ACT
Government

SIGNAGE FOR URBAN PARKS & OPEN SPACES

MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE STANDARDS 22

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1/0				
1/1	N/A	Acknowledgement of country added		
	1.1.1.1	Acknowledgement of Aboriginal culture added		
	1.1.2.1	ACT legislation relocated from Commonwealth Legislation section		
	1.1.2.4	MIS 06, MIS 10, MIS 12, MIS 16 and MIS 17 added		
	1.2.2.2	Aboriginal cultural site significance added		

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) acknowledge that Aboriginal people are the Traditional Owners of Australia. We acknowledge and pay respect to the Ngunnawal peoples as the custodians of the land and waters that we live and thrive on today here in the ACT.

TCCS acknowledges that Canberra's cultural and natural heritage was maintained by the Ngunnawal people for many generations before colonial settlement on Australian soil. Aboriginal people's management of the land preserved the natural balance of local plants and animals. This knowledge of the environment in which we live is critical to the protection and restoration of our land today.

It is our responsibility to preserve and encourage Ngunnawal, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural integrity. When using this document, consider opportunities to incorporate Ngunnawal, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture into signage for Urban Parks and Open Spaces.

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LIST OF FIGURES

1 SIGNAGE FOR URBAN PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

1.1 General

Urban Parks and Open spaces are important elements of the green infrastructure network facilitating recreational, social and environmental functions of the city. Effective signage can increase patronage and enhance user experience.

Signage can be an effective communication tool for place identification, place making and wayfinding. Signage in parks and open spaces can encourage use and active lifestyles by identifying user facilities/activities within the setting, providing wayfinding to elements or spaces and assisting users in navigating through the spaces.

Signage can assist wayfinding through the space to destinations beyond and should consider that people may be passing through a space as part of a longer journey.

A cohesive suite of signs across the ACT's open space network and urban realm is vital in creating easily recognisable and legible cues for communicating uses, places and wayfinding. A standard set of signs ensures that efficient maintenance and timely replacements can be made when required.

1.1.1 Responsibilities

1.1.1.1 Objectives

The planning and design of park and open space signage:

> Acknowledge Ngunnawal, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander land, people and culture;
> Provide a means for TCCS to continue implementing its core accountabilities for maintaining signage assets to current Standards for safety, access and function;
> Promote the establishment of a cultural and community identity that is representative of, and appropriate to, the place;
> Encourage inclusive recreational and social interaction, contributing to a strong sense of community and an enhanced lifestyle for community members;
> Provide increased residential and environmental amenity for users and increased activity;
> Ensure linkage with nearby areas and neighbourhoods are considered and appropriate facilities are provided to meet ser needs, using the ATRA System;
> Provide a safe, functional accessible and attractive environment;
> Contribute to the economic vitality of Canberra and its environs by encouraging opportunities for ecologically sustainable development and tourism, including events and attractions in public urban spaces;
> Make urban places, parks and open spaces identifiable;
> Minimise social problems by applying principals of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED);
> Encourage active living through the provision of facilities for passive recreation and outdoor activities, including Active travel, and community gathering spaces;
> Make the urban realm, parks and open spaces easy to navigate within and through;
> Ensure proposed designs and spaces are in line with local context, accounting for nearby facilities and complimentary spaces;
> Minimise energy consumption, waste and greenhouse gas production during construction and across the life of the asset; and
> Consistent suite of appropriate signage.

Scope: This document covers the purpose, legislation, types, design and siting of signage. The signage within this document has been categorised as;

> Park and open space signs;
> Lake recreational direction signs;
> Canberra central signs; and
> Conservation signage.

Signage encompasses landscape architecture, lighting and landmarks and the design of siting should reference the appropriate MIS documents for holistic design responses (*MIS 16 Urban open space*, *MIS 17 Shopping centres and commercial areas*, and *MIS 24 Soft landscape design*).

Other directional signage that may be found in open spaces that are not covered by this standard include:

> Bicentennial Trail markers (refer *MIS 05 Active travel facilities design*);
> Equestrian Trail guidance (refer *MIS 05 Active travel facilities design*);
> Centenary Trail markers and guidance (refer *MIS 05 Active travel facilities design*); and
> Community Route Directional Signage (refer *MIS 05 Active travel facilities design*).

1.1.1.2   Precedence

Where any document issued, except legislation or the *Territory Plan*, referenced in this Municipal Infrastructure Standard (MIS) includes technical requirements that conflict with this MIS, consult with the service authority and TCCS for clarification.

1.1.2 Cross references

1.1.2.1   Commonwealth legislation

The following Commonwealth Legislation is relevant to this Standard:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Amendment Act

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act

Disability Discrimination Act

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act

National Environment Protection Act

National Capital Plan, National Capital Authority, Canberra, February 2002

1.1.2.2   ACT legislation

The following ACT Legislation is relevant to this Standard:

Building Act

Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act

Discrimination Act

Heritage Act

Human Rights Commission Act

Legislation Act

Nature Conservation Act

Planning and Development Act

Planning and Development Regulation

Public Roads Act

Public Unleased Land Act

Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Act

Road Transport (General) Act

Land (Planning and Environment) Act

The Territory Plan, Planning and Land Management, Department of Urban Services, Canberra, 2000.

Tree Protection Act

Waste Minimisation Act

Work Health and Safety Act.

1.1.2.3   ACT Government Strategic Documents

City Action Plan Government Actions and Investment in the City

Canberra: A Statement of Ambition

ACT Government Infrastructure Plan 2011-2021

Transport for Canberra: Transport for a Sustainable City 2012-2031

Building an Integrated Transport Network Active Travel

The ACT Planning Strategy – Planning for a Sustainable City

Statement of Planning Intent

The City Plan

The Canberra Spatial Plan

Canberra Plan: Towards Our Second Century

Towards Zero Growth – Healthy Weight Action Plan

ACT Climate Change Adaption Strategy

ACT Waste Management Strategy 2011-2025

ACT Government Strategic Plan – Contaminated Sites Management

Heritage Assessment Policy

ACT Heritage Strategy 2016-2021 (draft)

1.1.2.4   Design Standards

This Standard references the following component Standards:

MIS 05   Active travel facilities design

MIS 06   Verges

MIS 10   Fences, guardrails and barriers

MIS 12   Guide signs

MIS 14   Public lighting

MIS 16   Urban open space

MIS 17   Shopping centres and commercial areas

MIS 24   Soft landscape design

MIS 25   Plant species for urban landscape projects

1.1.2.5 Specifications

The following Specifications are related to this Design Standard:

MITS14   Road Signs

1.1.2.6 TCCS Reference Documents

The following TCCS reference documents are related to this Standard:

Reference document 6   Design Acceptance submissions

Reference document 7   Operational acceptance submissions

Reference document 8   WAE quality records

Reference document 9   Final acceptance submissions

1.1.2.7 Design guides

The following design guides are related to this Standard:

Requirements for Design Acceptance Submissions, ACT Government

Advisory Notes on Access to Premises, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

TCCS codes and design guides for designing and constructing assets

ACT Crime Prevention and Urban Design Resource Manual, ACT Government

Active Travel Infrastructure Practitioner Tool

Building an Integrated Transport Network - Parking

Australian Road Rules, National Road Transport Commission

Consultation Protocol: A Guide to Consultation Processes for the ACT Government, Chief Ministers Department, Canberra

The Code of Practice for the Placement of Moveable Signs in Public Places, Canberra Urban Parks and Places, Territory and Municipal Services

ACT Government Branding Guidelines, Chief Minister's Department

Communications Unit DUS Branding Guidelines, Department of Urban Services Communications Unit Specifications for use of the Urban Services Logo, Department of Urban Services Communications Unit

1.1.3 Referenced documents

The following documents are incorporated into this Design Standard by reference:

1.1.3.1   Standards

AS 2342   Development, Testing and Implementation of Information and Safety Symbols and Symbolic Signs, Standards Australia.

AS 2416   Design and Application of Water Safety Signs, Standards Australia

AS 2899.1   Public Information Symbol Signs. Part 1: General Information Signs, Standards Australia

AS 2899.2   Public Information Symbol Signs. Part 2: Water Safety Signs, Standards Australia.

AS/NZS 1554 Structural steel welding, Standards Australia

AS 1627   Metal finishing - preparation and pre treatment, Standards Australia

AS 1650   Hot dipped galvanized coatings on ferrous articles, Standards Australia

AS 4089   Priming paint for steel - Single component - General purpose, Standards Australia

AS 4100   Steel structures, Standards Australia

AS/NZS 4600 Cold formed steel structures, Standards Australia

AS 1742   Manual of uniform traffic control devices

AS 1742.1   Part 1: General introduction and index of signs

AS 1742.2   Part 2: Traffic control devices for general use

AS 1742.5   Part 5: Street name and community facility name signs

AS 1742.6   Part 6: Tourist and service signs for motorists

AS 1743   Road signs- Specifications

AS 1744   Forms of letters and numerals for road signs (known as standard alphabets for road signs)

ISO 7001   Graphical symbols – Public information symbols

ISO 17049   Accessible design – Application of braille on signage, equipment and appliances

1.1.3.2   Other documents

AP-T47   Revision of Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice, Part 8: Traffic Control Devices

AP-G88   Cycling aspects of Austroads guides

AGRD   Austroads Guide to Road Design

AGRD06A   Part 6A: Pedestrian and Cyclist Paths

National Construction Code

Environment protection policies (ACT Government), including:

ACT EPA Environmental Protection Guidelines for construction and land development in the Act

Active Living Impact Checklist – A tool for developments in the Australian Capital Territory

ACT Arts Policy

ACT Government Public Art Guidelines

Waste and Recycle Management Code for the ACT

A Guide for: Using Public land for Outdoor Dining Purposes

A Guide for: Outdoor bars

ACT Heritage Assessment Policy

ACT Heritage Register

ACT Sustainable Energy policy, Energy for a Sustainable City 2011-2020

ACT Public Unleased land (Movable Signs) Code of Practice 2013 (No 1)

National Fire Protection Association NFPA130 guidelines

'Planning for Active Travel in the ACT; Active Travel Infrastructure – Interim Planning Guideline'.

ACT Water Sensitive Urban Design General Code

Canberra Central Design Manual

Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia

ACT Estate Development Code

Proprietary products: To TCCS Products previously considered for use list

1.1.4 Interpretations

1.1.4.1 Abbreviations

General: For the purposes of this Municipal Infrastructure Standard the following abbreviations apply:

AUSTROADS: Association of Australasian Road Transport and Traffic Agencies

ATRA: Active Travel Route Alignments

CPTED: Crime Prevention Though Environmental Design

DS: Destination signs

KLS: Key Locator sign

MCR: Main Community Route

NCA: National Capital Authority, ACT Government and its successors

NCC: National Construction Code

NMA: National Museum of Australia

RS: Reassurance signs

TCCS: Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate, ACT Government and its successors

1.1.4.2 Definitions

General: For the purpose of this Municipal Infrastructure Standard, the definitions of terms used to define the components of the road reserve are in conformance with *AS 1348, Glossary of Austroads Terms* and *AGRD03*.

Active living: A way of life that integrates physical activity into daily routines.

Active Travel Route Alignments (ATRA): The spatial alignments of the five ATN route types as detailed in this Design Standard. Routes include both planned future routes where the alignment remains unfixed and existing routes where the alignment is defined.

Active Travel Infrastructure Practitioner Tool (ATIPT): A web-based user interface that provides access to spatial mapping of the route alignments for walking, cycling and equestrian routes (ATRA) as well as access to planning and design policies, guides and other information relevant to the planning and design of active travel infrastructure in the ACT. The tool is available for use by all stakeholders including government agencies, developers and consultants.

Climate change: The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change defines climate change as "a change in the state of the climate that can be identified (e.g. using statistical tests) by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer. It refers to any change in climate over time, whether due to natural variability or as a result of human activity."

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED): Aims to prevent crime by designing spaces and buildings that foster human activity and interaction using four key principles: natural surveillance to limit the opportunity for crime; natural access to encourage the movement of people into spaces that are open and inviting; territorial reinforcement to maintain a sense of ownership by the local community; and target hardening to make it difficult to steal or vandalise property.

Passive Recreation: Recreation activities that are not about physical movement or activity. Examples of passive recreation include nature gazing, reading, having a picnic and talking.

Passive surveillance: Also referred to as natural, informal or casual surveillance. Surveillance undertaken by a person which is incidental to the primary purpose of their presence. Passive surveillance occurs as people go about their daily lives. Environments that foster greater human activity or are designed to allow passive surveillance can improve the actual and perceived safety of an area.

Path: A paved off-road facility of varying width and surfacing for shared use by pedestrians and cyclists. All paths, including paths adjacent to streets, are shared by pedestrians and cyclists in the ACT, differing from NSW and Victoria where cyclists over 12 years of age are not permitted to ride on paths unless appropriately designated.

Planning Authority: The ACT Government agency responsible for planning.

Playground or Play Space: An area designed for children's play, including the site, natural features, built landscape, and any manufactured equipment and surfacing.

Public Urban Space: Unleased Territory Land within the urban area set aside for public use.

