



National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

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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

Federal Register Item Number: 272-282

NPA MUTCD Section Number: 2I

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

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

The following pages present the GMI Technical Committee recommendations for changes to the MUTCD NPA proposed text and figures for Chapter 2I. Below is a summary of the GMI Technical Committee positions on these portions of Chapter 2I in the NPA Federal Register notice. There are no Council previously approved changes for Chapter 2I.

- No NPA Item, Section 2I.01: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
- NPA #272, Section 2I.02: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
- NPA #273, Section 2I.03: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
- NPA #274, Section 2I.04: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
- No NPA Item, Section 2I.05: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
- No NPA Item, Section 2I.06: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
- No NPA Item, Section 2I.07: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
- NPA #275, Section 2I.08: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
- NPA #276, Section 2I.09: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
- NPA #277, Section 2I.10: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
- NPA #278, Section 2I.11: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
- NPA #279, Section 2I.12: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
- NPA #280, Section 2I.13: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021
- NPA #281, Section 2I.14: NCUTCD agrees with NPA content (no changes recommended)
- NPA #282, Section 2I.15: Changes recommended based on Council action in spring 2021

42 **Section 2I.01 Comments: NCUTCD agrees with 2I.01 as presented in the NPA.**

43

44 **Section 2I.01 Sizes of General Service Signs**

45 **Standard:**

46 **Except as provided in Section 2A.11, the sizes of General Service signs that have a**
47 **standardized design shall be as shown in Table 2I-1.**

48 **Support:**

49 Section 2A.11 contains information regarding the applicability of the various columns in
50 Table 2I-1.

51 **Option:**

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

Table 2I-1. General Service Sign and Plaque Sizes

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
Rest Area XX Miles	D5-1	2I.05	78 x 36*	132 x 60 (F)* 114x 48 (E)*
Rest Area Next Right	D5-1a	2I.05	78 x 36*	132 x 60* (F) 114 x 48* (E)
Rest Area Entrance Direction	D5-2	2I.05	78 x 36*	132 x 66* (F) 114 x 60 (E)
Rest Area Gore	D5-2a	2I.05	42 x 48*	78 x 78* (F) 66 x 72* (E)
Rest Area Directional	D5-5	2I.05	42 x 48*	—
Next Rest Area XX Miles	D5-6	2I.05	78 x 54*	132 x 78* (F) 108 x 66 (E)
Rest Area Tourist Info Center XX Miles	D5-7	2I.08	90 x 72*	156 x 108* (F) 132 x 96* (E)
Rest Area Tourist Info Center Next Right	D5-7a	2I.08	90 x 72*	156 x 108* (F) 132 x 96* (E)
Rest Area Tourist Info Center Exit Direction	D5-8	2I.08	84 x 72*	138 x 108* (F) 120 x 96* (E)
Parking Area Advance	D5-9	2I.05	78 x 36	132 x 60 (F) 114 x 48 (E)
Parking Area Entrance Direction	D5-9a	2I.05	78 x 36	132 x 66 (F) 114 x 60 (E)
Parking Area Gore	D5-9b	2I.05	42 x 48	78 x 78 (F) 66 x 72 (E)
Picnic Area (Roadside Table, Roadside Park) Advance	D5-10	2I.05	78 x 36	132 x 60 (F) 114 x 48 (E)
Picnic Area (Roadside Table, Roadside Park) Entrance Direction	D5-10a	2I.05	78 x 36	132 x 66 (F) 114 x 60 (E)
Picnic Area (Roadside Table, Roadside Park) Gore	D5-10b	2I.05	42 x 48	78 x 78 (F) 66 x 72 (E)
Scenic Area (Scenic View, Scenic Overlook) Advance	D5-11	2I.05	84 x 36	138 x 60 (F) 120 x 48 (E)
Scenic Area (Scenic View, Scenic Overlook) Entrance Direction	D5-11a	2I.05	84 x 36	138 x 66 (F) 120 x 60 (E)
Scenic Area (Scenic View, Scenic Overlook) Gore	D5-11b	2I.05	48 x 48	84 x 78 (F) 72 x 72 (E)
Interstate Oasis	D5-12	2I.04	—	156 x 78
Interstate Oasis (plaque)	D5-12aP	2I.04	—	114 x 48
Interstate Oasis Directional	D5-12b	2I.04	36 x 36	36 x 36
Brake Check Area XX Miles	D5-13	2I.06	96 x 54	132 x 66
Brake Check Area Entrance Direction	D5-14	2I.06	96 x 54	132 x 78
Chain-Up Area XX Miles	D5-15	2I.07	72 x 54	102 x 66

Table 2I-1. General Service Sign and Plaque Sizes

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
Chain-Up Area Entrance Direction	D5-16	2I.07	72 x 54	102 x 78
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
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
Alternative Fuel - Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)	D9-11d	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Alternative Fuel - Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)	D9-11e	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Alternative Fuel - Hydrogen Fuel (HYD)	D9-11f	2I.02	24 x 24	30 x 30
Alternative Fuel - Biofuel (BIO)	D9-11g	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
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
Truck Parking	D9-16	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
Truck External Power (plaque)	D9-16a	2I.03	24 x 24	30 x 30
Truck Parking Availability (Exit Number)	D9-16b	2I.15	Varies x XX	Varies x XX
Truck Parking Availability (Distance)	D9-16c	2I.15	Varies x XX	Varies x XX
Truck Parking Availability (Rest Area)	D9-16d	2I.15	Varies x XX	Varies x XX
Truck Parking Availability (Combined)	D9-16e	2I.15	Varies x Varies	Varies x Varies
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)

Table 2I-1. General Service Sign and Plaque Sizes

Sign or Plaque	Sign Designation	Section	Conventional Road	Freeway or Expressway
General Services with Action or Exit Information	D9-18c	2I.03	72 x 60**	132 x 108** (F) 108 x 84** (E)
24-Hour (plaque)	D9-20aP	2I.02	24 x 12	30 x 12
Radio - Weather Information	D12-1	2I.09	84 x 48	132 x 84
Radio - Traffic Information	D12-1a	2I.09	78 x 48	120 x 60
Urgent Message When Flashing (plaque)	D12-1bP	2I.09	78 x 24	108 x 36
Carpool Information	D12-2	2I.14	60 x 42	96 x 66
Channel 9 Monitored	D12-3	2I.10	84 x 48	132 x 84
Emergency Call 911	D12-4	2I.11	66 x 30	96 x 48
Travel Info Call 511 (pictograph)	D12-5	2I.12	48 x 60	66 x 78
Travel Info Call 511	D12-5a	2I.12	48 x 36	66 x 48
Roadside Assistance Call *95	D12-6	2I.13	48 x 36	78 x 54

