



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

13236 North 7th Street, Suite 4-259, Phoenix, Arizona 85022
Phone/Text: 231-4-NCUTCD (231-462-8823)
E-mail: secretary@ncutcd.org Website: <https://ncutcd.org>

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National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) Recommended Changes to Proposed Text for 11th Edition of the MUTCD Docket Number: FHWA-2020-0001

6 **Federal Register Item Number:** 283-291

7 **NPA MUTCD Section Number:** 2J

8 **Legend:** Base text shown in proposal is the NPA “clean” proposed text.

- 9
- 10 • Addition to NPA text: [Added text proposed by NCUTCD.](#)
 - 11 • Deletion of NPA text: ~~Deleted text proposed by NCUTCD.~~
 - 12 • Moving NPA text: [Moved text proposed by NCUTCD.](#)
 - 13 • NPA text added by FHWA and not previously approved by Council: NPA text not
previously approved by Council but recommended for approval.
 - 14 • Explanatory note: [\[Note that explains purpose of recommended change.\]](#)
 - 15 • References in 00X-XXX-00 format refer to previous NCUTCD recommendations
16 approved by Council and sent to FHWA, which may be seen on the NCUTCD website
17 at <https://ncutcd.org>.
- 18

19 The following pages present the GMI Technical Committee recommendations for changes to the
20 MUTCD NPA proposed text and figures for Chapter 2J. Below is a summary of the GMI
21 Technical Committee positions on these portions of Chapter 2J in the NPA Federal Register
22 notice.

- 23
- 24 • NPA Item #283, All Sections: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
 - 25 • NPA Item #284, Section 2J.01: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
 - 26 • NPA Item #285, Section 2J.02: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
 - 27 • NPA Item #286, Section 2J.03: Changes recommended based in prior Council action
 - 28 • No NPA Item, Section 2J.04: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
 - 29 • No NPA Item, Section 2J.05: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
 - 30 • NPA Item #287, Section 2J.06: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
 - 31 • NPA Item #288, Section 2J.07: Changes recommended based in prior Council action
 - 32 • No NPA Item, Section 2J.08: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
 - 33 • NPA Item #289, Section 2J.09: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
 - 34 • No NPA Item, Section 2J.10: Changes recommended based in prior Council action
 - 35 • NPA Item #290, Section 2J.11: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
 - 36 • NPA Item #291, Section 2J.12: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
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39 **General Comment:** NCUTCD agrees with replacing the term “logo” with “business
40 identification” signs throughout all sections to recognize that a word legend can and often is used
41 in lieu of a logo to identify the business on the Specific Service sign.

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Section 2J.01 Comments: NCUTCD generally agrees with 2J.01 as presented in the NPA, but recommends one minor edit to delete a reference to pharmacies that should be removed since pharmacies will no longer be an eligible Specific Service category.

Section 2J.01 Eligibility

Standard:

Specific Service signs shall be defined as guide signs that provide road users with business identification and directional information for eligible services and attractions. Eligible service categories shall be limited to gas, food, lodging, camping, and attractions.

Guidance:

The use of Specific Service signs should be limited to areas primarily rural in character with adequate space for all signs to be properly accommodated.

Option:

Where an engineering study determines a need, Specific Service signs may be used on any class of highway, i.e. freeway, expressway, or conventional.

Guidance:

Specific Service signs should 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.

Standard:

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.

The attraction services shall include only facilities which have the primary purpose of providing amusement, historical, cultural, or leisure activities to the public.

Guidance:

Except as provided in Paragraph 8, distances to eligible services should not exceed 3 miles in any direction.

Option:

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.

Standard:

If State or local agencies elect to provide Specific Service signing, there shall be a statewide policy for such signing and criteria for the availability of the various types of services.

Guidance:

The criteria for the statewide policy should consider the following:

A. To qualify for a GAS business identification sign panel, a business should have:

- 1. Vehicle services including gasoline, 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*

- 88 4. Public telephone.
- 89 B. To qualify for a FOOD business identification sign panel, a business should have:
- 90 1. Licensing or approval, where required;
- 91 2. Continuous operations to serve at least two meals per day, at least 6 days per week;
- 92 3. Modern sanitary facilities; and
- 93 4. Public telephone.
- 94 C. To qualify for a LODGING business identification sign panel, a business should have:
- 95 1. Licensing or approval, where required;
- 96 2. Adequate sleeping accommodations;
- 97 3. Modern sanitary facilities; and
- 98 4. Public telephone.
- 99 D. To qualify for a CAMPING business identification sign panel, a business should have:
- 100 1. Licensing or approval, where required;
- 101 2. Adequate parking accommodations; and
- 102 3. Modern sanitary facilities and drinking water.
- 103 E. To qualify for an ATTRACTION business identification sign panel, a facility should have:
- 104 1. Regional significance, in compliance with the provisions of Paragraph 6; and
- 105 2. Adequate parking accommodations.

106 Support:

107 Section 2J.12 contains additional information on criteria for the statewide policy regarding

108 signing.

109 Section 2I.04 contains information regarding the Interstate Oasis program.

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112 **Section 2J.02 Comments:** NCUTCD recognizes that the NPA Item #285 language states

113 “FHWA also proposes Standard, Guidance, and Support statements limiting the allowable

114 number of business identification sign panels for each Specific Service to six and recommending

115 that when there are more than six eligible facilities for one or more categories of service, General

116 Service signs for those services should be used instead.” There does not appear to be proposed

117 language which addresses this NPA Preamble language. In addition, the language of Section

118 2J.04 still allows up to 12 business identification sign panels for a particular service type.