Street and park furniture: A term used to describe all of the peripheral objects that help create functional and appealing outdoor spaces for public use.

Trail: An off-road facility for walking and/or cycling or horse riding with a surfacing to suit the general recreational purpose and its intended user group(s). May be coincident with, and share the same facilities as, a Community Route.

Urban Open Space: Unleased Territory Land within the urban area set aside for public and recreational use.

Water sensitive urban design (WSUD): An approach to urban planning and design that aims to integrate the management of the urban water cycle into the urban development process.

Wayfinding: The National Heart Foundation Australia refers to wayfinding as the manner in which people orientate themselves in their physical environment and navigate from one place to another. It incorporates the processes of knowing where you are, where you are going, the best way to get there, recognising when you have arrived at your destination and knowing how to leave the area. It can also include indications of where people shall not go.

1.2 Park and open space signs

1.2.1 Park and open space types

The family of signs is based on a 'hierarchy' of parks and open spaces, each having its own unique variation on the overall signage style.

1.2.1.1 Town Parks

Town Parks are formal parks typically adjacent to main town centres serving 50,000 to 100,000 people. They are managed to a high standard, usually with trees, street furniture, mown and irrigated grass, paving, sculpture, shrub and flower beds. Town parks are subject to intensive use and may host special events.

Main entries to town parks may include bespoke entry signage/landscape that reflects the character of the setting. Signage at other entries and throughout the park shall be as per the standards outlined in this document.

1.2.1.2 District Parks

District Parks are extensive informal parks ranging in size from 4 to 10 hectares and serving a catchment area of 25,000 to 50,000 people. They include mown grassland, car parking and a diversity of recreation facilities such as picnic areas, barbecues, swimming and wading beaches or pools, adventure playground and skateboarding facilities.

Main entries to town parks may include bespoke entry signage/landscape that reflects the character of the setting. Signage at other entries and throughout the park shall be as per the standards outlined in this document.

District Parks are included as destinations on Local Community Route directional signs and are to be included on destination signs from a distance of 1-3km away.

1.2.1.3 Neighbourhood Parks

Neighbourhood Parks are small, usually 0.25 to 2 hectares in area, and reflect the character of the land and neighbourhood. These are parks typically used for recreation that include playground facilities and are located in residential areas. Parents with young children are the main users.

1.2.1.4 Urban Open Space

Urban Open Space is comprised of Pedestrian Parkland, Native Grassland Sites, Semi-natural Open Space, Lakes and Ponds. Wetlands may occur in these areas. Open space signage is also applicable to playing fields.

1.2.2 Sign types

Signs have been designed for the following purposes:

1.2.2.1 Identification Signs

Identification signs are used to identify entrances to parks and open space.

1.2.2.2 Information signs

General: Information signs increase visitor appreciation of the site, minimise management problems and maximise safety. These may include:

> Ngunnawal and Aboriginal cultural site significance;
> Information signs relative to features and facilities, though not as detailed as interpretive signs;
> Interpretive signs which provide the visitor with a deeper understanding (usually educational) of their surroundings by explaining the significance of what they may be feeling, touching, seeing, hearing etc;
> Maps to give graphic and / or worded indication of a visitor's current location, landmarks, features, routes and amenities; and
> Regulatory / advisory / safety signs which control movement and activity for user comfort and site management, informing users of known dangers, and warning against unsafe behaviour.

1.2.2.3 Directional signs

General: Directional signs are used to guide visitors to specific destinations, attractions, facilities and amenities.

1.2.3 Sign designs

1.2.3.1 Town Park Signs

General: Town Parks Signs have a formal design reflective of their setting. They are designed to a pedestrian scale, and are intended to be positioned in hard landscaping.

Requirement: Town Park signs colours shall be:

> 'Butterscotch' frame and post colour; and
> Green sign face and white text.

Identification Signs

General: Identification signs are used to identify entrances to parks and provide initial regulatory and contact information relevant to the whole park. Entrances are usually for pedestrians, and are generally located facing the street. An Identification Sign is shown in **Figure 22-1 Identification Sign and Directional Sign.**

Requirement: Identification signs shall carry:

> The name of the park;
> Welcome message;
> The ACT Government logo; and
> The enquiries telephone number.

Directional Signs

General: Directional Signs are used to provide directions within parks, and are post-mounted in a similar design to street signs. Directional signs should be installed at all decision points to enable a user to easily navigate to a destination. They are primarily for pedestrians; however in parks which carry vehicular traffic signs may include appropriate directions such as to parking or exits. A Directional Sign is shown in **Figure 22-1 Identification Sign and Directional Sign**.

Requirement: Directional signs shall incorporate pictograms. Directional signs shall not include logos.

Figure 22-1 Identification Sign and Directional Sign

Information Signs

General: Information signs provide information about parks and may include a map, interpretation, and information about park features and amenities. They may also contain regulatory information.

They are generally located inside the boundaries of parks, near entrances or areas where people meet or congregate at a focal point or facility, for example a playground.

They are of a similar design to identification signs but without a curved top. An Information Sign is shown in **Figure 22-2 Map and Information Sign with Pictograms and Interpretive Sign.**

Requirement: Information signs shall:

> Carry the ACT Government logo at a small size as part of a map or interpretive information.
> The logos shall be placed so as not to distract attention from the information being conveyed.
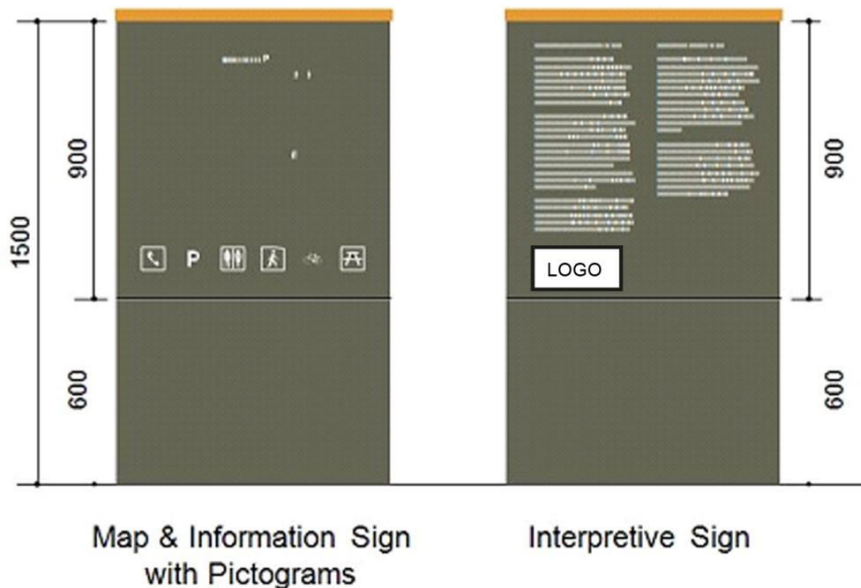
Figure 22-2 Map and Information Sign with Pictograms and Interpretive Sign

1.2.3.2   District Park Signs

General: District Park Signs are of a less formal design than Town Park signs and are generally installed in soft landscaping or natural settings.

Requirement: District Park signs shall be:

> Red frame and post colour; and
> Green sign face and white text.

Major identification signs

General: Major Identification signs are used to identify primary park entrances, primarily at entrances on roads where visibility to approaching vehicular traffic is important.

Requirement: Identification signs shall include regulatory information relevant to the whole park only.

Secondary identification signs

General: Secondary identification signs are used to supplement the message of the major identification sign, and are typically located inside the park. A map, interpretive information and regulatory information may be included on secondary identification signs.

Minor identification signs

General: Minor Identification signs announce minor or pedestrian entrances to parks. These are typically located near or attached to an information sign and may include regulatory information.

District Park Identification signs

District Park identification signs shall carry:

> The name of the park;
> Welcome message (on all except secondary identification signs);
> ACT government logo; and
> The enquiries telephone number.
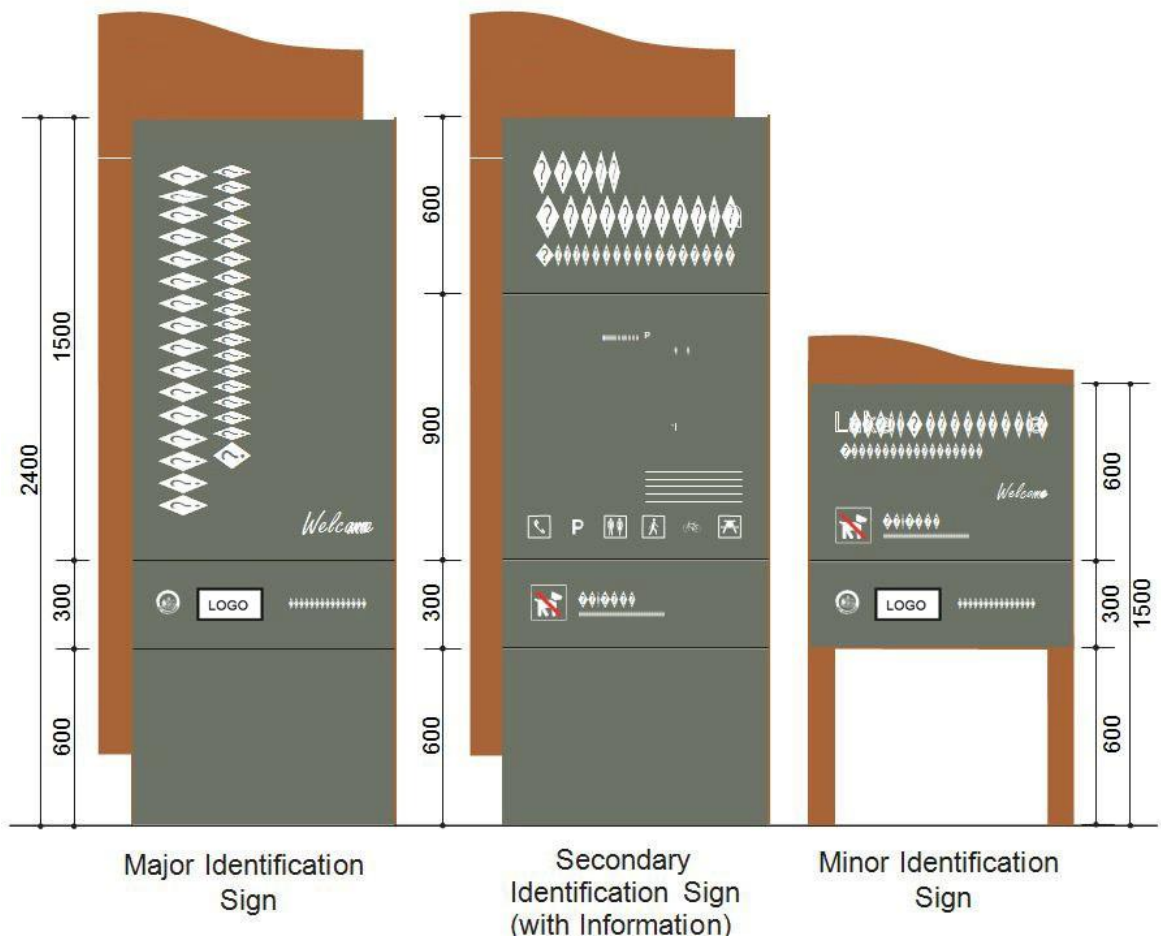
Figure 22-3 Major Identification Sign, Secondary Identification Sign and Minor Identification Sign

Directional signs

General: Directional Signs are used to provide directions within parks. They are located at all decision points to enable a user to easily navigate to a destination. They are primarily for use by pedestrians and cyclists. The signs are low to reduce visual intrusion into their natural or bushland setting.

Directional signs share the same construction as information signs, including materials, colours and fabrication details.

