

# **SECTION 3**

## **ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS**

June 2009

**ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS**

June 2009

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### 3. ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

#### 3.1 GENERAL

Exits are normally located on the left hand side of the carriageway. Where an exit is located on the right hand side of the carriageway overhead mounted signs will be required and special consideration should be given to their location to ensure they are clearly visible to approaching drivers.

Normally, two advance exit signs are provided for each exit. These are located at 2 kilometres and 1 kilometre in advance of the exit nose. However, in urban conditions the number of advance exit signs and their locations in relation to each exit is often dependent on the distance between successive exits. The desirable minimum advance exit sign locations in urban areas are 1 kilometre and 500 metres.

Overhead mounted signs will be necessary in some situations, e.g. on heavily trafficked roads that have a sub-standard exit and/or general road alignment, and they must be installed on one-way carriageways with three or more lanes.

Where relevant, route markers and cardinal directions shall be shown. Refer to Sections 1.10 and 1.11 for more details on route markers and cardinal directions.

Sign legends should normally be centre justified and no more than four lines of legend, i.e. route marker(s), destination names, distances, traffic instructions and lane assignment arrows, shall be displayed on advance exit and exit direction signs.

Where exit numbering is implemented supplementary exit number plates shall be provided on all advance exit, exit direction and exit signs. Refer to Section 1.12 for exit numbering details and the location of exit number plates on exit and supplementary destination guide signs.

At the interchange prior to the beginning of a toll road, the alternative free route shall be clearly indicated on advance exit, exit direction and exit signs.

Signs for two-lane and lane drop exits shall conform to the layouts shown with a full width yellow lower panel containing the words 'EXIT ONLY', and an M4 lane assignment arrow when appropriate. Separate yellow 'EXIT' and 'ONLY' panels shall only be used to retrofit existing signs to warn of a lane drop situation ahead.

#### 3.2 ADVANCE EXIT SIGNS

##### 3.2.1 GENERAL

Where relevant, route markers shall be shown on exit direction signs and they shall be centre justified above the destination name(s). This position also allows for a cardinal direction to be added alongside the route marker, if required in the future.

Where a route marker combined with a cardinal direction on its right hand side is to be shown the combination shall be centre justified above the destination name(s).

Only M4 lane assignment arrows, detailed in FIGURE 1.7, shall be used on overhead mounted advance exit signs.

Where exit numbering is implemented a supplementary exit number plate shall be added to each advance exit sign. Refer to Section 1.12 for exit numbering details and the location of exit number plates.

##### 3.2.2 GROUND MOUNTED SIGNS

Ground mounted advance exit signs should be located at approximately 2 kilometres and 1 kilometre in advance of the exit nose and contain traffic instructions 'EXIT 2 km' on the first sign and 'EXIT 1 km' or 'LEFT LANE' on the second sign.

Where it is impracticable to locate the first advance exit sign at 2 kilometres, e.g. in urban conditions, it may be moved closer to the exit. The reduced sign location distance should be, in order of preference, 1.5 kilometres, 1 kilometre or a multiple of 100 metres for a distance less than a kilometre. In these situations the traffic instruction will be 'EXIT 1.5 km', 'EXIT 1 km' or 'EXIT 'X00 m'.

The second advance exit sign should be located at approximately half the distance shown on the first advance exit sign. It may be an MI - 1 sign displaying the traffic instruction 'EXIT 800 m', 'EXIT 500 m', 'EXIT 'X00 m' or the alternative MI - 2 second advance exit sign displaying the traffic instruction 'LEFT LANE', when this is considered to be the most appropriate sign message. All distances shall be rounded up to the nearest 100 metres.

All lines of legend shall be centre justified with desirable horizontal border clearances of:

- 300 mm for destinations; and
- at least 200 mm to a traffic instruction or a distance.

FIGURES 3.1 and 3.2 illustrate typical ground mounted advance exit signs.

FIGURES 3.3 and 3.4 illustrate MI - 1 ground mounted advance exit direction signs erected prior to a toll road. The former includes inset panels indicating the 'FREE ROUTE' and 'TOLL ROAD' whereas the latter just includes an inset panel indicating the 'FREE ROUTE'. Where cardinal directions are used within the region and there is a toll road, the relevant cardinal direction shall be included in the inset panel after the word 'ROUTE' e.g. 'FREE ROUTE SOUTH'.

FIGURE 3.5 shows alternative distance dimensioning details.

##### 3.2.3 OVERHEAD MOUNTED SIGNS

###### (a) General

***For aesthetic and appearance reasons, when an overhead gantry displays more than one sign, all signs shall have:***

- ***the same corner radius of 150 mm; and***
- ***their bases aligned to a common horizontal line.***

Overhead mounted advance exit signs should be located at approximately 2 kilometres and 1 kilometre in advance of the exit nose and contain the traffic instructions 'EXIT 2 km' on the first sign and 'EXIT 1 km' or 'LEFT LANE' on the second sign.

Where it is impracticable to locate the first advance exit sign at 2 kilometres, e.g. in urban conditions, it may be moved closer to the exit. The reduced sign location distance should be, in order of preference, 1.5 kilometres, 1 kilometre or a multiple of 100 metres for a distance less than a kilometre. In these situations the traffic instruction will be 'EXIT 1.5 km', 'EXIT 1 km' or 'EXIT 'X00 m'.

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The second advance exit sign should be located at approximately half the distance shown on the first advance exit sign. It may be an MI - 10 sign displaying the traffic instruction 'EXIT 800 m', 'EXIT 500 m', 'EXIT 'X00 m' or the alternative MI - 11.1 second advance exit sign displaying the traffic instruction 'LEFT LANE', when this is considered to be the most appropriate sign message. The 'LEFT LANE' MI - 11.1 alternative is shown in FIGURE 3.9. All distances shall be rounded up to the nearest 100 metres.

On wide urban motorways carrying high traffic volumes drivers may need more time to manoeuvre safely into a left exit lane. Extra manoeuvre time may be provided, where practicable, by erecting an additional advance exit sign approximately 3 kilometres in advance of the exit. These signs shall display the traffic instruction 'EXIT 3 km'.

### (b) Lane assignment arrows

Lane assignment arrows should not normally be used on overhead mounted advance exit signs. However, where there are sight distance deficiencies, high traffic volumes combined with less than desirable alignments and/or complicated exit arrangements their use may be considered.

In some special circumstances lane assignment arrows are recommended or specified for more efficient traffic management reasons, e.g. at closely spaced exits where some signs incorporate lane assignment arrows and at lane drop exits where a lane assignment arrow is incorporated into the special yellow 'EXIT ONLY' panel.

Lane assignment arrows shall be vertically positioned  $\pm 150$  mm over the centreline(s) of the lane(s) to which they refer.

All sign legend shall be centre justified with desirable horizontal clearances of:

- 400 mm for destinations; and
- at least 250 mm to a traffic instruction or distance.

Typical examples of overhead mounted advance exit signs are illustrated in FIGURES 3.8, 3.9 and 3.10.

FIGURE 3.11 illustrates the use of an inset tourist information panel and a lane assignment arrow.

FIGURE 3.12 illustrates an 'EXIT ONLY' panel with a lane assignment arrow and the change that this requires in the location of the exit distance on the sign.

FIGURE 3.13 shows alternative dimensioning distance details.

### (c) Multiple Off Lane Exits and Diverges

Multiple off lane exits and diverges means two or more lanes.

MI - 13 diagrammatic advance exit signs shall be used at two-lane exits and diverges:

- an inset yellow 'EXIT ONLY' panel must be shown on all relevant signs for a two-lane exit where:
  - an auxiliary lane is developed on the left side of the through carriageway some distance in advance of the exit, or
  - it is not readily obvious to drivers that the left lane is not part of the continuing through route carriageway.
- Yellow 'EXIT ONLY' panels shall not be shown on signs for diverge exits.

The optional ground mounted supplementary MI - 5 'LEFT LANE, EXIT ONLY' sign, shown in FIGURE 3.7, may also be used where it is considered desirable to remind drivers that the left lane is not part of the through route carriageway. This sign should be located approximately midway between the second advance exit sign and the exit direction sign.

The signing required at two-lane exits and diverges is illustrated in FIGURES 2.11 and 2.12.

Typical diagrammatic advance exit signs for a two lane exit and a diverge are shown in FIGURES 3.14 and 3.15, respectively.

### (d) Closely Spaced Exits

Specialised overhead mounted advance exit signing is required for closely spaced exits. This signing is described in Section 2.4 4 and illustrated on the typical layouts shown in FIGURES 2.9 (a) and (b).

Examples of advance exit signs used in these situations are shown in FIGURES 3.10 and 3.11.

### (e) Lane Drop Exits

MI - 11.1 and MI - 12.1 advance exit signs with full width yellow 'EXIT ONLY' panels and black M4 lane assignment arrows must be used in all lane drop situations. A typical MI - 12.1 sign is shown in FIGURE 3.12.

The optional ground mounted supplementary MI - 5 'LEFT LANE, EXIT ONLY' sign, shown in FIGURE 3.7, may also be erected when it is considered desirable to remind drivers that the left lane is not part of the through route carriageway. This sign should be located approximately midway between the second advance exit sign and the exit direction sign.

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

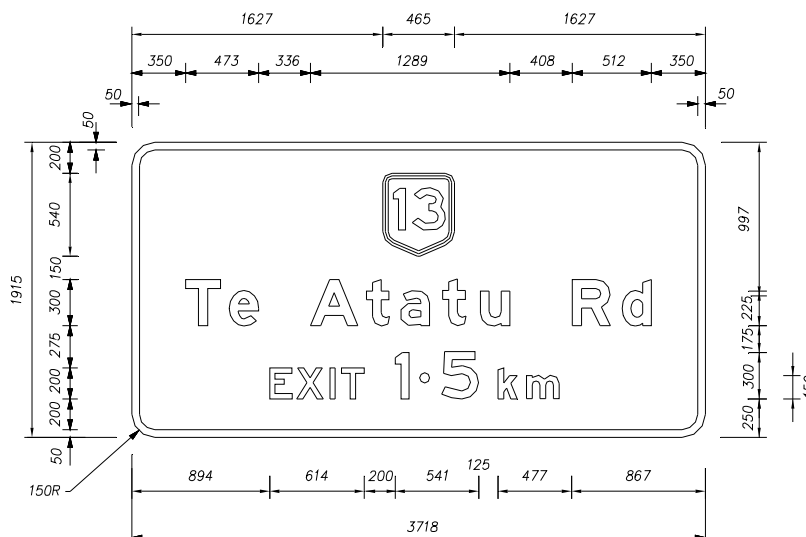
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MI - 1

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
Destinations:	
Initial capital	Modified Series E 300
Lower case	Modified Series E 225 loop height
'EXIT'	Series E 200
'km' or 'm'	Modified Series E 150 loop height
<b>NUMERALS:</b>	
'1', '1.5', '2', etc	Modified Series E 300
'X00'	Series E 250
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)



NOTE: Ground mounted sign.

