



Guidelines for Memorial Highway Signing

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has developed guidelines for the signing of Memorial Highways and Bridges. Standards for the design (shape, size, color) and application of all signs erected on public highways are specified in the Michigan Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD) and are required to conform with national standards.

As additional signing, memorial signing can reduce the effectiveness of essential signing, causing an information overload to the motorist. However, if the following conditions are met, MDOT will install signs for Memorial Highways and Bridges:

- The memorial highway or bridge must be named in a bill passed by the Senate and House and signed by the Governor.
- The signing of memorial highways or bridges should be placed in rest areas, scenic overlooks, turn outs or recreation areas. Placement of the memorial sign within a roadside facility will be at the sole discretion of MDOT.
- If the installation of memorial signs off the roadway is not practical, the signs are to be installed roadside “at the approach” of the named roadway. Memorial signing will be limited to one sign per each direction of the named roadway or bridge. If the named roadway is more than 50 miles in length, additional signs (every 50 miles) will be permitted if requested.
- The memorial name will not appear on guide signs, nor interfere with other necessary signs, and not compromise safety.
- The memorial sign's legend shall be simple and dignified matching as stated in legislation, devoid of any tendency toward advertising and in general conformance with other highway signing. No supplemental symbol or logo will be permitted sign. The name(s) of local officials(s) will not be allowed. Memorial signs will be reflectorized white legend on a brown reflectorized background and rectangular in shape.
- The party requesting the memorial signing will be required to pay for the fabrication, all associated costs of installing signs and future maintenance. MDOT staff shall approve the size and design of all signs placed within the roadside.

Freeways

Maximum width of 10 feet and maximum height of 3.5 feet. The sign will be fabricated with plywood substrate and installed on the appropriate sign posts. The total charge for materials, fabrication, installation and future maintenance will be **\$4,700** for two signs.

Maximum/minimum legend size is 6/4 inches.

Non-Freeways

Maximum width of 8 feet and maximum height of 2.5 feet. The sign will be fabricated with plywood substrate and installed on the appropriate sign posts. The total charge for materials, fabrication, installation and future maintenance will be **\$3,800** for two signs.

Maximum/minimum legend size is 4/2 inches.

During the drafting of proposed memorial highway signing bill MDOT welcomes the opportunity to work with legislators and the requesting party to assist in the design (wording) to ensure the language will fit appropriately on the maximum size sign permitted and route selection. The maximum size permitted is to minimize the impact of the placement of memorial highway signing on the trunkline system and the costs to requestors

Upon passage of the legislation, if the requesting party desires the memorial signing, they should contact the Transportation Service Center (TSC) where the named route is located for further assistance. The TSC will issue the work order for memorial sign fabrication and installation once payment has been received payable to the State of Michigan. The requesting party is required to pay for the fabrication, all associated costs of installing the signs and future maintenance per the Michigan Memorial Highway Act, Act 142 of 2001.