

South Carolina Department of Transportation  
Traffic Engineering Guidelines

**NUMBER:** TG-13

**SUBJECT:** Signing for Historic Cities

**BACKGROUND:** Freeways are designed for high speed and high volume travel making it imperative to limit signing to that which is necessary for the guidance of the motorist. Federal signing guidelines recommend a standard sequence of signs approaching each interchange. These guidelines also address adequate spacing between signs. Spacing becomes more limited when logo signing is provided at interchanges. For these reasons it is important that supplemental signing be reserved for significant traffic generators.

The Department receives many requests for directional signs on the interstates for historic cities. The MUTCD has no standards for this supplemental signing. This guideline provides recommendations for signing historic cities on the interstates and other freeways.

**GUIDELINE:**

1. Only historic cities within five miles of the interstate or other freeways will be considered for supplemental signing.
2. The city must provide a request to the Director of Traffic Engineering along with information including historical significance, focal point for information concerning historic sites, and an agreement to fund signing.
3. The review of requests for interstate signing will be made by the Director of Traffic Engineering based upon information submitted. Approved signs shall have a white border and legend on a brown background. The Director of Traffic Engineering has final approval of the sign design that shall have the legend 'historic city name'.
4. All costs associated with the fabrication, installation and maintenance of approved historic city signs including any necessary destination (brown and white) signs from the freeway to the focal point identified in section two are the responsibility of the requestor. Signs off the freeway should only be erected at the necessary intersections to guide the motorist from the freeway interchange that is signed.
5. Signing for individual historic sites or districts within a historic city will be permitted under the Department's Wayfinding signs guidelines or the LOGO program.

Approved: Richard B. Wertz  
Director of Traffic Engineering

8-29-2007  
Date