



## Department of Transportation

Division of Operations

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Mr. Greg Fuller  
Director of Operations  
South Dakota Department of Transportation  
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Subject: Purple Heart Signing

The Department has been contacted requesting the DOT adopt a policy on signing for entities designated by the Purple Heart Trail Program. Attached is a draft proposal of a policy for the Transportation Commission's consideration.

Sincerely,

Christina Bennett, PE  
Operations Traffic Engineer  
South Dakota Department of Transportation  
Pierre, SD 57501

## Purple Heart Signing

### Purpose

To provide guidance for the installation of signs recognizing Purple Heart entities designated by the Military Order of the Purple Heart as part of their Purple Heart Trail Program.

### Procedure

#### I. Requests for Purple Heart Sign Installation

Various types of entities came become designated as Purple Heart Entities. In South Dakota, Purple Heart entities will receive signs from the Military Order of the Purple Heart. The DOT will install signs on state highways at designated Purple Heart Community, County, and Tribal Reservation boundaries. These signs will be installed on the existing supports of the boundary signs. Signs will not be installed on Interstate. Signs for all other designated entities will not be allowed in the state highway right of way.

<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Action(s)</b>
Region Traffic Engineer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All requests for installing Purple Heart signs will be directed to the appropriate Region Traffic Engineer.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If the requesting entity is not a community, county, or tribal reservation, the request for installation of signing in state highway right-of-way will be denied.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. For designated communities:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. DOT will install up to two (2) Purple Heart signs if only one state highway route enters a community.</li> <li>b. DOT will install up to four (4) Purple Heart signs if more than one state highway route enters a community.</li> <li>c. If there are more than two state highway routes entering a community, then the requesting entity will choose the desired routes for installation of the signs.</li> <li>d. Purple Heart signs will be installed on the existing supports under the community's townboards at the community boundary.</li> <li>e. Purple Heart signs will not be installed on Interstate.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. For designated counties:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. DOT will install up to four (4) Purple Heart signs on state highway routes entering a county.</li> <li>b. If there are more than two state highway routes entering a county, then the requesting entity will choose the desired routes for installation of the signs.</li> <li>c. Purple Heart signs will be installed on the existing supports under the county sign at each boundary.</li> <li>d. Purple Heart signs will not be installed on Interstate.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

4. For designated Tribal Reservations:
  - a. DOT will install up to four (4) Purple Heart signs on state highway routes entering a tribal reservation.
  - b. If there are more than two state highway routes entering a tribal reservation, then the requesting entity will choose the desired routes for installation of the signs.
  - c. Purple Heart signs will be installed on the existing supports under the tribal reservation sign at each boundary.
  - d. Purple Heart signs will not be installed on Interstate.
5. Allowable Purple Heart signs will be:
  - i. Provided by the requesting entity.
  - ii. No larger than 18" x 24" in size.
6. Replacement Purple Heart signs will be provided by the requesting entity.



**Figure 1.**  
Example  
Purple Heart  
Sign for a  
Community