Requirement: Directional signs shall:

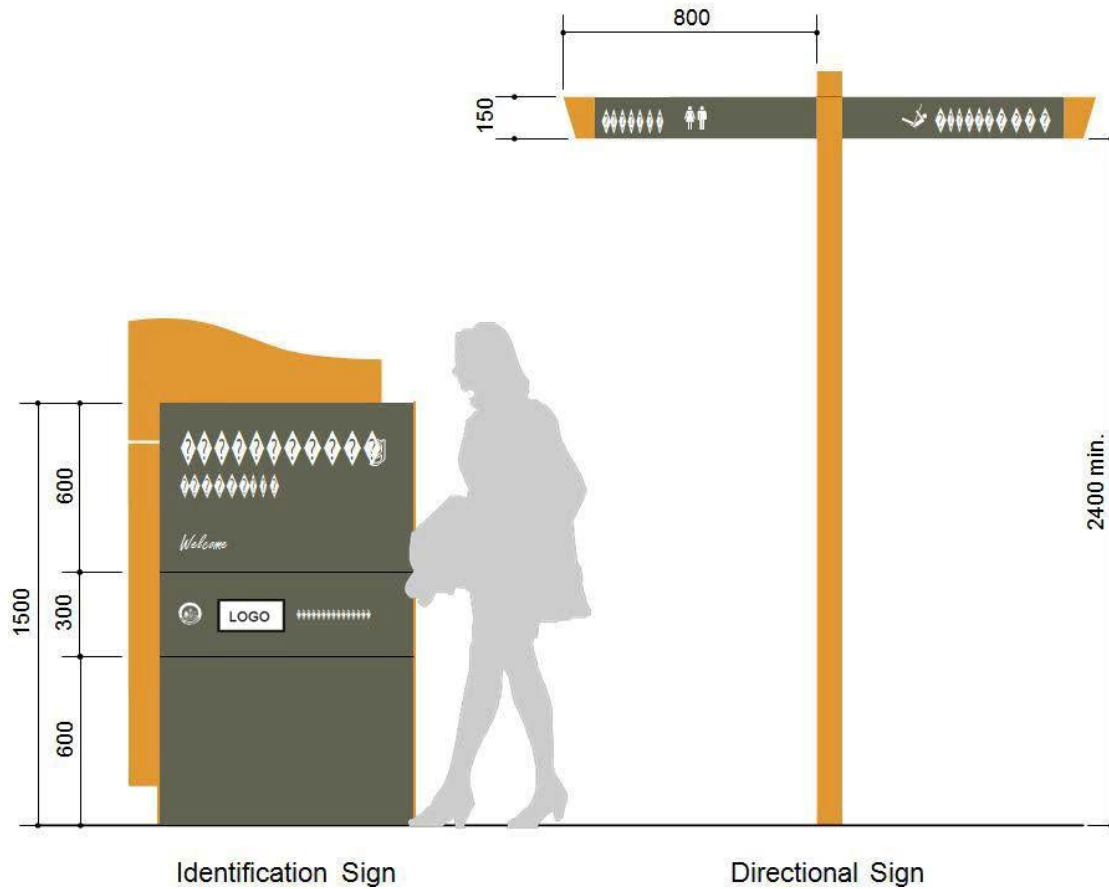> Be constructed to allow double-sided graphics; and
> Not include logos.
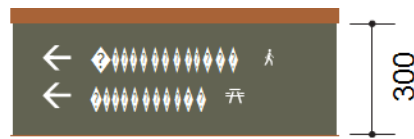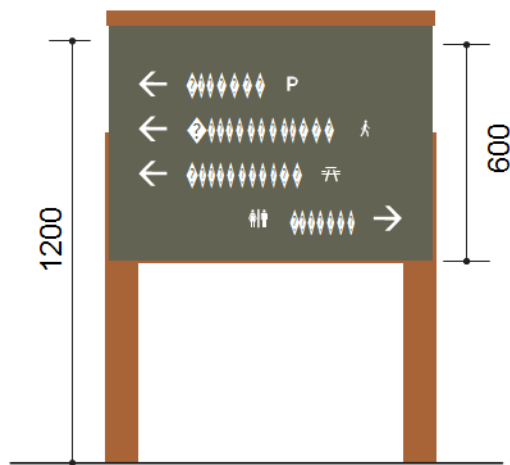
Figure 22-4 Directional Sign

Information signs

General: Information Signs provide information about parks and may include a map, interpretation and information on park features and amenities. This type includes notice signs to assist with the identification of amenities and functions, and regulations. They are located inside parks near entrances or where people meet or congregate such as car parks or major features, look-outs or picnic areas.

Information signs share the same construction as directional signs, including materials, colours and fabrication details.

Requirement: Information may be incorporated into secondary or minor identification signs; however detailed or comprehensive interpretation shall not be incorporated into major identification signs. Where there is too much information to fit on one sign a second sign shall be used.

Requirement: Interpretive signs shall carry the ACT Government logo. Regulatory and notice signs do not carry logos.
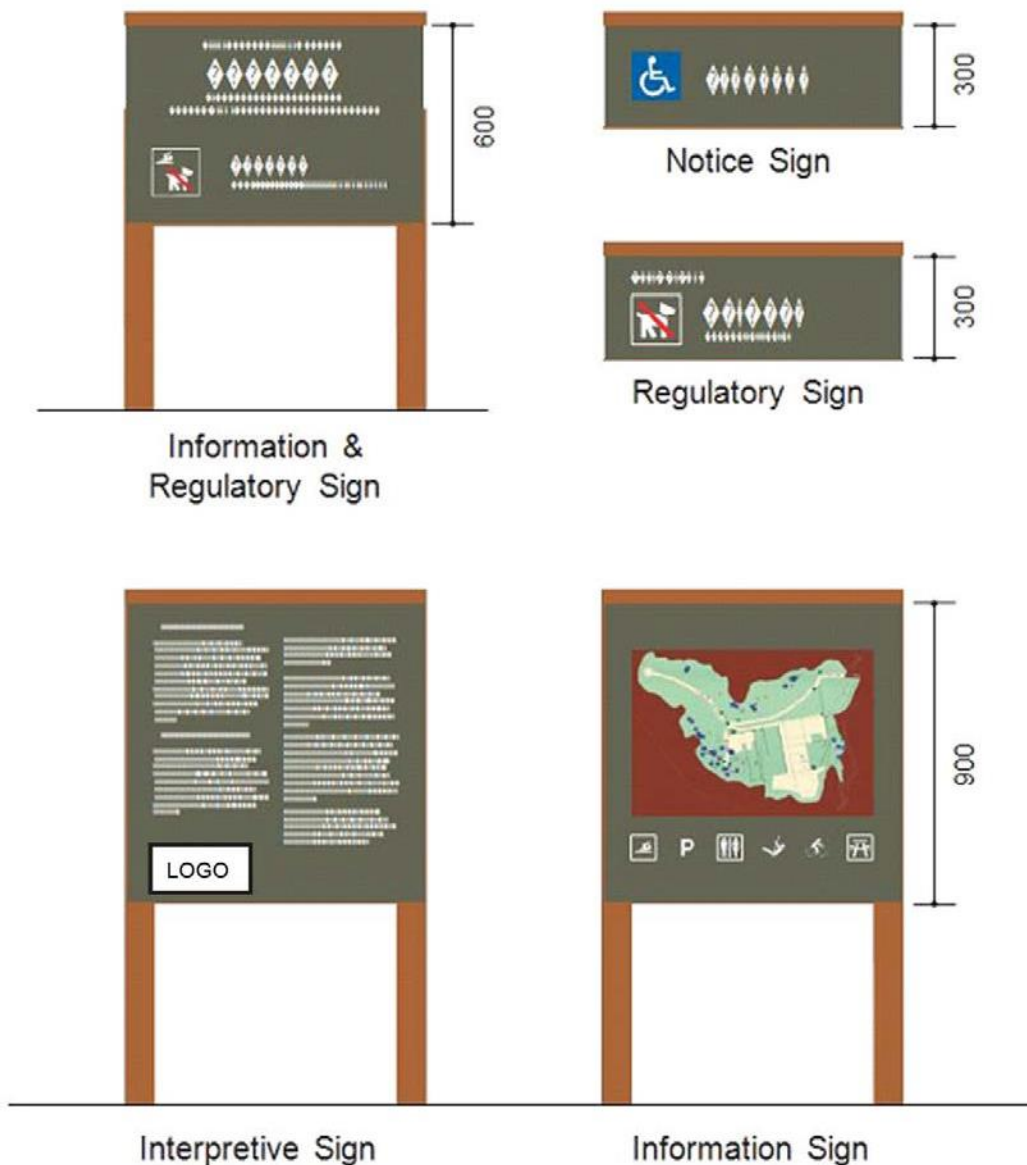
Figure 22-5 Information & Regulatory Sign, Regulatory Sign, Interpretive Sign and Information Sign

1.2.3.3 Neighbourhood Park Signs

Neighbourhood Park signs are the simplest of the three park sign types. They consist of posts of two different heights (2100 or 1200mm) for park identification, directions and basic information.

Neighbourhood Park identification signs shall be:

> Blue capping colour
> Green sign face; and
> White text.

Identification signs

General: Identification signs are used to identify parks to those passing by on surrounding roads, or to identify specific pedestrian entrance points where these exist. Information may be presented on a single or several sign faces depending on their location and orientation.

Neighbourhood Park identification signs carry the name of the park on one side, and ACT Government logo and the enquiries telephone number on the other.

Some limited interpretive information may be included beneath the logos.

Requirement: Larger amounts of informative text shall require a separate Neighbourhood park information sign.
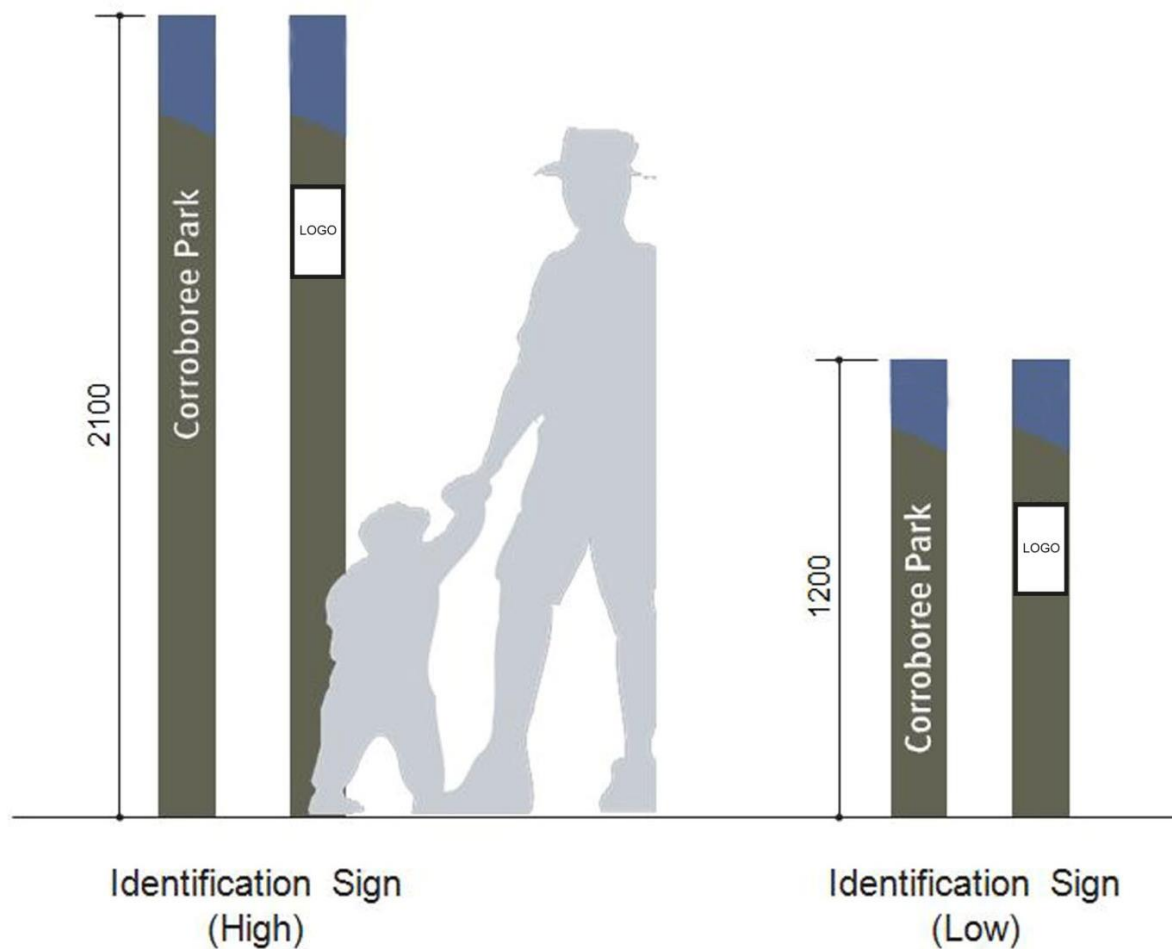
Figure 22-6 Identification Sign (High) and Identification Sign (Low)

Directional Signs

General: Directional Signs in Neighbourhood Parks are to be used where warranted by the size of the park, the extent of its facilities and visibility. Directional signs are located at decision points on routes through the park and where directions to park facilities are not readily visible.

Directional signs do not have the blue colouring.

Requirement: Directional signs shall:
> Be direction arrows and pictograms; and
> Not include logos.

Information Signs

General: Information Signs carry minimal information relating to the Neighbourhood Park, limited to those parks where interpretive information or information on features or amenities is required.
Information signs may also be used for regulatory information or notices.

Where warranted by larger amounts of information, a larger sign equal to Urban Open Space information sign may be used.