* 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)

55
56 NCUTCD generally agrees with Table 2I-1, but recommends revising the title of the Roadside
57 Assistance sign as agencies may not use *95 consistently for roadside assistance purposes.
58

59
60 **Section 2I.02 Comments:** NCUTCD agrees with 2I.02 as presented in the NPA.
61

62 **Section 2I.02 General Service Signs for Conventional Roads**

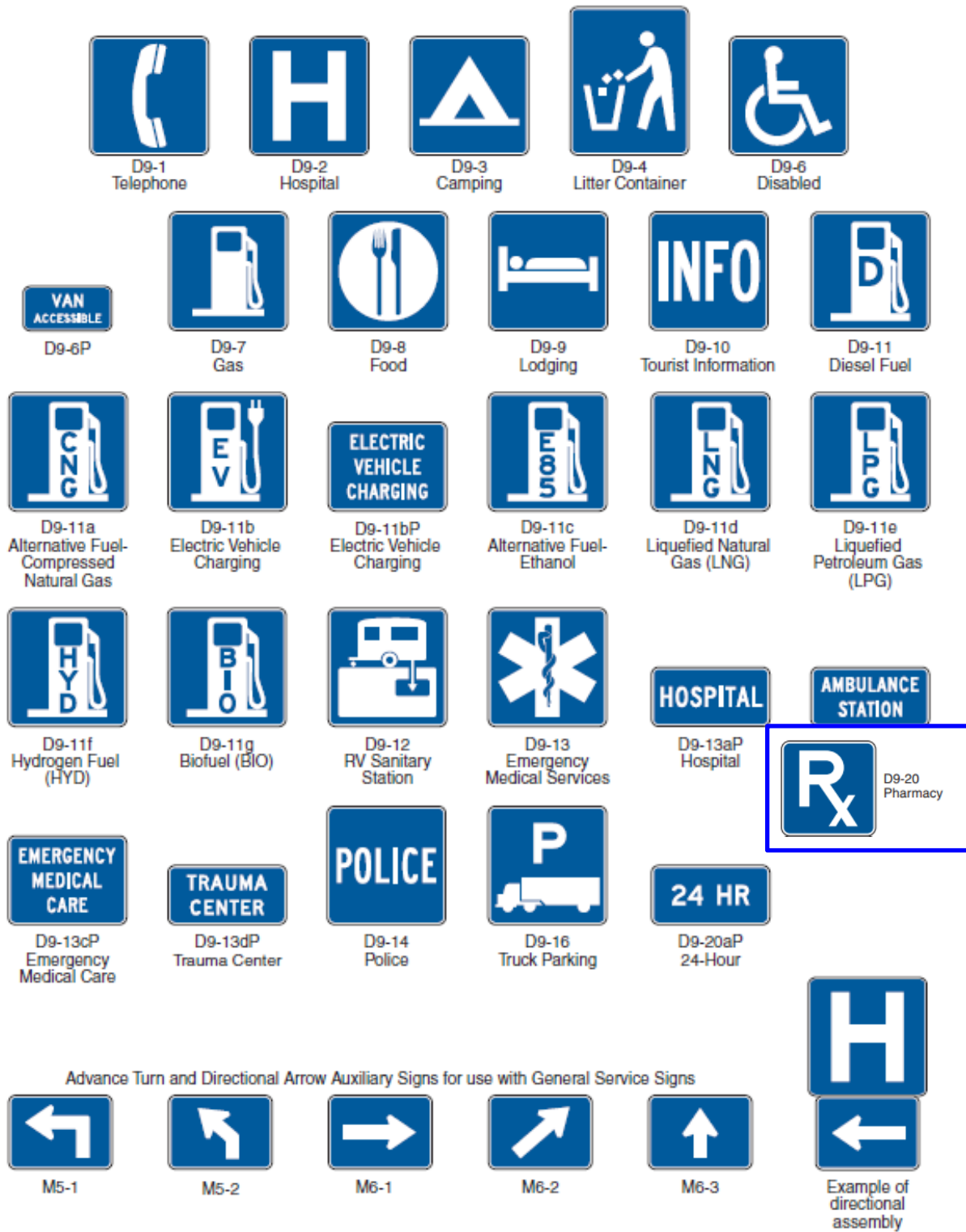
63 Support:

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

69 Option:

70 General Service signs (see Figure 2I-1) may be used where such services are infrequent and
71 are found only on an intersecting highway or crossroad.

Figure 2I-1. General Service Signs and Plaques



72
73
74
75

NCUTCD generally agrees with Figure 2I-1, but recommends retaining the D9-20 sign, since this sign is still permitted in the NPA text.

76 **Standard:**

77 **All General Service signs and supplemental sign panels shall have white legends and**
78 **borders on a blue background.**

79 *Guidance:*

80 *General Service signs should be installed at a suitable distance in advance of the turn-off*
81 *point or intersecting highway.*

82 *States that elect to provide General Service signing should establish a statewide policy or*
83 *warrant for its use, and criteria for the availability of services. Local jurisdictions electing to use*
84 *such signing should follow State policy for the sake of uniformity.*

85 *Option:*

86 Individual States may sign for whatever alternative fuels are available at appropriate
87 locations.

88 **Standard:**

89 **General Service signs, if used at intersections, shall be accompanied by a directional**
90 **message.**

91 *Option:*

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

95 The General Service sign legends may be either symbols or word messages.

96 **Standard:**

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

102 **Use of the Hospital (D9-2) sign or the HOSPITAL word message shall be limited to**
103 **facilities that operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.**

104 *Option:*

105 The Emergency Medical Services (D9-13) sign (see Paragraph 19) may be used for facilities
106 that provide emergency medical care but do not operate on a full-time basis.