119 NCUTCD recommends that FHWA clarify the intent of this specific Preamble language and that

120 the existing maximum number of 12 business identification sign panels per specific service type

121 as listed in Section 2J.04 remain in place. NCUTCD generally agrees with 2J.02, but

122 recommends other revisions as shown.

123

124 Section 2J.02 Application

125 Standard:

126 **The number of Specific Service signs along an approach to an interchange or**

127 **intersection, regardless of the number of service types displayed, shall be limited to a**

128 **maximum of four. In the direction of traffic flow, successive Specific Service signs shall be**

129 **for attraction, camping, lodging, food, and gas services, in that order.**

130 Guidance:

131 *The Specific Service signs should be located to take advantage of natural terrain, to have the*

132 *least impact on the scenic environment, and to avoid visual conflict with other signs within the*

133 *highway right-of-way.*

134 Where a service type is displayed on two signs, the signs for that service should follow one
135 another in succession.

136 **Standard:**

137 A Specific Service sign shall display the word message GAS, FOOD, LODGING,
138 CAMPING, or ATTRACTION, an appropriate directional legend such as the word
139 message EXIT XX, NEXT RIGHT, SECOND RIGHT, or directional arrows, and the
140 related business identification sign panels. Distances to eligible facilities shall not be
141 displayed on the Specific Service signs on the approach to an interchange.

142 A business that does not offer gasoline but offers alternative fuels shall not be signed
143 using GAS Specific Service signs.

144 **Option:**

145 A business that does not offer gasoline but offers alternative fuels may be signed using
146 General Service signs for the alternative fuel provided.

147 **Support:**

148 General Service signs for facilities providing alternative fuels, including Electric Vehicle
149 Charging, Compressed Natural Gas, Liquefied Natural Gas, Liquefied Propane Gas, and
150 Hydrogen fuel, are provided in Chapter 2I.

151 ~~Specific Service signs are intended for areas primarily rural in character. When services at an~~
152 ~~interchange are abundant, this is an indication that the character of the area is no longer primarily~~
153 ~~rural and General Service signs would be more appropriate.~~

154 (redundant - addressed in Section 2J.01)

155 **Guidance:**

156 ~~Due to the unique and widely varying characteristics of the services that qualify as~~
157 ~~attractions, and lesser recognition of their business identification sign panels (see Paragraph~~
158 ~~10), ATTRACTION Specific Service signs should have no more than four business identification~~
159 ~~sign panels.~~

160 **Support:**

161 ~~The types of services that meet the definition of attraction, i.e. those providing amusement,~~
162 ~~historical, cultural, or leisure activities to the public, vary considerably. In most cases, attractions~~
163 ~~do not include well known services or easily recognizable logos, making it more difficult and~~
164 ~~requiring more time to distinguish between types of attractions shown on an ATTRACTION sign~~
165 ~~than for other categories of Specific Service signs.~~

166 NCUTCD recommends deleting this new recommendation and support language and to still
167 allow up to six business identification sign panels for attractions. Many food, gas, lodging and
168 camping business identification signs may contain logos that are not well known or easily
169 recognizable for motorists, particularly for local or regional businesses, and these service
170 categories are still allowed up to six business identification sign panels.

171 **Standard:**

172 No more than three types of services shall be represented on any sign or sign assembly.
173 If three types of services are displayed on one sign, then the business identification sign
174 panels shall be limited to two for each service type (for a total of six business identification
175 sign panels). If two types of services are displayed on one sign, then the business
176 identification sign panels shall be limited to either three for each service type, or four for
177 one service type and two for the other service type (for a total of six business identification
178 sign panels in either case). The legend and business identification sign panels applicable to
179 a service type shall be displayed such that the road user will not associate them with

180 another service type on the same sign. Other configurations or arrangements of business
181 identification sign panels shall not be allowed.

182 No service type shall appear on more than two signs (see Paragraph 3 of this Section).

183 The signs shall have a blue background, a white border, and white legends of upper
184 case letters, numerals, and arrows.

185 *Guidance:*

186 *If a service type is no longer available from an interchange or intersection the sign should be*
187 *removed when the business identification sign panels are removed. If a sign is to remain, but the*
188 *service type is no longer available, then the service type legend should be covered so that road*
189 *users do not misinterpret the sign as a General Service sign implying that the service is*
190 *available.*

191 ~~*No sign should be installed when a service type is not currently available from an*~~
192 ~~*interchange or intersection. A sign should not be installed unless a service type is currently*~~
193 ~~*available from an interchange or intersection.*~~

194 (reworded for clarity)

