

*Option:*

*03 The Historic Route (S18(CA)) sign may be used to identify a "Historic Route" when directed by the Legislature.*

*Support:*

*04 The Department of Transportation and local agencies with portions of Historic Routes under their jurisdiction, upon application by an interested local agency or private group and receiving donations from non-State sources for the cost of the sign and their installation, will place these signs as requested.*

*05 The Historic Route 99 (S25(CA)) sign is used to identify "Historic Route 99".*

*06 The Department of Transportation and local agencies with portions of former U.S. Route 99 currently under their jurisdiction, upon application by an interested local agency or private group and receiving donations from non-State sources for the cost of the sign and their installation, will place these signs as requested.*

*Guidance:*

*07 Suggested placement should be staggered in each direction at approximately 10 mile intervals on conventional highways and 25 mile intervals on freeways for the S18(CA) and S25(CA) signs.*

## **Section 2M.104(CA) Historic Bridge Signs (S29(CA), S29-1(CA) and S29-2(CA))**

### *Guidance:*

*<sup>01</sup> The Historic Bridge (S29(CA) and S29-1(CA)) sign should be used to identify 280 bridges in the State that are of historical significance and appear in the Department of Transportation's publication titled "Historical Highway Bridges of California". See Section 1A.11 for information regarding this publication.*

*<sup>02</sup> The Advance Historic Bridge (S29-2(CA)) sign should be used in advance of a historic bridge to direct the public to the historic bridge.*

### *Support:*

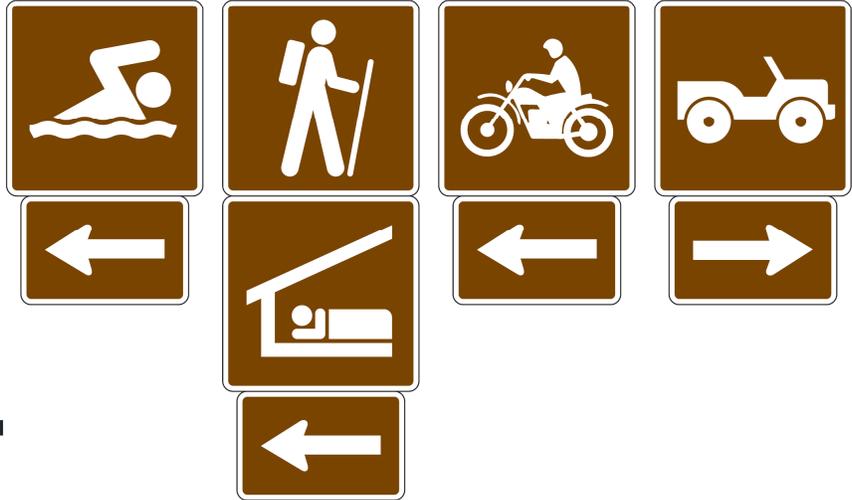
*<sup>03</sup> The initial installation of the Historic Bridge signs was through a grant provided under the ISTEA Enhancement Program and administered by the Department of Transportation's Environmental Program. Maintenance for the existing signs is borne by the agency responsible for the bridge.*

**Figure 2M-1. Examples of Use of Arrows, Educational Plaques, and Prohibitive Slashes**

**A - DIRECTIONAL SIGNS**



**B - DIRECTIONAL ASSEMBLIES**



**C - DIRECTIONAL ASSEMBLY WITH EDUCATIONAL PLAQUE**



**D - PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES AND EDUCATIONAL PLAQUE FOR NON-ROAD USE\***



\* Standard regulatory signs shall be used where provided elsewhere in this Manual

*Figure 2M-1 (CA). Examples of Use of Arrows, Educational Plaques, and Prohibitive Slashes*



G58 (CA)

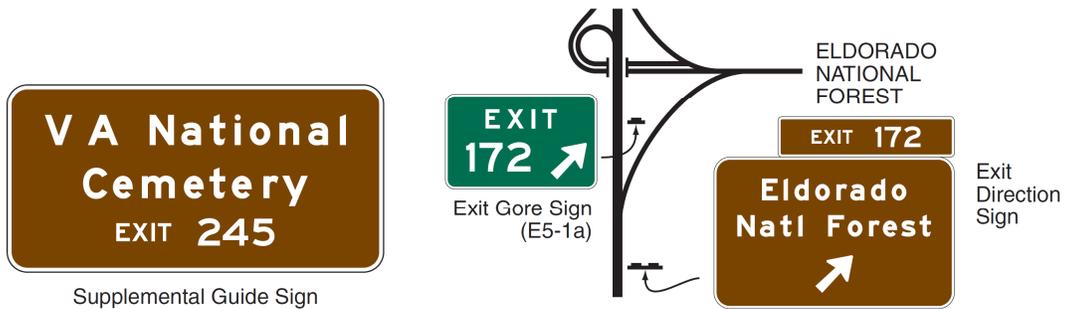
**Figure 2M-2. Examples of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Guide Signs**

