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ENVIRONMENTS & EXPERIENCES

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ASHEVILLE

Explore Asheville Regional Wayfinding Maintenance Manual

March 03, 2025

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APPENDIX

Design Intent

^{*} Separate Document TBD



ASHEVILLE REGIONAL ORIENTATION MAP

This map highlights Asheville's key areas: Downtown, Biltmore Village, West Asheville, and North Asheville.

Introduction

EXPLORE ASHEVILLE WAYFINDING PROGRAM

The Explore Asheville Wayfinding Program was established in 2010 with a vision to enhance the visitor experience. This program has a rich history of serving travelers and locals alike.

Rooted in a deep commitment to hospitality and community, the Explore Asheville Wayfinding Program was born out of a collaborative effort among local municipalities, businesses, and residents. Recognizing the importance of providing clear and accessible navigation for visitors, the program was established to make exploring our beautiful region easier and more enjoyable.

Since its inception, the program has been dedicated to ensuring that everyone who sets foot in Asheville feels welcomed and supported in their journey. Whether you're here to immerse yourself in the stunning natural landscapes, include in the vibrant arts and culture scene, or savor the flavors of our renowned culinary offerings, the Explore Asheville Wayfinding Program is here to help you make the most of your time in our region.

SIGN STANDARDS MAINTENANCE MANUAL

The Asheville Sign Standards Maintenance Manual is a comprehensive guide to ensuring the continued effectiveness and reliability of the Explore Asheville Wayfinding Program. This manual serves as a vital resource for municipalities, stakeholders, and anyone involved in the planning, installation, and maintenance of the signage program within our region.

Established with the aim of upholding high standards of signage quality and consistency, this manual outlines protocols for approvals, criteria for inclusion, various maintenance scenarios, technical specifications, and associated responsibilities for all involved parties.

Within these pages, you'll find detailed procedures for being included on signs and obtaining approvals for new signage projects, ensuring that each proposed sign meets established criteria for design, visibility, and functionality. From initial planning to final installation, this manual provides clear guidance on navigating the approval process and ensuring compliance with State, County, and Municipal standards.







Project Partners

The Asheville Wayfinding Manual builds upon a significant body of prior work done by Explore Asheville, Buncombe County, NCDOT, City of Asheville, Towns of Black Mountain, Montreat, Weaverville and Woodfin, along with various community stakeholders.

• Asheville Regional Wayfinding Program (2010)

• River Arts District Wayfinding Program (2020)

• Asheville Black Cultural Heritage Trail (2023)

EXPLORE ASHEVILLE Primary Contact

Project Coordination

Funding

Maintenance and Management

NCDOT Approvals for Signs Located in NCDOT R.O.W.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY Approvals for Signs Located in R.O.W.

CITY OF ASHEVILLE Public Works Coordination for New Signs and Maintenance

Kimberly Puryear

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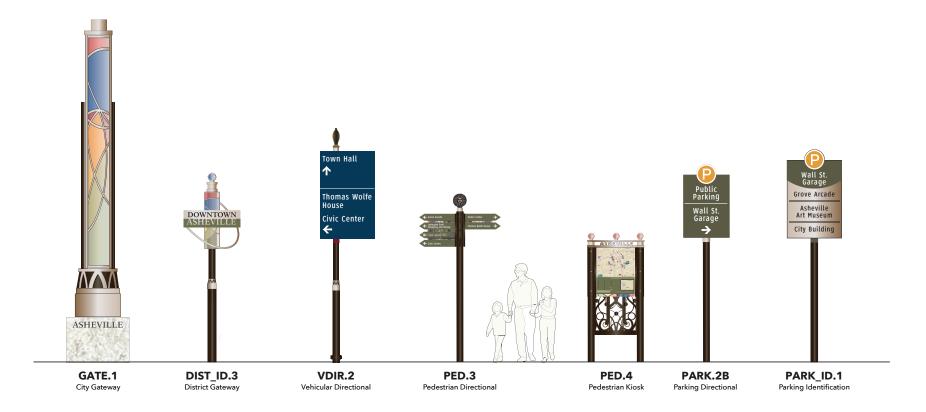
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CITY OF ASHEVILLE	Public Works Coordination for New Signs and Maintenance	Dana Frankel Downtown Planning Manager dfrankel@ashevillenc.gov 828-251-1122
TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN	Public Works Coordination for New Signs and Maintenance	Russell Cate Planner/Zoning Administrator Russell.cate@tobm.org 828-419-9300, ext. 373
	Public Works Coordination for New Signs and Maintenance	Jessica Trotman Asst. Town Manager / Planning Director Jessica.trotman@tobm.org 828-419-9300, ext. 370
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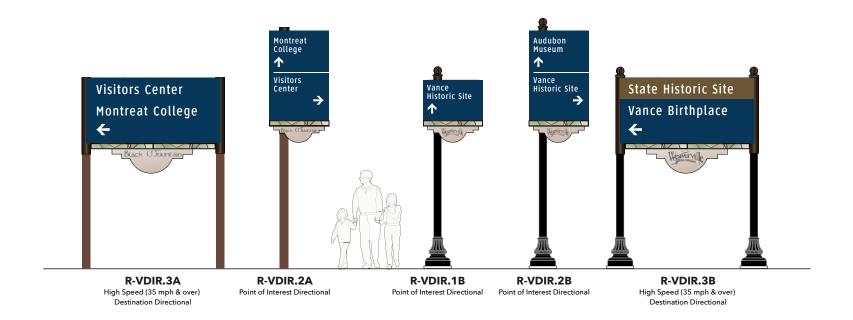








Regional System



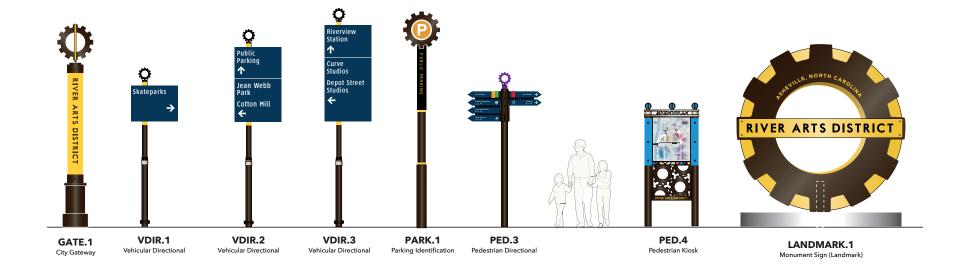








INTRO | ADMINISTRATION | MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT | GRAPHIC STANDARDS











Administration

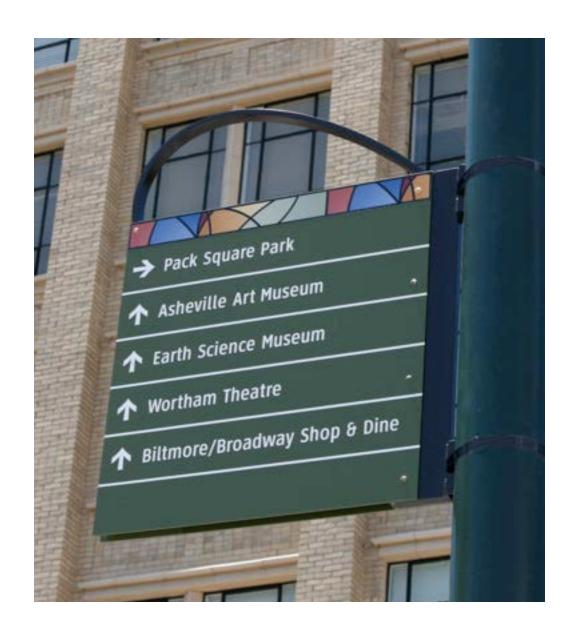
Administration

This section addresses the ongoing maintenance needs of our signage infrastructure by outlining best practices for various maintenance scenarios, such as damage, wear and tear, or changes in signage requirements. By adhering to these guidelines, municipalities and stakeholders can ensure that our signage remains in optimal condition, enhancing safety, accessibility, and overall user experience.