195 Option:

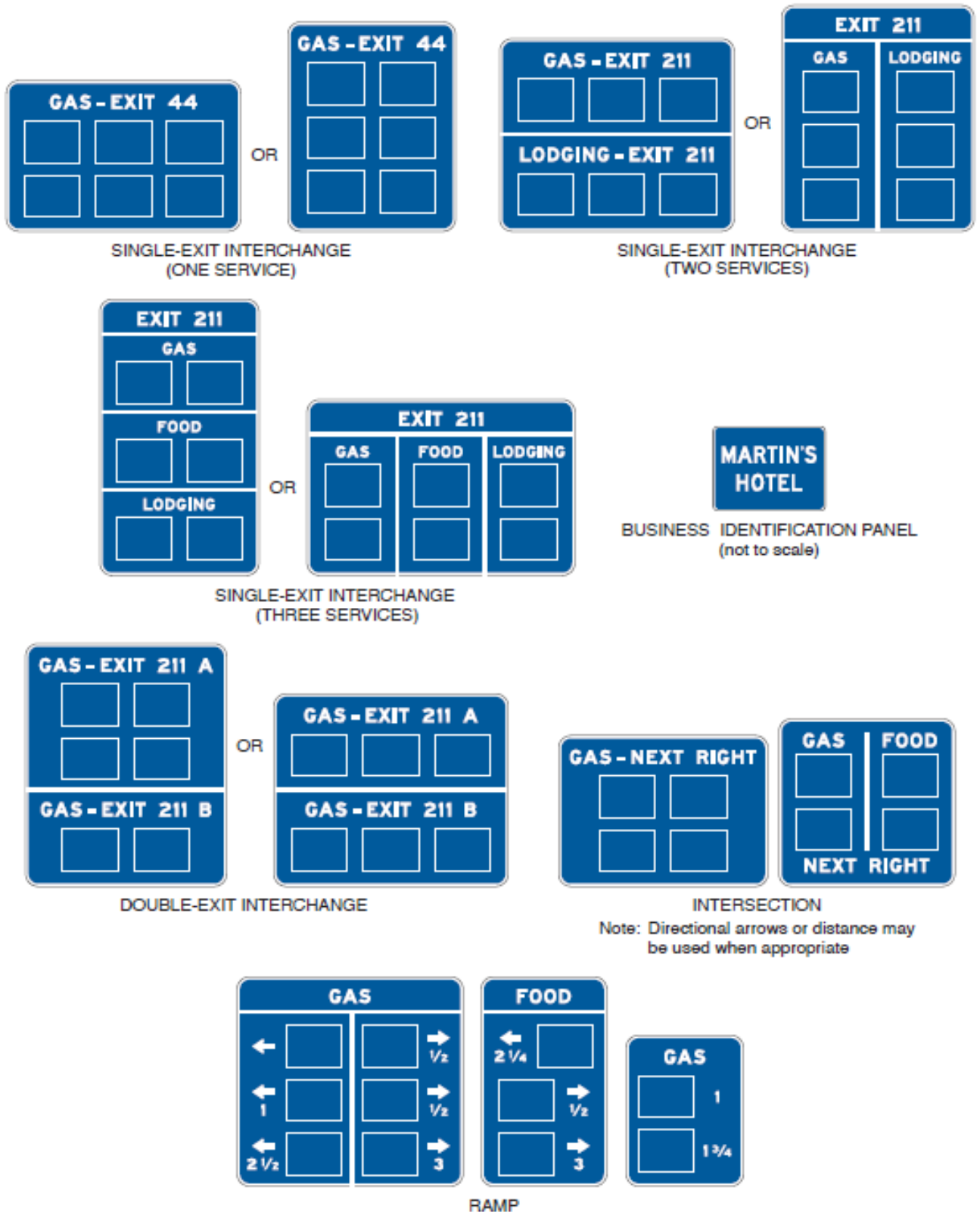
196 If there is indication that a service of this type will again be available in the near future, the
197 sign may be covered, in accordance with Paragraph 13, rather than removed.

198 Separate installations of General Service signs (see Sections 21.02 and 21.03) may be used in
199 conjunction with Specific Service signs for eligible types of services that are not represented by a
200 Specific Service sign.

201 Support:

202 Examples of Specific Service signs are shown in Figure 2J-1. Examples of sign locations are
203 shown in Figure 2J-2.