**A - CONVENTIONAL ROADS**



\* Optional shape

**B - EXPRESSWAYS AND FREEWAYS**



**Figure 2M-2 (CA). Examples of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Guide Signs**



G13-1 (CA)



G13-2 (CA)



G14 (CA)



G15 (CA)



G72 (CA)



G86-11 (CA)



SG2 (CA)



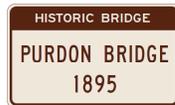
SG2A (CA)



S18 (CA)



S25 (CA)



S29 (CA)

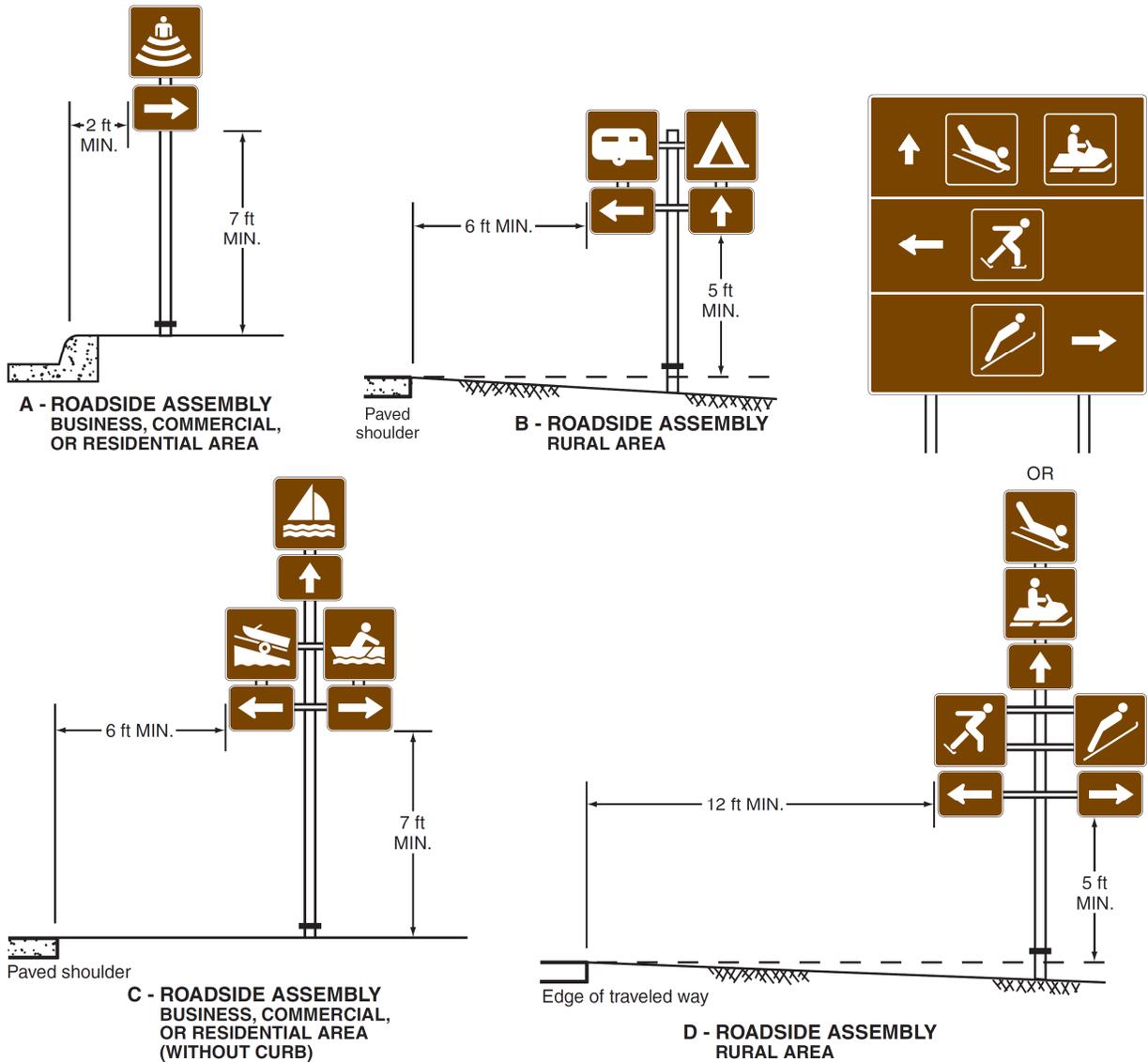


S29-1 (CA)