Requirement: Information signs shall not include logos**.**
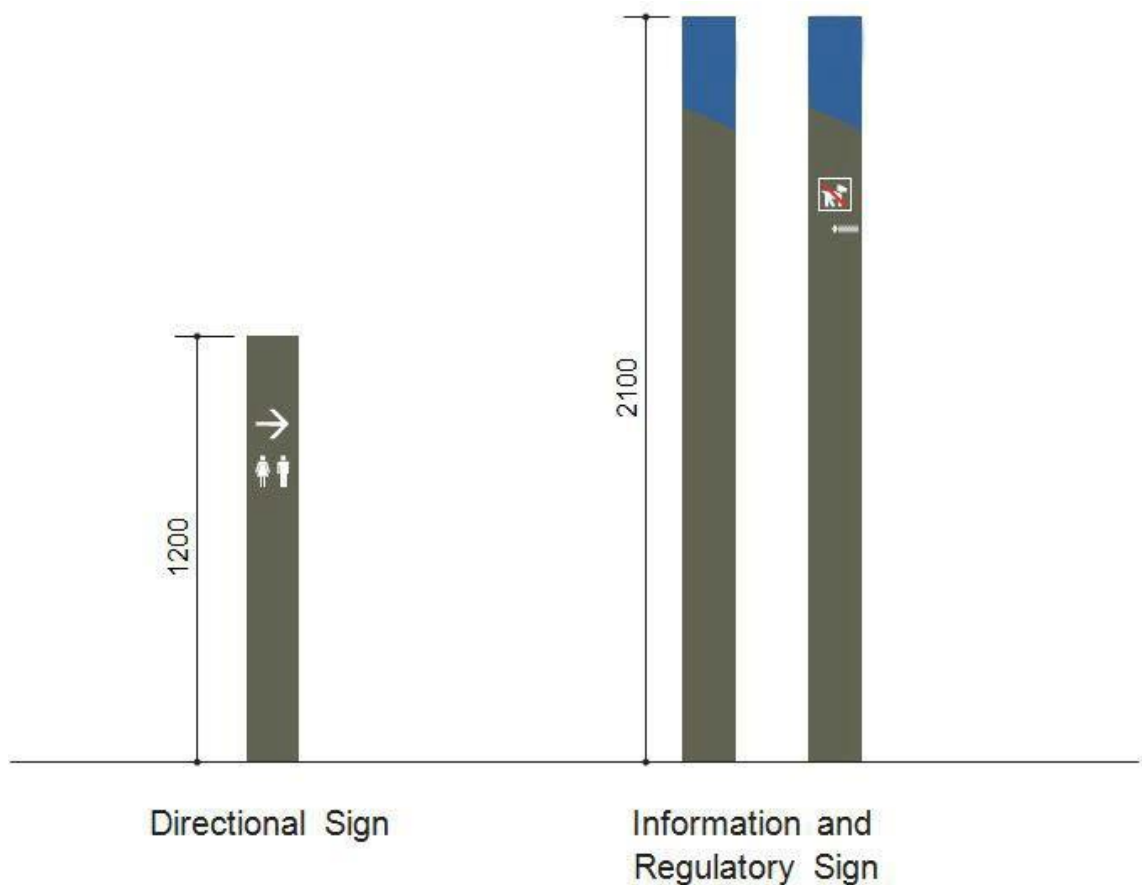
Figure 22-7 Directional Sign and Information and Regulatory Sign

1.2.3.4   Urban Open Space Signs

These signs are to be used in areas other than Town, District or Neighbourhood Parks. These areas may include wetlands, sports fields, heritage sites and recreation trails. Such areas are often not formally named and may not require entrance identification, but may require regulatory information and directional signs.

Urban Open Space signs adopt the construction of minor identification, directional, and information signs.

Requirement: Urban Open Space signs shall be

> Green frame colour to match the sign face; and
> White text.

Identification Signs identify and announce arrival at site features, for example wetlands and significant historic features. A map or interpretive information may be included, or displayed on a separate information sign located nearby.

Urban Open Space identification signs carry the name of the feature being identified, maps and information as required, ACT Government and ACT Government logo, and the enquiries telephone number.

Directional Signs

Directional Signs are located along trails at decision points and at turn-offs from main routes to particular features or amenities. They are primarily for use by pedestrians and are low to reduce visual intrusion. They may include regulatory notices.

Requirement: In situations where visual impact must be kept to a minimum and a full sign is not warranted, alternative sign construction equal to a Neighbourhood Park directional sign may be adopted.

Directional signs do not include logos.
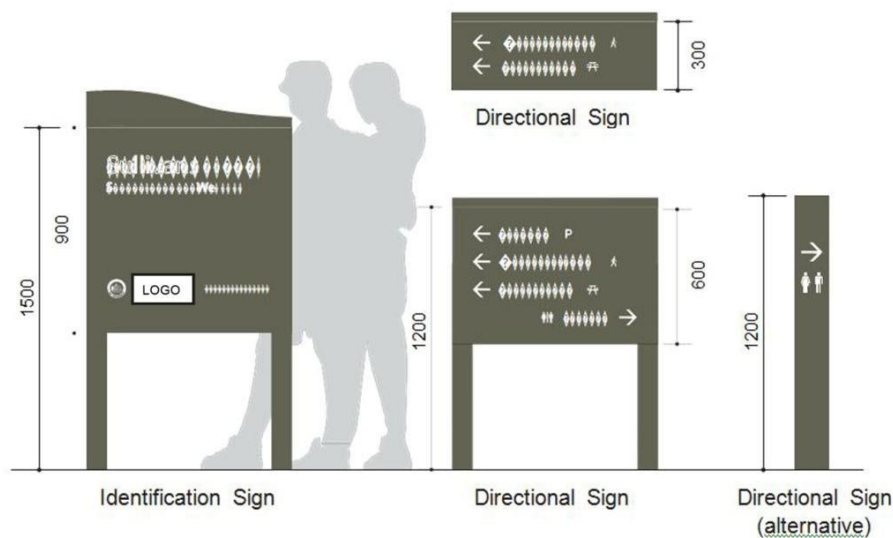
Figure 22-8 Identification Sign, Directional Sign and Directional Sign (alternative)

Information Signs

Information Signs provide information about the open space and may include a map, interpretive information and regulations relating to features. They are located near the feature, alongside trails or at rest points and where there is good viewing of the feature. Information signs may be located near identification signs or attached to these. Where there is too much information to fit on one sign a second sign is used.

Information signs carry ACT Government logo.
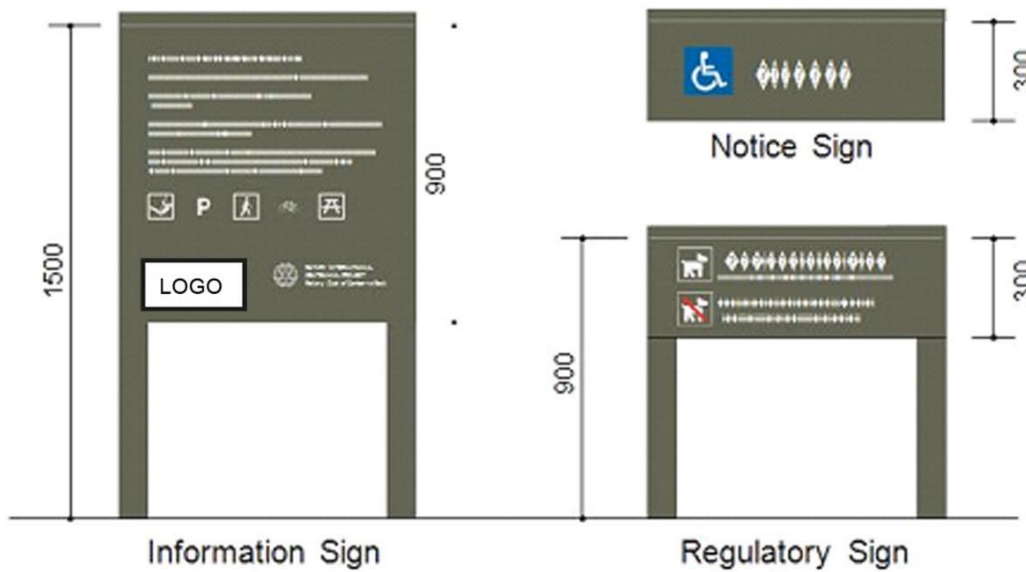
Figure 22-9 Information Sign, Notice Sign and Regulatory Sign

1.2.4 Sign graphics

Graphics are to be designed for each sign and situation, considering the following guidelines, examples given in preceding sections and standard drawings.

Signs shall adhere to International Standards *ISO 7001* and *ISO 17049* for improved legibility and accessibility.

1.2.4.1   Typeface

General: The names and messages on all signs use Typeface Meta. The standard typeface is Meta Medium in caps and lower case. Meta Book in caps and lower case is used for interpretive body text (headings are to be Meta Medium) and park type name, secondary name or additional text (for example 'Western Foreshores'). Meta Medium in all caps is used only for warning or emergency signs e.g. for fire entrances or water safety signs.

Requirement: The word 'Welcome' on District and Town Park identification signs shall be Freestyle Script.

La ‹e Ginninderra (Meta Medium)
Western Foreshores (Meta Book)

0123456789
Meta Medium Caps

0123456789
Meta Book Caps

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
Meta Medium

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
Meta Book

Welcome

Figure 22-10 Fonts

Requirement: Font heights shall achieve a logical message hierarchy and shall accommodate specific place names. Paragraphs shall be left justified (except District Park major identification sign names).

1.2.4.2   Colours

General: A palette of tonally similar, muted colours, reflective of the natural colours of Canberra's landscape and deciduous trees is used for the signs.

Requirement: All signs shall have a green face. Each park and open space type shall be differentiated by frame colours:

All sign faces Y61 Black Olive (based on Pantone 418)

Town Park frames X11 Butterscotch (based on Pantone 139)

District Park frames R63 Red Oxide (based on Pantone 181)

Neighbourhood Park caps B23 Bright Blue (based on Pantone 2758)

Urban Open Space frames Y61 Black Olive (based on Pantone 418)

All text and logos white.

Figure 22-11 Colours

1.2.4.3   Logos

Requirement: Application of logos shall be decided on a case-by-case basis, considering:

> Guidelines in preceding sections of this document;
> ACT Government branding guidelines current at time of installation;
> Typical graphic layout on Standard Drawings;
> The hierarchy of sign sizes and messages serving a park or open space; and
> Availability of message space on any given sign.

Signs at entrances to Town and District Parks shall carry ACT Government logo. Interpretive signs within parks and open spaces shall carry the ACT Government logo. Directional, Notice and Regulatory signs shall not carry logos.

Other logos including external agencies, community groups etc may be included where consistent with sponsorship guidelines and other controls.

1.2.4.4   Arrows

Requirement: One arrow design shall be used on all directional signs, at a ratio of 1.25 times the cap height of the adjacent typeface.

Arrows shall always be aligned on the sign face in the direction they are indicating, i.e. on the left for left directions (and for straight ahead or down directions), and on the right for directions to the right.

The sequence of messages shall follow a descending order of: straight, up to the left, up to the right, left, right, down to the left, and down to the right and down.
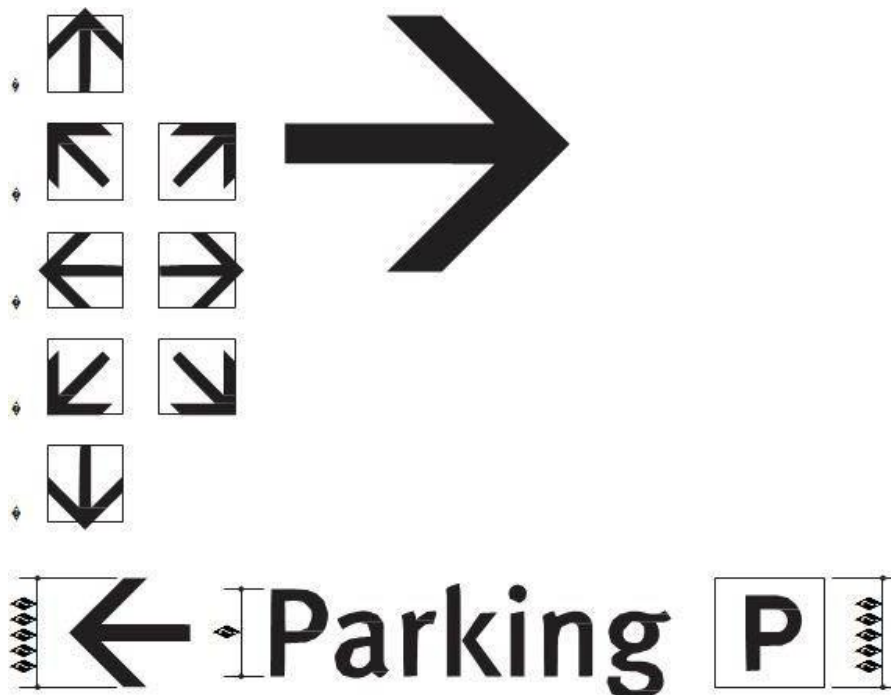
Figure 22-12 Arrows

1.2.4.5   Pictograms

Requirement: Only pictograms that have been researched and properly tested shall be used. These may include those based on *AS 2899*, *US Federal Bureau of Transportation*, *US National Parks* or *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service*. Some examples are shown in **Figure 22-13 Pictograms.**

Additional pictograms may be required to convey regulatory guidelines not adequately covered by the existing range. All new designs shall be properly tested for legibility.

Pictograms shall be placed in a square box with the background colour the same as the sign face colour with the symbol in the lettering colour except for the accessible pictogram which must be white on a blue background, prohibited activities which have a red diagonal slash and the emergency phone which is white on a red background.

