



Traffic Guidelines Manual

ORIGINATOR State Traffic Engineer		2-20-5
CHAPTER 2	Signing	
SECTION 20	Sign Manufacture	
SUBJECT 5	Sign Design and Standards	

A. Purpose

In an effort to maintain statewide consistency in sign design and sign codes, the Bureau of Highway Operations, Signs & Markings Implementation Section has maintained design standards for signs that are used on Department roadways. With few exceptions, these sign design standards correspond exactly or closely with the national standards as illustrated in the federal government publication "Standard Highway Signs".

B. Guidance

Signs developed by the Department for which there are no federal counterparts have been given code numbers starting with 50 or higher, (e.g., R12-56, Weight Limit sign), and are illustrated on standard sign plates produced by the Signs & Markings Implementation Section. Typically, new signs which would be usable in recurring instances **shall** be drawn as a standard sign plate by the Signs & Markings Implementation Section.

Most standard sign plates are reproduced in 8 ½" by 11" format and are available in book form to Regional offices and to other users. Updates to the standard sign plate book are made periodically. Copies of the standard sign plate can be obtained from the Signs & Markings Implementation Section. Individuals who request this book will be on a mailing list to receive the periodic updates.

A sign code listing is also produced that summarizes all of the current sign codes, sign sizes, default sign base materials, description of the sign message, and which signs are warehoused at the Highway Operations Sign Distribution Center (formerly the Sign Manufacturing Shop) in Madison. The sign code list is particularly valuable to the Regional sign shop coordinators and sign crews. The sign code listing is also periodically updated and is distributed in the same manner as the sign plate book.

Regions *may* design their own signs, or they *may* request the design of sign details from the Signs & Markings Implementation Section. If the Regions elect to design signs, they

shall be designed in accordance with the established standards in the MUTCD as well as current WisDOT policy and practices. Consultant sign designs *should* be reviewed by the appropriate Region office to ensure that standards are followed. The Regions are encouraged to have the Signs & Markings Implementation Section assist in reviewing any Region or Consultant sign designs.

Contractor sign shop drawings **shall** be submitted to the appropriate Region office for review as soon as they are completed. The Regions *may* request the assistance of the Signs & Markings Implementation Section in these reviews.