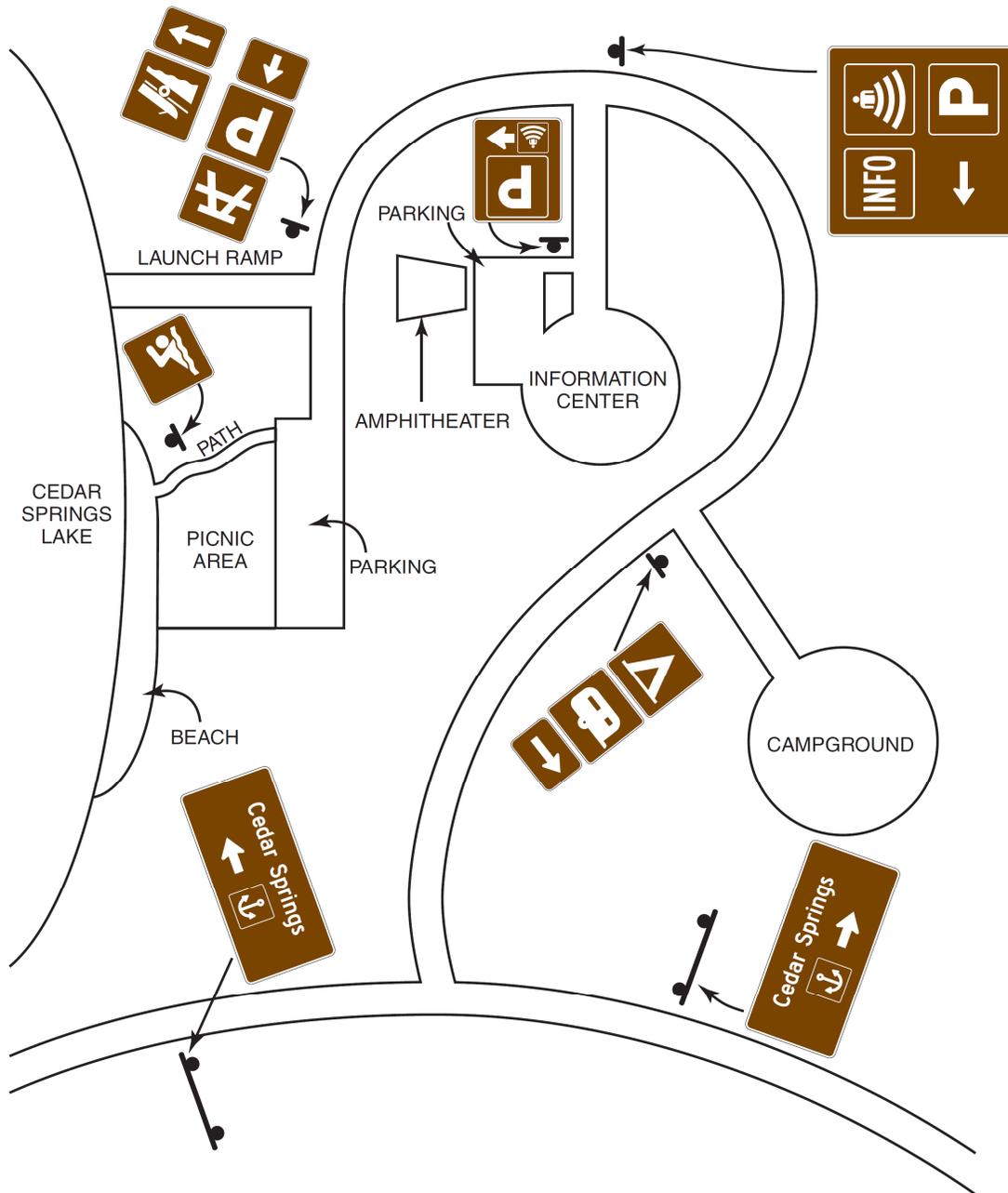
S29-2 (CA)

**Figure 2M-3. Arrangement, Height, and Lateral Position of Signs Located Within Recreational and Cultural Interest Areas**



Note: See Section 2A.19 for reduced lateral offset distances that may be used in areas where lateral offsets are limited, and in urban areas where sidewalk width is limited or where existing poles are close to the curb.

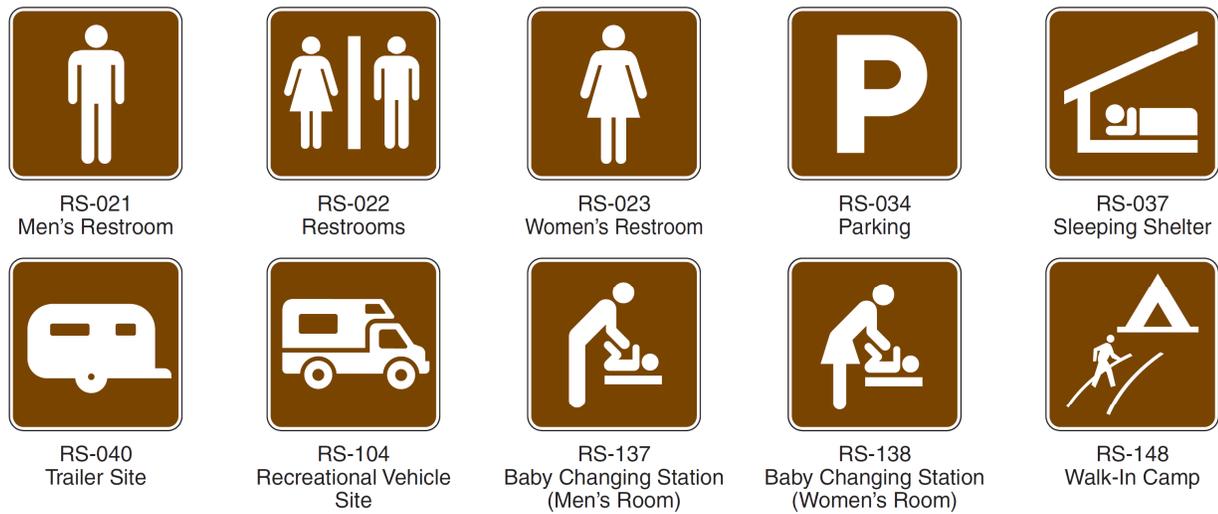
Figure 2M-4. Examples of Symbol and Destination Guide Signing Layout