When used with text the size of the pictogram square shall generally be 1.25 times the cap height of the dominant message typeface.

Figure 22-13 Pictograms

1.2.5 Planning and locating signs

1.2.5.1 Planning, Content and Message

Requirement: Planning of signs shall be from a whole of park and open space network level including where people may transit through the space, type of park, entry and exit points, parking, internal and external destinations, and decision points within the space.

Signage can have a significant negative impact on urban design if it is not sensitively integrated with the character of the streetscape or urban open space. If signs are not well designed, or too many signs and other similar elements are located too close together, signs can contribute to visual clutter. The number of signs should be kept to a minimum. Consider grouping signs together on the one support structure for clarity, to reduce clutter and for ease of maintenance.

Signs are effective when:

> Numbers are kept to a minimum;
> They are of immediate interest;
> Each sign is placed where there is a clear view of them from a distance;
> The reader's attention is taken by only one sign at a time;
> Each sign is part of a series with which readers will identify;
> The visitor is most receptive to their message; and
> Directions out of the park are also available.

Signs should be located so they are in sympathy with their surroundings. Avoid silhouetting against the sky or obscuring a view. Signs should not be obscured by vegetation or physical features.

Signs shall generally be placed before, and on the left hand side of, decision points, paths and features. Regulatory notices shall be located, oriented and designed to clearly delineate the area to which a regulation applies. Text may be required in addition to pictograms to clarify (eg. "No Dogs in swimming area or within 10 metres").

Appropriate signs for identification, information or direction, and the amount of information to be provided may then be decided. This will enable a plan of sign locations and a schedule of sign types and messages for a complete park sign system to be drawn up. Each sign shall be designed to:

> Convey simple, logical message(s);
> Present content which has the intended reader in mind;
> Be read easily by all visitors (including those in wheelchairs);
> Be legible after daylight hours where appropriate (i.e. Consider ambient and site lighting conditions); and
> Conform to relevant standards.

Signs located in grassed areas should be 2.5m or more from other signs and vertical obstacles to allow ride-on mowers to manoeuvre. A 150mm mowing strip at the base of posts, or grouping posts and obstacles in areas of hard paving will simplify maintenance. Where possible signs should be located in surfaces other than mown grass.

1.2.5.2   Design and Siting Approval

Requirement: Generally, Territory Signs in Urban Open Space require either development approval from the ACT Planning and Land Authority, or Works Approval from National Capital Authority (where on designated land).

The signs in this Signage Policy are consistent with *Appendix C3* of the *Territory Plan entitled Signs Policy*, and meet the policy objectives and controls on type and size. The signs are Territory Signs (types = pylon, ground and free standing) in Urban Open Space.
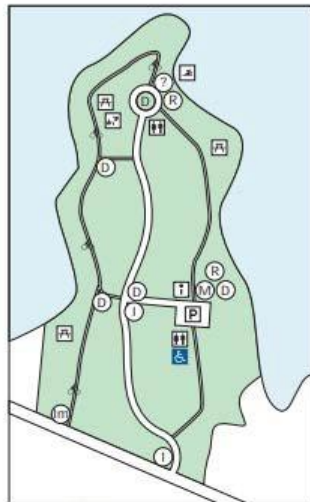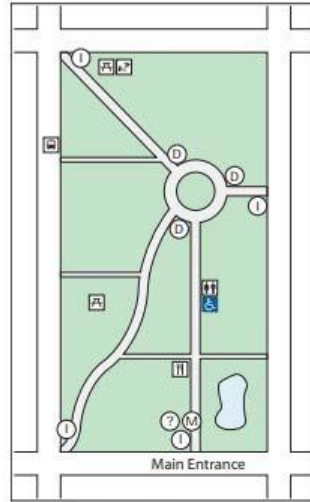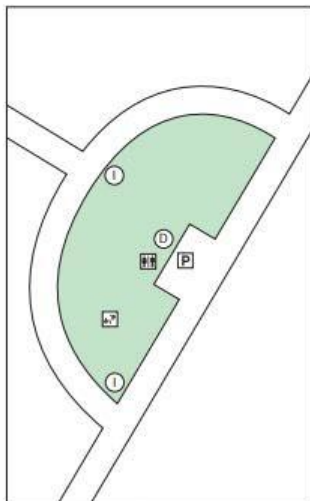
Figure 22-14 Example park signage strategies

1.2.6 Standard drawings

DS25-01   Town Park Identification and Information Sign

DS25-02   Town Park Direction Sign

DS25-03   District Park Major & Secondary Identification Sign

DS25-04   District Park & Urban Open Space Minor Identification Sign

DS25-05   District Park & Urban Open Space Information & Direction Sign

DS25-06   Neighbourhood Park Identification & Information Sign

1.3 Recreational circuit direction signs

General: The Recreational Circuit Direction Signs are designed for selected Recreational Routes (Principle Recreational Direct Trails) circulating Canberra's Lakes. The suite of signs provides wayfinding, orientation and interpretive/educational information for recreational purposes. This signage type may be used in other locations where a signed circuit or loop of an area with recreational destinations is proposed.

1.3.1 Recreational circuit direction sign types

General: There are two main categories of Recreational Loop Direction Signs, Directional Signage and Heritage Signage. Each category has a number of subcategories which are elaborated on below.

1.3.1.1 Directional signage

General: There are three directional signage types. All signs are double sided and are placed perpendicular to the path. Where the signs have information additional to direction information a concrete pad shall be provided to allow for users viewing the information to be positioned off the path (refer to **Recreational circuit direction signage sites** for details). The signage types are described as follows:

  Key Locator sign (KLS)

Requirement: 2.2m high x 600mm wide to be placed at key decision points and include a map and generally an information plate (not on all signs).

  Destination signs (DS)

Requirement: 1.8m high x 475mm wide to be placed at turn offs to destinations from the lake path (some include an information plate but no map).

  Reassurance signs (RS)

Requirement: 1.2m high x 340mm wide to be placed at path junctions to provide reassurance as to the direction of the path.

Clockwise (CL) sign faces   *Anticlockwise (AC) sign faces*

Figure 22-15 Three Directional signage types

1.3.1.2   Heritage signage

General: There are two variants of the heritage signs, 600mm wide and 1200mm wide. The signs lay back slightly a photomontage of a 1200mm wide sign is shown in **Figure 22-16 120mm wide Heritage sign**.

Figure 22-16 120mm wide Heritage sign

1.3.2 Recreational circuit direction signage elements

General: There are a number of elements in the directional signs that can be divided into areas for explanation as shown on **Figure 22-17 Signage elements (Key Locator Sign)**. There are some common elements on all signage types and some elements that do not appear on all of the signage types. A key locator sign has been illustrated as it has all of the elements present. The sections following outline the form of the information presented and the signs the elements appear on.
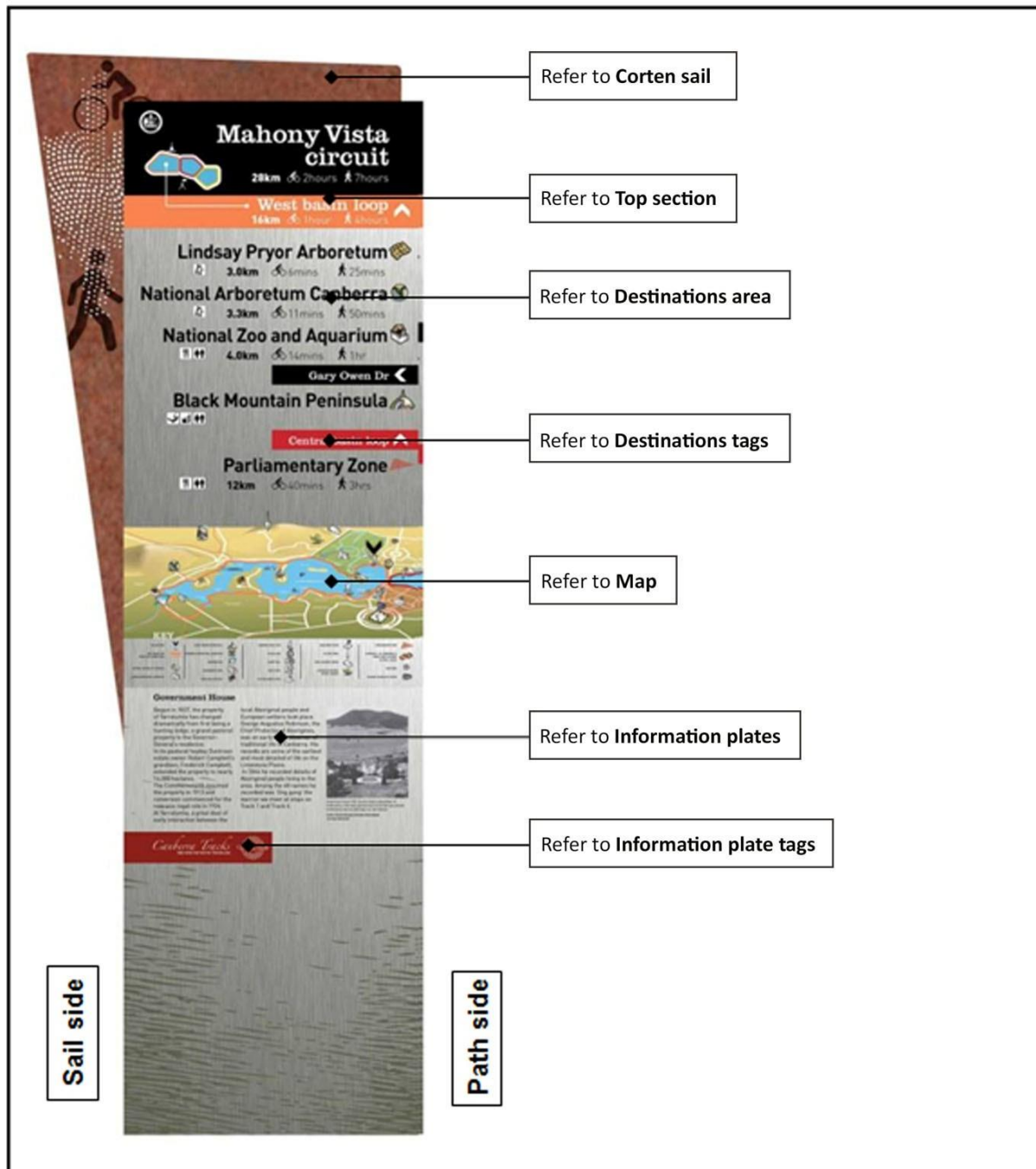
Figure 22-17 Signage elements (Key Locator Sign)

1.3.2.1 Corten sail

Requirement: All signage types include a 6mm thick "corten" sail with an image unique to the recreational loop.

Figure 22-18 Examples of corten blade designs

A routed impression of a walker and cyclist is also included on the blade. The signs have been positioned so that the sail points towards the lake / pond wherever possible.

1.3.2.2 Top section

Requirement: All signage types include the top area as shown in **Figure 22-18 Examples of corten blade designs** for other localities scaled appropriately to the size of the signage type.

The top area of the sign contains the circuit name and also contains the ACT Government logo and a symbol representing the number of recreational loops for its corresponding locality (for example three for Lake Burley Griffin and Two for Yerrabi Pond). Distance and walking and cycling times are also provided for the circuit path. Where there is only a circuit path with no loops this tag is not included (Lakes Ginninderra and Tuggeranong circuits).

Information on the relevant loop path as appropriate is provided in a colour coded strip including distance and walking and cycling times to complete the relevant loop.

An arrow showing the direction to be followed to complete the loop is provided in the top area on the key locator and destination signs and is provided in a separate "tag" on reassurance signs. This separate tag on the RS is to enable a larger and appropriately legible arrow to be provided, as due to scaling of the top area this is not possible for this sign type within the top area. The provision of the direction arrow is also the primary function of this sign type.

1.3.2.3 Destinations area

Requirement: This part of the sign provides the direction, distance and walking and cycling times to the destinations along/nearby to the circuit. This area appears on both the key locator and destination signs. The destinations shown on a key locator sign are generally within close distance of the circuit path. The destinations shown on a destination sign are off-path destinations, however a key locator sign may be used to provide direction to an off-path destination through the use of destination "tags". The direction arrow to destinations considered on-path are shown in the top area of the sign with these destinations listed below.

Key locator signs were only included on Lake Burley Griffin circuit because of the number of tourist destinations around this Lake. The other circuits are more for recreational users and only include destination signs with a map on one side and an information sign on the reverse side with destination information on both sides similar to a key locator sign.

The following provides the rationale of the presentation of information in the destinations area of the signs:

There is a limit of a total of five destinations on a key locator sign.