Figure 2J-1. Examples of Specific Service Signs

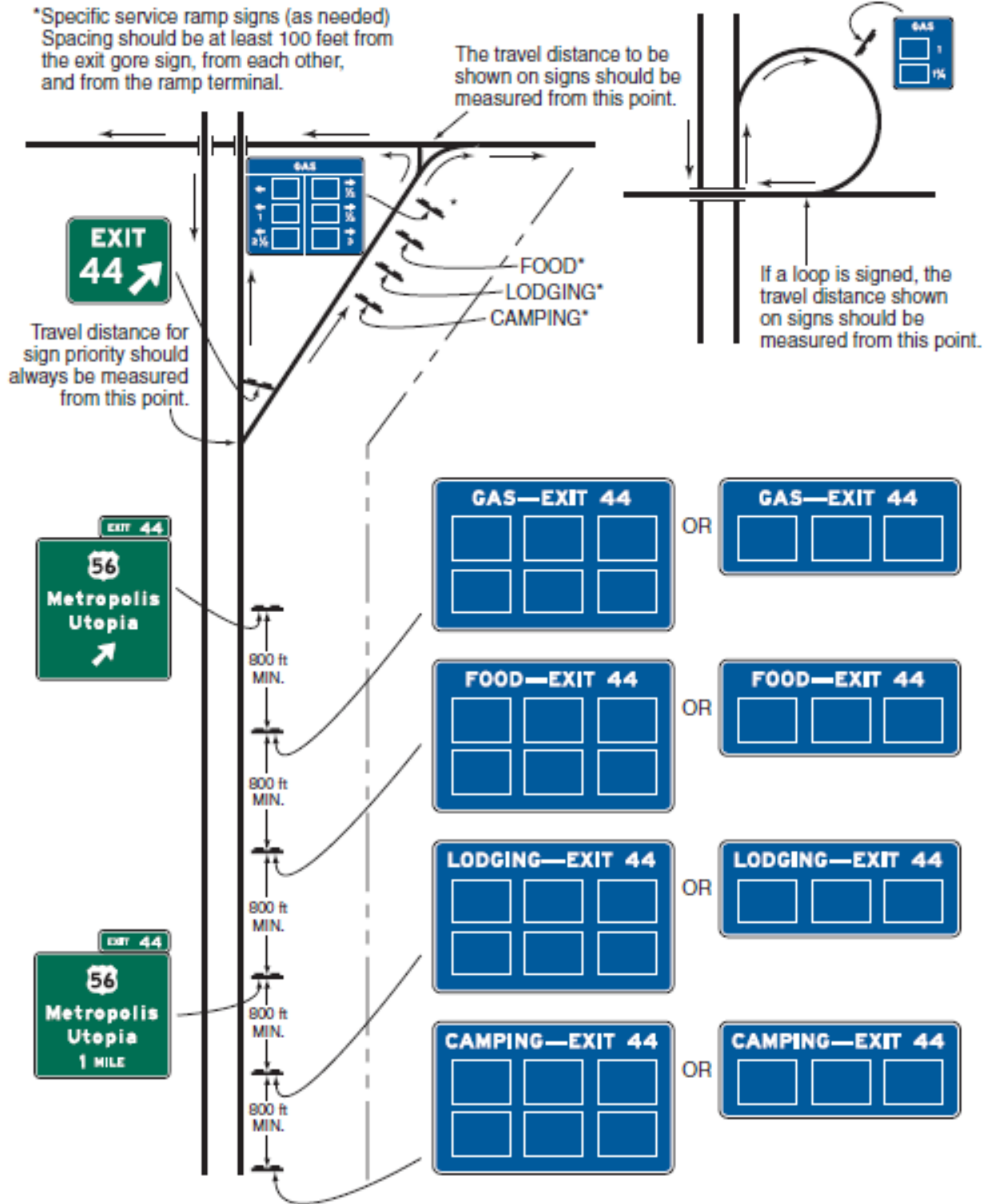


Note: Directional arrows or distance may be used when appropriate

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NCUTCD agrees with Figure 2J-1 as shown in the NPA.

Figure 2J-2. Examples of Specific Service Sign Locations



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NCUTCD agrees with Figure 2J-2 as shown in the NPA.

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211 **Section 2J.03 Comments:** NCUTCD generally agrees with 2J.03 as presented in the NPA, but
212 recommends revising to incorporate NCUTCD recommendation 17B-GMI-01, in order to allow
213 businesses who do not use a logo to use a color scheme on the business identification sign panels
214 that more closely matches the business on-premise signing and thus support the proposed
215 Guidance statement in the second paragraph. Inclusion of this language also allows recreational,
216 cultural, and historical facilities eligible for Attractions business identification sign panels to use
217 a brown background similar to what would be used for a traffic generator guide sign.

218
219 **Section 2J.03 Logos and Business Identification Sign Panels**

220 **Standard:**

221 A **business identification sign panel legend** shall be either an identification trademark
222 or a word message **of the business's name**. Each logo **or word message** shall be placed on a
223 separate **business identification sign panel** that shall be attached to the Specific Service
224 sign. **Logos** or trademarks used alone for a **business identification sign panel** shall be
225 reproduced in the colors and general shape consistent with customary use, and any integral
226 legend shall be in proportionate size. A logo that resembles an official traffic control device
227 shall not be used.

228 *Guidance:*

229 *The logo or trademark used on a business identification sign panel should be consistent with*
230 *the on premise business identification signs at the location of the business that are visible from*
231 *the roadway.*

232 *A word message business identification sign panel, not using a logo or trademark, should*
233 *have a single color blue background with single color white legend and border.*

234 (revise per 17B-GMI-01)

235 **Support:**

236 Section 2J.05 contains information regarding the minimum letter heights for **business**
237 **identification sign panels**.

238 **Option:**

239 A portion of a **business identification sign panel** may be used to display a supplemental
240 message horizontally along the bottom of the **business identification sign panel**, provided that the
241 message displays essential motorist information **consistent with the service category type and**
242 **related to the operation of the business** (see Figure 2J-3).

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Figure 2J-3. Examples of Supplemental Messages on Business Identification Sign Panels



244 NCUTCD agrees with Figure 2J-3 as shown in the NPA.

247 **Standard:**

248 All supplemental messages shall be displayed within the **business identification sign**
249 **panel** and shall have letters and numerals that comply with the minimum height

250 requirements shown in Table 2J-1. Supplemental messages promoting the availability of
 251 products, amenities, or services that are not directly related to the service category and/or
 252 those not available to non-patrons of the primary service provided for the service category,
 253 such as car wash, automated teller machines, Internet, lottery, or pool, shall not be
 254 displayed on business identification sign panels.

255 Messages related to the promotion or availability of business identification sign panel
 256 space shall not be displayed on Specific Service signs.

257 Option:

258 A Supplemental message identifying an alternative fuel available may be added to the
 259 business identification sign panels for facilities that provide the specified alternative fuel.

260

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 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Specific Service Signs | | |
| 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. Business Identification Sign Panels | | |
| 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

261

262 NCUTCD agrees with Table 2J-1 as shown in the NPA.

263

264 Guidance:

265 A business identification sign panel should not display more than one supplemental message.

266 The supplemental message should be displayed in a black legend on a yellow background for
 267 that portion of the business identification sign.