**Figure 2M-5. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for General Applications**



**Figure 2M-6. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Accommodations**



**Figure 2M-7. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Services**



**Figure 2M-8. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Land Recreation**



**Figure 2M-8 (CA). Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Land Recreation**



**Figure 2M-9. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Water Recreation**



**Figure 2M-10. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Winter Recreation**



**Figure 2M-10 (CA). Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Winter Recreation**



**Figure 2M-101 (CA). Memorial or Dedication Signing**



**Table 2M-1. Category Chart for Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbols**

General	
Bear Viewing Area	RS-012
Bus Stop	RS-031
Campfires *	RS-042
Cans or Bottles *	RS-101
Cultural Interest Area	RS-142
Dam	RS-009
Deer Viewing Area	RS-011
Falling Rocks *	RS-008
Fire Extinguisher *	RS-090
Lighthouse	RS-007
Lookout Tower	RS-006
Nature Study Area	RS-141
Pets on Leash *	RS-017
Pick-Up Trucks	RS-140
Point of Interest	RS-080
Radios *	RS-103
Rattlesnakes *	RS-099
Recycling *	RS-200
Sea Plane	RS-115
Smoking *	RS-002
Snack Bar *	RS-102
Stay on Trail *	RS-123
Strollers *	RS-111
Tunnel	RS-005
Viewing Area	RS-036
Walk on Boardwalk *	RS-122
Wood Gathering *	RS-120

Accommodations	
Baby Changing Station (Men's Room)	RS-137
Baby Changing Station (Women's Room)	RS-138
Men's Restroom	RS-021
Parking	RS-034
Recreational Vehicle Site	RS-104
Restrooms	RS-022
Sleeping Shelter *	RS-037
Trailer Site	RS-040
Walk-In Camp	RS-148
Women's Restroom	RS-023

Services	
Drinking Water	RS-013
Electrical Hook-Up	RS-150
Firewood Cutting *	RS-112
First Aid	RS-024
Grocery Store	RS-020
Kennel	RS-045
Laundromat	RS-085
Litter Receptacle	RS-086
Lockers/Storage *	RS-030
Mechanic	RS-027
Picnic Shelter	RS-039
Picnic Site	RS-044
Post Office	RS-026
Ranger Station	RS-015
Sanitary Station	RS-041
Showers *	RS-035
Stable	RS-073
Theater	RS-109
Trail Shelter *	RS-043
Tramway	RS-071
Trash Dumpster	RS-091

Land Recreation	
All-Terrain Trail	RS-095
Amphitheater	RS-070
Archery	RS-116
Baseball *	RS-096
Climbing *	RS-082
Corral	RS-149
Driving Tour	RS-113
Exercise/Fitness	RS-097
Golfing *	RS-128
Hang Gliding	RS-126
Hiking Trail	RS-068
Horse Trail	RS-064
In-Line Skating	RS-125
Interpretive Trail	RS-114
Off-Road Vehicle Trail	RS-067
Rock Collecting *	RS-083
Skateboarding *	RS-098
Spelunking/Caves	RS-084
Technical Rock Climbing	RS-081
Tennis	RS-129
Wildlife Viewing	RS-076

Water Recreation	
Beach	RS-145
Boat Motor	RS-147
Boat Ramp	RS-054
Canoeing	RS-079
Diving	RS-062
Fish Cleaning *	RS-093
Fish Hatchery	RS-010
Fish Ladder *	RS-089
Fishing Area	RS-063
Fishing Pier	RS-119
Hand Launch/Small Boat Launch	RS-117
Jet Ski/Personal Watercraft	RS-121
Kayaking	RS-118
Lifejackets *	RS-094
Marina	RS-053
Motorboating	RS-055
Rafting	RS-146
Rowboating	RS-057
Sailing	RS-056
Scuba Diving	RS-060
Seal Viewing	RS-106
Surfing	RS-059
Swimming	RS-061
Tour Boat	RS-087
Wading	RS-088
Waterskiing	RS-058
Whale Viewing	RS-107
Wind Surfing	RS-108