> Each destination has a symbol shown consistently to the path side of the sign; refer to **Recreational circuit direction signage information content** for an explanation of the symbol designs and consultation process;
> Each destination has amenity plates shown consistently to the sail side of the sign; refer to **Recreational circuit direction signage information content** for an explanation of the amenity plate design;
> Destinations are generally not allowed to 'disappear' from a key locator sign (or destination sign). If a destination is shown, it is then shown on subsequent key locator or destination signs until the destination is reached;
> Off-path destinations are generally only shown as destinations at the appropriate exit from the loop path;
> Destinations are not generally shown on both sides of a key locator sign. Destinations are signed in the shortest direction around the loop;
> Distance and walking and cycling times are not generally shown on a destination sign when the destination is very close or within sight of the sign;
> The signs are placed perpendicular to the path and may require people to look at both sides to determine the destination direction and the map on key locator or destination signs allows for user interpretation if the destination is not shown on the sign face;
> All direction information generally applies to walkers and cyclists;
> For each loop on a circuit the first destination on the adjacent loop may be shown consistently as the last destination on each key locator sign as an easy way for people to track the distance they have travelled along the loop. This is most applicable to the loops 10km or longer.

1.3.2.4   Destinations tags

General: Destination "tags" are coloured lines with arrows that show the loop name if other than the current loop. Street name or if no street name the path type and direction of the different destinations from the circuit / loop path. The destinations relating to the other / loop paths are then listed below the relevant tag.

Requirement: Road names shall be used in the tag if the path is along a road. For unnamed entry paths that lead to the destination the term "access path" or "entry path" shall be used.

The destination "tag" for the path that runs up to Parliament House has been labelled "via Surveyors Camp" to describe this path compared to the route that runs to Parliament House via Coronation Drive. This has been approved by Parliament House and they agreed to install signage in the recreational precinct to guide path users through this area and to the public entry. They had also agreed to install a sign welcoming visitors to the Parliament House precinct where there is a change in the path character from a 2.5m wide asphalt path to a 1.5m wide red pebble mix path that occurs under the Capital Circle overpass.

All sign types use the same tag theme.

1.3.2.5   Map

General: A map is included on both sides of all key locator signs and destination signs. The map is a three dimensional representation of the circuit and surrounds with the map symbols also depicted in a 3D way. The map shows main roads, destinations and some topography as a backdrop. The location of some lake activities is also shown symbolically including swimming and rowing as appropriate.

The Western loop map is shown in **Figure 22-19 Map layout (included on all Key Locator signs)**
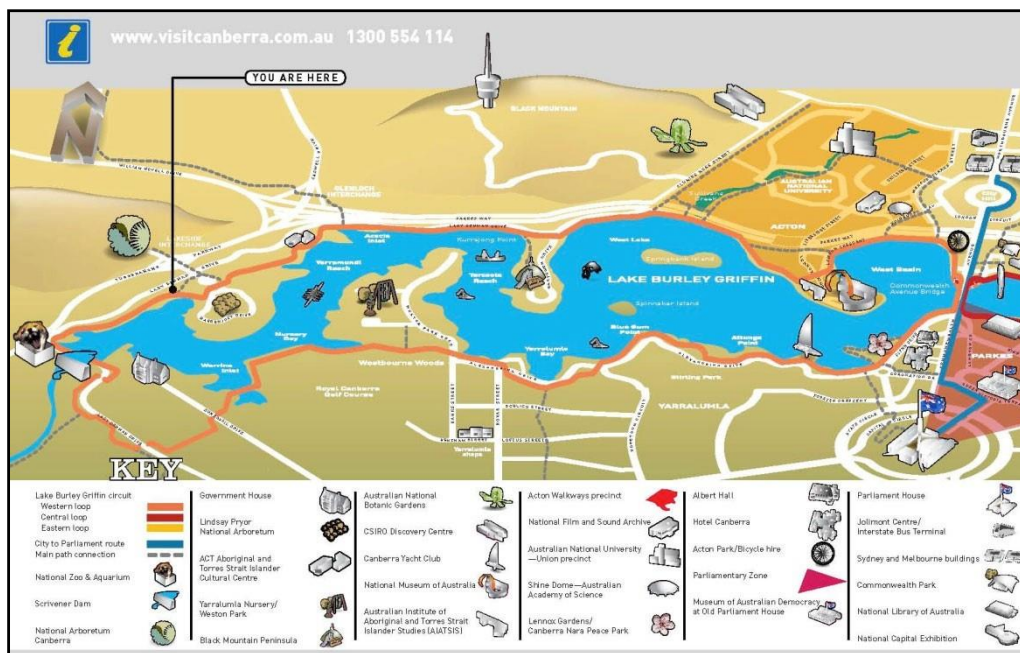
Figure 22-19 Map layout (included on all Key Locator signs)

A simple "You are here" box is utilised to show the relative location of the path user and placed to be clearly visible away from any text.

Requirement: The map shall have a legend / key that includes an explanation of the destination symbols, path types and areas shown on the map. These include the Parliamentary Zone (in red, also a destination symbol) and the Acton Walkways area (in orange)

A north point shall be stamped into the concrete pads associated with all key locator signs and destination signs with maps to provide further assistance with path user orientation in conjunction with the map. Refer to **Figure 22-20 North point detail (Key Locator sign locations)** for details of the north point stamp. Maps shall be placed close to the actual orientation wherever possible whilst still alternating sides for a particular rotation direction as much as possible
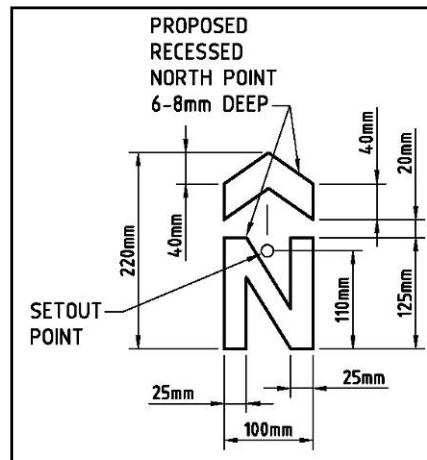
Figure 22-20 North point detail (Key Locator sign locations)

1.3.2.6   Information plates

General: Information plates appear on key locator and destination signs and provide information on the path, attractions around the lake, heritage and ecology themes.

The plates present information on the lake environs as well as the path itself.

Requirement: All information presented on information plates shall be:

> Approved by the Authority responsible for ACT Tourism, NCA (LBG only) and TCCS; and
> Reviewed against all applicable heritage plans such as the *NCA Heritage Plan for Lake Burley Griffin* by ACT Heritage.

All artwork for the signs shall be provided to TCCS as print ready pdfs for future reprint of films and "reskinning" of signs as may be required.

1.3.2.7   Information plate tags

General: The "tags" on the information plates provide the path user with easy identification of the theme of the information presented.

Requirement: These shall only be used on LBG signs or for heritage information. Four different "tags" have been developed. The tags are:

Canberra tracks - these are plates with Heritage and ecology messages.

Action Walkways

7 information plates on L1 LBG Western loop.

Welcome and enjoy! - Path concept introduction / tourism.

Come and experience! - NMA information on Destination sign

2 information plates on L1 LBG Western loop.

1.3.3 Recreational circuit direction signage locations

1.3.3.1   General

Requirement: All signs shall be located to address functional requirements as well as aesthetic and environmental impact. The location of the signs shall be undertaken through a multi step process as follows:

> Site survey with stakeholders to identify locations for signage and provide basis for the need and information to be provided;
> Survey by a civil engineer provide the basis for the site drawings and identify any issues with each site;
> Review and site visit by a landscape architect to consider landscape impacts seat location and any impact on vegetation to identify sites for tree assessment;
> Tree assessment of any sites identified by the landscape architect; and
> Final location of each sign to be determined with due consideration of the above inputs and the following general rules:

- Signs shall be placed to be as visible as possible from junction approaches and where there are decision points for path users; and
- Signs to be placed so that the corten sail points towards the lake. This requires the sign to be placed on the lake side of the path. If this is not possible the sign is to be placed such that the corten sail points away from the path to minimise injury risk and contact with the sail which has a rusty finish and may stain clothing.

1.3.3.2   Key Locator signs

General: Key locator signs are located at all major path entries and to allow map placement at a maximum spacing of approximately 2.5km. This includes all MCR junctions and MCR signage has been placed to allow location of key locator signs as close to the path junction as possible.

Requirement: Key locator signs shall be located as close to path junctions as possible to minimise backtracking for a walker or cyclist to consider information on the reverse of a sign from the direction in which they wish to travel.

Consider sign location to ensure that direction arrows can be understood when the loop path tees into a continuation of the circuit path around the lake.

1.3.3.3   Destination signs

General: Destination signs shall be placed on circuits at all paths with off-path destinations. They have been located such that the direction arrows can be understood when the path is approaching from an angle.

1.3.3.4   Reassurance signs

General: Reassurance signs shall be located to provide guidance at path junctions where there may be doubt on the correct path and to reassure path users that they are progressing on their journey in the right direction.

Requirement: The signs shall be located to provide a maximum spacing of approximately 1.0km between direction signage.

1.3.4 Recreational circuit direction signage sites

1.3.4.1   General

Requirement: Signs shall:

> Always be located wherever possible such that the corten sail points away from the path. This is to minimise risk of collision with the corten sail and also present the clean vertical line of the sign adjacent to the path;
> Where around a water body, be positioned on the water body side of the path if the sail is to be pointed towards the water body; and
> Be sited a minimum 1.0m from the path.

1.3.4.2   Concrete pads

General: Concrete pads are provided for all key locator signs and destination signs that have maps / information plates. The pad design for both sign types is the same and is a triangular shape to complement the corten sail design of the sign. **Figure 22-21 Typical concrete pad** to be provided at all key locator and destination signs with information plates.

The shape of the concrete pads has been designed to allow two cyclists to prop in front of the sign and also allow slow speed circulation around the sign by a cyclist. The steeper angle of the pad on the departure side is to encourage cyclists to cross the path at a higher angle and thus slow and check for oncoming traffic before crossing to the signs.

Figure 22-21 Typical concrete pad to be provided at all key locator and destination signs with information plates

Requirement: All pads shall include an integrated concrete foundation for signage.

All signs (directional and heritage / layback) shall be placed 1.0m from the path edge within the pad to encourage path users to leave the path to consider the information on the signs. The 600mm wide heritage / layback signs shall be aligned parallel to the path on a similar concrete pad to the directional signage pad.

1.3.4.3   Destination and Reassurance sign foundations

General: Where destination signs are without information plates and for reassurance signs foundations only are to be provided with a concrete area sufficient to act as a mowing strip around the sign base.

1.3.5 Recreational circuit direction signage information content

1.3.5.1   General

General: The sign face content shall be prepared in consultation with TCCS, NCA and the planning authority and as discussed below.

Sign face direction is labelled as AC - Anticlockwise or CL - clockwise with the face direction being that visible to a path user travelling in the direction (AC or CL) around the particular loop path. As signs were placed wherever possible with the corten sail pointing to the lake with the signs on the lake side of the path this provides a consistent identification mechanism.

1.3.5.2   Destination symbols

General: The symbols used to represent the destinations are for reference to identify the location on the map only.

Requirement: Symbols shall be used instead of numbers to avoid confusion in linking the destination shown in the destination area of the sign face with the map and to be consistent with the theme of a three dimensional map representation.

1.3.5.3   Destination amenity plates

General: The amenities highlighted for each destination shall be chosen to tie in with other tourist maps and shall be checked with the destination (amenity plates are limited to five types - barbeque, toilet, view, playspace, and cafe).

1.3.5.4   Distances

General: The Distances shown on the signs shall be as follows:

> All distances under 1km are displayed in metres;
> Distances under 10km are rounded to nearest 100m (or 0.1km), except where the distance is under 500m – then they are rounded to the nearest 50m;
> Distances above 10km are rounded to the nearest km; and
> Distances to destinations at the decision point to leave the loop path are shown where the destination is not clearly visible from the sign position. Where the destination is visible no distance is shown.

1.3.5.5   Walking and cycling times

Requirement: Walking times shall be calculated using an average speed of 4km/hr. Cycling times shall be calculated using an average speed of 15km/h.

Times shall be rounded to the nearest whole minute under 30 minutes and generally rounded to the nearest 5 minutes times between 30 and 60 minutes. Times over an hour shall be shown as a decimal rounded to one decimal place (eg. 1.4hrs = 1hr and 24 minutes). For times over an hour, and especially those over 1.5 hours, the rounding shall be round the time up to the next 0.1 hour (for example 1.73 hours would be shown as 1.8hrs).

1.3.5.6   Arrow type

General: The arrow type is a chevron that can rotate 360 deg without increasing in dimension. All Recreational Circuit Directional Signage signs shall follow this convention for consistency.

1.4 Canberra central and town centre signs

General: Canberra Central and Town Centre Signs are wayfinding and information signage located within the Canberra Central and Town Centre areas. This section identifies the requirements for the Canberra Central Area, these requirements, hierarchy, structure and typologies shall be used as a guide when developing signage for the Town Centres.