107 *Support:*

108 Formats for displaying different combinations of these services are described in Section
109 2I.03.

110 *Option:*

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

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

117 *Guidance:*

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

121 *Option:*

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

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

128 The Emergency Medical Services (D9-13) symbol sign may be used to identify medical
129 service facilities that have been included in the Emergency Medical Services system under a
130 signing policy developed by the State and/or local highway agency.
131

Figure 2I-2. Example of Next Services Plaque



D9-17P

132 NCUTCD agrees with Figure 2I-2 as shown in the NPA.
133
134

135 **Standard:**

136 **The Emergency Medical Services symbol sign shall not be used to identify services**
137 **other than qualified hospitals, ambulance stations, and qualified free-standing emergency**
138 **medical treatment centers. If used, the Emergency Medical Services symbol sign shall be**
139 **supplemented by a sign or plaque, as provided in Paragraph 21, identifying the type of**
140 **service provided.**

141 **Option:**

142 The Emergency Medical Services symbol sign may be used above the HOSPITAL (D9-
143 13aP) plaque or above a plaque with the legend AMBULANCE STATION (D9-13bP),
144 EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE (D9-13cP), or TRAUMA CENTER (D9-13dP). The
145 Emergency Medical Services symbol sign may also be used to supplement Telephone (D9-1),
146 Channel 9 Monitored (D12-3), or POLICE (D9-14) signs.

147 **Standard:**

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

150 *Guidance:*

151 *Each State should develop a policy for the implementation of the Emergency Medical*
152 *Services symbol sign.*

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

154 *A. AMBULANCE*

- 155 *1. 24-hour service, 7 days per week.*
- 156 *2. Staffed by two State-certified persons trained at least to the basic level.*
- 157 *3. Vehicular communications with a hospital emergency department.*
- 158 *4. Operator should have successfully completed an emergency-vehicle operator training*
159 *course.*

160 *B. HOSPITAL*

- 161 *1. 24-hour service, 7 days per week.*

162 2. *Emergency department facilities with a physician (or emergency care nurse on duty*
163 *within the emergency department with a physician on call) trained in emergency*
164 *medical procedures on duty.*

165 3. *Licensed or approved for definitive medical care by an appropriate State authority.*

166 4. *Equipped for radio voice communications with ambulances and other hospitals.*

167 C. *Channel 9 Monitored*

168 1. *Provided by either professional or volunteer monitors.*

169 2. *Available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.*

170 3. *The service should be endorsed, sponsored, or controlled by an appropriate*
171 *government authority to guarantee the level of monitoring.*

172

173

174 **Section 2I.03 Comments:** NCUTCD recommends deleting the Guidance statement that D9-18
175 or D9-18a signs should be used at numbered interchanges, since it implies that general service
176 signs should be used at all numbered interchanges. In addition, the D9-18 or D9-18a signs
177 would not be the only options for use at numbered interchanges. NCUTCD also recommends
178 deleting an Option statement allowing exit numbers to be displayed on an exit number plaque, as
179 this duplicates content in a Guidance statement later in the section.

180

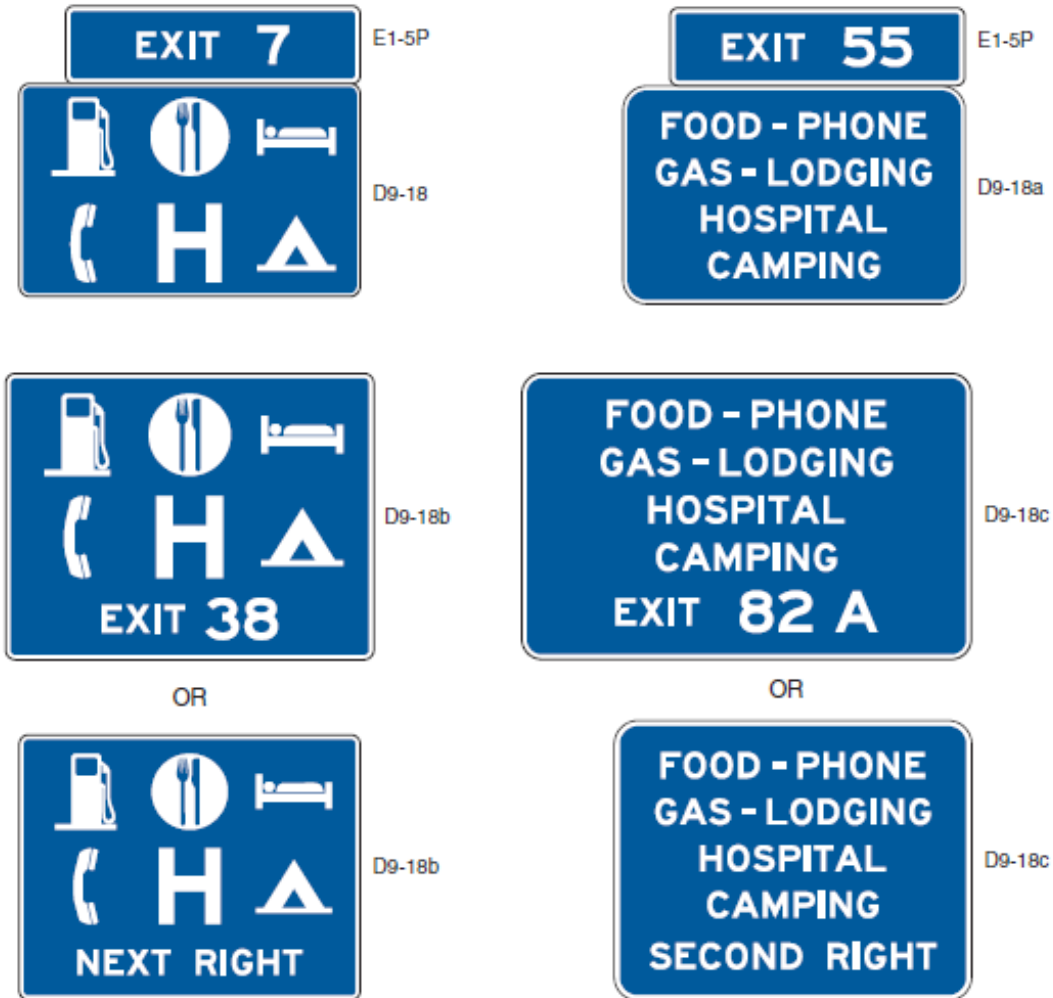
181 **Section 2I.03 General Service Signs for Freeways and Expressways**