MI - 1 ADVANCE EXIT SIGN

FIGURE 3.1

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

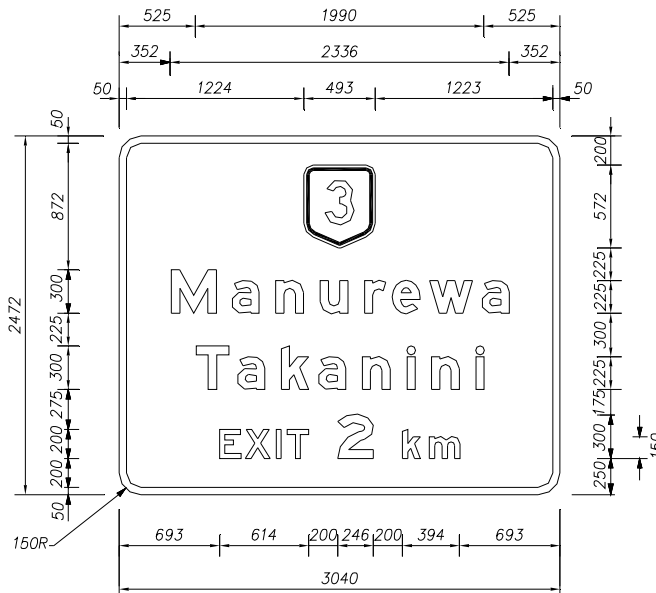
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MI - 1

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
Destinations:	
Initial capital	Modified Series E 300
Lower case	Modified Series E 225 loop height
'EXIT'	Series E 200
'km' or 'm'	Modified Series E 150 loop height
<b>NUMERALS:</b>	
'1', '1-5', '2', etc	Modified Series E 300
'X00'	Series E 250
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)



- NOTES:
1. Ground mounted sign
  2. Two destinations shown.

**FIGURE 3.2 MI - 1 ADVANCE EXIT SIGN WITH A ROUTE MARKER AND TWO DESTINATIONS**

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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MI - 1

SIGN DETAILS

LEGEND:

- Main Panel Reflectorisred white
- 'Free Route' Inset Panel Black
- 'Toll Road' Inset Panel Yellow

BACKGROUND:

- Main Panel Reflectorisred standard green
- 'Free Route' Inset Panel Reflectorisred white
- 'Toll Road' Inset Panel Reflectorisred blue

BORDER:

- Reflectorisred white

ROUTE MARKER: Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)

LETTERS:

- Destinations:
  - Initial capital
  - Lower case
- 'EXIT'
- 'TOLL ROAD'
- 'FREE ROUTE'
- 'km' or 'm'

NUMERALS:

- '1', '1.5', '2', etc
- 'X00'

- Modified Series E 300
- Modified Series E 225 loop height
- Series E 200
- Series E 200
- Modified Series E 150 loop height

- Modified Series E 300
- Series E 250



NOTES: Ground mounted sign.

MI - 1 DIAGRAMMATIC ADVANCE EXIT SIGN WITH 'TOLL ROAD' AND 'FREE ROUTE' PANELS

FIGURE 3.3

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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MI - 1

SIGN DETAILS

LEGEND:

Main Panel Reflectorisred white  
Inset Panel Black

BACKGROUND:

Main Panel Reflectorisred standard green  
Inset Panel Reflectorisred white

BORDER:

Reflectorisred white

NUMERALS:

'1', '1.5', '2', etc Modified Series E 300  
'X00' Series E 250

ROUTE MARKER:

Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)

LETTERS:

Destinations:

Initial capital Modified Series E 300  
Lower case Modified Series E 225 loop height

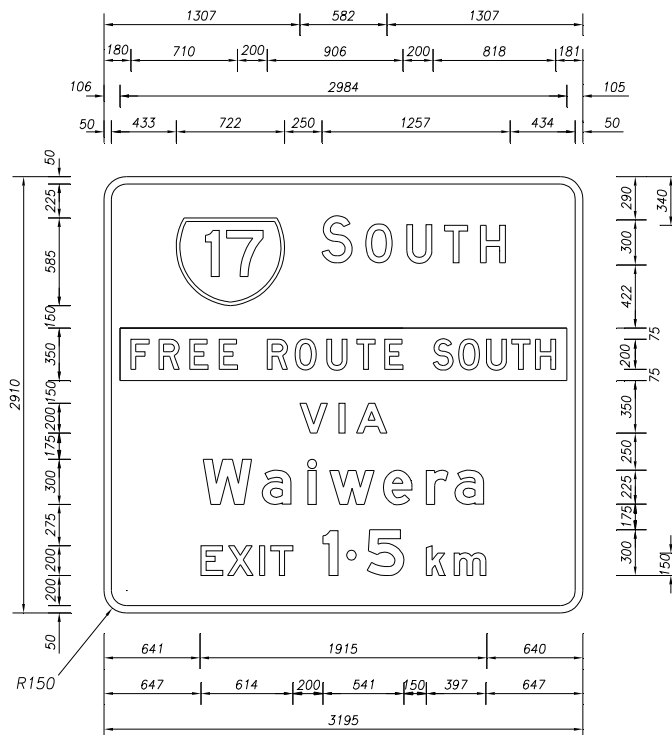
Cardinal Directions:

First letter Series E 300  
Rest of letters Series E 250

'EXIT'

'FREE ROUTE SOUTH' Series E 200

'km' or 'm' Modified Series E 150 loop height



NOTES:

1. Ground mounted sign
2. Two destinations shown

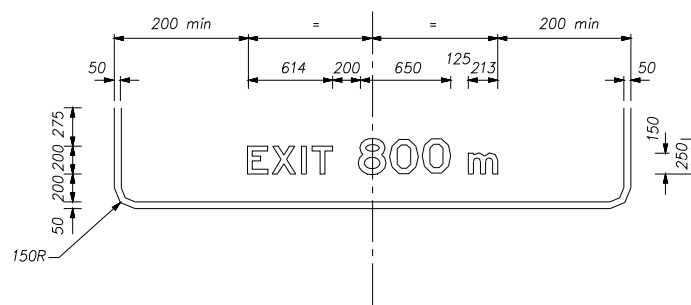
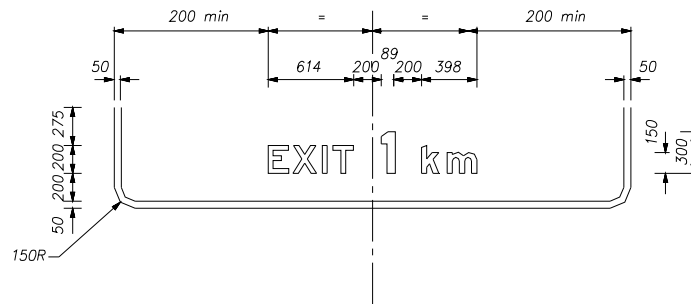
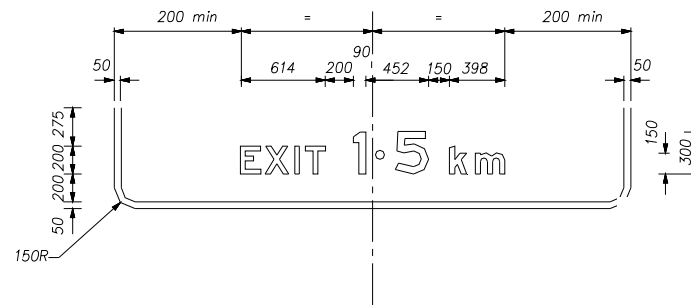
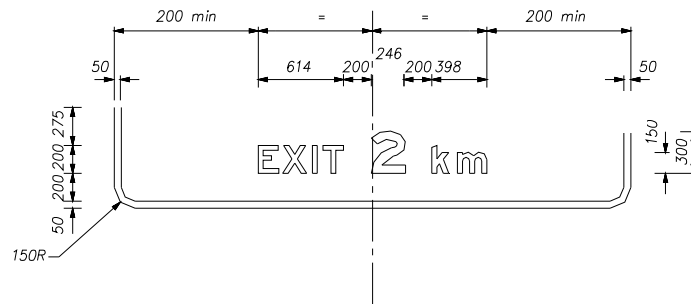
FIGURE 3.4

MI - 1 ADVANCE EXIT SIGNS  
ALTERNATIVE DISTANCE DETAILS



ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
'EXIT'	Series E 200
'km' or 'm'	Modified Series E 150 loop height
<b>NUMERALS:</b>	
'1', '1.5', '2', etc	Modified Series E 300
'X00'	Series E 250

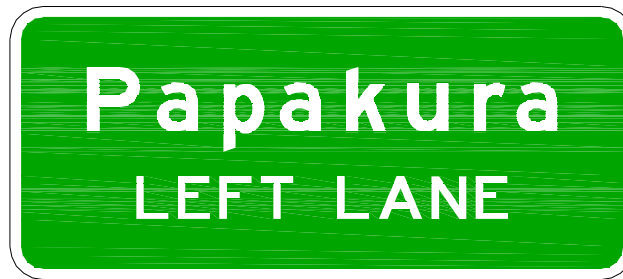
NOTE: Ground mounted sign.