268 State or local agencies that elect to allow supplemental messages on business identification
 269 sign panels should develop a statewide policy for such messages.

270 Support:

271 Typical supplemental messages might include DIESEL, LP-GAS, 24 HOURS, CLOSED
 272 SUNDAY, and RV ACCESS.

273 Guidance:

274 If a State or local agency elects to display the designation of businesses as providing on-
 275 premise accommodations for recreational vehicles with the RV ACCESS supplemental message,
 276 there should be a statewide policy for such designation and criteria for qualifying businesses.

277 The criteria should include such site conditions as access between the public roadway and the
 278 site, on-premise geometry, and parking.

279 Option:

280 If a business designated as an Interstate Oasis (see Section 2I.04) has a business
281 identification sign panel on the Food and/or Gas Specific Service signs, the word OASIS may be
282 displayed on the bottom portion of the business identification sign panel for that business.

283 **Standard:**

284 **A business identification sign panel shall not display the identification logo/trademark
285 or name of more than one business. A business identification sign panel shall not display
286 more than one name or identification logo/trademark for the same business. Slogans, e.g.
287 marketing slogans associated with the business, shall not be displayed on business
288 identification sign panels or the Specific Service sign itself.**

290

291 **Section 2J.04 Comments: NCUTCD agrees with 2J.04 as presented in the NPA.**

292

293 **Section 2J.04 Number and Size of Signs and Business Identification Sign Panels**

294 *Guidance:*

295 *Sign sizes should be determined by the amount and height of legend and the number and size*
296 *of business identification sign panels attached to the sign. All business identification sign panels*
297 *on a sign should be the same size.*

298 **Standard:**

299 **Each Specific Service sign or sign assembly shall be limited to no more than six business**
300 **identification sign panels.**

301 *Option:*

302 Where more than six businesses of a specific service type are eligible for business
303 identification sign panels at the same interchange, additional business identification sign panels
304 of that same specific service type may also be displayed in accordance with the provisions of
305 Paragraph 4. The additional business identification sign panels may be displayed either by
306 placing more than one specific service type on the same sign (see Paragraph 11 of Section 2J.02)
307 or by using a second Specific Service sign of that specific service type if the additional sign can
308 be added without exceeding the limit of four Specific Service signs at an interchange or
309 intersection approach (see Paragraph 3 of Section 2J.02).

310 **Standard:**

311 **Where business identification sign panels for more than six businesses of a specific**
312 **service type are displayed at the same interchange or intersection approach, the following**
313 **provisions shall apply:**

314 **A. No more than 12 business identification sign panels of a specific service type shall be**
315 **displayed on no more than two Specific Service signs or sign assemblies;**

316 **B. No more than six business identification sign panels shall be displayed on a single**
317 **Specific Service sign; and**

318 **C. No more than four Specific Service signs shall be displayed on the approach.**

319 *Support:*

320 Section 2J.08 contains information regarding Specific Service signs for double-exit
321 interchanges.

322 Section 2J.09 contains information regarding Specific Service signs for multiple interchanges
323 that are accessed from collector-distributor roadways rather than from the highway mainline.

324 **Standard:**

325 Each **business identification sign panel** attached to a Specific Service sign shall be a
326 **horizontally oriented rectangle** with a width longer than the height. A **business**
327 **identification sign panel** on signs for freeways and expressways shall not exceed 60 inches
328 in width and 36 inches in height (see Table 2J-2). A **business identification sign panel** on
329 signs for conventional roads and freeway and expressway ramps shall not exceed 30 inches
330 in width and 18 inches in height (see Table 2J-2). The vertical and horizontal spacing
331 between **business identification sign panels** shall not exceed 8 inches and 12 inches,
332 respectively.

333 Support:

334 Sections 2A.14, 2E.15, and 2E.16 contain information regarding borders, interline spacing,
335 and edge spacing.
336

**Table 2J-2. Maximum Business Identification
Sign Panel Sizes According to Roadway
Classification**

| Roadway Classification | Sign Panel Size |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Freeway or Expressway | 60 x 36 |
| Conventional Road or Ramp | 30 x 18 |

Note: Sizes are shown in inches as width x height

337
338 NCUTCD agrees with Table 2J-2 as shown in the NPA.
339

340
341 **Section 2J.05 Comments: NCUTCD agrees with 2J.05 as presented in the NPA.**
342

343 Section 2J.05 Size of Lettering

344 Standard:

345 All Specific Service signs and **business identification sign panels** shall have letter and
346 numeral sizes that comply with the minimum requirements of Table 2J-1.

347 Guidance:

348 Any legend on a **business identification graphic/trademark** should be proportional to the size
349 of the **graphic trademark**.
350

351
352 **Section 2J.06 Comments: NCUTCD recommends revising 2J.06 to eliminate added guidance**
353 **language regarding spacing Specific Service ramp signs at least 200 ft. from destination guide**
354 **signs. There is uncertainty of where this distance was derived from and the proposed language**
355 **of “longer longitudinal spacing” from warning or regulatory signs is vague. Some ramp**
356 **configurations may restrict the ramp length, thus making this proposed recommendation difficult**
357 **to implement.**
358

359 Section 2J.06 Signs at Interchanges

360 Standard:

361 The Specific Service signs shall be installed between the preceding interchange and at
362 least 800 feet in advance of the Exit Direction sign at the interchange from which the
363 services are available (see Figure 2J-2).