182 Support:

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

185

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



186
187 NCUTCD agrees with Figure 2I-3 as shown in the NPA.
188

189 **Standard:**

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

197 *Guidance:*

198 *The D9-18 or D9-18a sign should be used for numbered interchanges.*

199 *Distance to services should be displayed on General Service signs along the exit ramp where*
200 *distances are more than 1 mile from the ramp intersection with the crossroad.*

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

203 **Option:**

204 ~~For numbered interchanges, the exit number may be displayed on an Exit Number (E1-5P)~~
205 ~~plaque (see Section 2E.31) instead of within the General Service sign (D9-18 or D9-18a).~~

206 Guidance:

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

211 *A. Gas, Diesel, and/or alternative fuels if all of the following are available:*

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

216 *B. Food if all of the following are available:*

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

221 *C. Lodging if all of the following are available:*

- 222 *1. Licensing or approval, where required;*
- 223 *2. Adequate sleeping accommodations;*
- 224 *3. Public telephone; and*
- 225 *4. Modern sanitary facilities.*

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

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

- 230 *1. Physician on duty within the emergency department;*
- 231 *2. Registered nurse on duty within the emergency department, with a physician in the*
232 *hospital on call; or*
- 233 *3. Registered nurse on duty within the emergency department, with a physician on call*
234 *from office or home.*

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

238 *G. Camping if all of the following are available:*

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

242 Support:

243 Motorist expectations for facilities providing alternative fuels, e.g. EV Charging, compressed
244 natural gas, liquefied natural gas, liquefied propane gas, and hydrogen, vary considerably and
245 alternative fuel vehicles may have different needs than conventional fuel vehicles.

246 Option:

247 The policy criteria for alternative fuel vehicles may vary from other conventional fuel
248 facilities, taking into account motorist needs, convenience and safety.

249 **Standard:**

250 For any service that is operated on a seasonal basis only, the General Service signs shall
251 be removed or covered during periods when the service is not available.

252 The General Service signs shall be mounted in an effective location, between the
253 Advance Guide sign and the Exit Direction sign, in advance of the exit leading to the
254 available services.

255 *Guidance:*

256 *Where general service signs are used along routes with exit numbering, the General Service*
257 *sign should ~~display include~~ the exit number, ~~if applicable~~ either within the sign face or on an*
258 *Exit Number (E1-5p) plaque, as shown in Figure 2I-3.*

259 (revisions for clarity)

260 *Option:*

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

264 **Standard:**

265 Signs for services shall comply with the format for General Service signs (see Section
266 2I.02) and as provided in this Manual. No more than six general road user services shall be
267 displayed on one sign, which includes any appended supplemental signs or plaques.

268 General Service signs shall display the legends for one or more of the following services:

269 Food, Gas, Lodging, Camping, Phone, Hospital, 24-Hour Pharmacy, or Tourist

270 Information.

271 The qualified services available shall be displayed at specific locations on the sign.

272 *Guidance:*

273 *To provide for future services that might become available, the sign space normally reserved*
274 *for a given service symbol or word should be left blank when that service is not present.*

275 *The standard display of word messages should be FOOD and PHONE in that order on the*
276 *top line, and GAS and LODGING on the second line. If used, HOSPITAL, 24-HR PHARMACY,*
277 *and CAMPING should be on separate lines (see Figure 2I-3).*

278 *Option:*

279 Signing for DIESEL, LP- GAS, or other alternative fuel services may be substituted for any
280 of the general services or appended to such signs. The International Symbol of Accessibility for
281 the Handicapped (D9-6) sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be used for facilities that qualify.

282 *Guidance:*

283 *When symbols are used for the road user services, they should be displayed as follows:*

284 *A. Six services:*

285 *1. Top row—GAS, FOOD, and LODGING*

286 *2. Bottom row—PHONE, HOSPITAL, and CAMPING*

287 *B. Four services:*

288 *1. Top row—GAS and FOOD*

289 *2. Bottom row—LODGING and PHONE*

290 *C. Three services:*

291 *1. Top row—GAS, FOOD, and LODGING*

292 *Option:*

293 Substitutions of other services for any of the services described in Paragraph 18 may be made
294 by placing the substitution in the lower right (four or six services) or extreme right (three
295 services) portion of the sign. An action message or an interchange number may be used for

296 symbol signs in the same manner as they are used for word message signs. The Diesel Fuel (D9-
297 11) symbol or the LP-Gas (D9-11d) symbol may be substituted for the symbol representing fuel
298 or appended to such assemblies. The Tourist Information (D9-10) symbol or the 24-Hour
299 Pharmacy (D9-20 and D9-20aP) symbol may be substituted on any of the configurations
300 provided in Paragraph 18.

301 At rural interchange areas where limited road user services are available and where it is
302 unlikely that additional services will be provided within the near future, a supplemental plaque
303 (D9-18dP) displaying one to three services (words or symbols) may be mounted below a post-
304 mounted interchange Advance guide sign.

305 **Standard:**

306 **If more than three services become available at rural interchange areas where limited**
307 **road user services were anticipated, the appended supplemental plaque described in**
308 **Paragraph 20 shall be removed and replaced with an independently mounted General**
309 **Service sign as described in this Section.**

310 **Option:**

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

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

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

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

320

321

322 **Section 2I.04 Comments: NCUTCD agrees with 2I.04 as presented in the NPA.**