MI - 1 ADVANCE EXIT SIGNS  
ALTERNATIVE DISTANCE DETAILS

FIGURE 3.5

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

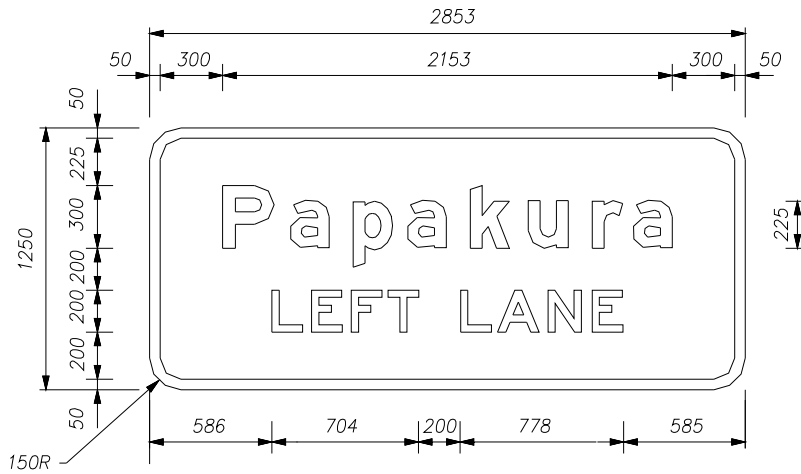
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MI - 2

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
Destination:	
Initial capital	Modified Series E 300
Lower case	Modified Series E 225 loop height
'LEFT LANE'	Series E 200
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)



NOTE: Ground Mounted Sign.

**FIGURE 3.6 MI - 2 SECOND ADVANCE EXIT SIGN 'LEFT LANE' ALTERNATIVE**

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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MI - 5

SIGN DETAILS

LEGEND:

Main Panel Reflectorisred white  
Exit Only Panel Black

BACKGROUND:

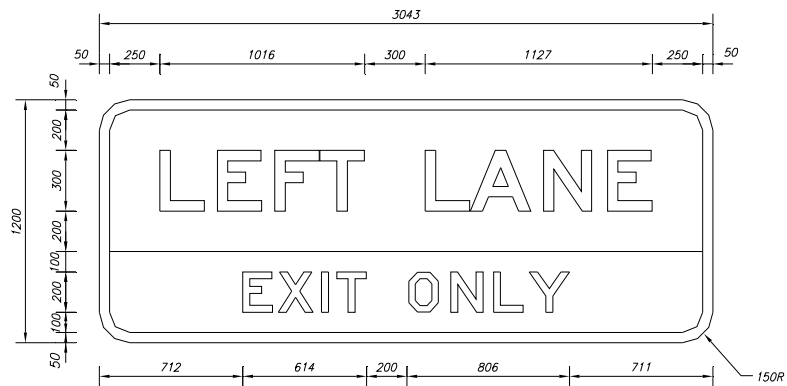
Main Panel Reflectorisred standard green  
Exit Only Panel Reflectorisred yellow

BORDER:

Reflectorisred white

LETTERS:

'LEFT LANE' Series E 300  
'EXIT ONLY' Series E 200



NOTE Ground mounted sign.

MI - 5 SUPPLEMENTARY ADVANCE EXIT SIGN  
'LEFT LANE - EXIT ONLY'

FIGURE 3.7

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

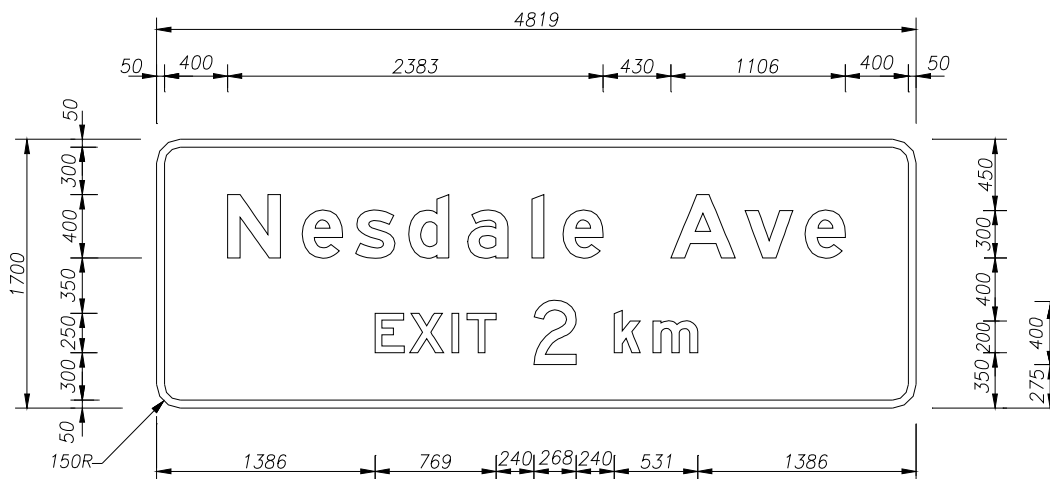
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MI - 10

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
Destinations:	
Initial capital	Modified Series E 400
Lower case	Modified Series E 300 loop height
EXIT'	Series E 250
'km' or 'm'	Modified Series E 200 loop height
<b>NUMERALS:</b>	
'1', '1.5', '2', etc	Modified Series E 400
'X00'	Series E 300
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)



NOTE: Overhead mounted sign.

FIGURE 3.8

MI - 10 ADVANCE EXIT SIGN

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

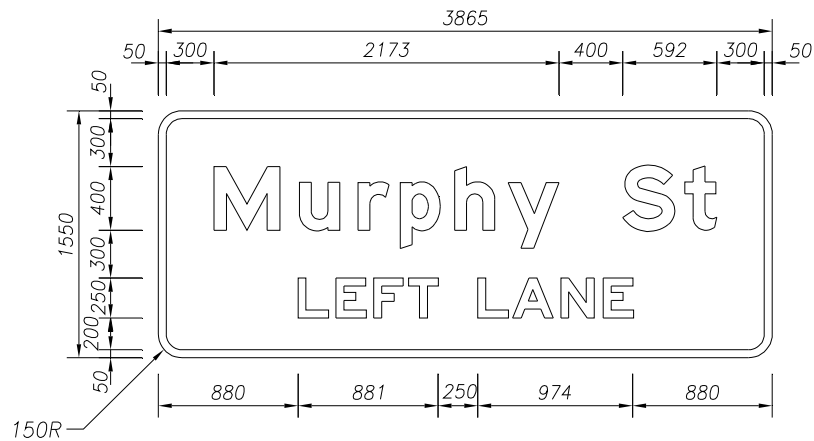
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MI – 11.1

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
Destination:	
Initial capital	Modified Series E 400
Lower case	Modified Series E 300 loop height
'LEFT LANE'	Series E 250
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)



NOTE: Overhead Mounted Sign.

MI – 11.1 SECOND ADVANCE EXIT SIGN  
'LEFT LANE' ALTERNATIVE

FIGURE 3.9

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

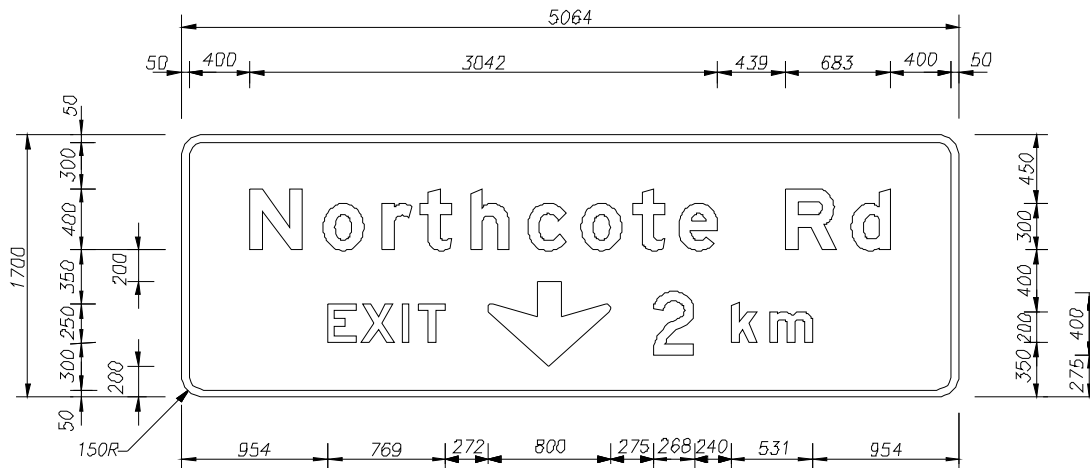
June 2009



MI - 12

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
Destinations:	
Initial capital	Modified Series E 400
Lower case	Modified Series E 300 loop height
EXIT	Series E 250
'km' or 'm'	Modified Series E 200 loop height
<b>NUMERALS:</b>	
'1', '1.5', '2', etc	Modified Series E 400
'X00'	Series E 300
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)
<b>ARROW:</b>	M4 (refer to Figure 1.7)



- NOTES:**
1. Overhead mounted sign
  2. Includes a lane designation arrow.