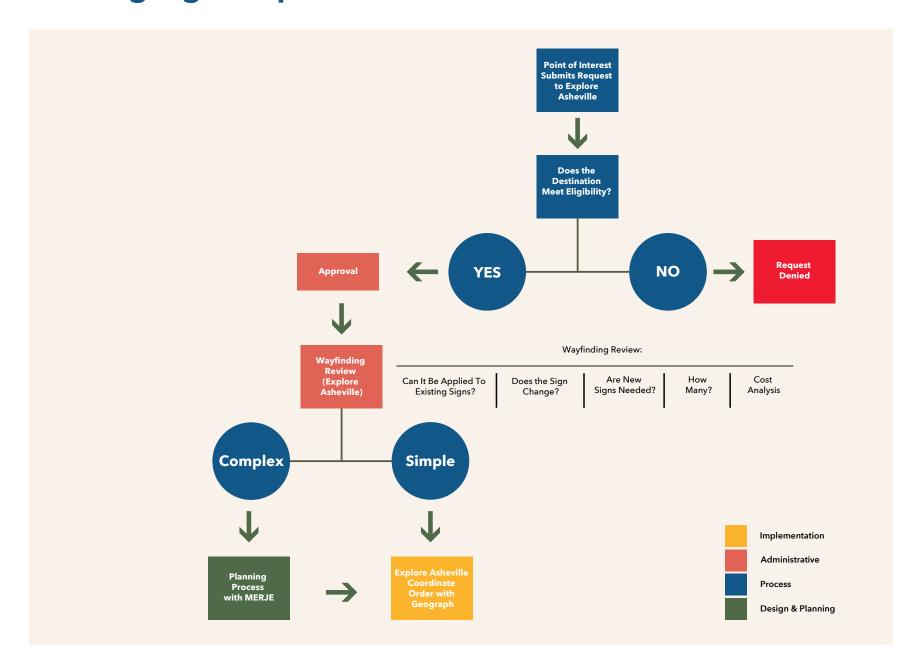
Technical specifications outlined in this manual provide detailed guidance on signage materials, construction methods, and installation techniques, ensuring durability, longevity, and compliance with industry standards. Whether you're requesting a new sign or repairing an existing one, you'll find the technical information you need to achieve optimal results.

Finally, this manual clarifies the responsibilities associated with signage maintenance, outlining the roles and obligations of participating municipalities, stakeholders, and other relevant parties. By fostering collaboration and accountability, we can collectively uphold the integrity and effectiveness of our signage infrastructure, benefiting our community as a whole.

The Asheville Sign Standards Maintenance Manual serves as a vital resource for ensuring the continued quality, reliability, and effectiveness of signage throughout our region. By adhering to the protocols, criteria, and responsibilities outlined within this manual, we can create a more accessible, safe, and welcoming environment for visitors.



New Signage Request INTRO | ADMINISTRATION | MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT | GRAPHIC STANDARDS





EXISTING VEHICULAR DESTINATIONS

DOWNTOWN ASHEVILLE

Arts & Culture

Harrah's Cherokee Ctr

Asheville Art Museum

Pack Square Park

McCormick Field

Pack Library

NC Stage Company

Community Theater

YMI Cultural Center

Center for Craft

Wortham Performing Arts Center

Museum of Science

Leaf Global Arts Center

Historic

Basilica of St. Lawrence

Wolfe State Historic Site Parks & Recreation

Pritchard Park

MLK Jr. Park

Aston Park & Tennis Center

Skate Park

Shopping & Dining

New Belgium Brewing

Grove Arcade

Shopping and Dining

River Arts District

Education

A-B Tech College

UNC Asheville

Transportation

Airport

Transit Center

Government

City Building

County Courthouse

Downtown

Post Office County Health

Parking Garages

Center

Wall St. Garage

Rankin Garage

Civic Center Garage

Pack Place Parking

BB&T Parkng Deck

Church Street Parking Lot

N. Lexington Parking Lot

Visitor Info

Visitor Center

BILTMORE VILLAGE

Biltmore Estate

Historic Biltmore Village

Asheville Museum of Hist.

RIVER DISTRICT

French Broad River Park

Carrier Park

Karen Cragnolin Park

Wilma Dykeman Greenway

NORTH ASHEVILLE

UNCA

Botanical Garden

Grove Park Inn

Montford Park

Montford Historic Dist.

Riverside Cemetery

Richmond Hill Park

H. Robinson Amphitheater

Blue Ridge Parkway

Downtown

MONTREAT

Montreat College

Lake Susan

EAST ASHEVILLE

WNC Nature Center

Soccer Complex

Azalea Park

Folk Art Center

Warren Wilson College

Muncipal Golf Course

Bus Terminal Greyhound

WEST ASHEVILLE

Historic West Asheville

Buncombe Cty. Sports Park

N.C. Arboretum

Crest Center

A-B Tech Enka Campus

WNC Farmers Market

Lake Powhatan

Bent Creek Exp. Forest

Bob Lewis Ballpark BLACK MOUNTAIN

Historic District

Town Hall

Visitor Center

The Depot

Lake Tomahawk

Black Mt. Ctr. for the Arts

State Veterans Cemetery

Golf & Croquet

Museum And Arts Center

Village of Cheshire The NC

Glass Center

WOODFIN

Town Hall

French Broad River

Ledges Park

Woodfin Riverside Park

Silver-Line Park

WEAVERVILLE

Town Hall

Vance Birthplace Historic Site

Lake Louise

Police Dept.

Main Street Nature Park

*A maximum of 27 characters to fit on sign panel







BASE CATEGORIES

ATTRACTIONS

- Arboreta and Botanical Garden
- Arenas
- Conference Centers
- **Destination Streets**
- Fairgrounds
- Racetracks and Speedways
- Scenic Overlooks
- **Unique Natural Areas**
- Zoos, Zoological Gardens, Animal Parks, and Aquariums

CULTURAL / INSTITUTIONAL

- Colleges or Universities
- Hospitals
- Institutions
- Libraries
- Museums
- Observatories
- **Religious Site**
- Theaters, Performing Arts, and Concert Halls

DISTRICT

- Arts and Cultural Districts
- **Business District**
- **Entertainment District**
- **Historic Districts**
- Medical District
- **Sports District**
- **University District**
- **Urban Neighborhoods**

GOVERNMENT

- Courthouses/Government Buildings
- **High Schools**
- Military Bases

HISTORICAL / ARCHITECTURAL

Historic Sites

RECREATIONAL

- Waterfronts and Piers
- **Boat Launches**
- Campgrounds
- Canoeing, Rafting, and Kayaking
- **Golf Courses**
- Hiking and Biking Trails/Routes
- Horseback Riding Areas
- **Hunting and Fishing Areas**
- National, State, and Regional Parks and Forests
- Parks County
- Parks Municipal
- Sports Facilities (Local)
- Water Skiing

TOURIST SERVICE

Visitor Information Center

TRANSPORTATION

- **Airports**
- Heritage Roads, Historic Routes and Trails
- Parking Lots, Garages, and Decks
- Railroad/Bus Stations

Criteria For Inclusion

The following section provides guidelines for determining which types of destinations typically qualify for a Community Wayfinding Program.

Base Categories are fairly common across all states and are generally limited to nonprofit attractions, institutions, government buildings, historical sites, parks and recreation, transportation and visitor services.

Enhanced Categories represent tourism based attractions or activities that may be privately owned. State (DOT), County and Local approvals may be required in order to include these types of destinations in your program.

BASE CATEGORIES:

ATTRACTIONS

Arboreta and Botanical Gardens: A place where a wide variety of live plants are cultivated for scientific, educational, and ornamental purposes, often including a librarys, herbariums, greenhouses, laboratory spaces, and open grounds. These are facilities with a reasonable guarantee of permanence, where adequate labeling of plants is common, and proper documentation of the plant collection takes place. Must have facilities that are open to the general public.

Arenas: Includes stadia, conference centers, auditoriums, and civic or convention centers

Conference Centers: A site that hosts public events with a minimum of 30,000 square feet of flexible meeting, convention, exhibit, and prefunction space.

Destination Streets: A specific segment of a street that is recognized as a unique place and is a visitor attraction because of its activities, character, or history. Ex: Bourbon Street (New Orleans), Ocean Drive (Miami Beach), Rodeo Drive (Beverly Hills), etc.

Fairgrounds: Includes county and state fairgrounds.

Racetracks and Speedways: A permanent facility used for the primary purpose of presenting organized horse or automobile racing events.

Scenic Overlooks: An area, usually on the side of the road, where persons can observe a scenic area such as significant geology, unique botanical resources, or across expanses of land or water.

