



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Rhode Island Division

February 9, 2021

380 Westminister Mall, Suite 601
Providence, RI 02903
401-528-4541 - Phone
401-528-4542 - Fax
www.fhwa.dot.gov/ridiv/index.htm

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-RI

Mr. Robert Rocchio, P.E.
Chief Engineer, Infrastructure
Rhode Island Department of Transportation
Two Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903-1124

Subject: Purple Heart Trail Road Signs

Dear Mr. Rocchio,

In reference to your email dated February 8, 2021, requesting FHWA approval to fabricate and install signs that are not in accordance with MUTCD standards, we offer the following;

Although an honorable endeavor, this type of sign is in conflict with the MUTCD. Any roadway sign within the right-of-way must provide safety, regulatory, or guidance information. Signs placed within the right-of-way are considered traffic control devices, and therefore this request is not consistent with the fundamentals of the MUTCD and the requirements for consistent application of traffic control devices within a right-of-way.

If RIDOT wishes, they can certainly include such information within Rest Areas, Welcome Centers, Park-n-Rides, or other similar roadside sites.

Should you require any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact Wil Hernandez at (401)767-7721.

Sincerely,

Carlos C. Machado, M.B.A
Division Administrator

Cc: Peter Alviti
Steve Pristawa