**FIGURE 3.10 MI - 12 ADVANCE EXIT SIGN WITH A LANE ASSIGNMENT ARROW**

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

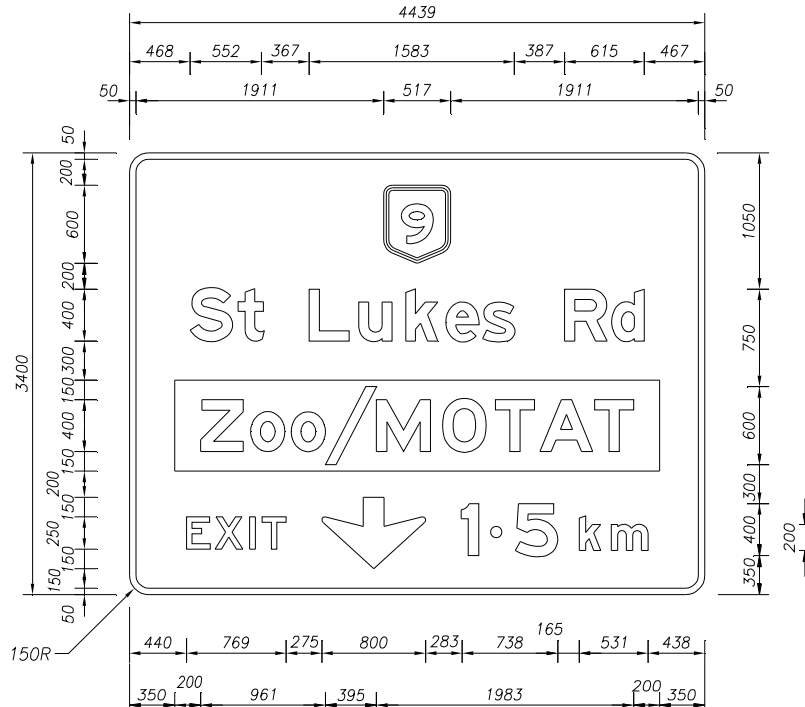
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MI - 12

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white	<b>LETTERS:</b>	
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>		Destinations:	
Main Panel	Reflectorised standard green	Initial capital	Modified Series E 400
Inset Panel	Reflectorised brown	Lower case	Modified Series E 300 loop height
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white	EXIT	Series E 250
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)	'km' or 'm'	Modified Series E 200 loop height
<b>ARROW:</b>	M4 (refer to Figure 1.7)	<b>NUMERALS:</b>	
		'1', '1.5', '2', etc	Modified Series E 400
		'X00'	Series E 300



NOTES:

1. Overhead mounted sign
2. Includes a lane designation arrow
3. Sign fitted into the space available by compressing 'St Lukes Rd' and 'Zoo/MOTAT' by 10%.

MI - 12 ADVANCE EXIT SIGN WITH  
A TOURIST INFORMATION PANEL  
AND A LANE ASSIGNMENT ARROW

FIGURE 3.11

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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MI - 12.1

SIGN DETAILS

LEGEND:

Main Panel Reflectorisred white  
Exit Only Panel Black

BACKGROUND:

Main Panel Reflectorisred standard green  
Exit Only Panel Reflectorisred yellow

BORDER:

Reflectorisred white

ROUTE MARKER:

Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)

ARROW:

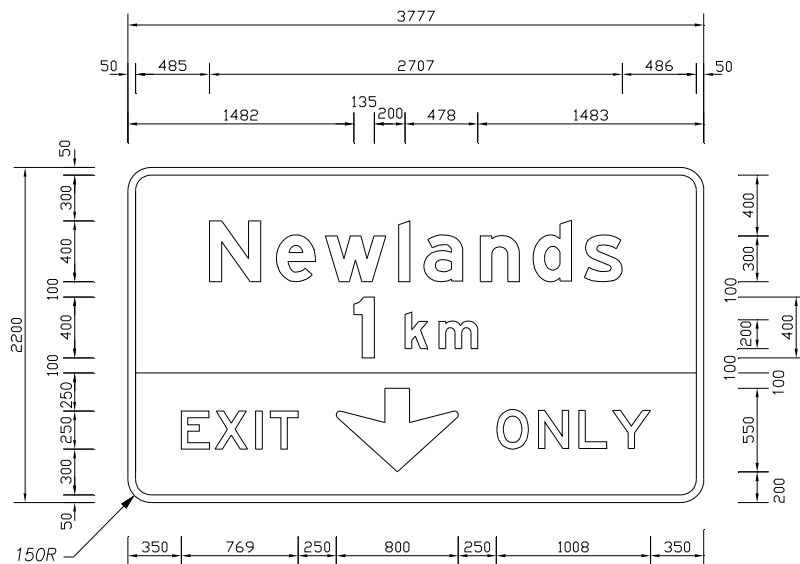
M4 (refer to Figure 1.7)

LETTERS:

Destinations:  
Initial capital Modified Series E 400  
Lower case Modified Series E 300 loop height  
'EXIT' Series E 250  
'km' or 'm' Modified Series E 200 loop height

NUMERALS:

'1', '1.5', '2', etc Modified Series E 400  
'X00' Series E 300



NOTE: Overhead mounted sign.

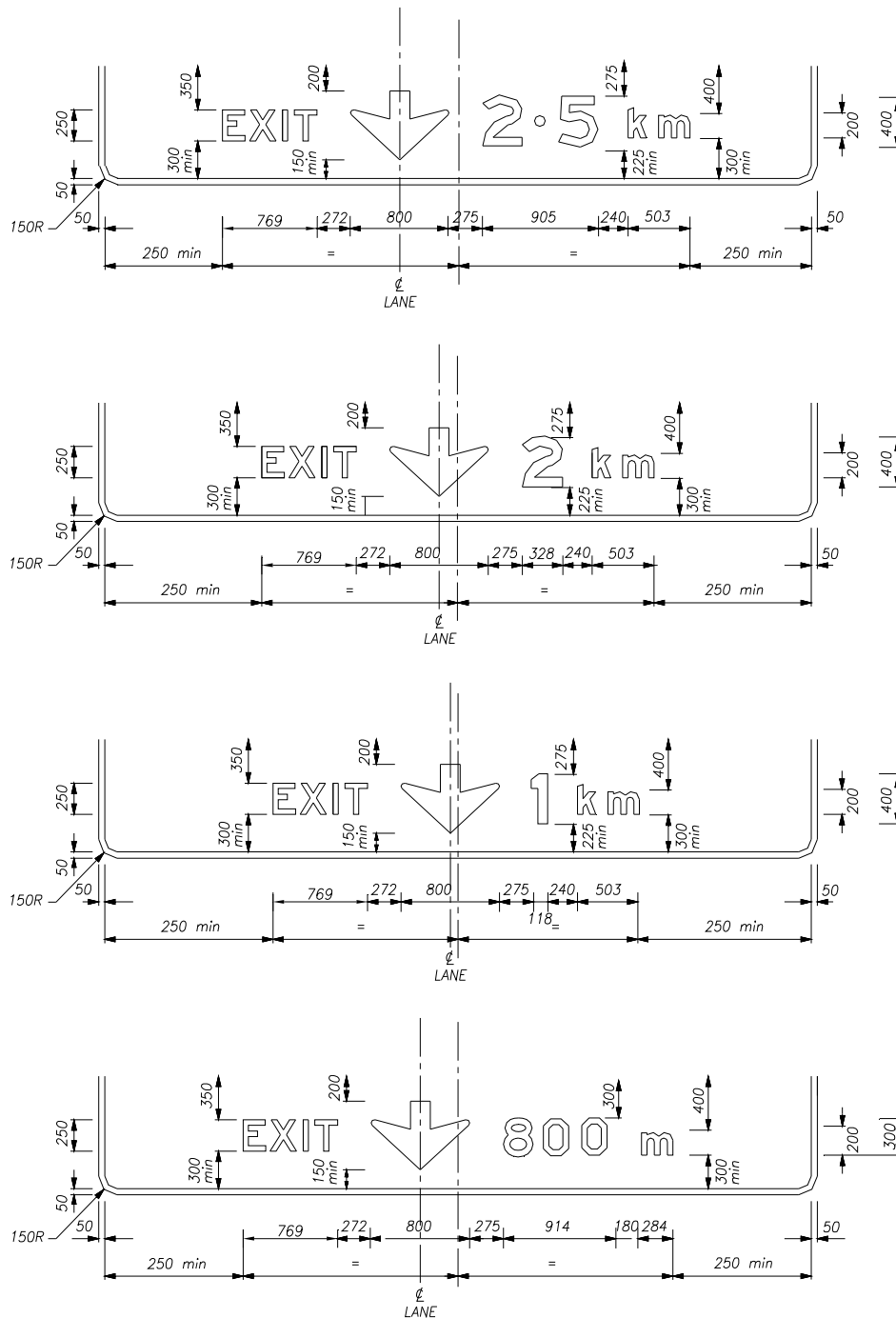
FIGURE 3.12

MI - 12.1 ADVANCE EXIT SIGN WITH AN 'EXIT ONLY' PANEL AND A LANE ASSIGNMENT ARROW



ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
'EXIT'	Series E 250
'km' or 'm'	Modified Series E 200 loop height
<b>NUMERALS:</b>	
'1', '1.5', '2', etc	Modified Series E 400
'X00'	Series E 300
<b>ARROW:</b>	M4 (refer to Figure 1.7)

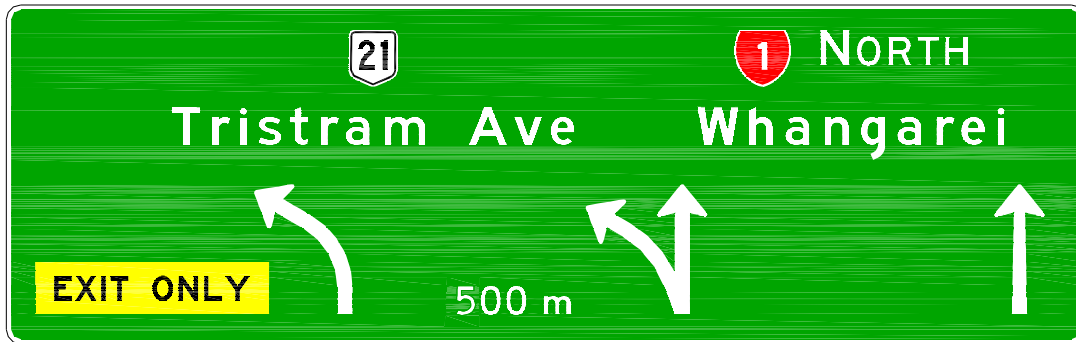
NOTE: Overhead mounted sign.