Unique Natural Areas: A naturally occurring area or site of interest to the general public. Such as areas may include riverfronts, caverns, waterfalls, caves, or special rock formations.

Zoos, Zoological Gardens, Animal Parks, and Aquariums: A place where animals, reptiles, or fish are kept, often in combination of indoors and outdoors spaces. Must have facilities, which are open to the General Public.

CULTURAL/INSTITUTIONAL

Colleges or Universities: An educational institution that is nationally accredited, grants degrees at the associates, bachelor, professional, masters, and/or doctoral levels, and has a physical campus of at least five acres (campus signage is the responsibility of the destination).

Hospitals: An institution that provides primary health services and medical/surgical care to persons or primary inpatients who suffer from illness, disease, injury, deformity, or other abnormal physical/mental conditions. The facility must have 24-hour emergency care with a doctor on duty at all times (campus signage is the responsibility of the destination).

Institutions: A center operated by a municipality, county, state, or federal government unit that is open to the public.

Libraries: A repository for literary and artistic materials, such as books, periodicals, newspapers, recordings, films, and electronic media, kept and systemically arranged for use and reference operated either by the Municipality or by a non-profit organization. Private media outlets (ex: book stores, Best Buy, etc.) do not qualify under this definition.

Museums: A facility in which works of artistic, historical, or scientific value are cared for and exhibited to the general public. (Campus signage is the responsibility of the destination).

Observatories: A facility designed and equipped to observe astronomical, meteorological or other natural phenomena.

Religious Sites: A shrine, grotto, or similar type site, which is of a unique religious nature. The facility must have a minimum average of 20 visitors per day on the busiest day of the week.

Theaters, Performing Arts, and Concert Halls:

Any nonprofit facility used for the public's enjoyment of the performing arts with a minimum occupancy of two hundred people and associated parking.

DISTRICTS

Information Reach:

By creating an information hierarchy, you are providing all destinations with a further "reach" of information. (direct to Districts from a distance > then direct to individual destinations).

Guidelines for District Names:

If a district is already locally recognized, names should be reflective of cultural or known references.

Guidelines for District Names:

If a district is already locally recognized, names should be reflective of cultural or known references.

- Names should be simple and memorable by a person unfamiliar with the place
- When multiple zones are required, names should be distinctive both in terminology and pronunciation
- When a physical landmark, activity, or environment is so dominant that the general surrounding area becomes known by that landmark, activity, or environment

Guidelines for District Boundaries:

When determining district boundaries, one of the following situations should be present:

- Existing legal or formal boundary established by the Municipality
- Context: Boundary is defined by the character of the place (architecture, Environment, History, Activity).

- A physical element or landmark that creates a recognizable/physical boundary. This can be natural (river, mountains, etc.) or man made (highway, overpass, train tracks, etc).
- A cluster of similar attractions or activities located within a specific defined area (i.e. Arts District.

Theater District)

Business Districts: An area within a municipality which is officially designated as a business district by the local officials. This area commonly includes a mixture of corporate offices, service business, as well as shopping and dining.

Entertainment Districts: An area within a municipality where a cluster of shopping, dining, and attractions are located. While accessible to residents and visitors alike, these districts typically cater to regional and out of town guests through its activities, events, festivals, and arts & cultural opportunities.

Criteria For Inclusion

Historic Districts: A district or zone listed or, eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, maintained by the U.S. Department of Interior, or otherwise designated by the Municipality. Historic districts may provide the general public with a single, central location, such as a self-service kiosk or welcome center, where visitors can obtain information concerning the historic district.

Historic Districts may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Historic residential streets
- Shopping streets and districts
- Courthouses and public buildings
- Landmarks
- Buildings of architectural, design, or artistic merit

Medical Districts: An area within a municipality where a concentrated cluster of healthcare facilities, educational institutions, and medical offices are located.

Sports Districts: An area or complex of buildings within a municipality where a concentration of stadia, arenas, and/or sporting facilities are located.

University Districts: An area within a municipality where a concentrated cluster of educational facilities and institutions are located.

Urban Neighborhoods: A residential community organized in a formal association that meets four times a year at minimum. Private developments

are not eligible urban neighborhoods only receive Arrival Identification signs, not directional signage).

GOVERNMENT

Courthouses/Government Buildings: A public building, structure, or complex used by a federal, county, state, or municipal government for the purposes of convening official legal activities. Must be open to the public.

High Schools: A public education facility that has performing arts, exhibits, or concerts, and minimum occupancy capacity of one hundred and fifty people.

Military Bases: A facility operated by the state or federal government for the training or support of military troops, or for inventorying and warehousing military equipment.

HISTORICAL/ARCHITECTURAL

Historic Sites: A structure or place of historical, archaeological, or architectural significance listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, maintained by the U.S. Department of Interior, or otherwise designated by the municipality.

The site must be accessible to the general public and provide a place where visitors can obtain information about the historic site. Historic Sites may include the following, provided that they meet the criteria above:

- Houses
- Commercial buildings
- Farms, farmsteads, and barns
- Religious sites, places of worship, cemeteries, and monuments
- Bridges
- Encampments and battlefields
- Forts
- Railroad stations
- Water bodies
- Mills and factories
- Furnaces
- Coal mines and coke ovens
- Tollhouses
- Canals

RECREATIONAL

Waterfronts and Piers: An area with access to and views of the rivers, streams, and lakes, which are recognized by the municipality, county, or state as having significant recreational or cultural value and are open to the public a minimum of one hundred and eighty days per calendar year.

Boat Launches: A public facility for the launching of boats and parking of motor vehicles and trailers.

Campgrounds: A facility with continuous operation for at least six months per year and a minimum of twenty overnight sites. An attendant shall be available during the hours of operations and restrooms with showers, running water, and flushable toilets shall be available. A public telephone also shall be available on the site or within 500 feet of the property. Accommodations sold on annual or time-sharing basis, or otherwise not available for General Public use will not be counted toward the minimum requirements.

Canoeing, Rafting, and Kayaking: A public area with established canoeing, rafting, and/or kayaking facilities. Individual private facilities are not eligible for signage.

Golf Courses: A golf facility open to the public and offering at least nine (9) holes of play. Miniature golf courses, driving ranges, chip and putt-putt courses, and indoor golf shall are not be eligible.

Hiking and Biking Trails/Routes: An area designated for recreational hiking, biking, walking, etc. Which must be publicly accessible and owned and maintained by either the local or county government, the State Department of Conservation, and Natural Resources, or nonprofit organizations. Signs will only be installed at locations that direct motorists to an established trailhead with parking facilities.

Horseback Riding Areas: An area Designated for horseback/ponyback riding for the general public, troops, or for inventorying and warehousing military equipment.

Hunting and Fishing Areas: An area so designated and under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, or the Colorado Department of Fish and Wildlife.

National, State, and Regional Parks and Forests:

An area so designated and under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the State Historical and Museum Commission, the National Park Service, the U.S. Department of the Interior, a county government, or nonprofit organization with facilities open to the general public.

Parks - County: An area so designated and under the jurisdiction of a county government with facilities open to the general public.

Parks - Municipal: An area so designated and under the jurisdiction of a municipality with facilities open to the general public and enough amenities to appeal is beyond a particular neighborhood or singular district.

Sports Facilities - Local: A sports facility such as little league baseball fields, youth athletic fields, BMX courses, skateboard parks, etc. Recreational fields associated with K-12 schools are not considered a part of this system.

Water Skiing: An area designated for water skiing, jet skiing, or motorboats.

TOURIST SERVICES

Visitor Information Centers: A facility where the primary purpose is to provide information and tourist to support services. Adequate parking must be provided to support such a center.

Criteria For Inclusion

TRANSPORTATION

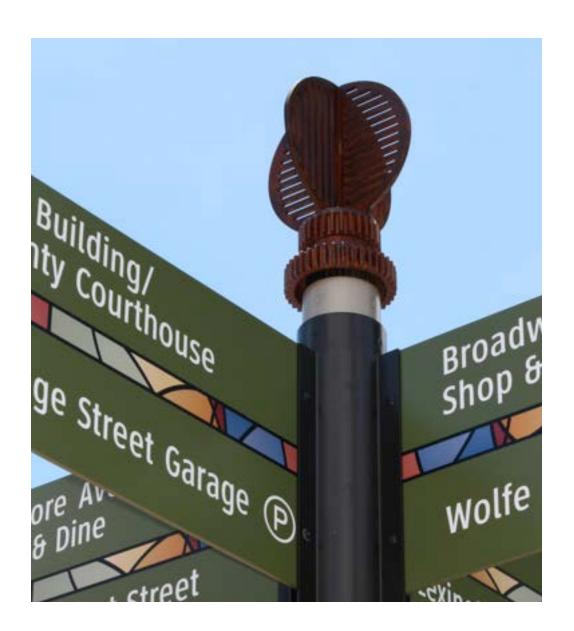
Airports: A public-use facility licensed by the department for the landing and taking off of aircrafts, as well as for receiving and discharging passengers and cargo.