Winter Recreation	
Chair Lift/Ski Lift	RS-105
Cross Country Skiing	RS-046
Dog Sledding	RS-143
Downhill Skiing	RS-047
Ice Fishing	RS-092
Ice Skating	RS-050
Ski Jumping	RS-048
Sledding	RS-049
Snow Tubing	RS-144
Snowboarding	RS-127
Snowmobiling	RS-052
Snowshoeing	RS-078
Winter Recreational Area	RS-077

\* For non-road use only

**Table 2M-101(CA). California Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Sign and Plaque Sizes**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
Memorial Bridge	G11-4A(CA)	2M.10	44 x 18	44x18
Memorial Bridge	G11-4B(CA)	2M.10	44 x 24	44 x 24
Memorial Bridge and Inventory Marker	G11-8(CA)	2M.10	44 x 36	44 x 36
Memorial Bridge and Inventory Marker	G11-9(CA)	2M.10	44 x 42	44 x 42
Memorial Highway	G12-1(CA)	2M.10	VAR x 18	VAR x 24
Memorial Highway	G12-2(CA)	2M.10	VAR x 30	VAR x 42
Historical Landmark	G13-1(CA)	2M.101(CA)	36 x 30	36 x 30
Historical Landmark	G13-2(CA)	2M.101(CA)	72 x 60	72 x 60
Advance Historical Landmark	G14(CA)	2M.101(CA)	36 x 30	36 x 30
POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST	G15(CA)	2M.102(CA)	15 x 9	36 x 20
NEXT RIGHT/LEFT	G58(CA)	2M.08	30 x 24	30 x 24
National/State Park (X MILES)	G72(CA)	2M.09	VAR x 18	VAR x 30
Historic District Supplemental Destination	G86-11(CA)	2M.09	VAR x 42	VAR x 54
Golf Course	G200-80(CA)	2M.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
WILDLIFE VIEWING	G200-81A(CA)	2M.02	24 x 12	30 x 18
Botanical Management Area	G200-82(CA)	2M.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
BOTANICAL MANAGEMENT AREA	G200-82A(CA)	2M.02	24 x 18	30 x 24
Named State Highway	SG1(CA)	2M.10	VAR x 20	VAR x 30
EL CAMINO REAL	SG2(CA)	2M.103(CA)	30 x 28	48 x 40
HISTORIC EL CAMINO REAL	SG2A(CA)	2M.103(CA)	42 x 15	42 x 15
SNO-PARK X MILE	SG30(CA)	2M.02	60 x 30	60 x 30
SNO-PARK NEXT RIGHT	SG31(CA)	2M.02	60 x 30	60 x 30
SNO-PARK with Arrow	SG32(CA)	2M.02	60 x 30	60 x 30
SNO-PARK with Arrow	SG33(CA)	2M.02	VAR x 12	VAR x 18
SNO-PARK	SG34(CA)	2M.02	96 x 24	120 x 30
PERMIT REQUIRED	SG35(CA)	2M.02	60 x 12	60 x 12
PERMIT REQUIRED NOV 1 TO MAY 30	SG35-1(CA)	2M.02	60 x 18	60 x 18
OHV TRAIL	S12(CA)	2M.02	24 x 18	24 x 18
Historic Route	S18(CA)	2M.103(CA)	12 x 18	24 x 36
Historic Route 99	S25(CA)	2M.103(CA)	12 x 18	24 x 36
Historic Bridge	S29(CA)	2M.104(CA)	VAR x 18	VAR x 36
Historic Bridge	S29-1(CA)	2M.104(CA)	VAR x 24	VAR x 48
Advance Historic Bridge	S29-2(CA)	2M.104(CA)	VAR x 24	VAR x 48
PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE	S35(CA)	2M.10	36 x 30	36 x 30
IN MEMORY OF XXX - 1 PERSON	S35-1(CA)	2M.10	36 x 12	36 x 12
IN MEMORY OF XXX - 2 PERSONS	S35-2(CA)	2M.10	36 x 15	36 x 15
IN MEMORY OF XXX - 3 PERSONS	S35-3(CA)	2M.10	36 x 18	36 x 18



## CHAPTER 2N. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SIGNING

### Section 2N.01 Emergency Management

*Guidance:*

*01 Contingency planning for an emergency evacuation should be considered by all State and local jurisdictions and should consider the use of all applicable roadways.*

*02 In the event of a disaster where highways that cannot be used will be closed, a successful contingency plan should account for the following elements: a controlled operation of certain designated highways, the establishment of traffic operations for the expediting of essential traffic, and the provision of emergency centers for civilian aid.*

### Section 2N.02 Design of Emergency Management Signs

**Standard:**

**01 Emergency Management signs shall be used to guide and control highway traffic during an emergency.**

**02 Emergency Management signs shall not permanently displace any of the standard signs that are normally applicable.**

**03 Advance planning for transportation operations' emergencies shall be the responsibility of State and local authorities. The Federal Government shall provide guidance to the States as necessitated by changing circumstances.**