364 **Specific Service signs shall not be used at freeway-to-freeway interchanges (see Section**
365 **2E.37), except where the exit ramp also provides direct access to a conventional road within**
366 **that interchange.**

367 *Guidance:*

368 *There should be at least an 800-foot spacing between the Specific Service signs, except for*
369 *Specific Service ramp signs. However, excessive spacing is not desirable.*

370 *Specific Service ramp signs should be spaced at least 100 feet longitudinally beyond the Exit*
371 *Gore sign, from each other, and from the ramp terminal. ~~Specific Service ramp signs should be~~*
372 *~~spaced at least 200 feet longitudinally from any Destination guide signs along the ramp. Longer~~*
373 *~~longitudinal spacing should be provided between Specific Service ramp signs and any warning~~*
374 *~~or regulatory signs along the ramp, and any intersection traffic control devices at the ramp~~*
375 *~~terminal.~~*
376

Figure 2J-6 was not included in the figures

377 The NPA preamble references a new Figure 2J-6, but no such figure is referenced in the
378 proposed language and no Figure 2J-6 is shown in the document of proposed figures for Part 2.

380
381 **Section 2J.07 Comments:** NCUTCD generally agrees with 2J.07 as presented in the NPA, but
382 recommends reinserting the Option statement regarding the use of exit number plaques rather
383 than the display of the exit number within the sign in accordance with NCUTCD
384 recommendation 14B-GMI-04. Several agencies currently utilize exit number plaques to reduce
385 overall sign size and cost.

387 **Section 2J.07 Single-Exit Interchanges**

388 **Standard:**

389 At numbered single-exit interchanges, the name of the service type followed by the exit
390 number shall be displayed on one line above the **business identification sign panels**. At
391 unnumbered interchanges, the directional legend NEXT RIGHT (LEFT) shall be used **in**
392 **place of the exit number**.

393 **Option:**

394 An exit number plaque (see Section 2E.31) may be used instead of the exit number on the
395 signs located in advance of an interchange.

396 (revise per 14B-GMI-04)

397 **Standard:**

398 At single-exit interchanges **where traffic is allowed to turn onto the crossroad in either**
399 **direction from the ramp**, Specific Service ramp signs shall be installed along the ramp or
400 **opposite** the ramp terminal for facilities that have **business identification sign panels**
401 displayed along the main roadway if the facilities are not readily visible from the ramp
402 terminal. Directions to the service facilities shall be indicated by arrows on the ramp signs.
403 **Business identification sign panels** on Specific Service ramp signs shall be duplicates of

404 those displayed on the Specific Service signs located in advance of the interchange, but
405 shall be reduced in size (see Paragraph 4 of Section 2J.04).

406 Option:

407 Specific Service ramp signs may display distances (see Section 2A.08) to a service facility
408 when the facility is not visible from ramp intersection with the crossroad.

409 Guidance:

410 Distances of less than 1/4 mile, when displayed, should be displayed to the nearest 1/10 mile.

411

412

413 **Section 2J.08 Comments:** NCUTCD agrees with 2J.08 as presented in the NPA.

414

415 **Section 2J.08 Double-Exit Interchanges**

416 Guidance:

417 *At double-exit interchanges, the Specific Service signs should consist of two sections, one for*
418 *each exit (see Figure 2J-1).*

419 **Standard:**

420 **At a double-exit interchange, the top section shall display the business identification**
421 **sign panels for the first exit and the bottom section shall display the business identification**
422 **sign panels for the second exit. At numbered interchanges, the name of the service type and**
423 **the exit number shall be displayed above the business identification sign panels in each**
424 **section. At unnumbered interchanges, the word message NEXT RIGHT (LEFT) and**
425 **SECOND RIGHT (LEFT) shall be used in place of the exit number. The number of**
426 **business identification sign panels on the sign (total of both sections) or the sign assembly**
427 **shall be limited to six.**

428 Guidance:

429 *At a double-exit interchange, where a service type is displayed on two Specific Service signs*
430 *in accordance with the provisions of Section 2J.04, one of the signs should display the business*
431 *identification sign panels for that service type for the businesses that are accessible from one of*
432 *the two exits and the other sign should display the business identification sign panels for that*
433 *service type for the businesses that are accessible from the other exit.*

434 Option:

435 At a double-exit interchange where there are four business identification sign panels to be
436 displayed for one of the exits and one or two business identification sign panels to be displayed
437 for the other exit, the business identification sign panels may be arranged in three rows with two
438 business identification sign panels per row.

439 At a double-exit interchange, where a service is to be signed for only one exit, one section of
440 the Specific Service sign may be omitted, or a single exit interchange sign may be used. Signs on
441 ramps and crossroads as described in Section 2J.07 may be used at a double-exit interchange.

442

443

444 **Section 2J.09 Comments:** NCUTCD recommends revising 2J.09 and Figure 2J-4 to replace the
445 use of General Service signs along the main roadway with Specific Service signs and to add a
446 standard that Specific Service signs along the collector-distributor cannot be displayed unless
447 also displayed along the main roadway.

448

449 **Section 2J.09 Collector-Distributor Roadways for Successive Interchanges**

450 Support:
451 Examples of guide signs for a collector-distributor roadway that provides access to multiple
452 interchanges are shown in Figure 2J-4.