MI - 10 AND MI - 12 ADVANCE EXIT SIGNS  
ALTERNATIVE DISTANCE DETAILS

FIGURE 3.13

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

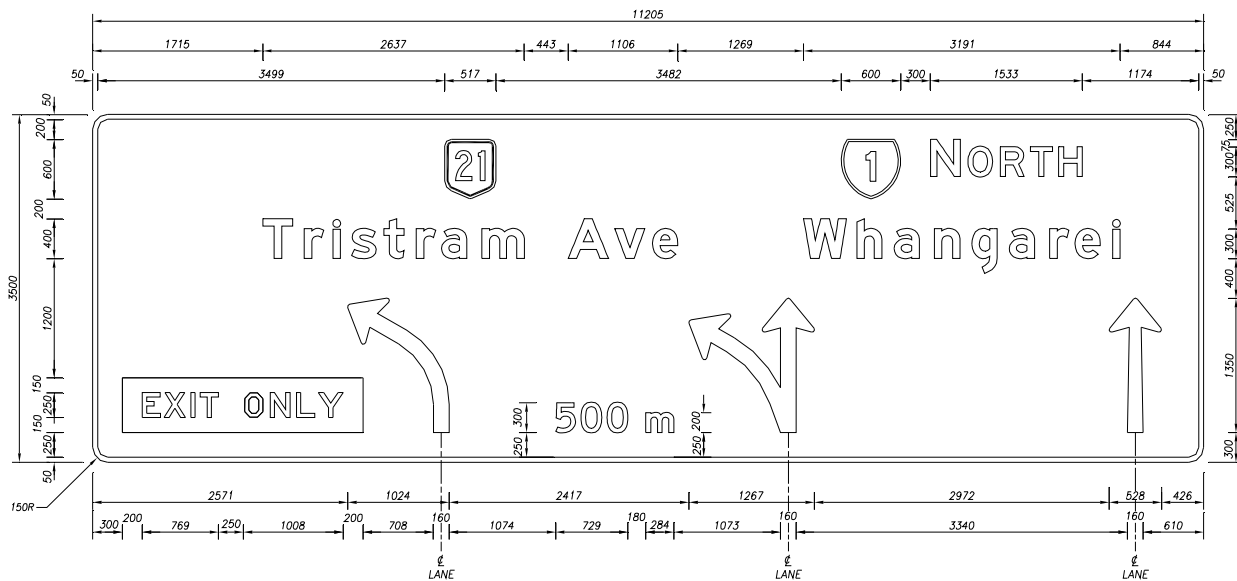
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MI - 13.1

SIGN DETAILS

- LEGEND:** Reflectorised white
- BACKGROUND:**  
 Main Panel Reflectorised standard green  
 Inset Panel Reflectorised brown
- BORDER:** Reflectorised white
- LETTERS:**  
 Destinations:  
 Initial capital Modified Series E 400  
 Lower case Modified Series E 300 loop height  
 Cardinal Direction:  
 First letter Series E 375  
 Rest of letters Series E 300  
 'km' or 'm' Modified Series E 200 loop height
- NUMERALS:**  
 '1', '1.5', '2', etc Modified Series E 400  
 'X00' Series E 300
- ROUTE MARKER:** Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)
- ARROW:** M5, M6 and M7 (refer to Figure 1.7)

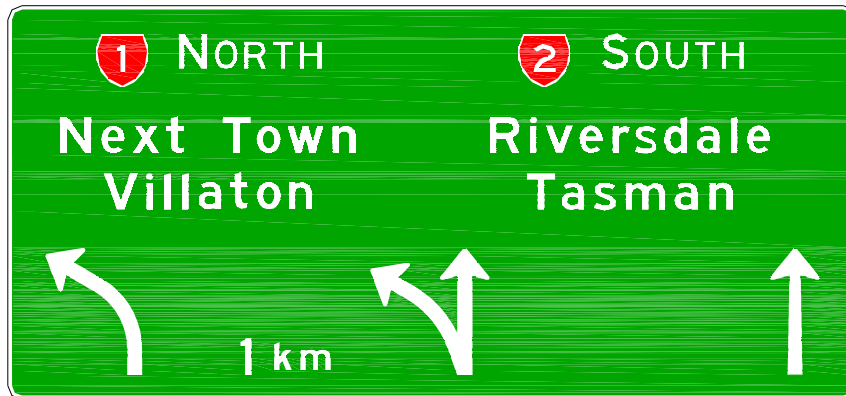


NOTE: Overhead Mounted Sign.

**FIGURE 3.14 MI - 13.1 DIAGRAMMATIC ADVANCE TWO LANE EXIT SIGN WITH AN 'EXIT ONLY' PANEL**

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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MI - 13.2

SIGN DETAILS

LEGEND:

- Main Panel Reflectorisred white
- Inset Panel Black

BACKGROUND:

- Main Panel Reflectorisred standard green
- Inset Panel Reflectorisred yellow

BORDER:

- Reflectorisred white

LETTERS:

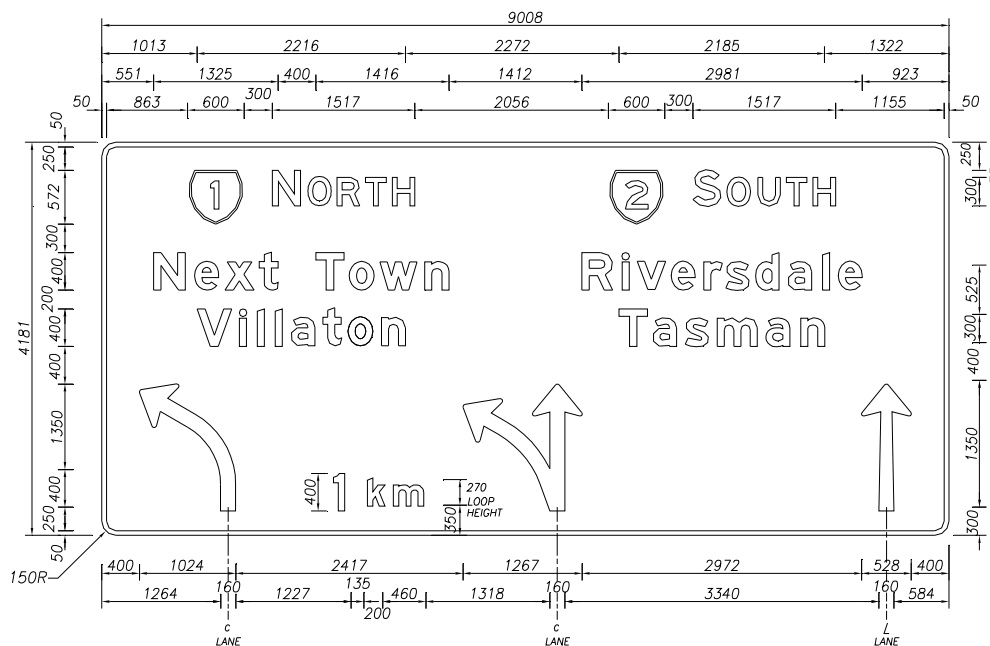
- Destinations:
  - Initial capital Modified Series E 400
  - Lower case Modified Series E 300 loop height
- Cardinal Directions:
  - First letter Series E 375
  - Rest of letters Series E 300
  - 'km' or 'm' Modified Series E 200 loop height

NUMERALS:

- '1', '1.5', '2', etc Modified Series E 400
- 'X00' Series E 300

ROUTE MARKER: Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)

ARROW: M5, M6 and M7 (refer to Figure 1.7)



NOTE: Overhead Mounted Sign.

MI - 13.2 DIAGRAMMATIC ADVANCE DIVERGE EXIT SIGN

FIGURE 3.15

## ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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### 3.3 EXIT DIRECTION SIGNS

#### 3.3.1 GENERAL

Where relevant, route markers shall be included on exit direction signs.

Only M1, M2 and M3 arrows shall be used on exit direction signs. These are detailed in FIGURE 1.7.

Where exit numbering is implemented a supplementary MI - 25.1 or MI - 25.2 exit number plate shall be added to each advance exit sign. Refer to Section 1.12 for exit numbering details and the location of exit number plates on exit direction signs.

#### 3.3.2 GROUND MOUNTED SIGNS

Ground mounted MI - 3 exit direction signs shall be erected on the exit nose.

The destination and route information shown on advance exit signs must be repeated on the exit direction sign. An M3 arrow indicating the general exit direction shall be located immediately below the destination legend.

All lines of legend and the arrow shall be arranged centrally with minimum border clearances of 300 mm to the longest line.

Route markers, if applicable, should be centre justified on the sign and located above the destination name(s).

When a route marker is combined with a cardinal direction on its right hand side, the combination should be centre justified on the sign above the destination name(s).

FIGURES 3.16 and 3.17 show typical MI - 3 ground mounted exit direction signs.

FIGURE 3.18 illustrates an MI - 3 ground mounted exit direction sign with an inset panel indicating the 'FREE ROUTE' prior to a toll road.

#### 3.3.3 OVERHEAD MOUNTED SIGNS

##### (a) General

Overhead mounted exit direction signs should normally only be necessary in urban conditions but they may be appropriate at high volume exits on rural motorways and expressways.

Overhead mounted exit direction signs must, however, be used when a one-way carriageway has three or more lanes, i.e. divided roads with six or more lanes.

##### Sign Legend

The legend on overhead mounted exit direction signs should be arranged in the following manner:

##### 1. Single Destination

- A route marker, if applicable, shall be centre justified above the destination name. If there is sufficient space on the sign gantry, an alternative is to locate the route marker on the left hand side of and vertically centred about the row comprising the destination name.
- The M2 arrow on an exit direction sign shall be located to the left of the destination name and vertically centred about the row comprising the destination name as shown on FIGURE 3.19. If the alternative location for the route marker is used, the M2 arrow shall be located to the left of it.
- An 'EXIT ONLY' panel, when used, shall be located below the destination name and the traffic instruction centre justified on the sign panel.

##### 2. Two Destinations

- A route marker, if applicable, shall be centre justified on the sign panel above the destination

names as shown in FIGURE 3.21. If there is sufficient space on the sign gantry, an alternative is to locate the route marker on the left hand side of the rows comprising the destination names and either vertically centre it about these rows or horizontally centre it about the row with the relevant destination name when the route marker applies to only one of the destinations shown.

- The M1 arrow shall be located to the left of the destination names and vertically centred about the two rows comprising the destination names as shown in FIGURE 3.21.
- An 'EXIT ONLY' panel, when used, shall be located below the destination names and the traffic instruction centre justified on the sign panel.

##### 3. Border Clearance

- The desirable border clearance to all lines of legend and the arrow is 400 mm.

When cardinal directions are used, they shall be positioned above the destination name(s) on the right hand side of any route marker and located on the sign panel in accordance with either 1 or 2 above.