**04 Except as provided in Section 2A.11, the sizes for Emergency Management signs shall be as shown in Table 2N-1.**

**Support:**

**05 Section 2A.11 contains information regarding the applicability of the various columns in Table 2N-1.**

**Option:**

**06 Signs larger than those shown in Table 2N-1 may be used (see Section 2A.11).**

*Guidance:*

*07 As conditions permit, the Emergency Management signs should be replaced or augmented by standard signs.*

*08 The background of Emergency Management signs should be retroreflective.*

*09 Because Emergency Management signs might be needed in large numbers for temporary use during an emergency, consideration should be given to their fabrication from any light and economical material that can serve through the emergency period.*

**Option:**

**10 Any Emergency Management sign that is used to mark an area that is contaminated by biological or chemical warfare agents or radioactive fallout may be accompanied by the standard symbol that is illustrated in the upper left corner of the EM-7c and EM-7d signs in Figure 2N-1.**

### Section 2N.03 Evacuation Route Signs (EM-1 and EM-1a)

**Standard:**

**01 The Evacuation Route (EM-1 and EM-1a) signs shall display a blue circular symbol on a white square sign without a border as shown in Figure 2N-1. The EM-1 sign shall include a white directional arrow (except as provided in Paragraph 3) and a white legend EVACUATION ROUTE within the blue circular symbol. The EM-1a sign shall include a white EVACUATION ROUTE legend and the tsunami symbol within the blue circular symbol. The EM-1 and EM-1a signs shall be retroreflective.**

**02 An Advance Turn Arrow (M5 series) or Directional Arrow (M6 series) auxiliary sign as shown in Figure 2D-5, but with a white arrow on a blue background instead of a black arrow on a white background, shall be installed below the EM-1a sign.**

**Option:**

**03 Instead of including a directional arrow within the blue circular symbol on the EM-1 sign, an Advance Turn Arrow (M5 series) or Directional Arrow (M6 series) auxiliary sign as shown in Figure 2D-5, but with a white arrow on a blue background instead of a black arrow on a white background, may be installed below the EM-1 sign.**

04 If desired, the word HURRICANE, or a word that describes some other type of evacuation route, may be added as a third line of text above the white EVACUATION ROUTE legend within the blue circular symbol on the EM-1 sign.

05 An approved Emergency Management symbol with a diameter of 3.5 inches may appear near the bottom of an Evacuation Route sign.

**Standard:**

06 **The arrow designs, if used, on the EM-1 sign shall include a straight, vertical arrow pointing upward, a straight horizontal arrow pointing to the left or right, or a bent arrow pointing to the left or right for advance warning of a turn.**

07 **If used, the Evacuation Route sign, with the appropriate arrow, shall be installed 150 to 300 feet in advance of, and at, any turn in an approved evacuation route. The sign shall also be installed elsewhere for straight-ahead confirmation where needed.**

08 **If used in urban areas, the Evacuation Route sign shall be mounted at the right-hand side of the roadway, not less than 7 feet above the top of the curb, and at least 1 foot back from the face of the curb. If used in rural areas, the Evacuation Route sign shall be mounted at the right-hand side of the roadway, not less than 7 feet above the pavement and not less than 6 feet or more than 10 feet to the right of the right-hand roadway edge.**

09 **Evacuation Route signs shall not be placed where they will conflict with other signs. Where conflict in placement would occur between the Evacuation Route sign and a standard regulatory sign, the regulatory sign shall take precedence.**

**Option:**

10 In case of conflict with guide or warning signs, the Evacuation Route sign may take precedence.

**Guidance:**

11 *Placement of Evacuation Route signs should be made under the supervision of the officials having jurisdiction over the placement of other traffic signs. Coordination with Emergency Management authorities and agreement between contiguous political entities should occur to assure continuity of routes.*

## **Section 2N.04 AREA CLOSED Sign (EM-2)**

**Standard:**

01 **The AREA CLOSED (EM-2) sign (see Figure 2N-1) shall be used to close a roadway in order to prohibit traffic from entering the area. It shall be installed on the shoulder as near as practical to the right-hand edge of the roadway, or preferably, on a portable mounting or barricade partly or entirely in the roadway.**

**Guidance:**

02 *For best visibility, particularly at night, the sign height should not exceed 4 feet measured vertically from the pavement to the bottom of the sign. Unless adequate advance warning signs are used, it should not be placed to create a complete and unavoidable blocked route. Where feasible, the sign should be located at an intersection that provides a detour route.*

## **Section 2N.05 TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT Sign (EM-3)**

**Standard:**

01 **The TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT (EM-3) sign (see Figure 2N-1) shall be used to designate a location where an official traffic control point has been set up to impose such controls as are necessary to limit congestion, expedite emergency traffic, exclude unauthorized vehicles, or protect the public.**

02 **The sign shall be installed in the same manner as the AREA CLOSED sign (see Section 2N.04), and at the point where traffic must stop to be checked.**

03 **The standard STOP (R1-1) sign shall be used in conjunction with the TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT sign. The TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT sign shall consist of a black legend and border on a retroreflectorized white background.**

**Guidance:**

04 *The TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT sign should be mounted directly below the STOP sign.*

### **Section 2N.06 MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED Sign (EM-4)**

**Option:**

<sup>01</sup> The MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED (EM-4) sign (see Figure 2N-1) may be used on highways where conditions are such that it is prudent to evacuate or traverse an area as quickly as possible.

