

Multi-Use Roadway Safety Grant Program

Signage Fact Sheet - January 31, 2018

How is signage addressed in the authorizing legislation?

Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1632 of 2013 requires that licensing and registration revenue to be administered by WSDOT to provide grants to local governments for erecting signs to notify the motoring public that:

- (i) Wheeled all-terrain vehicles are present or
- (ii) Wheeled all-terrain vehicles may be crossing.

The bill also states that WSDOT must prioritize grant awards in the following priority order:

- a. For the purpose of marking highway crossings with signs warning motorists that wheeled all-terrain vehicles may be crossing when an ORV recreation facility parking lot is on the other side of a public roadway from the actual ORV recreation facility; and
- b. For the purpose of marking intersections with signs where a wheeled all-terrain vehicle may cross a public road to advise motorists of the upcoming intersection. Such signs must conform to the manual on uniform control devices.

What types of signage are eligible for funding under the program?

Based on the enabling legislation, two categories of signage are eligible for funding under the Multi-use Roadway Safety Account grants program – warning signs and route markers. Both a discussion of and examples of each of these sign categories are presented below.

What types of warning signs are approved for use in the program?

FHWA's MUTCD standards require that any new symbol (such as an image of an all-terrain vehicle) used on regulatory and warning signs go through experimentation, approval and testing, which at present has not been done for any ATV symbols/images. Consequently, an ATV symbol may **not** be used on warning signs. The following signs do comply with MUTCD standards and have been approved by WSDOT for use under the MURSA grant program. Changes to the background color may be required for signs installed along roads on federal lands (e.g. National Forests). The diamond shape sign sizes are: state highways are 36"X36" and on city streets/county roads are 30"X30". The supplemental plaque sign size is 30"X18".



What kinds of route markers are approved for use in the program?

Route markers are required to adhere to MUTCD standards, but do not require FHWA approval. Therefore the ATV image/symbol may be used on route marker signage. Changes to the background color may be required for signs that are used along roads on federal and state lands (e.g. National Forests).



How much do warning signs and route markers cost?

The estimated cost to fabricate signs by the WSDOT sign shop is \$21 per sq. ft. (including state sales tax). The estimated cost for a warning sign assembly with a 30"x30" diamond sign and a 30"x18" plaque is \$194 (including state sales tax). The estimated cost to fabricate a 24"x24" route marker is \$83 and the cost of a 30"x30" route marker is \$129 (including tax).

The estimated cost to install a sign on a new post with mounting hardware (bolts, nuts, & washers) with labor is \$160 to \$285/sign, depending on the amount of travel required for the installer to reach the project site.

Who is responsible for installing and maintaining signs within the WSDOT Right of Way?

There are two options for installing signs *within the right of way of a state highway*. The first option is to have a WSDOT maintenance crew to do the installation -- questions on the cost of the installation should be directed to the WSDOT Region Traffic Engineer. The second option is for the local agency to have their own public works crew install the sign – *county* public works must obtain a General Permit from the WSDOT Region Maintenance prior to the installation of any signs; *city* public works must contact the WSDOT Region Traffic Engineer for approval of sign locations prior to installation of the sign(s) when there is access control. Maintenance responsibility for signs will be assigned either to WSDOT or the local agency through the discussion with the Region Traffic Engineer.