Heritage Roads, Historic Routes, and Trails:

A road, trail, or route designated by the Department of Transportation Right-of-Way (ROW), the United States Department of the Interior, or another federal agency as part of a nationally or state recognized historic or heritage park/trail system. Bike paths are not eligible for signage under this system.

Parking Lots, Garages, and Decks: A parking facility for public parking. This includes all municipal-owned lots, not privately owned lots fees may or may not be charged for parking.

Railroads/Bus Stations: A passenger terminal utilized for discharging and picking up passengers and ticketing.



Wayfinding Elements

INTRODUCTION

The Explore Asheville Wayfinding Program encompasses a comprehensive array of wayfinding elements aimed at enhancing navigational experiences around Buncombe County, while also fostering a sense of place and identity.

These elements primarily include Wayfinding Signs, Information Kiosks, Interpretive Signs, and various placemaking elements such as gateways, public art installations, and lighting fixtures. Each component is specifically designed to cater to diverse user needs and preferences. However, the integration of these elements demands careful consideration of several factors, including eligibility for inclusion, specifications of sign types, estimation of costs, funding sources, engagement of consultants for specialized expertise, adherence to regulatory approvals, and anticipation of potential challenges in implementation and maintenance.

Balancing functionality, aesthetics, and practicality, the Explore Asheville Wayfinding Program strives to create an inclusive and seamless navigation experience while enriching the cultural and visual fabric of Buncombe County.

SIGNAGE

ELIGIBILITY: Based on the criteria for inclusion The planning effort may include Community Input and Stakeholder Interviews. (Coordinated by Explore Asheville) SIGN TYPES: Destinations may request to be listed on the following sign types:

- Vehicular Directional Signs
- Pedestrian Directional Signs
- Parking Directional (?)
- Municipal or District Identification Signs

DESIGN: Design shall follow the Explore Asheville Regional Wayfinding Maintenance Manual

PROJECT COSTS	FUNDING
Sign Planning	Explore Asheville
Fabrication & Installation	Explore Asheville

CONSULTANTS NEEDED: These elements can be accomplished through the Explore Asheville Regional Wayfinding Maintenance Manual. If a number of destinations need to be added or a complex route is required, a design / planning firm may be required.

APPROVALS: Explore Asheville and local municipalities as outlined in this manual

CHALLENGES (LOW): Included in existing Explore Asheville Wayfinding Project process, procedures, and funding initiatives

INFORMATIONAL and ORIENTATION SIGNAGE

ELIGIBILITY: Based on the criteria for inclusion SIGN TYPES: Destinations may request to be listed on the following sign types:

- Information Kiosks
- Orientation Map
- Interpretive Panel (Kiosk Only)

DESIGN: Design shall follow the Explore Asheville Sign Stands Manual

PROJECT COSTS	FUNDING
Sign Planning	Explore Asheville
Map Design	Explore Asheville
Interpretive Panel Design	Explore Asheville
Fabrication & installation	Explore Asheville

CONSULTANTS NEEDED: A graphic designer will be needed for Orientation Maps and Interpretive Panels. The structures can be accomplished through the Explore Asheville Sign Standard Manual.

APPROVALS: Explore Asheville and local municipalities as outlined in this manual.

CHALLENGES (MEDIUM): The structures and panel designs are included in the existing Explore Asheville Wayfinding Project, including procedures and funding initiatives, but require some design and content development, this adds cost; project. management and lead time to the effort.

PLACEMAKING/LANDMARKS

ELIGIBILITY: Districts or Points of Interest organized through a formal or informal business association or community group, where regular meeting are held (minimum of bi-annually).

Requests are reviewed annually by the Explore Asheville Wayfinding Working Group to determine feasibility, challenges, opportunities, costs and the available funding

Note: This process is for projects that fall outside of other established permitting/encroachment processes for private structures installed in the private realm and constitute a significant and long-term impact on structural and/or urban design aspects of the public right of way/public realm. Additional approvals and coordination with the local municipality may be required.

SIGN TYPES: Placemaking elements can be accomplished through a variety of physical elements:

- Gateway (Overhead)
- Gateway Sign
- Landmark
- Lighting
- Landscape Architecture
- Public Art
- Murals

DESIGN: Designs are unique to each community and environment in which they are completed. The design should follow the spirit of the Explore Asheville Signage Program and the desires of the local community.

POTENTIAL PROJECT COSTS_

Design and Planning
Documentation/Engineering
Landscape and Lighting Design
Utilities (Power)
Right-of-Way Acquisition
Fabrication and Installation
Maintenance

CONSULTANTS NEEDED: This effort may require a environmental graphic designer, engineer, lighting designer, landscape architect, or interpretive planner.

APPROVALS: Explore Asheville and local municipalities as outlined in this manual.

Depending on the type, size, and placement of the placemaking feature, additional approvals may be required by city councils, planning boards, and historic commissions.

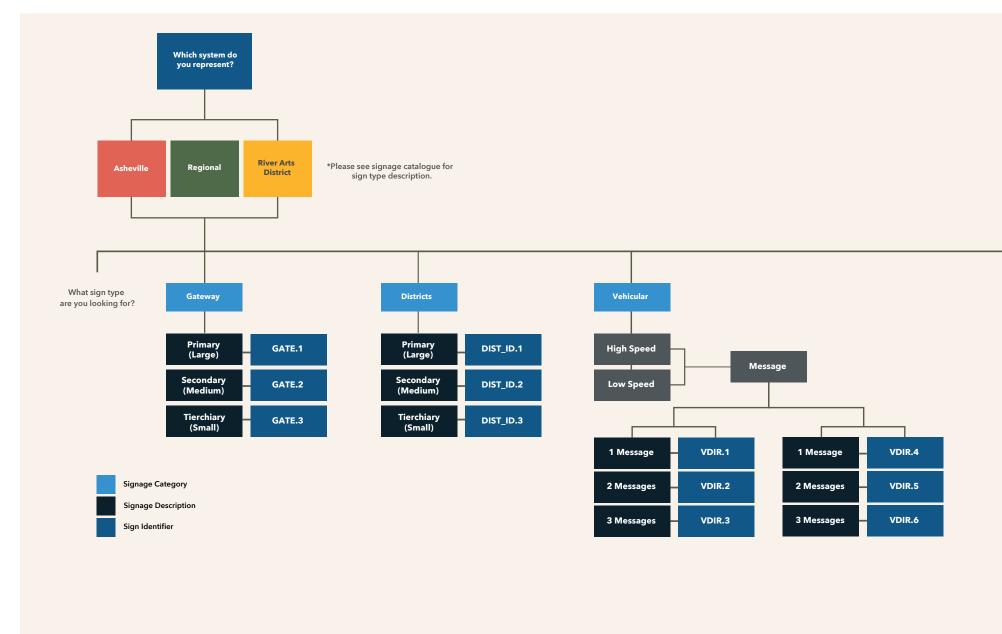
Local codes, policies and zoning requirements should be confirmed prior to starting design or planning.