323

324 **Section 2I.04 Interstate Oasis Signing (D5-12 Series)**

325 **Support:**

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

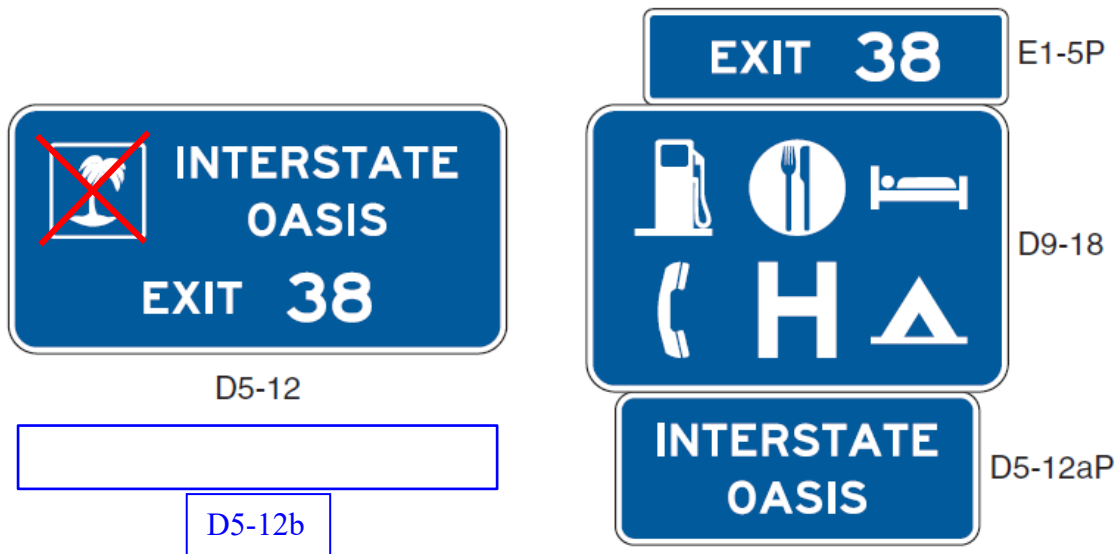
336 **Guidance:**

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

341 States electing to provide or allow Interstate Oasis signing should use the following signing
342 practices on the freeway for any given exit to identify the availability of a designated Interstate
343 Oasis:

- 344 A. If adequate sign spacing allows, a separate Interstate Oasis (D5-12) sign should be
345 installed in an effective location with spacing of at least 800 feet from other adjacent
346 guide signs, including any Specific Service signs. This Interstate Oasis sign should be
347 located upstream from the Advance Guide sign or between the Advance Guide sign and
348 the Exit Direction sign for the exit leading to the Interstate Oasis. The Interstate Oasis
349 sign should display the words INTERSTATE OASIS and the exit number or, for an
350 unnumbered interchange, an action message such as NEXT RIGHT.
- 351 B. If the spacing of the other guide signs precludes the use of a separate sign as described in
352 Item A, an INTERSTATE OASIS (D5-12aP) supplemental plaque should be mounted
353 below an existing D9-18 series General Service sign for the interchange.
354

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



355 NCUTCD recommends revising Figure 2I-4 which still shows the Oasis symbol in the D5-12
356 sign which is proposed to be removed. In addition, the new Interstate Oasis Directional (D5-
357 12b) does not appear in Figure 2I-4 and should be included.

358 Option:

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

362 If Specific Service signing is not provided at the interchange, the name of the business
363 designated as an Interstate Oasis may be displayed on a business identification sign panel, in
364 compliance with the provisions of Sections 2J.03 through 2J.05, below the INTERSTATE
365 OASIS legend on the D5-12 sign.

366 Standard:

367 If Specific Service signs containing the OASIS legend as a part of the business logo(s)
368 are not used on the ramp and if the Interstate Oasis is not clearly visible and identifiable
369

370 from the exit ramp, an Interstate Oasis Directional (D5-12b) sign shall be provided on the
371 exit ramp to indicate the direction and distance to the Interstate Oasis.

372 If needed, additional trailblazer guide signs shall be used along the crossroad to guide
373 road users to an Interstate Oasis.
374

375
376 **Section 2I.05 Comments:** NCUTCD agrees with 2I.05 as presented in the NPA.
377

378 **Section 2I.05 Rest Area and Other Roadside Area Signs (D5-1 through D5-11 series)**
379 **Standard:**

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

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

384 *Guidance:*

385 *A roadside area that does not contain restroom facilities should be signed to indicate the*
386 *major road user service that is provided. For example, the sign legends for an area with only*
387 *parking should use the words PARKING AREA (D5-9 series) instead of REST AREA. The sign*
388 *legends for an area with only picnic tables and parking should use words such as PICNIC*
389 *AREA, ROADSIDE TABLE, or ROADSIDE PARK (D5-10 series) instead of REST AREA.*

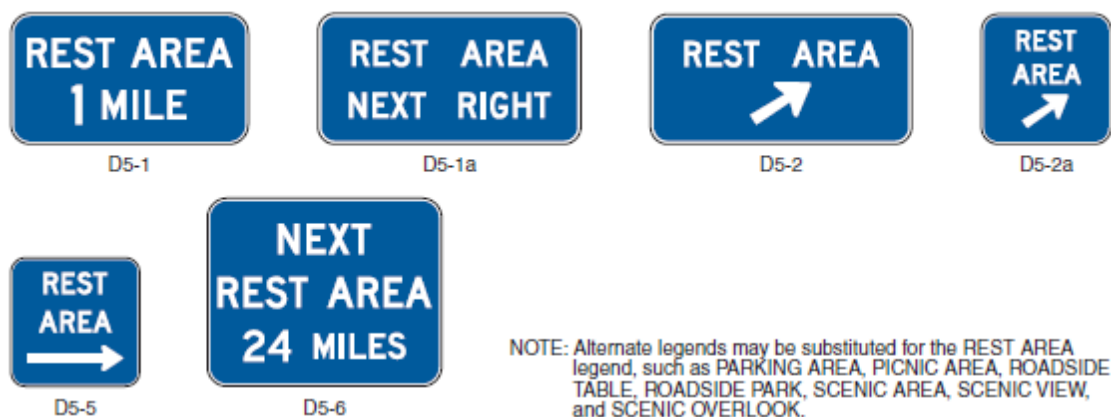
390 *Rest areas that have tourist information and welcome centers should be signed as provided*
391 *in Section 2I.08.*

392 *Scenic area signing should be consistent with that provided for rest areas, except that the*
393 *legends should use words such as SCENIC AREA, SCENIC VIEW, or SCENIC OVERLOOK*
394 *(D5-11 series) instead of REST AREA.*

395 *If a rest area or other roadside area is provided on a conventional road, a D5-1 and/or D5-*
396 *1a sign should be installed in advance of the rest area or other roadside area to permit the*
397 *driver to reduce speed in preparation for leaving the highway. A D5-5 sign (or a D5-2 sign if an*
398 *exit ramp is provided) should be installed at the turnoff point where the driver needs to leave the*
399 *highway to access the rest area or other roadside area.*

400 *If a rest area or other roadside area is provided on a freeway or expressway, a D5-1 sign*
401 *should be placed 1 mile and/or 2 miles in advance of the rest area.*
402

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



403
404 **NCUTCD agrees with Figure 2I-5 as shown in the NPA.**

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Standard:

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

Option:

A 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 D5-1a 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.

