



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**


# Memorandum

**SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

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Subject: **ACTION:** Rest Area Sponsorship  
Policy Interpretation

Date: July 8, 2011

From: <sup>For</sup> Jeffrey A. Lindley   
Associate Administrator for Operations

In Reply Refer To:  
HOTO-1

To: Division Administrators

Through this memorandum, the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Office of Operations is issuing an interpretation of our existing policy regarding the placement of acknowledgement signs for rest area sponsorship. This interpretation allows placement of signs that acknowledge sponsorship of rest areas on the mainline of the freeway or expressway. Any acknowledgement signs for rest area sponsorship placed on the mainlines of freeways or expressways are limited to one sign in advance of each exit ramp that leads to a rest area, and will be subject to all of the provisions regarding acknowledgement signs that are contained in Section 2H.08 of the 2009 edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

As per Section 2H.08 of the MUTCD, rest area sponsorship signs placed on the mainlines of freeways or expressways shall be stand-alone signs placed on their own supports (not appended to any other sign, including the advance signs for the rest area), shall be placed in a position where they do not obscure any other signs, and should be placed at least 500 feet from any other traffic control sign.

Additional rest area sponsorship signs may be placed within the rest area, provided that these signs are not visible to highway mainline traffic.

Please share this information with State and local transportation agencies in your State, and take appropriate steps to assure these agencies are compliant with Federal policies. For more information or questions regarding the FHWA's interpretation of its existing policy, contact Mr. Hari Kalla, Office of Transportation Operations, at [hari.kalla@dot.gov](mailto:hari.kalla@dot.gov) or at 202-366-5915.

cc:  
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