##### (b) Normal Exits

An overhead mounted exit direction sign shall be erected 10 m past the kerbed nose as shown in NZTA Drawing M1: *Standard Exit and Entrance Geometric Details and Traffic Signs* which is shown in FIGURE 2.6 (a). Examples of MI - 14 exit direction signs are shown in FIGURES 3.19 and 3.20.

FIGURE 3.21 shows an MI - 14 overhead mounted exit direction sign with an inset tourist information panel.

##### (c) Multiple Off Lane Exits and Diverges

Multiple off lane exits and diverges means two or more lanes.

Vertically inclined arrows are unacceptable for multiple off lane exits and diverges.

The overhead mounted MI - 15 exit direction signs used at these exits shall:

- be located at the start of the exit gore area markings, and
- all sign panel bases shall be aligned to a common horizontal line and be positioned at least 6 m vertically above the highest point of the carriageway immediately beneath the signs.

A typical lane assignment MI - 15 diverge exit direction sign is shown in FIGURE 3.23.

##### (d) Lane Drop Exits

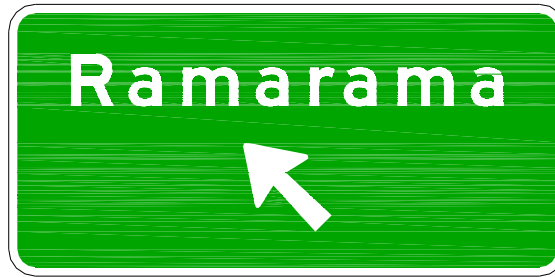
An overhead mounted MI - 14.1 exit direction sign must be used at all lane drop exits. An example of this type of sign, which has a yellow 'EXIT ONLY' panel, is shown in FIGURE 3.22.

##### (e) 'Pull-Through' Signs

FIGURE 3.24 shows a typical overhead mounted MI - 22 'Pull-Through' sign.

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

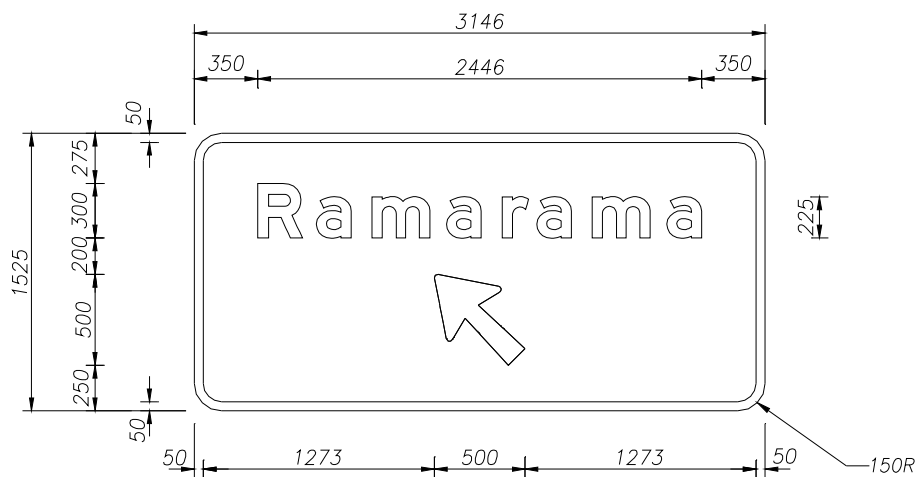
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MI - 3

SIGN DETAILS

- LEGEND:** Reflectoris white
- BACKGROUND:** Reflectoris standard green
- BORDER:** Reflectoris white
- LETTERS:**
  - Destinations:
  - Initial capital Modified Series E 300
  - Lower case Modified Series E 225 loop height
- ROUTE MARKER:** Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)
- ARROW:** M3 (refer to Figure 1.7)



NOTE: Ground mounted sign.

MI - 3 EXIT DIRECTION SIGN

FIGURE 3.16

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

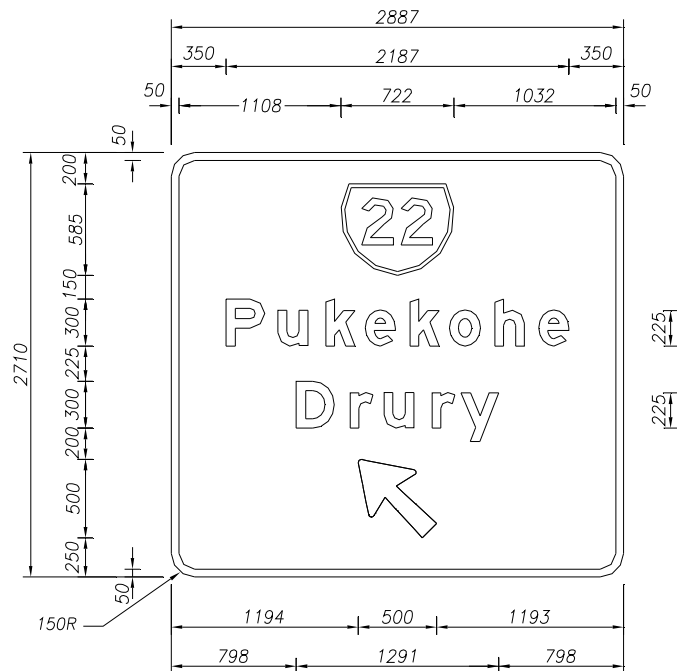
June 2009



MI - 3

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
Destinations:	
Initial capital	Modified Series E 300
Lower case	Modified Series E 225 loop height
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)
<b>ARROW:</b>	M3 (refer to Figure 1.7)



- NOTES:
1. Ground mounted sign
  2. Two destinations shown.

FIGURE 3.17

MI - 3 EXIT DIRECTION SIGN WITH TWO DESTINATIONS

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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MI - 3

SIGN DETAILS

LEGEND:

Main Panel Reflectorised white  
Inset Panel Black

BACKGROUND:

Main Panel Reflectorised standard green  
Inset Panel Reflectorised yellow

BORDER:

Reflectorised white

LETTERS:

Destinations:  
Initial capital Modified Series E 300  
Lower case Modified Series E 225 loop height

Cardinal Direction:

First letter Series E 300  
Rest of letters Series E 250

'FREE ROUTE SOUTH'

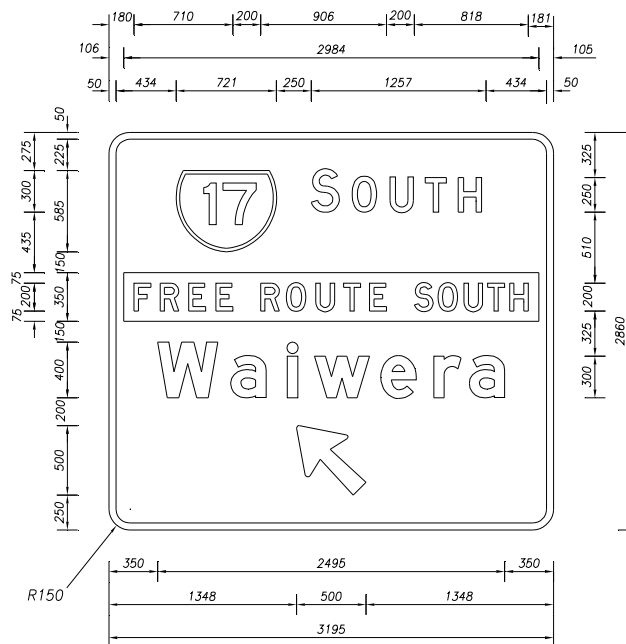
Series E 200

ROUTE MARKER:

Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)

ARROW:

M3 (refer to Figure 1.7)



NOTES:

1. Ground mounted sign
2. Two destinations shown.

MI - 3 EXIT DIRECTION SIGN WITH 'FREE ROUTE SOUTH' PANEL

FIGURE 3.18

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

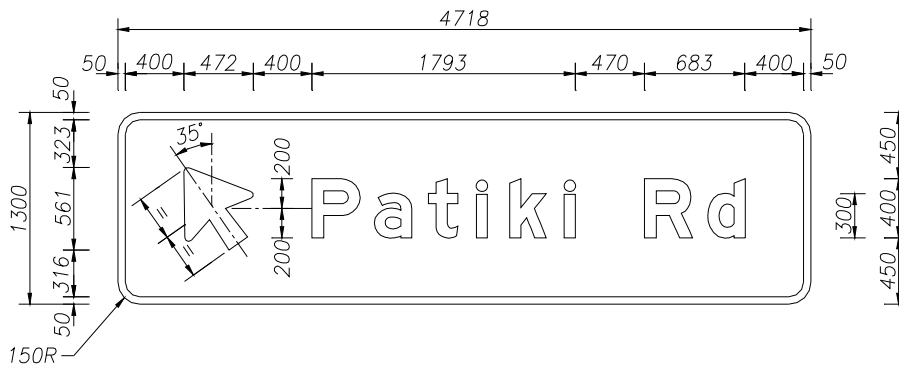
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MI - 14

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
Destinations:	
Initial capital	Modified Series E 400
Lower case	Modified Series E 300 loop height
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)
<b>ARROW:</b>	M2 (refer to Figure 1.7)



NOTE: Overhead mounted sign.

