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Title 21. Public Works

Division 2. Department of Transportation

Chapter 19. Placement of Motorist Services Informational Signs Near Highway Exits Along Interstate Route 5

➔ Article 2. Definitions

§ 2106. Definitions.

All terms defined in this subchapter are applicable to terms used in these regulations only. These terms have the following meanings:

(a) **Business Sign.** A separate sign affixed to a specific informational panel, a Supplemental Directional Panel, or to a trailblazer bearing the name, brand name, trademark, logo or distinctive symbol or any combination of these of a Qualified Motorist Service Business.

(b) **Department.** The California Department of Transportation and any of its district offices.

(c) **Double Exit Interchange.** Two off-ramps in the direction of travel from the traveled way which provide access to the local street system on one side of the freeway and by means of a loop road provide access to a grade separation structure to carry traffic across the freeway.

(d) **Gore.** The area immediately beyond the divergence of the traveled way with the off-ramp, bounded by the edges of pavement of these roadways.

(e) **Guide Sign.** A general term, which includes among other signs, motorist service signs, used to describe signs which provide directional, route, recreational and roadside service information.

(f) **Logo.** A single or multicolored symbolic design unique to a product, a business or a service facility; a national, regional or local commercially recognized pictorial reference to a specific product, service or business used as a means of identification of a business's products, services or business.

(g) **Motorist services informational sign.** A general term which refers only to specific informational panels and Supplemental Directional Panels.

(h) **On-site sign.** A sign located on the business premises of a Qualified Motorist Service Business which states the name of the business and/or advertises the service provided.

(i) **Owner.** The holder of fee title or a leasehold estate in the real property upon which a Qualified Motorist Service Business operates and who has authority to enter into and be bound by agreements relevant to matters covered by these regulations.

(j) **Qualified Motorist Service Business.** A business whose primary and principal source of revenue is from the sale of goods, products, or services which fall within the motorist service categories of "FUEL," "FOOD," "LODGING," and/or "CAMPING" and which in all other respects qualifies for signing under these regulations. In case of a multi-business facility, the business owner is obligated to prove to the Department that more income is generated from one of the qualified businesses listed above than from any of the unqualified businesses.

(k) **Responsible Operator.** A person or entity other than an owner who has the authority to enter into and be bound by agreements relevant to matters covered by these regulations.

(l) **Rural Area.** An area outside of an urban area.

(m) Sign Arrangement. Business signs shall be placed on specific informational panels generally having two rows of business signs in order of increasing state measured distance as follows: closes -upper left; second -lower left; third -upper center; fourth -lower center; fifth -upper right; sixth -lower right. For a single row, the business signs shall be placed on the panel in order of increasing distance from left to right.

(n) Single Exit Interchange. An off-ramp in the direction of travel from the traveled way which provides access to the local street system on one side of the freeway and which may also provide, without means of a loop road, access to a grade separation structure to carry traffic across the freeway.

(o) Specific Information Panel. An official panel placed by the Department within the right-of-way in advance of freeway exits in the same manner as other official signs, readable from the traveled way, with the words "FUEL," "FOOD," "LODGING," or "CAMPING" or appropriate combinations thereof, appropriate directional information and with space for one or more individual business signs which may be attached to the panel.

(p) State Measured Distance. The vehicular distance from the gore of the off-ramp which provides the most direct access to the qualified business and the nearest point of intersection of the traveled way of a public road with the nearest driveway of the business premises of the qualified business.

(q) Supplemental Directional Panel. An official panel placed by the Department and located on, opposite, or at the terminus of an off-ramp from the freeway, readable from the off-ramp, with the words "FUEL," "FOOD," "LODGING," or "CAMPING" or appropriate combinations thereof, appropriate directional arrows and with space for one or more individual business signs and individual distance information which may be attached to the panel.

(r) Trailblazer. A directional sign placed by the Department outside the freeway right-of-way to further direct motorists to a Qualified Motorist Service Business whose business sign is displayed on either the specific information panel or the Supplemental Directional Panel, or both.

(s) Traveled Way. The portion of the roadway used for the movement of vehicles, exclusive of shoulders and auxiliary lanes.

(t) Urban Area. A geographic area encompassing a population of 5,000 or more as identified on maps prepared by the department based upon census data developed by the federal Bureau of the Census.

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