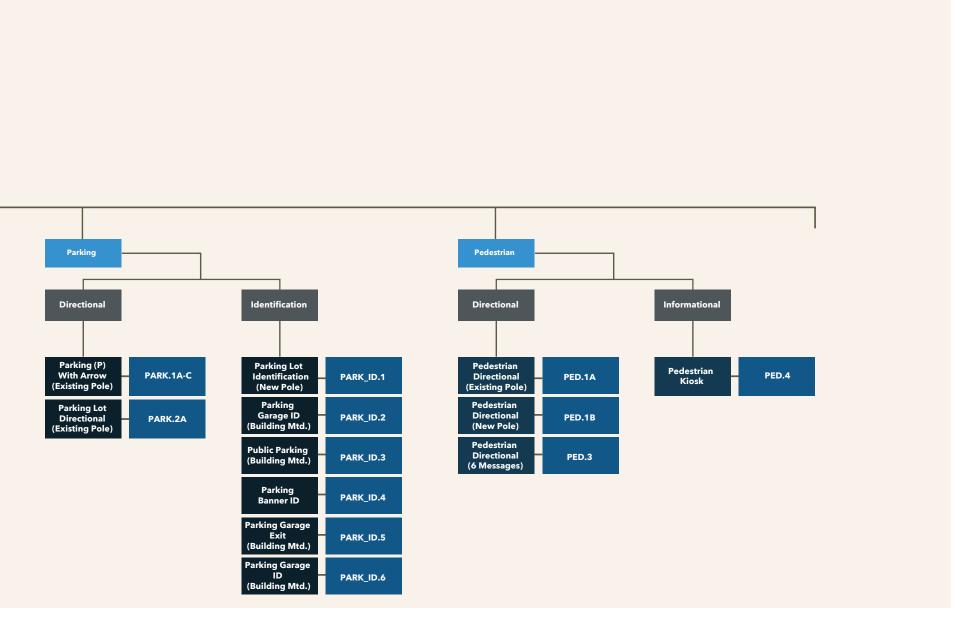
CHALLENGES (HIGH): Requires a full design, planning, and documentation effort. This type of initiative may also include engineering, public engagement, and a variety of internal and external approvals.

Maintenance: Depending on the type of placemaking element, the cost of annual and long-term maintenance should also be considered.

Recommendation: For singular landmarks, proposer should offer alternate locations in the event the desired location is not feasible.

Sign Type Selection Process





Sign Types Catalog

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
ASHEVILLE	GATE.1 Primary City Gateway (Large)	A primary city gateway is a prominent entrance or access point into a city. This signtype is often marked by significant architectural features that reflect the city's identity and history.
ASHEVILLE	GATE.2 Secondary City Gateway (Medium)	A secondary city gateway identifies an entrance or access point into a city.
ASHEVILLE	GATE.3 Tierchiary City Gateway (Small)	A tierchiary city gateway identifies an entrance into a city.

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
RIVER ARIS DISTRICT	DIST_ID.1 Primary District Gateway (Large)	A primary district gateway sign in a city serves to designate and highlight specific areas or neighborhoods.
DOWNTOWN	DIST_ID.2 Secondary District Gateway (Medium)	A secondary district gateway sign serves to mark less prominent entrances to a district or neighborhood within a city.
ASHEVILLE	DIST_ID.3 Tierchiary District Gateway (Small)	A tertiary district gateway sign marks the least prominent entrances to a district or neighborhood within a city. This signtype reinforces the district identity.

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
Ashevitte Art Museum ↑	VDIR.1 Vehicular Directional (1 Message)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.1 sign type only directs to one destiantion and is located on local roads 25mph or less.
Town Hall Thomas Wolfe House Civic Center C	VDIR.2 Vehicular Directional (2 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.2 sign type only directs to two destiantions and is located on local roads 25mph or less.
Asheville Ast Museum Thomas Wolfe House Asheville Comm Theatre	VDIR.3 Vehicular Directional (3 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.3 sign type only directs to three destiantions and is located on local roads 25mph or less.

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
Visitor Center ↑	VDIR.4 Vehicular Directional (1 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.4 sign type only directs to one destiantion and is located on main roads 25mph or higher.
Visitor Center Grove Park Inn River Arts District →	VDIR.5 Vehicular Directional (2 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.4 sign type only directs to two destiantions and is located on main roads 25mph or higher.
Visitor Center ↑ River Arts District Farmers Market ←	VDIR.6 Vehicular Directional (3 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.4 sign type only directs to three destiantions and is located on main roads 25mph or higher.

Sign Types Catalog

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
	PED.1A Pedestrian Directional (Existing Pole)	A pedestrian directional sign in a city or town is designed to guide people on foot to their destinations. This sign type can have up to six messages.
	PED.1B Pedestrian Directional (New Pole)	A pedestrian directional sign in a city or town is designed to guide people on foot to their destinations. This sign type can have up to six messages.
	PED.3 Pedestrian Directional	A pedestrian directional sign in a city or town is designed to guide people on foot to their destinations. This sign type can have up to six messages.

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
	PED.4 Pedestrain Kiosk	The pedestrian kiosk provides information located at key gathering areas. These kiosks typically feature maps, directories, and information about nearby attractions, amenities, public transportation routes, and services.
	PARK.1A-B Parking Directional (Existing Pole)	A parking directional sign in a city or town is designed to guide drivers to available parking areas, such as parking lots, garages, and street parking.
	PARK.1C Parking Directional (Existing Pole)	A parking directional sign in a city or town is designed to guide drivers to available parking areas, such as parking lots, garages, and street parking.

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
Public Problem Civic center Garage	PARK.2A Parking Directional (Existing Pole)	A parking directional sign in a city or town is designed to guide drivers to available parking areas, such as parking lots, garages, and street parking.
Well St. Galage Grove Arade Ashevitle Aft Museum City Building	PAR_ID.1 Parking Identification	A parking lot identification sign is designed to clearly mark and identify specific parking areas, such as lots or garages, within a city or town
RANKIN AVENUE GARAGE ENTRANCE CHAMMET F-4"	PARK_ID.2 Parking Identification (Building Mounted)	A parking identification sign above a parking garage serves to prominently display the name or designation of the parking facility.

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
Public Parking P	PARK_ID.3 Parking Identification (Building Mounted)	A parking identification sign above a parking garage serves to prominently display the name or designation of the parking facility.
Position	PARK_ID.4 Parking Identification Banner	A parking identification banner is a large, often temporary sign used to clearly identify and promote the location of a parking facility. These banners are typically hung in prominent, highly visible areas.
	PARK_ID.5 Exit Identification Exit Identification Grivers safely and efficient out of a parking facility. These signs are strategica	
EXIT ONLY		placed to indicate the direction and location of exits.

Sign Types Catalog

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
CIVIC CENTER GARAGE	PARK_ID.6 Garage Identification	A parking identification sign above a parking garage serves to prominently display the name or designation of the parking facility.

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
Wance Historic Site	R-VDIR.1B Vehicular Directional (1 Message)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.1 sign type only directs to one destination and is located on local roads 25mph or less.
Montreat College Tisitors Center	R-VDIR.2A Vehicular Directional (2 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.2A sign type only directs to two destiantions and is located on local roads 25mph or less.
Audubon Husseum Vance Historic Site	R-VDIR.2B Vehicular Directional (2 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.2B sign type only directs to two destiantions and is located on local roads 25mph or less.

Design Reference	Sign Type Description	
Visitors Center Montreat College College	R-VDIR.4A Vehicular Directional (1-2 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.4A sign type only directs to one destiantion and is located on main roads 25mph or higher.
State Historic Site Vance Birthplace	R-VDIR.4B Vehicular Directional (1-2 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.4B sign type only directs to one destination and is located on main roads 25mph or higher.
	PED.4 Pedestrian Kiosk	The pedestrian kiosk provides information located at key gathering areas. These kiosks typically feature maps, directories, and information about nearby attractions, amenities, public transportation routes,
		and services.

Sign Types Catalogue

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
RIVER ARTS DISTRICT	LANDMARK.1 Monument Sign	A monument sign is designed to identify and highlight significant or historically important features within a city or town.
RIVER ARTS DISTRICT	GATE.1 District Gateway (Large)	A primary district gateway is a prominent entrance or access point into a city. This sign type is often marked by significant architectural features that reflect the city's identity and history.
Skateparks	VDIR.1 Vehicular Directional (1 Message)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.1 sign type only directs to one destiantion and is located on local roads25mph or less.

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
Public Parking A Jean Webb Park Cotton Mill	VDIR.2 Vehicular Directional (2 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a townor city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.2 sign type only directs to two destiantions and is located on local roads 25mph or less.
Riverview Station Curve Studios Depot Street Studios C	VDIR.3 Vehicular Directional (3 Messages)	This sign type guides users through a town or city. Direct to destinations at major intersections. VDIR.3 sign type only directs to three destiantions and is located on local roads 25mph or less.
	PARK.1 Parking Identification	A parking lot identification sign is designed to clearly mark and identify specific parking areas, such as lots or garages, within a city or town

Design Reference	Sign Type	Description
	PED.3 Pedestrian Directional	A pedestrian directional sign in a city or town is designed to guide people on foot to their destinations. This sign type can have up to six Messages.
	PED.4 Pedestrian Kiosk	The pedestrian Kiosk provides information located at key gathering areas. These kiosks typically feature maps, directories, and information about nearby attractions, amenities, public transportation routes, and services.

