

Section 2D.2

JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARY SIGNS ON INTERSTATE AND NON-INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS

2D.2.1 DEFINITIONS

1. Jurisdictional Boundary Signs:
 - a. Standard Political Boundary Signs are highway signs designating the state line, parish line, and corporate limits.
 - b. Permitted Political Boundary Signs shall contain the official name and may contain a unique message and logo.
2. Railroad Stations, Bus Stations, and Commercial Aviation Airports: Must provide at least two scheduled movements (one-way) per day.
3. General Aviation Airports: Facility must accommodate freight, charter and private aircraft, have a minimum of five year-round based aircraft, and have a fixed based operator.
4. Hospital: Must have 24-hr inpatient treatment facilities.

2D.2.2 LEGAL

Revised Statute 32:235 requires that local governments must have Department approval to install signs in the highway right-of-way.

Revised Statute 48:348 gives the Department the authority to remove objects, including unapproved signs from the highway right-of-way.

LAC 70:701 provides criteria for the permitting of flagpoles within the highway right-of-way.

LAC 70:117 provides criteria for the permitting of landscaping within the highway right-of-way.

This policy rescinds all previous policy memorandums and EDSM on this issue.

2D.2.3 CRITERIA FOR PLACING SIGNS

Standard Political Boundary signs may be installed by DOTD on controlled and uncontrolled access routes. A local governing agency may apply for Permitted Political Boundary Signs to be installed and maintained in a community by the local governing agency. Un-incorporated communities as well as incorporated ones shall have a letter of concurrence from the parish government concurring with the name and location of the signs.

A. Standard Political Boundary Signs on Controlled Access Routes:

The Department may install Standard Political Boundary Signs (examples in Figure 2D.2.1) on controlled access routes but only at the following locations:

1. State line
2. Parish line
3. Corporate limits (city must be incorporated)

B. Standard Political Boundary Signs for Non-Controlled Access Routes:

The Department may install Standard Political Boundary Signs (examples in Figure 2D.2.1) on non-controlled access routes at the above locations as well as for political boundaries for communities which are recognized by the parish government and that have one of the following public facilities:

1. Railroad Station, Bus Station, Commercial Airport, or General Aviation Airport.
2. Post Office or Driver's License Office
3. Police or Fire Station
4. Library or Public Community Center
5. Public School, Technical College, or Private College
6. Hospital

If a community does not have one of the above facilities, it may apply for a permit.

C. Permitted Political Boundary Signs:

Any community may apply for a permit to replace existing political boundary signs located on controlled access and non-controlled access routes with Permitted Political Boundary Signs. Examples of such signs are illustrated in Figure 2D.2.2. The permit sign shall include the original boundary designation as well as a special message or approved logo such as "Keep our City Beautiful", "Welcome to Jackson", "Home of the Yellow Jackets", etc., and shall be installed and maintained by the local governing agency requesting the permitted sign.

2D.2.4 PERMITS

Only local governments will be permitted to install and maintain jurisdictional boundary signs in accordance with the provision of the Political Boundary Permit Request Form. All costs associated with the installation and maintenance of permitted signs shall be borne by the local government.

Applications for a Political Boundary Sign Permit Request may be sent to the District Office to which the requested sign would belong.

To obtain a Political Boundary permit:

1. The permit must be signed by an official of the local government requesting the sign
2. The signs shall be installed on a breakaway support
3. The following must be attached to the request:
 - a. A map illustrating where the signs will be placed
 - b. If incorporated: A legal copy of the limits of corporation showing the city or town limits
 - c. If not incorporated: A signed document by the parish government agreeing to the sign placements at the boundaries
 - d. Shop drawings illustrating the size of sign, lettering height, font, legend, and type of material (sheeting) to be used

2D.2.5 SIGN DESIGN PERMITTED

The political boundary signs are standard highway signs and shall be designed as follows:

1. The signs shall be made with green background reflective sheeting with the primary legend in white reflective sheeting in a standard font. Other legends and symbols may be in different colors, fonts, and reflective or non-reflective sheeting.
2. Signs within the clear zone shall be installed on breakaway posts or shall be installed behind existing guardrail. Breakaway posts shall be AASHTO approved.
3. The signs shall contain no commercial advertising or sponsorship.
4. Minimum letter heights for capital letters are shown below for all messages outside of a logo:
 - a. two lane roadways - 4 to 6 inches
 - b. multilane roadways, 45 mph or less - 4 to 6 inches
 - c. multilane roadways, 50 mph or greater – 6 to 8 inches
 - d. control of access roadways – 8 to 13 inches

The back of the boundary sign shall have the following information either on a weather proof sticker or written neatly in black permanent marker:

1. The proper agency to call for maintenance
2. The permit number
3. The installation date

2D.2.6 APPROVAL

Standard Sign (meets 2D.2.3.B): District Traffic Operations Engineer may approve the permit and install the sign.

Non-Standard: District Traffic Operations Engineer shall recommend for approval and Traffic Engineering Management Administrator shall approve the permit.

2D.2.7 LOCATION AND PLACEMENT

Standard and Permitted Jurisdictional Boundary signs are to be placed at the official corporate limits or as close as possible. Un-incorporated communities shall have a letter of concurrence from the parish government concurring with the name and location of the signs. Location of each sign shall be shown on the permit form and approved by the District Traffic Operations Engineer.

2D.2.8 EXAMPLES OF STANDARD POLITICAL BOUNDARY SIGNS INSTALLED BY DOTD

Figure 2D.2.1 Example of Standard Political Boundary Signs for State Limits and Corporate Limits installed by DOTD



Figure 2D.2.2 Example of a Permitted Political Boundary Sign at a Corporate Limit Installed by Permit to a Local Community



Figure 2D.2.3 Example of an Interstate Permitted Political Boundary Sign



Note: The sign is bridge-mounted sign behind rail with the legend: "Enter St. Martin Parish"