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:

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:

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.

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.

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.

Section 2I.06 Comments: NCUTCD agrees with 2I.06 as presented in the NPA.

Section 2I.06 Brake Check Area Signs (D5-13, D5-14)

Guidance:

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.

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



NCUTCD agrees with Figure 2I-6 as shown in the NPA.

446 **Section 2I.07 Comments:** NCUTCD agrees with 2I.07 as presented in the NPA.

447
448 **Section 2I.07 Chain-Up Area Signs (D5-15, D5-16)**

449 *Guidance:*

450 *If an area has been provided for drivers to pull off of the roadway to install chains on their*
451 *tires, a CHAIN-UP AREA XX MILES (D5-15) sign (see Figure 2I-6) should be installed in*
452 *advance of the chain-up area, and a D5-16 sign (see Figure 2I-6) should be placed at the*
453 *entrance to the chain-up area.*

454
455
456 **Section 2I.08 Comments:** NCUTCD agrees with 2I.08 as presented in the NPA.

457
458 **Section 2I.08 Tourist Information and Welcome Center Signs (D5-7 Series, D5-8)**

459 *Support:*

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

464 *Guidance:*

465 *The number of supplemental sign panels installed with Tourist Information or Welcome*
466 *Center signs should be limited to three so as not to impose an undue informational load on the*
467 *road user.*

468 **Standard:**

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

472 **If operated only on a seasonal basis, the Tourist Information or Welcome Center signs**
473 **shall be removed or covered during the off seasons.**

474 *Guidance:*

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

- 477 *A. The locations for tourist information and welcome center Advance Guide, Exit Direction,*
478 *and Exit Gore signs should meet the General Service signing requirements described in*
479 *Section 2I.03.*
- 480 *B. If the signing for the tourist information or welcome center is to be accomplished in*
481 *conjunction with the initial signing for the rest areas, the message on the Advance Guide*
482 *(D5-7) sign should be REST AREA, TOURIST INFO CENTER, XX MILES or REST*
483 *AREA, STATE NAME (optional), WELCOME CENTER XX MILES. On the Exit Direction*
484 *(D5-8 or D5-11) sign the message should be REST AREA, TOURIST INFO CENTER*
485 *with a diagonally upward-pointing directional arrow (or NEXT RIGHT), or REST AREA,*
486 *STATE NAME (optional), WELCOME CENTER with a diagonally upward pointing*
487 *directional arrow (or NEXT RIGHT).*
- 488 *C. If the initial rest area Advance Guide and Exit Direction signing is in place, these signs*
489 *should include, on supplemental signs, the legend TOURIST INFO CENTER or STATE*
490 *NAME (optional), WELCOME CENTER.*

491 D. The Exit Gore sign should contain only the legend REST AREA with the arrow and
492 should not be supplemented with any legend pertaining to the tourist information center
493 or welcome center.

494 Option:

495 As an alternative to the supplemental TOURIST INFO CENTER legend, the Tourist
496 Information (D9-10) sign (see Figure 2I-1) may be appended beneath the REST AREA advance
497 guide sign.

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

502 Guidance:

503 For tourist information centers that are located off the freeway or expressway facility,
504 additional signing criteria should be as follows:

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

512 Option:

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

516

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.

517 NCUTCD agrees with Figure 2I-7 as shown in the NPA.
518
519

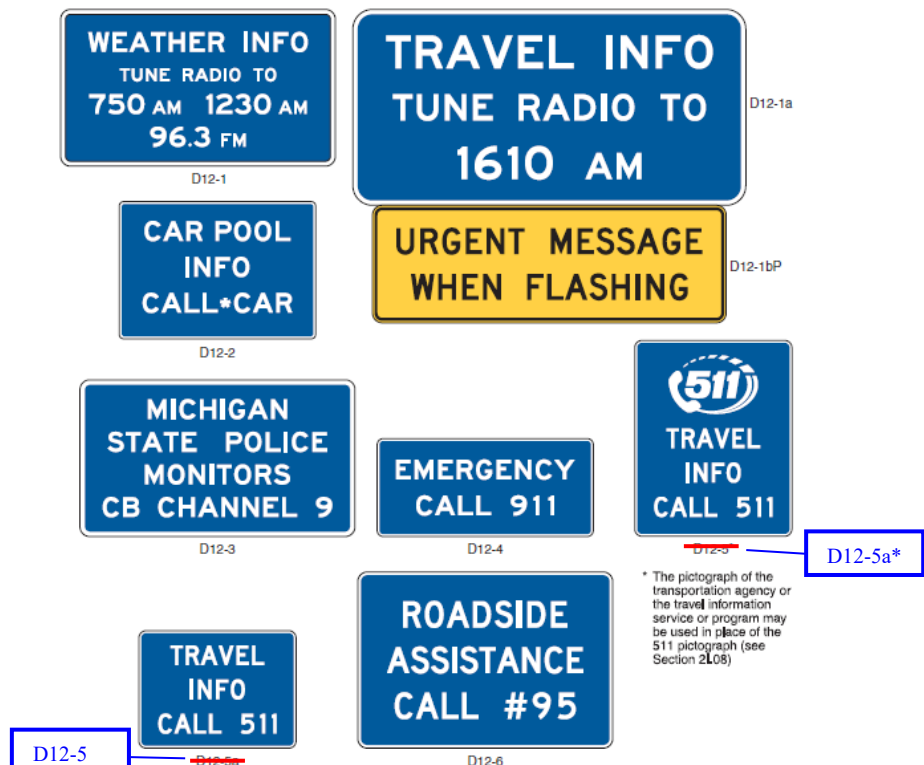
520 **Section 2I.09 Comments:** NCUTCD agrees with 2I.09 as presented in the NPA.
521
522