FIGURE 3.19

MI - 14 EXIT DIRECTION SIGN



ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

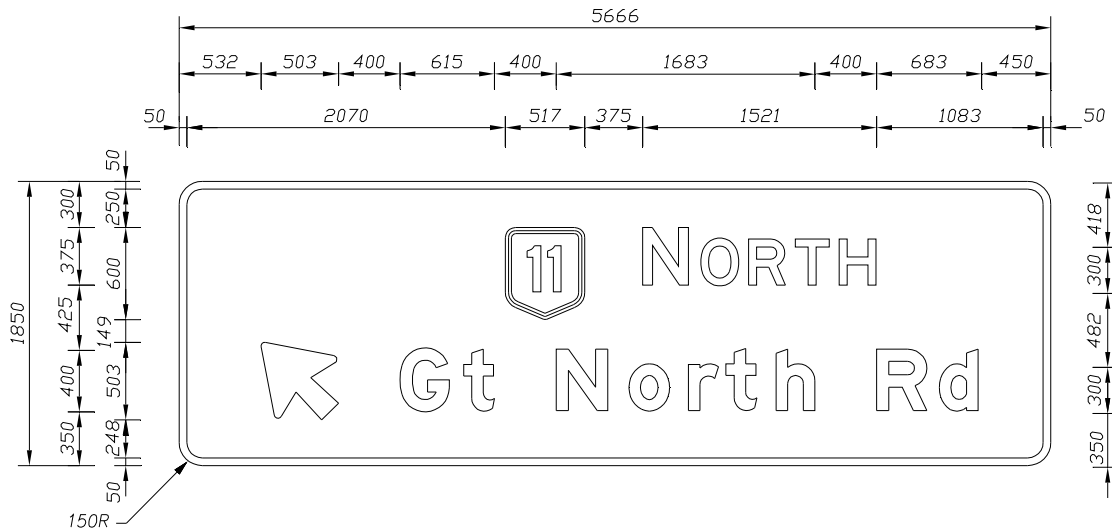
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MI - 14

SIGN DETAILS

- LEGEND:** Reflectorisred white  
**BACKGROUND:** Reflectorisred standard green  
**BORDER:** Reflectorisred white  
**LETTERS:**  
 Destinations:  
     Initial capital Modified Series E 400  
     Lower case Modified Series E 300 loop height  
 Cardinal Direction:  
     First letter Series E 375  
     Rest of letters Series E 300  
**ROUTE MARKER:** Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)  
**ARROW:** M2 (refer to Figure 1.7)



NOTE: Overhead mounted sign.

MI - 14 EXIT DIRECTION SIGN  
WITH A ROUTE MARKER

FIGURE 3.20

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

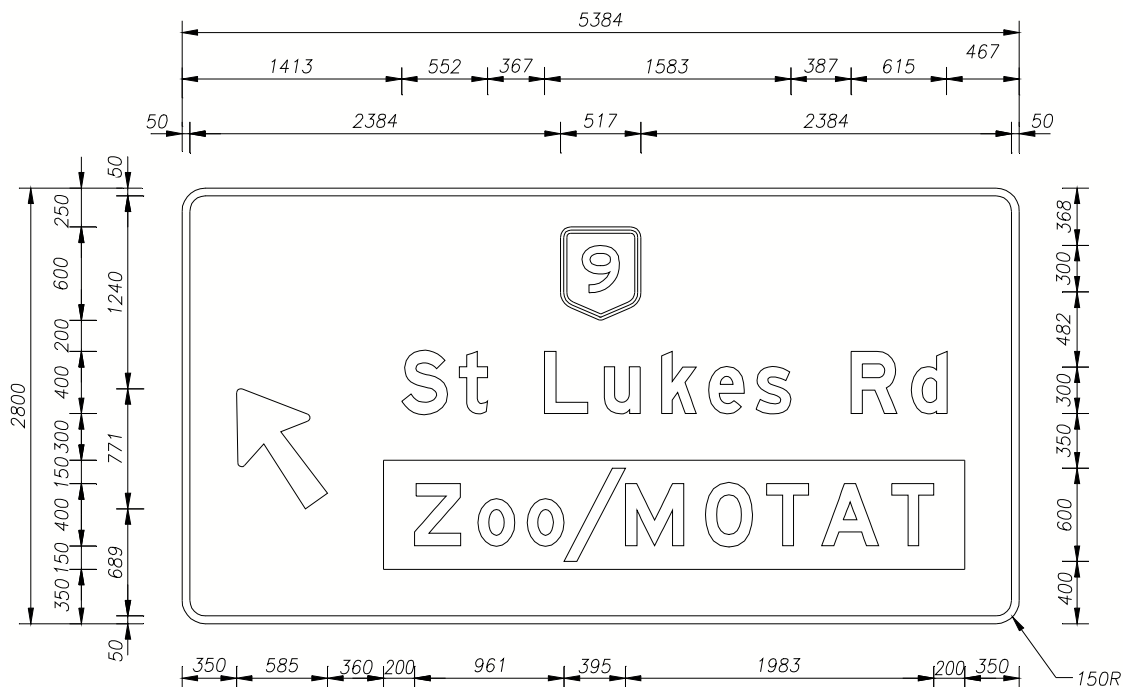
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MI - 14

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	
Main Panel	Reflectorised standard green
Inset Panel	Reflectorised brown
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	
Destinations:	
Initial capital	Modified Series E 400
Lower case	Modified Series E 300 loop height
<b>ROUTE MARKER:</b>	Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)
<b>ARROW:</b>	M1 (refer to Figure 1.7)



NOTES:

- 1 Overhead Mounted Sign
- 2 Sign fitted into the space available by compressing 'St Lukes Rd' and 'Zoo/MOTAT' by 10% and reducing edge spaces from 400 mm to 300 mm

**FIGURE 3.21 MI - 14 EXIT DIRECTION SIGN WITH A TOURIST INFORMATION PANEL**

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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MI - 14.1

SIGN DETAILS

LEGEND:

Destination            Reflectorised white  
 Exit Only                Black

BACKGROUND:

Main Panel                Reflectorised standard green  
 Exit Only Panel         Reflectorised yellow

BORDER:

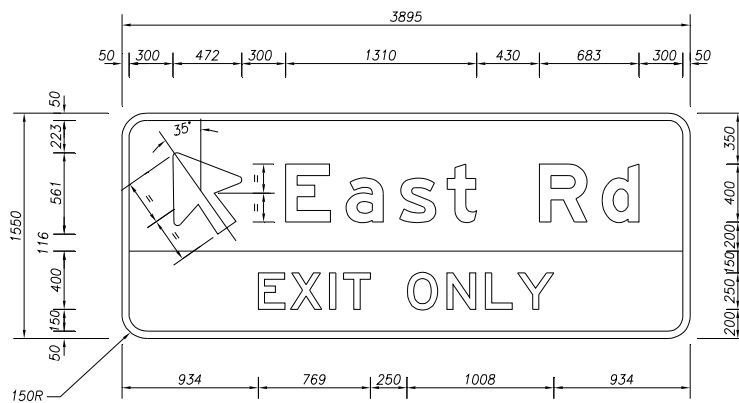
Reflectorised white

LETTERS:

Destinations:  
     Initial capital        Modified Series E 400  
     Lower case          Modified Series E 300 loop height  
 'EXIT ONLY'            Series E 250

ARROW:

M2 (refer to Figure 1.7)



NOTES:

1. Overhead Mounted Sign
2. Sign fitted into the space available by reducing edge spaces from 400 mm to 300 mm
3. An M2 arrow is used to minimise the depth of the green panel.

MI - 14.1 EXIT DIRECTION SIGN  
 WITH AN 'EXIT ONLY' PANEL

FIGURE 3.22

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

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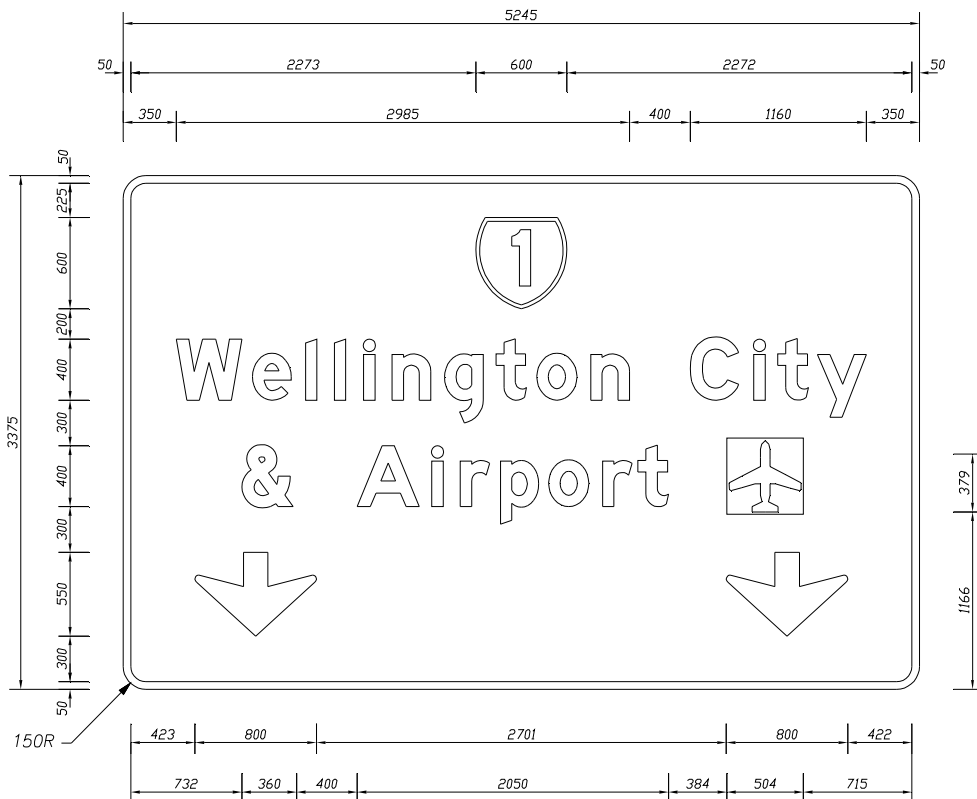


MI - 15.2

SIGN DETAILS

**LEGEND:**  
**BACKGROUND:** Reflectorised standard green  
**BORDER:** Reflectorised white  
**ROUTE MARKER:** Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)  
**Airport Symbol** Reflectorised white on blue background

**LETTERS:**  
 Destination:  
 Initial capital Modified Series E 400  
 Lower case Modified Series E 300 loop height  
**ARROW:** M4 (refer to Figure 1.7)

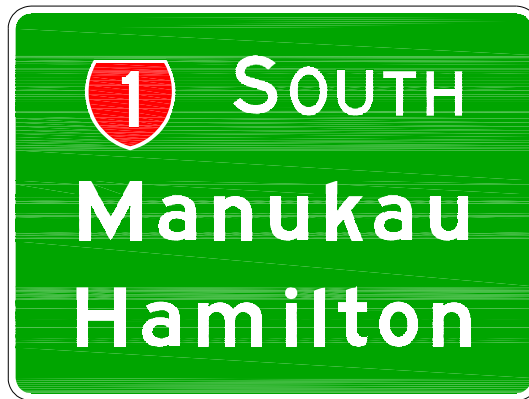


NOTE: Overhead mounted sign.