<sup>02</sup> Where an existing Speed Limit (R2-1) sign is in a suitable location, the MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED sign may conveniently be mounted directly over the face of the speed limit sign that it supersedes.

**Support:**

<sup>03</sup> Since any speed zoning would be impractical under such emergency conditions, no minimum speed limit can be prescribed by the MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED sign in numerical terms. Where traffic is supervised by a traffic control point, official instructions will usually be given verbally, and the sign will serve as an occasional reminder of the urgent need for maintaining the proper speed.

**Guidance:**

<sup>04</sup> *The sign should be installed as needed, in the same manner as other standard speed signs.*

**Standard:**

<sup>05</sup> **If used in rural areas, the MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED sign shall be mounted on the right-hand side of the road at a horizontal distance of not less than 6 feet or more than 10 feet from the roadway edge, and at a minimum height, measured vertically from the bottom of the sign to the elevation of the near edge of the traveled way, of 5 feet. If used in urban areas, the minimum height, measured vertically from the bottom of the sign to the top of the curb, or in the absence of curb, measured vertically from the bottom of the sign to the elevation of the near edge of the traveled way, shall be 7 feet, and the nearest edge of the sign shall be not less than 1 foot back from the face of the curb.**

### **Section 2N.07 ROAD (AREA) USE PERMIT REQUIRED FOR THRU TRAFFIC Sign (EM-5)**

**Support:**

<sup>01</sup> The intent of the ROAD (AREA) USE PERMIT REQUIRED FOR THRU TRAFFIC (EM-5) sign (see Figure 2N-1) is to notify road users of the presence of the traffic control point so that those who do not have priority permits issued by designated authorities can take another route, or turn back, without making a needless trip and without adding to the screening load at the post. Local traffic, without permits, can proceed as far as the traffic control post.

**Standard:**

<sup>02</sup> **If used, the ROAD (AREA) USE PERMIT REQUIRED FOR THRU TRAFFIC (EM-5) sign shall be used at an intersection that is an entrance to a route on which a traffic control point is located.** <sup>03</sup> **If used, the sign shall be installed in a manner similar to that of the MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED sign (see Section 2N.06).**

### **Section 2N.08 Emergency Aid Center Signs (EM-6 Series)**

**Standard:**

<sup>01</sup> **In the event of emergency, State and local authorities shall establish various centers for civilian relief, communication, medical service, and similar purposes. To guide the public to such centers a series of directional signs shall be used.**

<sup>02</sup> **Emergency Aid Center (EM-6 series) signs (see Figure 2N-1) shall carry the designation of the center and an arrow indicating the direction to the center. They shall be installed as needed, at intersections and elsewhere, on the right-hand side of the roadway, in urban areas at a minimum height, measured vertically from the bottom of the sign to the top of the curb, or in the absence of curb, measured vertically from the bottom of the sign to the elevation of the near edge of the traveled way, of 7 feet, and not less than 1 foot back from the face of the curb, and in rural areas at a minimum height, measured vertically from the bottom of the sign to the elevation of the near edge of the traveled way, of 5 feet, and at a horizontal distance of not less than 6 feet or more than 10 feet from the roadway edge.**

<sup>03</sup> **Emergency Aid Center signs shall carry one of the following legends, as appropriate, or others designating similar emergency facilities:**

- A. MEDICAL CENTER (EM-6a),**
- B. WELFARE CENTER (EM-6b),**

**C. REGISTRATION CENTER (EM-6c), or  
D. DECONTAMINATION CENTER (EM-6d).**

**<sup>04</sup> The Emergency Aid Center sign shall be a horizontal rectangle. Except as provided in Paragraph 5, the identifying word and the word CENTER, the directional arrow, and the border shall be black on a white background.**

Option:

<sup>05</sup> When Emergency Aid Center signs are used in an incident situation, such as during the aftermath of a nuclear or biological attack, the background color may be fluorescent pink (see Chapter 6I).

**Section 2N.09 Shelter Directional Signs (EM-7 Series)**

**Standard:**

<sup>01</sup> Shelter Directional (EM-7 series) signs (see Figure 2N-1) shall be used to direct the public to selected shelters that have been licensed and marked for emergency use.

<sup>02</sup> The installation of Shelter Directional signs shall comply with established signing standards. Where used, the signs shall not be installed in competition with other necessary highway guide, warning, and regulatory signs.

<sup>03</sup> The Shelter Directional sign shall be a horizontal rectangle. Except as provided in Paragraph 4, the identifying word and the word SHELTER, the directional arrow, the distance to the shelter, and the border shall be black on a white background.

Option:

<sup>04</sup> When Shelter Directional signs are used in an incident situation, such as during the aftermath of a nuclear or biological attack, the background color may be fluorescent pink (see Chapter 6I).