523 **Section 2I.09 Radio Information Signing (D12-1 Series)**

524 Option:

525 Radio-Weather Information (D12-1) signs (see Figure 2I-8) may be used in areas where
 526 difficult driving conditions commonly result from weather systems. Radio-Traffic Information
 527 (D12-1a) signs may be used in conjunction with traffic management systems.
 528

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



529
 530 NCUTCD generally agrees with Figure 2I-8, but recommends swapping the D12-5 designations
 531 in order to align with the language of Section 2I.12.
 532

533 **Standard:**

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

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

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

547 *Guidance:*

548 *The radio station should have a signal strength to adequately broadcast 70 miles along the*
 549 *route. Signs should be spaced as needed for each direction of travel at distances determined by*
 550 *an engineering study. The stations to be included on the signs should be selected in cooperation*

551 with the association(s) representing major broadcasting stations in the area to provide: (1)
552 maximum coverage to all road users on both AM and FM frequencies; and (2) consideration of
553 24 hours per day, 7 days per week broadcast capability.

554 Option:

555 The Urgent Message When Flashing (D12-1bP) plaque may be mounted below the D12-1 or
556 D12-1a sign if supplemented by warning beacons (see Section 4L.03) that flash only when a
557 message related to adverse travel conditions is being broadcast.

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

560 **Standard:**

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

563

564

565 **Section 2I.10 Comments: NCUTCD agrees with 2I.10 as presented in the NPA.**

566

567 **Section 2I.10 Channel 9 Monitored Sign (D12-3)**

568 Option:

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

571 **Standard:**

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

574

575

576 **Section 2I.11 Comments: NCUTCD agrees with 2I.11 as presented in the NPA.**

577

578 **Section 2I.11 EMERGENCY CALL XX Sign (D12-4)**

579 Option:

580 An EMERGENCY CALL XX (D12-4) sign (see Figure 2I-8), along with the appropriate
581 number to call, may be used for cellular telephone communications.

582

583

584 **Section 2I.12 Comments: NCUTCD agrees with 2I.12 as presented in the NPA.**

585

586 **Section 2I.12 TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 Signs (D12-5, D12-5a)**

587 Option:

588 A TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 (D12-5, D12-5a) sign (see Figure 2I-8) may be installed if a
589 511 travel information services telephone number is available to road users for obtaining traffic,
590 public transportation, weather, construction, or road condition information.

591 The pictograph of the transportation agency or the travel information service or program that
592 is providing the travel information may be displayed in place of the 511 pictograph on the D12-
593 5a sign

594 above the TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 legend.

595 **Standard:**

596 The logo of a commercial entity shall not be incorporated within the TRAVEL INFO
597 CALL 511 signs.

598 **If the pictograph of the transportation agency or the travel information service or**
599 **program is used in place of the 511 pictograph on the D12-5a sign (see Paragraph 2), the**
600 **maximum height of the pictograph shall not exceed the height of the 511 pictograph on the**
601 **standard sign size specified for the roadway classification in Table 2H-1.**

602 The TRAVEL INFO CALL 511 signs shall have a white legend and border on a blue
603 background.

604

605

606 **Section 2I.13 Comments:** NCUTCD recommends adding an option statement specifically
607 allowing telephone numbers of up to four characters to be displayed on a Roadside Assistance
608 sign, since the existing allowance for telephone numbers on signs is proposed to be removed in
609 Section 2A.04.

610

611 **Section 2I.13 Roadside Assistance Sign (D12-6)**

612 Option:

613 A Roadside Assistance (D12-6) sign (see Figure 2I-8) may be used along a highway that is
614 served by an authorized roadside assistance program with authorized service vehicles and
615 personnel that provide roadside vehicle repair assistance to road users free of charge.

616 A Roadside Assistance sign may contain telephone numbers of no more than four characters.

617

618

619 **Section 2I.14 Comments:** NCUTCD agrees with 2I.14 as presented in the NPA.

620

621 **Section 2I.14 Carpool and Ridesharing Signing (D12-2)**

622 Option:

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

625 Carpool Information signs may include an Internet domain name or telephone number of
626 more than four characters within the legend.

627 **Standard:**

628 **If a local transit pictograph or carpool symbol is incorporated into the Carpool**
629 **Information sign, the maximum vertical dimension of the pictograph or symbol shall not**
630 **exceed 18 inches and the maximum horizontal dimension shall not exceed 30 inches.**

631

632

633 **Section 2I.15 Comments:** NCUTCD recommends revisions to 2I.15 to provide more flexibility
634 in the display of available spaces by including use of the word “LOW” rather than the actual
635 number of available spaces for situations when available spaces are limited. NCUTCD also
636 recommends modifying the design for all D9-16 series signs to have the “SPACES OPEN”
637 legend centered over the number displays of available parking spaces. NCUTCD also
638 recommends other minor edits as shown.

639

640 **Section 2I.15 Signing for Truck Parking Availability (D9-16b through D9-16e)**

641 Option:

642 General Service signs may be used to display the number of available truck parking spaces at
643 roadside areas such as rest areas, welcome centers, and weigh stations, and at facilities off a
644 highway that are open to the public and provide parking for commercial vehicles 24 hours a day,
645 seven days a week.

646 **Standard:**

647 **The Truck Parking Availability General Service (D9-16b through D9-16e) sign (see**
648 **Figure 2I-9) shall include a changeable message element with a white changeable legend on**
649 **a black opaque background that displays only the number of parking spaces currently**
650 **available at each location or the legend [LOW](#) or FULL. The upper section of the sign shall**
651 **display the Truck Parking (D9-16) symbol sign and the legend SPACES OPEN. The sign**
652 **shall display the number of available truck parking spaces for no more than three parking**
653 **facilities. Where two lines of legend, such as the location and a distance, are displayed for a**
654 **parking facility, not more than two parking facilities shall be displayed on the sign.**

655 **Where the truck parking facility is located off the main highway and is accessed from**
656 **the crossroad, directional assemblies with the Truck Parking (D9-16) sign shall be installed**
657 **along the ramp and along crossroads where the route to the facility requires a direction**
658 **change, where it is questionable as to which roadway to follow, or where additional**
659 **guidance is needed.**

660 **Support:**

661 Displaying the number of parking spaces available at a facility when the number is small
662 could result in truckers choosing to drive to a facility for parking just to find that facility full by
663 the time they arrive.