Figure 22-22 Canberra central sign area shows the area to which the Canberra Central Signage applies. The signage provides a hierarchy of signage from locality identification signs designed to be read quickly, down to interpretative signage that may require users to view the sign at close proximity for longer periods of time. The suite of Canberra Central and Town Centre Signs provides high quality signage in a cohesive approach assisting in unifying the space and providing continuity to user experience.
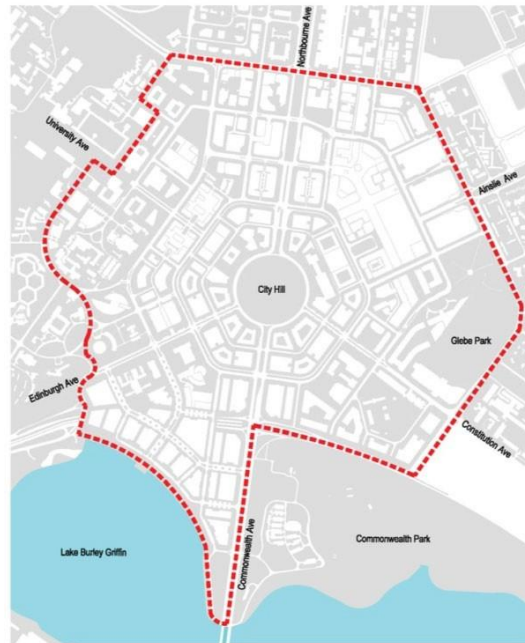

Figure 22-22 Canberra central sign area

1.4.1 Canberra central and town centre sign types

1.4.1.1   Identification Signage

General: Consistent, effective Identification Signs are especially important in identifying localities and arrival at the high order urban areas (City and Town Centres).

City Identification Signs:

> Serve as a gateway letting people know when they are entering the locality;
> Are a size that is appropriate to be viewed when travelling at 40km per hour;
> Give a sense of 'being in the City/Town Centre';
> Create a positive, first impression for visitors;
> Create interest on what the locality offers; and
> Are easy-to-identify, with strong, simple sculptural elements.

Requirement: City Identification Signs shall:

> provide direction on where to find:

- Petrol;
- Parking;
- Shopping;
- Food services;
- Accommodation;
- General post offices;
- Bus interchange;
- Toilets; and
- Other amenities.

> are strategically placed (see map) to:

- Mark the entrance to the locality;
- Mark major intersections;
- Direct people to different parts of the locality; and
- Direct people to services and facilities.

> Be durable, resistant to vandalism and easy-to-maintain;
> Use bold symbols for easy identification;
> Be scaled to suit location and purpose;
> Incorporate the coloured Canberra Central logo or Town Centre logo;
> Use minimal and clear text to enhance readability;
> Be placed so they are accessible; and
> Be internally lit so lettering, symbols and arrows can be seen and read at night.

1.4.1.2 Beacons

General: Beacons are for pedestrians. They are designed and placed to be easily seen and draw people through the vibrant hub that forms the locality.

Beacons direct people as they move through the locality. They are two-sided and designed to provide:

> Clear wayfinding information
> Cultural and historical information about Canberra to generate interest in the locality.

Beacons also provide a larger overview with more legend text and a reduced map scale including features of the locality.

Beacons and Information Pillars:

> Cater for pedestrians;
> Promote a positive impression of our city;
> Help create a city which is:

- Easy-to-navigate; and
- Safe.

> Encourage activity (including walking);
> Educate the public on the history, culture and achievements of the locality (beacons); and
> Advertise Government information and events (pillars).

Requirement: Beacons and Information Pillars shall be:

> Integrated into the streetscape and easy-to-find;
> Updated regularly to account for rapid growth in the locality and changing events and activities; and
> Installed at logical key points (see map), such as:

- Arrival and departure points (including bus stop, taxi ranks);
- Intersections;
- Points of decisions;
- Tourist attractions; and
- Shopping centres, amenities and other such facilities.

Beacons shall:

> Only be placed along the main pedestrian thoroughfare through the City or Town Centre;
> Be placed within view of each other so they provide a prominent series of visual cues for pedestrians;
> Be backlit so they are easy-to-spot and read at night;
> Include a perspex artistic element at the top which lights up in the dark like a beacon to guide people; and
> Be two-sided:

- On one side they shall provide clear wayfinding information including:

  o Enlarged area maps;
  o Information on facilities, amenities, points of interest;
  o Routes and direction.
  o On the other side they must provide information on the history and culture of Canberra to:
  o Educate the public and generate interest in the locality;
  o Feature stories on the accomplishments of Canberrans or those who have lived here.

1.4.1.3 Information Pillars

General: Information Pillars are for pedestrians. They are designed and placed to be easily seen by pedestrians as they move into the Centre from the periphery.

Information Pillars are two-sided and designed to provide:

> Clear way finding information Government information.

The mapping and information on them provide a snapshot of the pedestrian's immediate surrounding destinations and features found within five minutes walking distance.

The Information Pillar map area typically overlaps with at least two other Information Pillars and two other Signage Beacon locations so pedestrians can seek additional information if they are heading to a destination further afield than the extent of map provided on the first installation they come across.

Requirement: Information Pillars shall be:

> Placed strategically throughout the locality to provide clear direction and or direct pedestrians;
> Placed within sight of each other so pedestrians can easily spot them;
> Provide successive mapping to help pedestrians move through the space;
> Backlit so information can be seen clearly;
> Carefully designed to provide clear, easy-to-read and easy-to-understand information; and
> Two-sided:

- On one side they must provide clear wayfinding information including:

  o Large area maps; and
  o Direction points to major facilities, points of interest and information sites (such as a Police Station and transport hub/interchange).

- On the other side they must contain important Government information (that changes regularly) on:

  o Major events and festivals;
  o Notices;
  o Advertising campaigns; and
  o Sources of further information (such as Government web sites).

1.4.1.4 Arcade Directories

General: Arcade Directories are:

> For a specific pedestrian audience. As their name implies, they provide information on businesses and facilities in the arcades;
> Designed to solve problems associated with the increasing amount of signage clutter appearing in the public realm; and
> Scaled down in height (compared to other signage) to reflect their hierarchy in the suite of signage.

Requirement: Arcade Directories shall:

> Be placed strategically outside of arcades;
> List on each side the names and precise locations of each business and facility within an arcade;
> Be designed so information is streamlined, neat and organised;
> Built with materials that complement signage suite; and
> Be designed to fit in with the look and feel of other signage.

1.4.1.5 Street Blades

General: Street name blades are critical for:

> Wayfinding-without them drivers and pedestrians would be hopelessly lost;
> Safety - clear direction helps people find their way around without confusion and congestion;
> Defining what is 'the City' or 'Town Centre'; and
> Branding the locality and reflecting and adding to its character.

Requirement: Street name blades shall:

> Include the Canberra Central or Town Centre logo;
> Be primarily based on the look and feel of other signage, including colour;
> Be designed to be distinctive and highly visible;
> Be legible;
> Be prominently placed;
> Be constructed of high quality material, using the latest technology, to ensure longevity; and
> Be manufactured to reflect and shine at night so they are highly visible, especially by those in cars.

1.4.2 Canberra central and town center sign designs

1.4.2.1   Beacon Signs

Beacon signs have a formal design reflective of their setting. They are designed to a pedestrian scale, and are intended to be positioned in hard landscaping.

Beacon signs may contain either Cultural Displays or Maps.

General: Cultural Displays are used to provide an additional layer of information which adds richness to the experience of a space and connection to history or culture. Cultural display signs include artwork or historic photo, author names(s), and interpretative text. **Figure 22-23 Beacon Cultural Displays** shows the typical Beacon Cultural Display setout.

General: Map Signs are used to provide pedestrian wayfinding and support active travel. Map signs contain a small locality map and iconography legend at the top, a large map at eye level and destinations legend below. **Figure 22-24 Beacon Maps** shows the typical beacon map display arrangement.
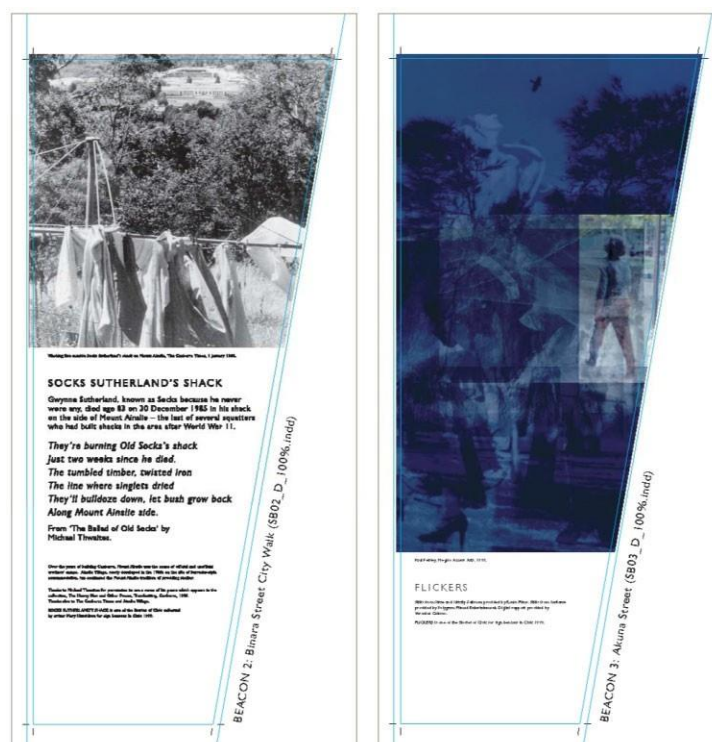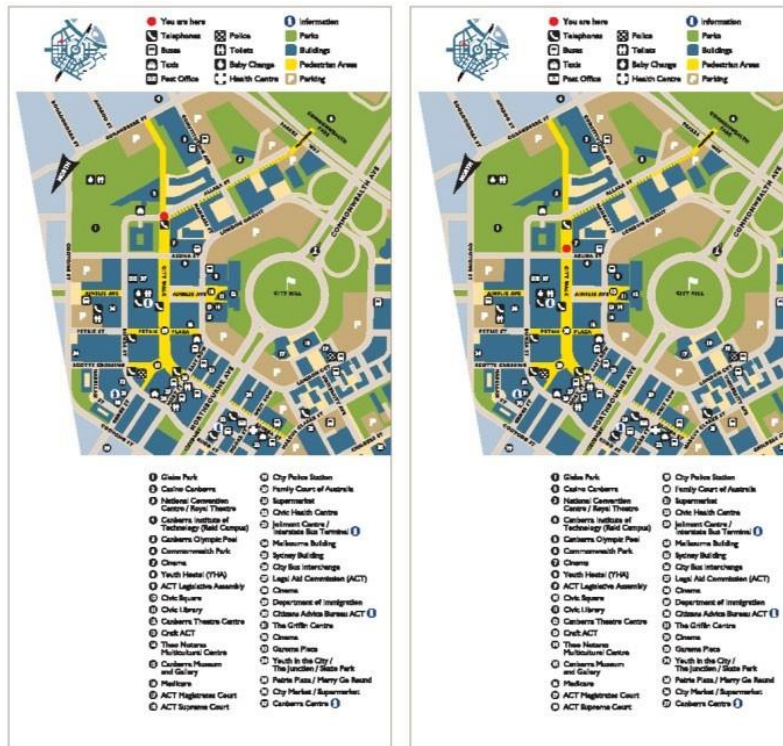

Figure 22-23 Beacon Cultural Displays

Figure 22-24 Beacon Maps

1.4.2.2 Pillars

General: Pillar signs have a formal design reflective of their setting. They are designed to a pedestrian scale, and are intended to be positioned in hard landscaping. **Figure 22-25 Pillar sign** shows the typical pillar sign display arrangement.
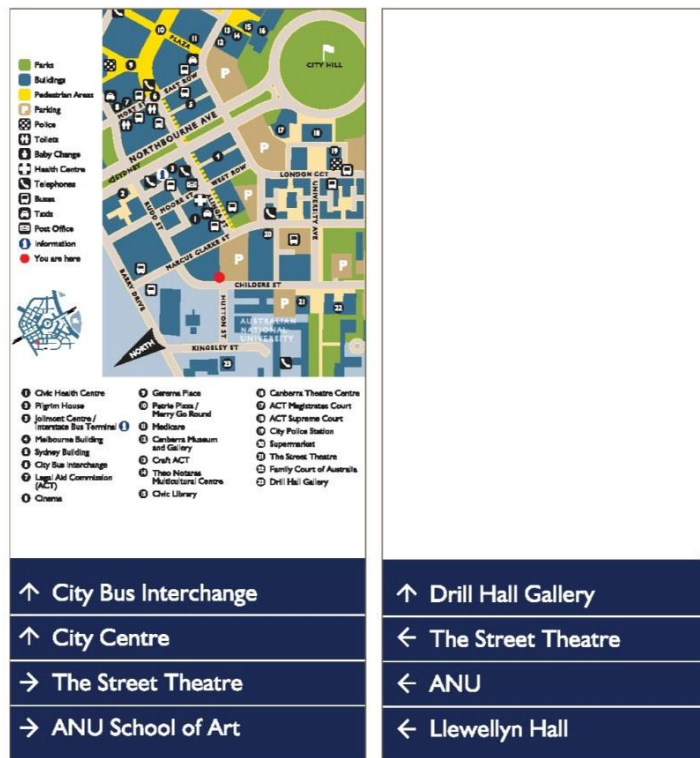

Figure 22-25 Pillar sign

1.4.3 Canberra central sign graphics

General: This section specifies blade materials, type styles, proportions, colours, and set parameters for the design of every blade in the City. This should be used as a guide when developing signage for the Town Centres.