<sup>05</sup> The distance to the shelter may be omitted from the sign when appropriate.

<sup>06</sup> Shelter Directional signs may carry one of the following legends, or others designating similar emergency facilities:

- A. EMERGENCY (EM-7a),
- B. HURRICANE (EM-7b),
- C. FALLOUT (EM-7c), or
- D. CHEMICAL (EM-7d).

<sup>07</sup> If appropriate, the name of the facility may be used.

<sup>08</sup> The Shelter Directional signs may be installed on the Interstate Highway System or any other major highway system when it has been determined that a need exists for such signs as part of a State or local shelter plan.

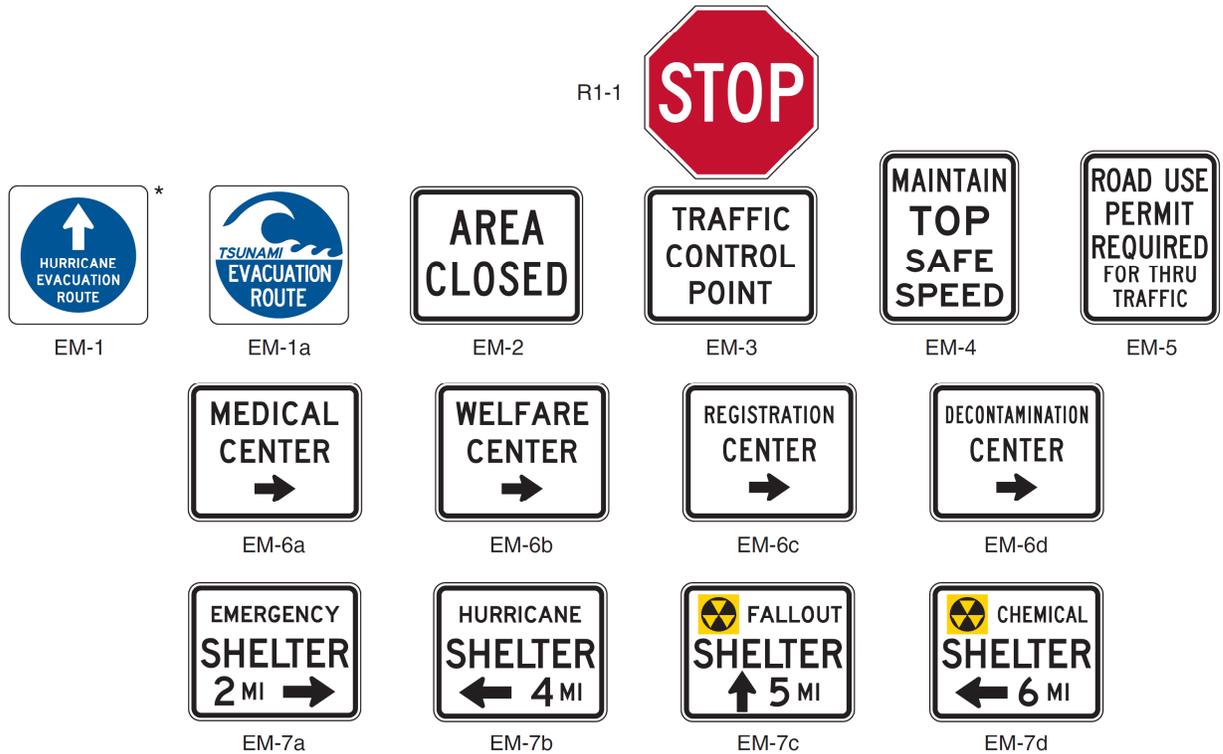
<sup>09</sup> The Shelter Directional signs may be used to identify different routes to a shelter to provide for rapid movement of large numbers of persons.

*Guidance:*

<sup>10</sup> *The Shelter Directional sign should be used sparingly and only in conjunction with approved plans of State and local authorities.*

<sup>11</sup> *The Shelter Directional sign should not be posted more than 5 miles from a shelter.*

**Figure 2N-1. Emergency Management Signs**



\* HURRICANE is an example of one type of evacuation route. Legends for other types may also be used, or this line of text may be omitted.

**Table 2N-1. Emergency Management Sign Sizes**

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Minimum Size
Evacuation Route	EM-1, EM-1a	2N.03	24 x 24*
Area Closed	EM-2	2N.04	30 x 24
Traffic Control Point	EM-3	2N.05	30 x 24
Maintain Top Safe Speed	EM-4	2N.06	24 x 30
Permit Required	EM-5	2N.07	24 x 30
Emergency Aid Center	EM-6a to EM-6d	2N.08	30 x 24
Shelter Directional	EM-7a to EM-7d	2N.09	30 x 24

\* A minimum size of 18 x 18 may be used on low-volume roadways or roadways with speeds of 25 mph or less

Notes: 1. Larger signs may be used when appropriate  
 2. Dimensions in inches are shown as width x height