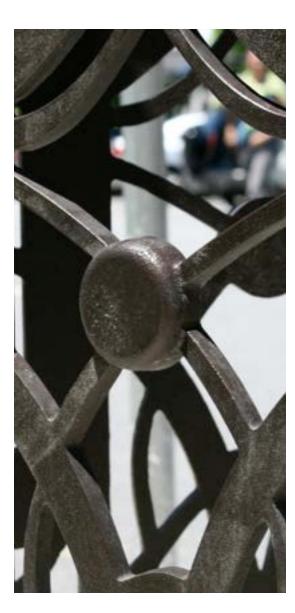
Maintenance & Management

Maintenance & Management

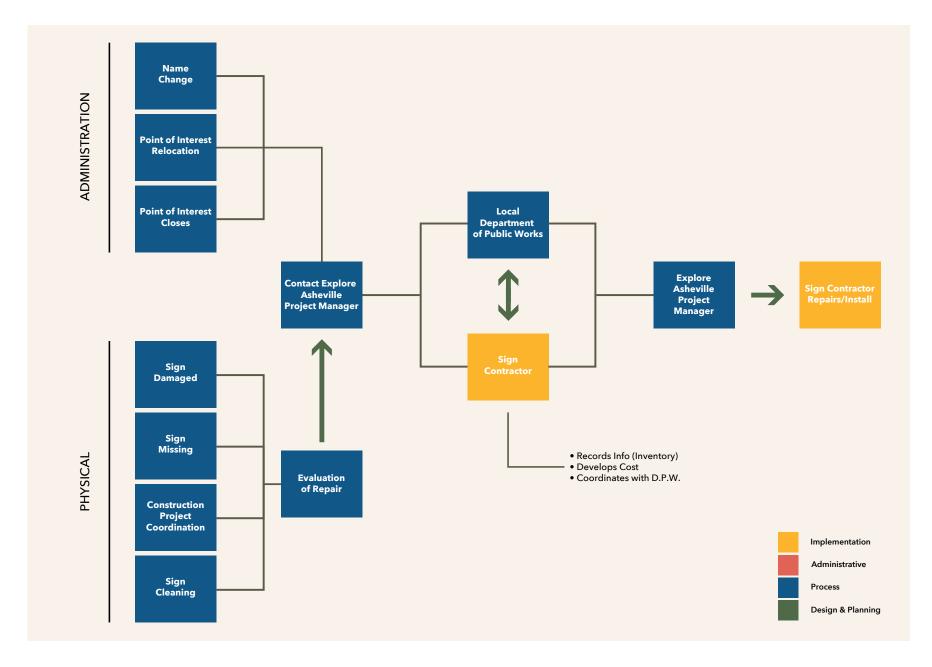
This section addresses the ongoing maintenance needs of the signage infrastructure, outlining best practices for addressing various maintenance scenarios, such as damage, wear and tear, or changes in signage requirements. By adhering to these guidelines, municipalities and stakeholders can ensure that our signage remains in optimal condition, enhancing safety, accessibility, and overall user experience.

Technical specifications outlined in this manual provide detailed guidance on signage materials, construction methods, and installation techniques, ensuring durability, longevity, and compliance with industry standards. Whether you're requesting a new sign or repairing an existing one, you'll find the technical information you need to achieve optimal results.

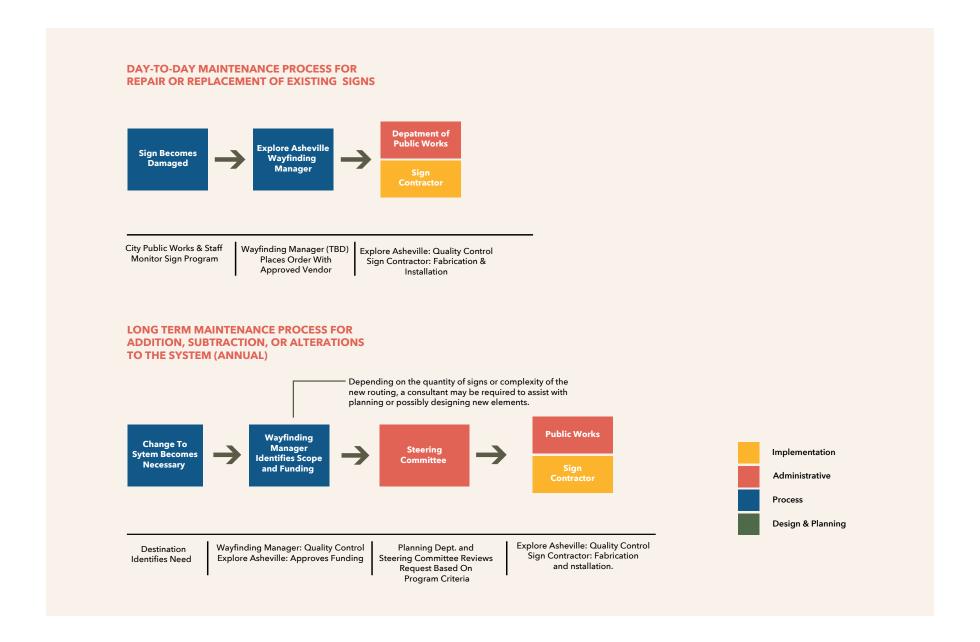
Finally, this manual clarifies the responsibilities associated with signage maintenance, outlining the roles and obligations of participating municipalities, stakeholders, and other relevant parties. By fostering collaboration and accountability, we can collectively uphold the integrity and effectiveness of our signage infrastructure, benefiting our community as a whole.







Maintenance Flow Chart Intro | Administration | MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT | GRAPHIC STANDARDS



CARE PROCESS

This project is fabricated and installed by Geograph Industries, Inc.

Should any issue arise, please contact the Geograph Project Manager or staff member via email or phone.

PROCESS:

- TAKE PHOTOS take as many digital photos as needed to document the current issue, as detailed as possible.
- 2. SEND VIA EMAIL email the photos to the Geograph.
- CALL follow up by phone to the Geograph Project Manager. They will have additional answers which may help remedy the situation quickly.
- 4. SOLUTION Geograph will respond with a time frame to resolve the issue.

*IMPORTANT NOTICE

All properties should be reviewed by the owner on a daily basis and inspected more thoroughly on a weekly basis, looking for any potentially dangerous situations for guests or employees. If a situation is noticed and perceived to be a hazard to anyone, it is the owner's responsibility to remove or secure the risk immediately to prevent others from coming into contact with the risk. Upon securing the risk, contact eograph for resolution.

GRAPHIC CARE

Applied Vinyl/Directly Printed Reflective Vinyl & Map Prints

- 1. Use a clean, soft, lint-free cloth.
- VERY lightly moisten the cloth with warm water only (DO NOT use a saturated wet cloth or towel). A mild detergent/soap mixture can be used if necessary (1 teaspoon of mild soap flakes with 2 cups of warm water).
- Dab soiled areas with the very lightly moistened cloth and lightly wipe down the area.
- 4. Pat dry.
- 5. DO NOT scrub at any time.
- 6. DO NOT use any rough-faced surface to clean.
- 7. DO NOT pressure wash.

SHERINE PRINTS

- 1. Start with the least aggressive cleaner and work up from there.
- 2. A soft, non-abrasive cloth with isopropyl alcohol will remove a lot of dirt, debris, and graffiti from sign faces.
- 3. Allow the surface to dry completely in the open.

- 4. Next, clean the surface using a soft, nonabrasive cloth and a natural, citrus-based cleaner (ex: 3M Industrial Cleaner).
- Finally, any remaining graffiti can be removed with a paint thinner. This should be used sparingly by applying the thinner to a soft, non-abrasive cloth.

*IMPORTANT

- * Using a saturated cloth, any cleaners, or a rough-faced material to clean the graphic may result in peeling around the edges, color dulling, or ink/vinyl removal.
- * Please remember that graffiti-resistant laminate is just that, resistant. There are some very harsh graffiti paints out there, and while the laminate does a very good job at resisting most of them, the laminate can not be expected to be 'bullet proof' and some very harsh paints may not be able to be removed.