FIGURE 3.23 MI - 15.2 TWO-LANE DIVERGE EXIT DIRECTION SIGN

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

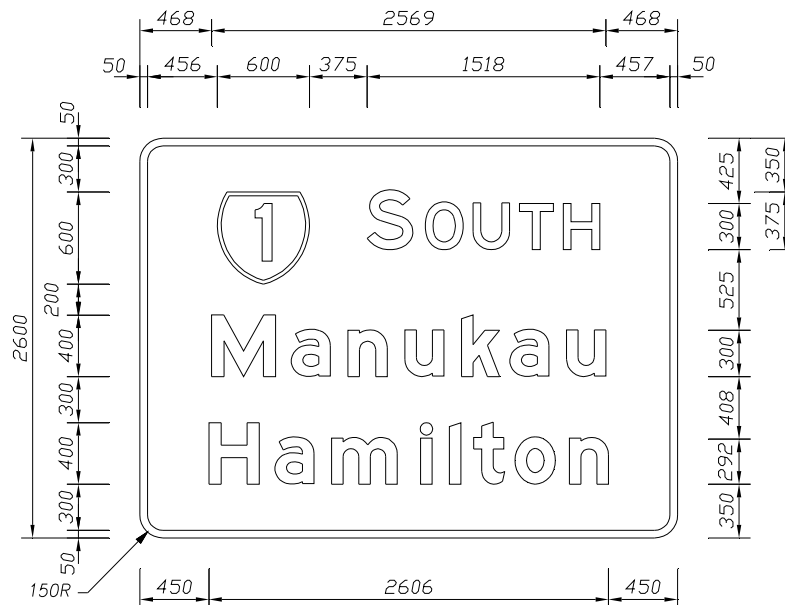
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MI - 22

SIGN DETAILS

- LEGEND:** Reflectoris white  
**BACKGROUND:** Reflectoris standard green  
**BORDER:** Reflectoris white  
**LETTERS:**  
 Destination:  
     Initial capital Modified Series E 400  
     Lower case Modified Series E 300 loop height  
 Cardinal Direction:  
     First letter Series E 375  
     Rest of word Series E 300  
**ROUTE MARKER:** Motorway/Expressway type (refer to Figure 1.3)



NOTE: Overhead mounted sign.

MI - 22 'PULL-THROUGH' SIGN

FIGURE 3.24

**ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS**

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**3.4 EXIT SIGNS**

An MI - 4 'EXIT' sign shall be used at exits from motorways and expressways, unless exit numbering is implemented.

Where exit numbering is implemented an MI - 4.1 one digit or MI - 4.2 two digit or MI - 4.3 three digit 'EXIT' sign shall be used. Refer to Section 1.12 for exit numbering details and the location of exit number plates on exit signs.

Exit signs shall be located 9 metres past the exit nose and centrally between the exit nose kerbing, as shown in NZTA drawing M1: *Standard Exit and Entrance Geometric Details and Traffic Signs* which is reproduced at reduced scale in FIGURE 2.6 (a).

The M3 arrow used on exit signs is detailed in FIGURE 1.7.

A typical MI - 4 sign is shown in FIGURE 3.25.

Typical MI - 4.2 and MI - 4.3 signs are shown in FIGURES 3.26 and 3.27 respectively.

**ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS**

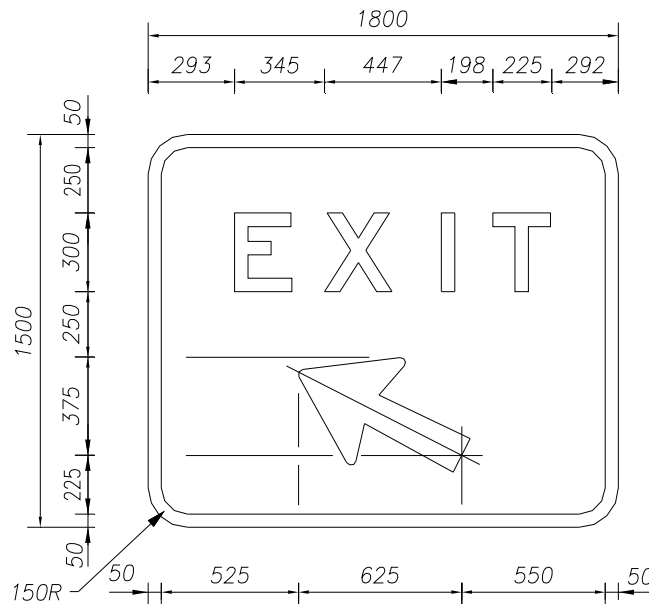
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**MI - 4**

**SIGN DETAILS**

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	Modified Series E 300
<b>ARROW:</b>	M3 (refer to Figure 1.7)



**NOTES:**

1. Ground mounted sign
2. Centreline of M3 arrow is at 27.5° to the horizontal.

**MI - 4 EXIT SIGN**

**FIGURE 3.25**

ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

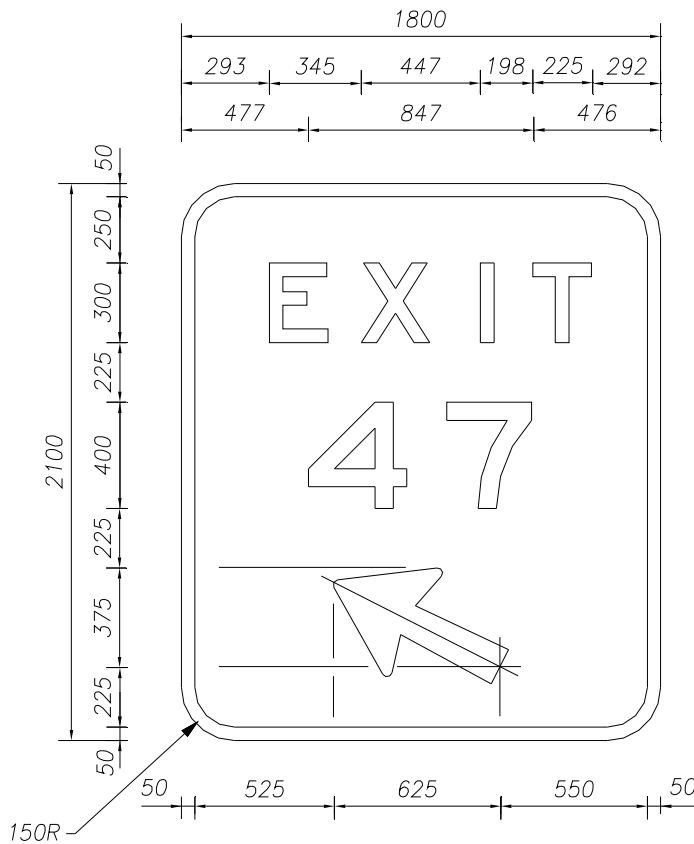
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MI - 4.2

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	Modified Series E 300
<b>NUMERALS:</b>	Series E 400
<b>ARROW:</b>	M3 (refer to Figure 1.7)



- NOTES:**
1. Ground mounted sign
  2. Centreline of M3 arrow is at 27.5° to the horizontal.

**FIGURE 3.26 MI - 4.2 EXIT SIGN WITH A TWO DIGIT EXIT NUMBER**



ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS

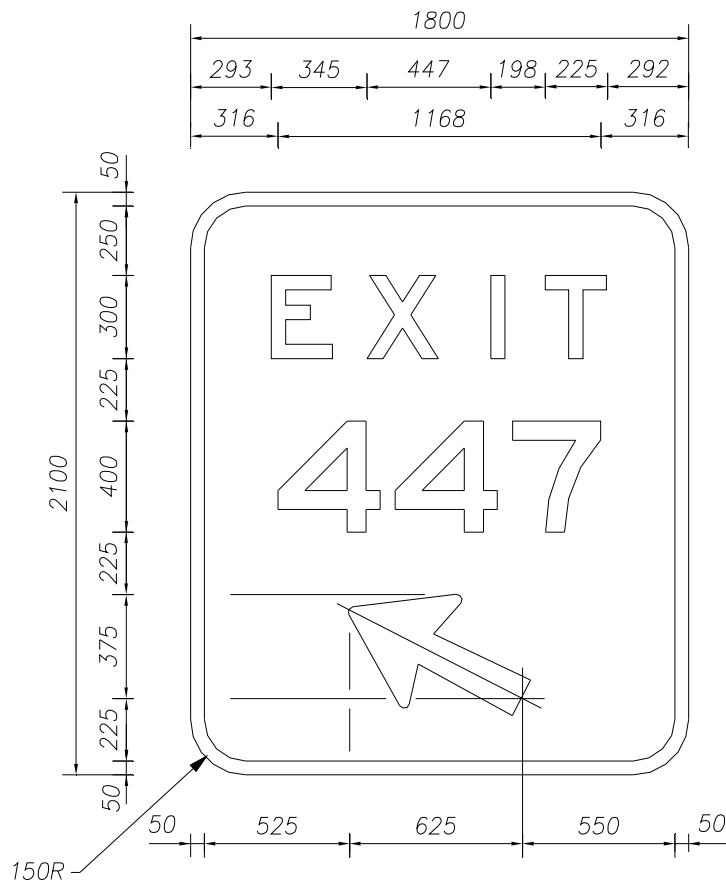
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MI - 4.3

SIGN DETAILS

<b>LEGEND:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reflectorised standard green
<b>BORDER:</b>	Reflectorised white
<b>LETTERS:</b>	Modified Series E 300
<b>NUMERALS:</b>	Series E 400
<b>ARROW:</b>	M3 (refer to Figure 1.7)



NOTES:

1. Ground mounted sign
2. Centreline of M3 arrow is at 27.5° to the horizontal.

MI - 4.3 EXIT SIGN WITH A THREE DIGIT EXIT NUMBER

FIGURE 3.27

**ADVANCE EXIT, EXIT DIRECTION AND EXIT SIGNS**

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