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STATE OF DELAWARE  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
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**TO:** All Users of the Delaware Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices  
**FROM:** Mark Luszczyk, P.E., P.T.O.E.  
Chief Traffic Engineer  
**DATE:** January 31, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** Layout and Sizing of post-mounted, three-line Destination Signs (D1-3)

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Section 1A.07 of the Delaware Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (DE MUTCD Revision 3) states:

**Option:**

01A (DE Revision) With approval of the Delaware Department of Transportation Chief Engineer, traffic control devices and applications that do not comply with one or more standard statements in this manual may be used, if it has been determined based on engineering judgment that such devices/applications follow the basic precepts of traffic control devices (incorporating design elements that promote the ability of the road user to perceive, comprehend, and react as intended) and are determined to be in the best interests of Delaware's road users.

Accordingly, DelDOT is providing the following Support and Guidance statements regarding layout and sizing of post-mounted, three-line Destination signs (D1-3).

**Support:**

01 Destination signs are essential to direct road users and to give information in the most simple, direct manner possible. Table 2D-1 of the DE MUTCD provides generic information regarding sizing of three-line Destination signs (D1-3). Current maintenance and replacement practices have shown that post-mounted, three-line Destination signs (D1-3) with lengths larger than 72 inches, consequently result in a higher rate of wind-induced damage due to the excessively large surface area. As a result, DelDOT establishes the following guidance that limits the length of post-mounted, three-line Destination signs (D1-3).

*Guidance:*

02 To reduce the maintenance costs of the frequent replacement of oversized post-mounted guide signs, the maximum length of post-mounted, three-line Destination signs (D1-3) should be 72 inches. In cases where, due to legend size, a length larger than 72 inches is warranted, three-line Destination signs (D1-3) should be installed on breakaway I-beam posts. Design and fabrication of three-line Destination signs (D1-3) installed on two posts (Figure 1), should be based on the following sizing and layout criteria:

*Sizing / Layout-*

- a) **Letters:** Use 6" Highway D for the destination name, with the initial letter being upper-case and the rest of the legend being lower-case letters.
- b) **Offset:** Use a 6" offset from the edge of the panel (left, right, top and bottom sides). Use a 6" clearance between destination names and arrows or mileage.
- c) **Arrows:** Use 9" (length) x 6" (height) arrows. Arrows pointing right are placed on the right edge of the sign, arrows pointing left and straight up are placed on the left edge of the sign.
- d) **Mileage:** Mileage is placed on the right edge of the sign.
- e) **Legend:** If legend does not fit within 72" x 42", use a 3" edge offset and a 3" clearance between destination names and arrows or mileage. Do not use partition line to separate rows. Destinations with arrows pointing up are listed at the top. Destinations with the arrows pointing left should always be placed above destinations with arrows pointing right and below destinations with arrows pointing up.
- f) **Punctuation:** Do not use punctuation.

The specifications listed in DE MUTCD (2018) and/or in the Delaware Standard Signs Book (2018) should be used for the design and layout of upper-case letters, lower-case letters, numerals, route shields, letter spacing and/or anything else not explicitly listed in this memo.

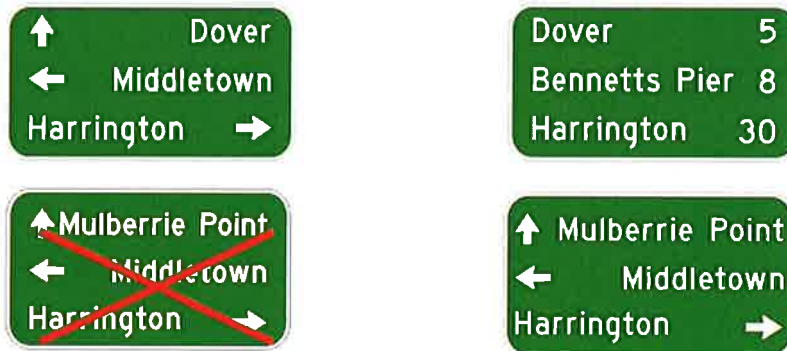


Figure 1. Layout and sizing of post-mounted three-line Destination signs (D1-3).

*Robert B. McCleary*  
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