GRAPHIC CARE

DIMENSIONAL LETTERS

- 1. Use a clean, soft lint-free cloth.
- 2. VERY lightly moisten the cloth with warm water only. (DO NOT use a saturated wet cloth or towel) A Mild Detergent/Soap Mixture can be used when necessary. (1 tsp. of mild soap flakes with 2 c. of warm water)
- Dab soiled areas with the very lightly moistened cloth and lightly wipe down the area.
- 4. Pat dry.
- DO NOT scrub at any time.
- DO NOT use any rough-faced surface to clean.
- 7. DO NOT pressure wash.

PAINTED ALUMINUM SURFACES

- 1. Use clean, soft lint-free cloth.
- 2. VERY lightly moisten the cloth with warm water only. (DO NOT use a saturated wet cloth or towel) A Mild Detergent/Soap Mixture can be used when necessary. (1 tsp. of mild soap flakes with 2 c. of warm water)

- 3. Dab the spots of soiled areas with the very lightly moistened cloth and lightly wipe down the panel.
- 4. Pat dry.
- DO NOT scrub at any time.
- DO NOT use any rough-faced surface to clean.
- 7. DO NOT pressure wash.

HEAVIER CLEANINGS

- 1. Wash the panel, frame and base with a mild liquid detergent such as Original Green, Palmolive, or another dish soap to remove dirt or debris.
- 2. If still soiled, spray area with a biodegradable green cleaning solution such as ZEP Green All Purpose Cleaner. Work across the panel and into channels with a sponge and rinse thoroughly.
- 3. For permanent marker, graffiti, or paint removal (not for urethanes based paints), it is recommended to use Smooth Max & Max Wipes. These products can be purchased at Graffiti Solutions, Inc. Follow the product's instructions carefully.

WAX APPLICATIONS (TO PAINTED SURFACES ONLY)

- 1. If you wish to lightly wax the painted aluminum panel, it is recommended to use with 3M Ultra Performance Paste Wax 09030 after cleaning. Follow instructions carefully.
- 2. ABSOLUTELY DO NOT use this product on any vinyl or printed vinyl surfaces

IMPORTANT

* Using a saturated cloth, any cleaners, or a rough-faced material to clean the graphic may result in peeling around the edges, color dulling, or ink/vinvl removal.

Maintenance Matrix

Sign Longevity	0-4 Years	5-9 years	10-15+ years
Design and Planning	Design: General evaluation of positive and negative aspects of the system. Planning: City in-house maintenance based on new request and circulation/destination updates.	Design: General evaluation of positive and negative aspects of the system. Planning: Contract with a consultant to analyze major changes to the City and necessary system adjustments. 1 or 2 updates possible during this time period.	If the system has not been analyzed since implementation, a major update. Outside consultants will be required to review and inventory the system, as well as make suggested changes based on new circulation, destinations, etc.
Vandalism	Annual cleaning/repair. Stickers and graffiti are most common. Cleaning solvents and Goo-Gone are typical products utilized.	Parts replacements and full sign replacement as needed. Cleaning solvents and Goo-Gone are typical products utilized.	Parts replacements/full sign replacement as needed. Cleaning solvents and Goo-Gone are typical products utilized.
Cleaning Schedule	Annual Cleaning	Annual Cleaning	Annual Cleaning

Sign Longevity	0-4 Years	5-9 years	10-15+ years
Management/ Administration	Weekly coordination transitioning to quarterly coordination between City and fabricator during year 1 and 2. Day-to-day monitoring of the system, based on the City's observations, safety issues and citizens reports.	Annual coordination between City and fabricator. Day-to-day monitoring of the system, based on the City's observations, safety issues and citizens reports.	Annual coordination between City and fabricator. Day-to-day monitoring of the system, based on the City's observations, safety issues, and citizen's reports.
Breakaway Product: Transpo	Maintenance Free - covered under Warranty for 3 years.	Maintenance Free - consider general review as part of yearly inspection process.	Maintenance Free - consider general review as part of yearly inspection process.
Reflectivity Life Span: 3M High Intensity Diamond Grade	Covered under warranty for 5-8 years	Covered under warranty for 5-8 years. Reflectivity may be effective beyond the warranty period. Individual signs may require sheeting to be replaced during this time period.	Reflectivity becomes less effective, if not previously replaced. 10-15 years is the maximum lifespan.

Maintenance Matrix

Sign Longevity	0-4 Years	5-9 years	10-15+ years
Custom Color Life Span: 3M High Intensity Diamond Grade	Covered under warranty for 3 years. Color generally maintained beyond warranty period, depends on direction sign panel is facing.	Fading may begin depending on the direction sign panel is facing. Individual signs may require sheeting to be replaced during this time period.	Fading occurs, if not previously replaced. 10-15 years is the maximum lifespan.
General Materials: Aluminum Sign Panels & Posts	Specifications require 5 year fabricator warranty for workmanship. General wear-and-tear maintenance required.	General wear-and-tear maintenance required.	General wear-and-tear maintenance required.
Painted Surfaces	Covered under manufacturers warranty. General maintenance and touch-up will be required.	Warranty expires. Typically color holds up beyond warranty period. Fading may begin depending on the direction sign panel is facing. Individual signs may require individual parts to be replaced during this time period.	Fading occurs based on direction sign panel is facing. 10-15 years is the maximum expected lifespan.

Sign Longevity	0-4 Years	5-9 years	10-15+ years
Sign Panels/Fasteners	Specifications require 5 year fabricator warranty for workmanship. General repairs and replacement due to auto incidents or vandalism. Inspect welds and fasteners for connection integrity.	Quantity of repairs increases if not maintained previously. Inspect welds and fasteners for connection integrity.	Consider full inventory of system and repairs based on consistency of maintenance and up keep over the years.
Brackets/Fins/Details	Specifications require 5 year fabricator warranty. General repairs and replacement of parts due to auto incidents or vandalism. Inspect welds and fasteners for connection integrity.	Quantity of repairs increases if not maintained previously. Inspect welds and fasteners for connection integrity.	Consider full inventory of system and repairs based on consistency of maintenance and up keep over the years.
Concrete Footers	Maintenance free. Inspect structural integrity-similar to any construction project.	Maintenance free. Inspect structural integrity-similar to any construction project.	Maintenance free. Inspect structural integrity-similar to any construction project.

Graphic Standards

LOGO



COLORS





PMS 7506C, 7506U



PMS 2448C, 179U











FIDDLE HEAD

PMS 2298C, 2298U

FIR PMS 4214C, 364U

FRENCH BROAD PMS 324C

TYPOGRAPHY

PRIMARY

Aktiv Grotesk -Regular
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
0123456789

Aktiv Grotesk - Medium

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

0123456789

Aktiv Grotesk - SemiBold

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

0123456789

SECONDARY

Zilla Slab - SemiBold

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

0123456789

Zilla Slab - SemiBold Italic

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

0123456789

Zilla Slab - Bold

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

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ACCENT

MAINSTAIL - CAPS

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

0123456789

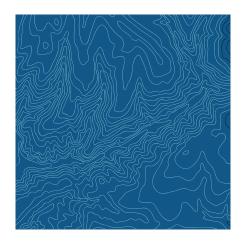
Mainstail - Script

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXL

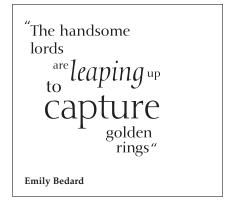
abcdefghijklmnopgrstuvwxyz

0123456789

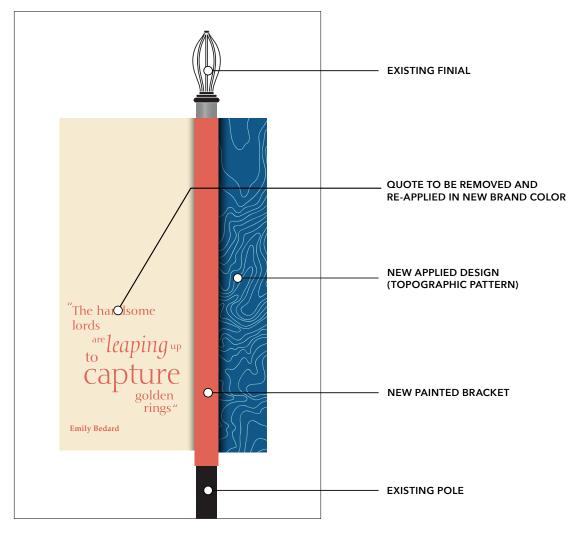
SIGNAGE ARTWORK



BRAND ELEMENT A
TOPOGRAPHY
(FULL)



ARTWORK AINSPIRING QUOTES



VDIR.2
VEHICULAR DIRECTIONAL
(PAINTED AND REFACED DESIGN)

Asheville Finials

ENHANCING ASHEVILLE'S WAYFINDING SIGNS

We aim to help people easily explore Asheville by up keeping a well-designed wayfinding signage system, featuring finials created by different local artists. These decorative tops, inspired by Asheville's diverse flora, fauna, and rich cultural heritage, add a distinctive charm to the city. Each finial serves as a miniature landmark, making navigation simpler for visitors, while celebrating the artistic spirit of Asheville. This thoughtful blend of functionality and creativity enhances the overall experience, allowing tourists to immerse themselves fully in the vibrant ambiance of the city.