453 **Standard:**

454 **No more than four Specific Service signs shall be displayed on a highway mainline**
455 **approach to a collector-distributor roadway, regardless of the number of interchanges that**
456 **are accessed from the collector-distributor roadway.**

457 **Guidance:**

458 *Where mainline access to successive interchanges is provided from a single collector-*
459 *distributor roadway (see Section 2E.36), Specific Service signs, if used, should be limited to*
460 *located ions along the collector distributor roadway in advance of each interchange in*
461 *compliance with the provisions of Sections 2J.07 and 2J.08.*

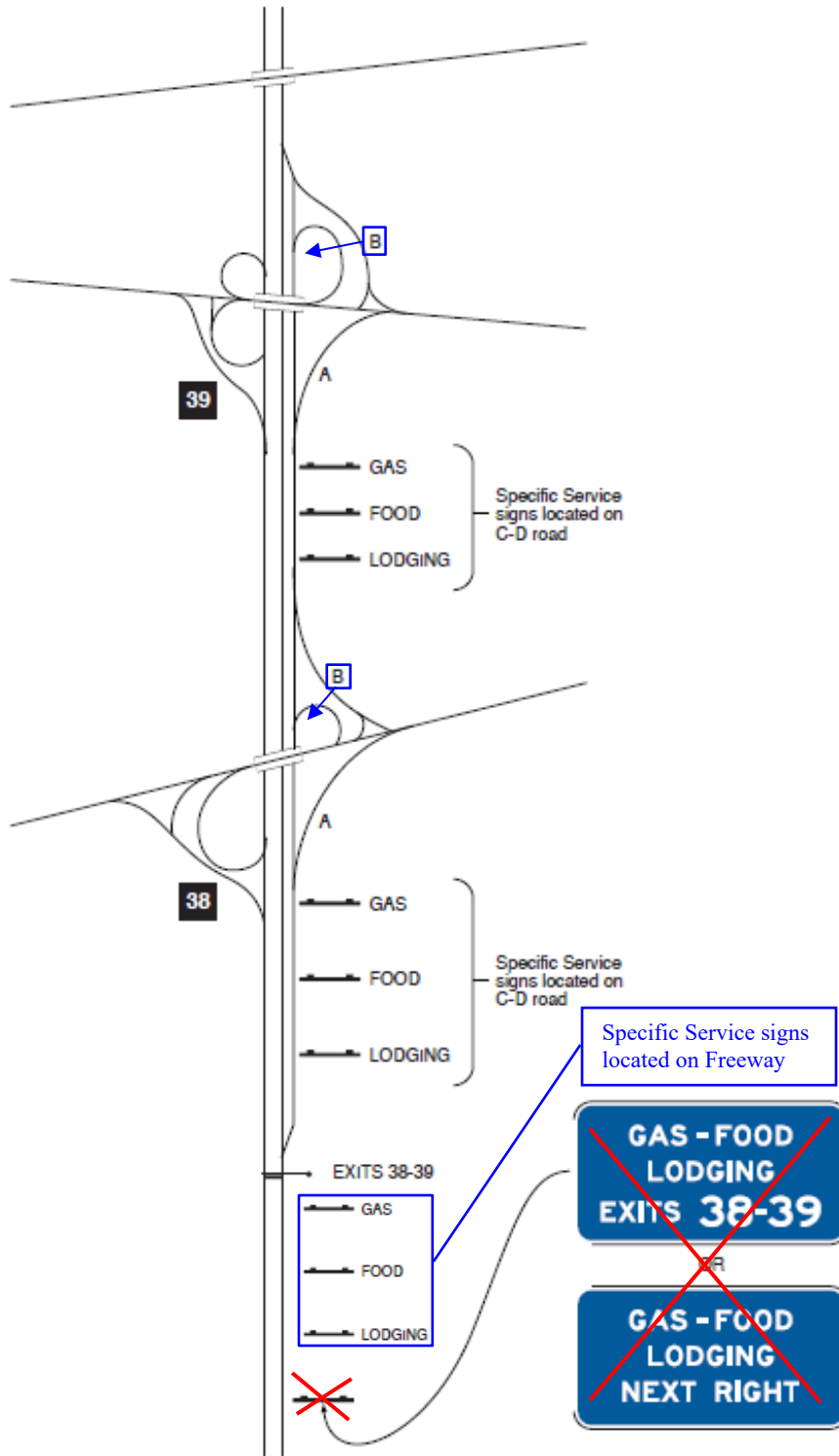
462 **Standard:**

463 **Specific Service signs and Business Identification sign panels shall not be displayed**
464 **along a collector-distributor roadway unless also displayed on the highway mainline**
465 **approach to that collector-distributor roadway.**

466 *If services are available from more than one of the interchanges along the collector-*
467 *distributor roadway and those services are signed with Specific Service signs as described in*
468 *Paragraph, then General Service signs should be used on the mainline in conformance with the*
469 *provisions of Chapter 2I.*

470 **If Specific Service signs are located on the highway mainline for an interchange that is**
471 **accessed from a collector-distributor roadway, then additional Specific Service signs shall**
472 **not be allowed along the collector-distributor roadway. ~~No more than four Specific Service~~**
473 **signs shall be displayed on a highway mainline approach to a collector-distributor**
474 **roadway, regardless of the number of interchanges that are accessed from the collector-**
475 **distributor roadway.** Relocated before the guidance statement. NCUTCD does not support the
476 mixing of General Service signs on the mainline with Specific Service signs along the collector-
477 distributor road.