664 **Option:**

665 The word [LOW](#) or FULL in a white legend may be displayed on ~~at~~the changeable message
666 elements of a Truck Parking Space Availability General Service [sign](#) when the number of truck
667 parking spaces available at the associated facility reaches a predetermined lower threshold.

668 **Guidance:**

669 *Truck Parking Space Availability signs should be located three to five miles in advance of the*
670 *nearest parking facility. The parking facilities displayed on the sign should be no more than 60*
671 *miles from the sign location.*

672 **Support:**

673 Examples of Truck Parking Availability Signs are show in Figure 2I-9. Examples of uses of
674 Truck Parking Space Availability signs are shown in Figure 2I-10.

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Modify design for all D9-16 series signs shown.

Figure 2I-9. Examples of Truck Parking Availability Signs



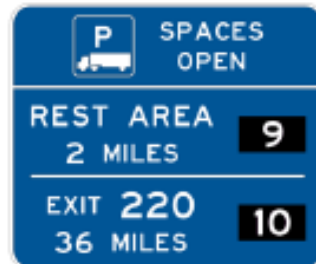
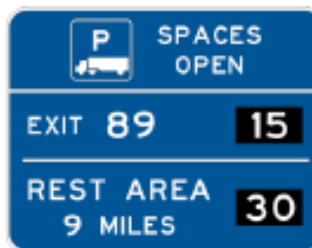
D9-16b
Reference Location Sign
Exit Numbering Method



D9-16c
Unnumbered Exits ~~or~~
~~Consecutive Exit Numbering~~



D9-16d
Rest Areas Only



D9-16e
Combined Signing for Roadside Areas
and Off-System Sites

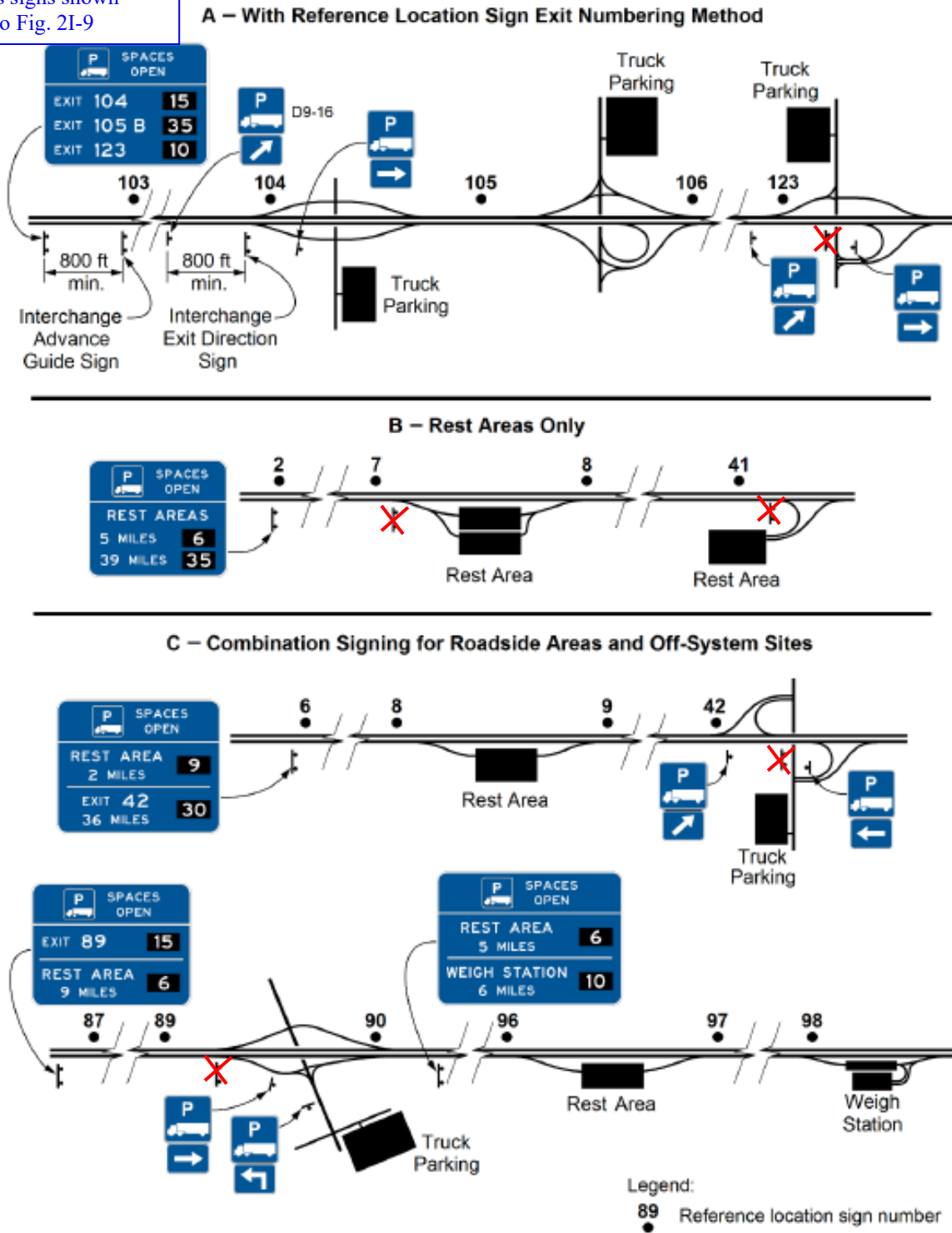


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NCUTCD recommends deleting “or Consecutive Exit Numbering” from the name of the D9-16c sign, as consecutive exit numbering is not allowed by the MUTCD. NCUTCD recommends modifying the D9-16 series sign designs so that the SPACES OPEN legend is centered over the changeable message elements of the sign.

Figure 2I-10. Examples of Use of Truck Parking Availability Signs (shown for one direction of travel)

Modify design for all D9-16 series signs shown similar to Fig. 2I-9



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NCUTCD recommends revising Figure 2I-10 to remove sign symbols that are not associated with a sign depicted in the figure.