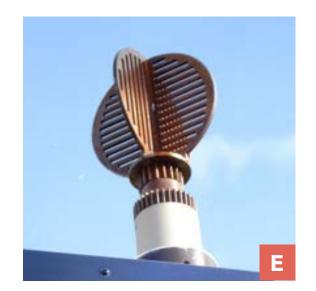


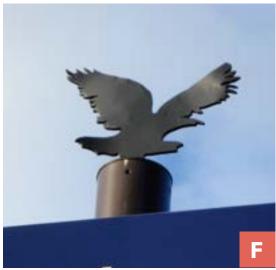


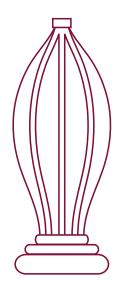




Regional/River Arts Finials

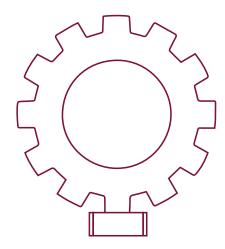




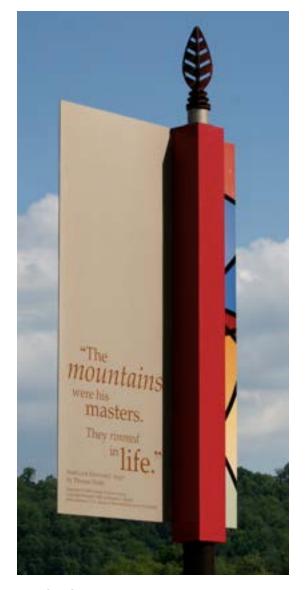




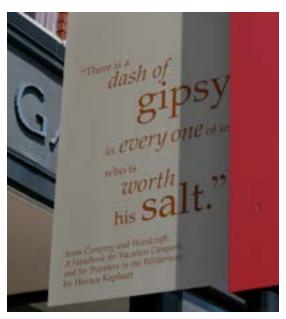




Inspiring Quotes







"But thou reignest

queen for ever,

Child of Appalachian hills..."

from Swannanoa by Anonymous

1

VOICES FROM THE ASHEVILLE COMMUNITY

The wayfinding signage system in Asheville, N.C. features inspiring quotes on the back of each sign, showcasing the voices of local community members. These quotes, selected from individuals who inspire and contribute to the vibrant spirit of Asheville, offer visitors a glimpse into the city's collective wisdom and values. Each message reflects the unique perspectives and motivations of Asheville's residents, adding a thoughtful and personal touch to the navigation experience.

EXISTING

"Beauty **Nature** perfection"

from "Squaring the Circle" by O. Henry

"Nothing happens unless

from "Washington Monument by Night" by Carl Sandburg

"Time has worn And left them

> wise and humble and kind."

from These Be The Mountains That Comfort Me by Elia W. Peattie

"There is a dash of

in $\it every one$ of us who is worth

from Camping and Woodcraft: A Handbook for Vacation Campers and for Travelers in the Wilderness by Horace Kephart

"Born a million years ago

you million years"

from "Blue Ridge" by Carl Sandburg

"The mountain town...

was for him the

centre

from Look Homeward, Angel by Thomas Wolfe Copyright @1929 Charles Scribner's Sons, Copyright Renewed 1957 by Edward C. Aswell, Administrator C.T.A., Estate of Thomas Wolfe and/or Fred Wolfe

5

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Inspiring Quotes

"The mountains were his masters.

They rimmed in life."

from Look Homeward, Angel by Thomas Wolfe

Copyright ©1929 Charles Scribner's Sons, Copyright Renewed 1957 by Edward C. Aswell, Administrator C.T.A., Estate of Thomas Wolfe and/or Fred Wolfe

8

"So he held to the idea of another world, a better place, and he figured he might as well consider

Cold Mountain to be the location..."

from Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier "Every bright
"Image"
in the visible world
shadow
of a
diving
thing..."

from *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier

10

"For the French Broad

above all a

live country."

from *The French Broad* by Wilma Dykeman

11

"By climbing one mile up

certain mountainsides you can travel...

thousand miles north."

from The French Broad by Wilma Dykeman "I'm **not** a has-been

&

I'm **not** a will-be;

I'm an *is-er*."

from *The Far Family* by Wilma Dykeman

13

"What you take from here

from "Watershed"

by Laura Hope-Gill

"I've got so much to about burdens,

from The Road by John Ehle

"We were homemade children, stitched together homemade love."

from "Mama's Magic" by Glenis Redmond

by Ron Rash

"I cast memory out like a

from Saints at the River

15

"Everything means something, that's my

from Midquest: A Poem by Fred Chappell

16

"Here I am," they sang, having become their

from The Ballad Singers by Kathryn Stripling Byer

19



Interpretive Panel Planning

INTERPRETIVE STRATEGY CONSIDERATIONS

- Identify Sites
- Stories: Broad Topics vs. Single Story
- Themes and Common Threads
- Opportunities and Elements Beyond Signage
- Support Materials: Digital, Print, Marketing
- Support: Events and Festivals
- Is there a sequence of info
- Connections between sites: Literal and Thematic

INTERPRETIVE PANEL HURDLES

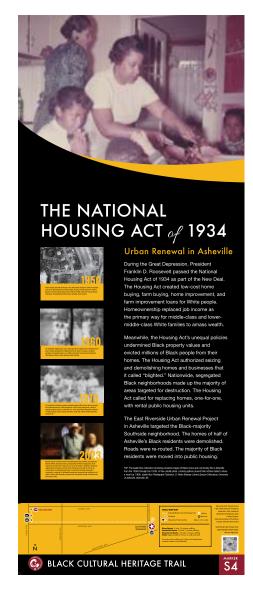
- Content Accuracy and Agreements
- Photography: Copyright
- Stock Photography: Cost
- Content: Too Much vs. Too Little

INTERPRETIVE PANELS: CONTENT

- Headlines and Subheading
- Body Copy (150 Words)
- Photography: Stock Photos, Existing Photos, etc.
- Graphics: Charts, Maps, Patterns, etc.
- Multi-lingual (?)
- Sponsors

COST ISSUES

- Structure: Fabrication and Installation
- Panel: Size and Quantity
- Material: Durability and Lifespan
- * **NOTE:** Entities interested in applying for interpretive signage should adhere to the Explore Asheville Tourism Product Development Fund Grant cycle. Non-profits with viable projects are encouraged to apply.







EXAMPLE OF INTERPRETIVE PANELS









NEW KIOSK IMPLEMENTATION

Information kiosks should be strategically placed in high-traffic areas to maximize visibility.

IDEAL LOCATIONS:

- Public Transportation Hubs
- Major Attractions
- Busy Commercial Districts
- Parks & Recreational Areas
- Parking Lots

EXISTING KIOSK MAINTENANCE

Kiosk structures should be cleaned and maintained regularly. Additionally the user information should be current and up to date at all times.

INFORMATION TO UPDATE / REVIEW:

- Interpretive Information
- Maps
- Rules and Regulations

CONTENT OPTIONS:

- Intepretive Panel
- Мар
- Regional Map
- Downtown Map
- Local Map

EXISTING PEDESTRIAN KIOSKS