Figure 2J-4. Signing for Services Accessed from Collector-Distributor Road Adjacent to Freeway



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 479 NCUTCD recommends revising Figure 2J-4 to relocate the designation of Exit “B” to denote the
 480 exit location more accurately and to replace the General Service signs along the main roadway
 481 with Specific Service signs.

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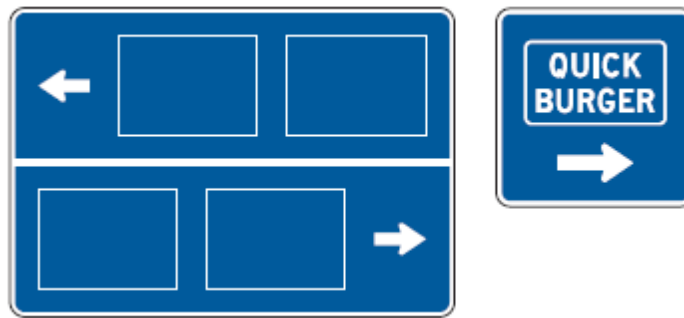
Section 2J.10 Comments: NCUTCD recommends revising 2J.10 to incorporate material from NCUTCD recommendation 12A-GMI-04. The use of up to six business identification sign panels is currently allowed on Specific Service panels for both mainline and ramp installations. If motorists are expected to adequately view and comprehend business identification sign panels in these applications, motorists should also be able to adequately view and comprehend this same number of business identification sign panels in trailblazer assembly installations as well.

Section 2J.10 Specific Service Trailblazer Signs

Support:

Specific Service trailblazer signs (see Figure 2J-5) are guide signs with one to ~~six~~ **four** business identification sign panels that display business identification and directional information for services and eligible attractions. Specific Service trailblazer signs are installed along crossroads for facilities that have business identification sign panels displayed along the main roadway and ramp, and that require additional vehicle maneuvers.

Figure 2J-5. Examples of Specific Service Trailblazer Signs



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NCUTCD agrees with Figure 2J-5 as shown in the NPA.

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Standard:

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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.

510

Guidance:

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If used, a Specific Service trailblazer sign should be located a maximum of 500 feet in advance of any required turn.

513

Standard:

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The location of other traffic control devices shall take precedence over the location of a Specific Service trailblazer sign.

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When used, each Specific Service trailblazer sign or sign assembly shall be limited to no more than ~~six~~ **four** business identification sign panels. The business identification sign

518 **panels on Specific Service trailblazer signs shall be duplicates of those displayed on the**
519 **Specific Service ramp signs.**

520 **Appropriate legends, such as directional arrows or the action message NEXT RIGHT**
521 **or SECOND RIGHT, shall be displayed with the business identification sign panel to**
522 **provide proper guidance. The directional legend and border shall be white and shall be**
523 **displayed on a blue background.**

524 **Option:**

525 Specific Service trailblazer signs may contain various types of services on a single sign or on
526 a sign assembly.

527 Specific Service trailblazer signs may be placed farther from the edge of the road than other
528 traffic control signs.

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531 **Section 2J.11 Comments: NCUTCD generally agrees with 2J.11 as presented in the NPA, but**
532 **recommends minor edits to the proposed language for clarity.**

533

534 **Section 2J.11 Signs at Intersections**

535 **Guidance:**

536 *If both tourist-oriented information (See Chapter 2K) and specific service information are*
537 *proposed to be used at the same intersection, the tourist-oriented directional and Specific*
538 *Service signs should be spaced sufficiently apart from one another, as well as apart from other*
539 *guide, warning or regulatory signs, to avoid confusion and allow sufficient time for road users*
540 *to read and react to the information.*

541 **Standard:**

542 **If sufficient space to provide appropriate reading and reaction to all proposed signs is**
543 **not available, higher priority shall be given to the higher priority guide, warning and**
544 **regulatory signs and either the tourist oriented directional signs or the Specific Service**
545 **signs, or both, shall not be used.**

546 **Guidance:**

547 *If Specific Service signs are used on conventional roads based on an engineering study (see*
548 *Paragraph 3 of Section 2J.01) or at intersections on expressways, they should be installed*
549 *between the previous interchange or intersection and at least 300 feet in advance of the*
550 *intersection from which the services are available.*

551 *The spacing between signs should be determined on the basis of an engineering study.*

552 *Business identification sign panels should not be displayed for a type of service for which a*
553 *qualified facility is readily visible.*

554 **Standard:**

555 **If Specific Service signs are used on conventional roads or at intersections on**
556 **expressways, the name of each type of service shall be displayed above its business**
557 **identification sign panel(s), together with an appropriate legend, such as NEXT RIGHT**
558 **(LEFT) or a directional arrow, either displayed on the same line as the name of the type of**
559 **service or displayed below the business identification sign panel(s).**

560 **Option:**

561 Signs similar to Specific Service ramp signs as described in Section 2J.07 may be provided
562 on the crossroad.

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Section 2J.12 Comments: NCUTCD agrees with 2J.12 as presented in the NPA.

Section 2J.12 Signing Policy

Standard:

In addition to a statewide policy for eligibility of service providers (see Section 2J.01), each highway agency that elects to use Specific Service signs shall establish a signing policy.

Guidance:

The signing policy should include, at 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 business identification sign panels, legends, and signs complying with the provisions of this Manual and State design requirements;*
- D. Removal or covering of business identification 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 business identification sign panels.*