It is important that the standard be adhered to in every way.

1.4.3.1 Typeface

Requirement: Canberra Central Signage typeface shall be:

> Frutiger Bold Condensed shall be used for all street names.
> Frutiger Bold shall be used for street numbers and the word CITY.

Figure 22-26 Typeface

1.4.3.2 Colours

Requirement: Only these colours are allowed on City signage. All signs shall comply with the colour reference below:

	PMS	CMYK	RGB	Dulux Paint	*Film	tScreen Print
	287	100/68/0/12	0/57/148	Mondrian Blue P39•H9	Blue 1175	Blue 883
	568	88/0/57/36	53/103/91	Pacific Queen P27•H9		Green 886
	124	0/28/100/6	218/169/0	Gold Rush P14•H9		Yellow 884

" 3MTM ScotchliteTM ElectroCutTM Film
t Process Colour Series 880

Figure 22-27 Colours

A colour laser print is not a true colour guide. Use Pantone® PMS colour swatches for accurate renderings.

PMS

Pantone® Matching System (PMS) colours are an industry standard for printing inks. They are used to print specific colours; they cannot simulate the full colour spectrum as can 'CMYK'.

CMYK

Also known as Four colour process printing; CMY and K are the four process colours- Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black (K) CMYK printing simulates realistic colour by overlaying four 'screens' of cyan, magenta, yellow and black dots.

RGB (Red/Green/Blue)

The colour mode used in electronic displays such as computer monitors (eg the Internet), TV, video and all electronic presentations (eg PowerPoint)

1.4.3.3   Logos

Canberra Central logo appears on each side of the street name blade with double-ended blades, the logo appears at both ends.

Street name blades

Requirement: Street name blades shall be designed to meet relevant Australian Standards.
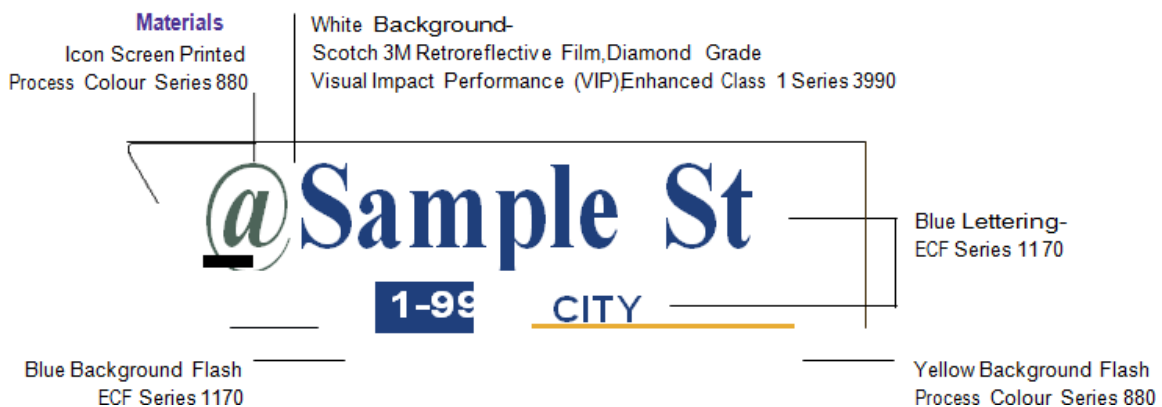

Figure 22-28 Street Name Blades

Street name blade variations:

Double sided, single ended

Requirement: Blade shall be lengthened to accommodate the street name.
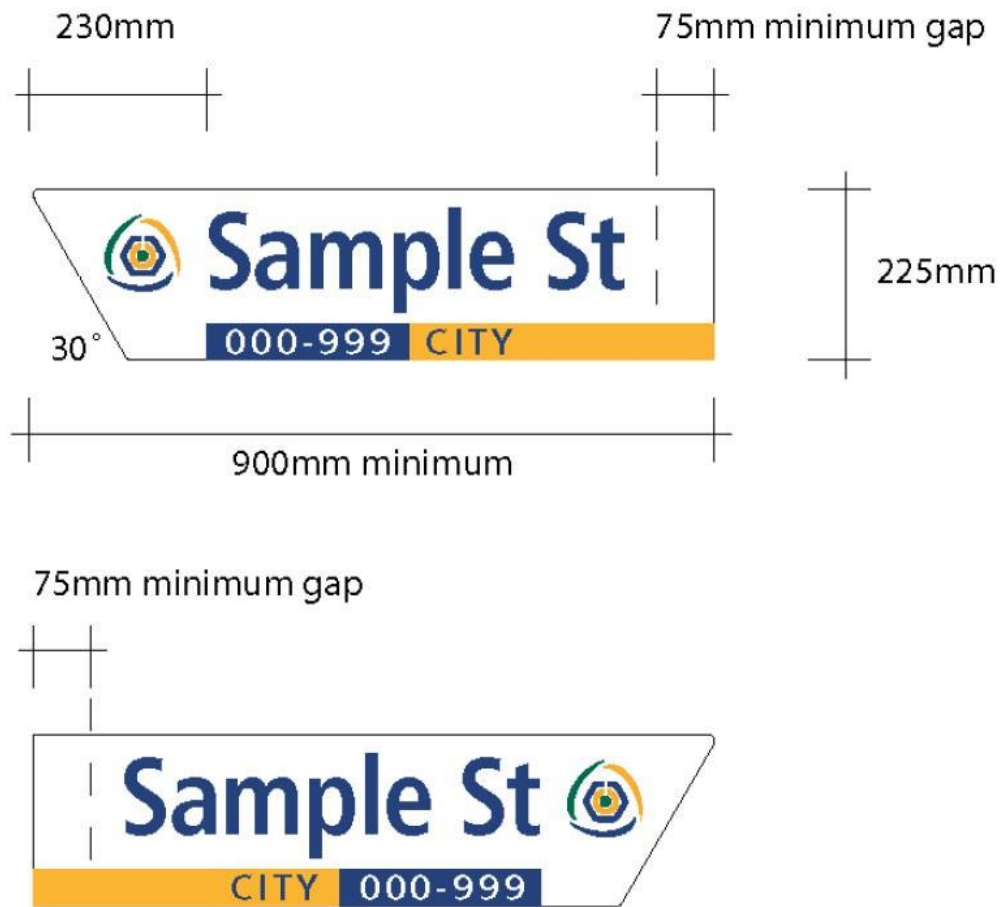
Figure 22-29 Street Name Blades 2

Single sided, double ended

Requirement: The longest name that shall be accommodated on a Street name blade is William Clemens St. The shortest name is Mort St.

Length of blades shall be determined by the length of the street name once the name becomes longer than 7 40mm, which is the minimum width of the blue/ yellow/blue patches.

Where double ended signs are required the blade layout is as per **Figure 22-30 Street Name Blades 3**
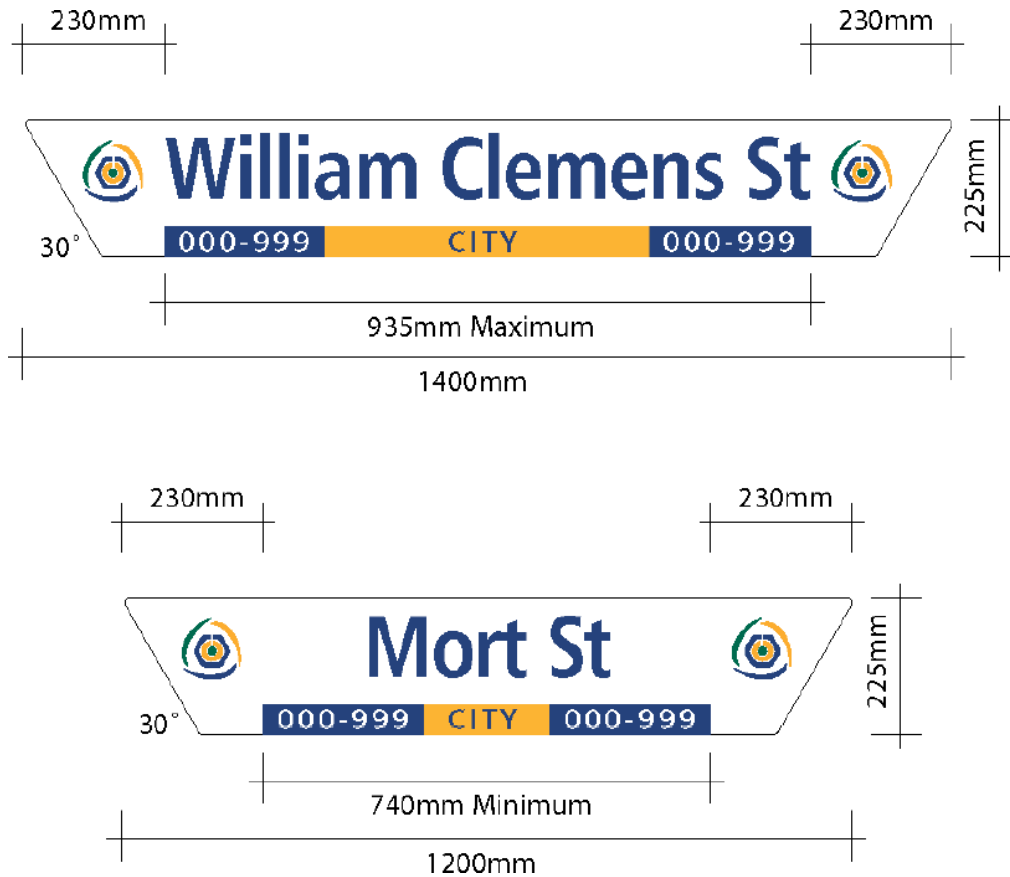
Figure 22-30 Street Name Blades 3

Typesetting

General: Typesetting for the Street name blades is critical for legibility and aesthetic appeal.

Requirement: A professional version of the typeface shall always be used. Type sizes and tracking shall always comply with these specifications

Figure 22-31 Street Name Blades 4

Other Considerations

Requirement: Blades shall be:

- Manufactured in accordance with *ACT Standard Specification for Urban Infrastructure Work-Section 10-Road Signs*
- Constructed of aluminium, Marine Grade 5083-H32 temper

For ongoing maintenance use 3M Electrocut Film (ECF).

Colours:

- 1175 BLUE
- 1176 GREEN
- 1171 YELLOW

1.4.4 Canberra central and town centre signage locations

1.4.4.1 General

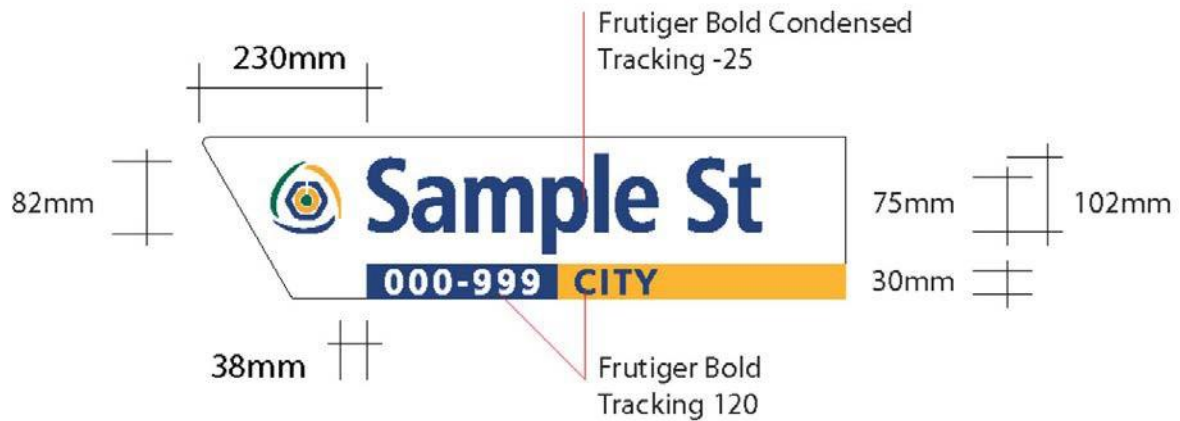Requirement: Signs shall be located to address functional requirements as well as aesthetic and environmental impact. The location of the signs shall be undertaken through a multi step process as follows:

> Site survey with stakeholders to identify locations for signage and provide basis for the need and information to be provided;
> Survey by a civil engineer provide the basis for the site drawings and identify any issues with each site;
> Review and site visit by a landscape architect to consider landscape impacts seat location and any impact on vegetation to identify sites for tree assessment;
> Tree assessment of any sites identified by the landscape architect;
> Final location of each sign has then been determined with due consideration of the above inputs and the following general rules; and
> Signs to be placed to be as visible as possible from junction approaches and where there are decision points for path users.

1.4.4.2 Identification signs

Requirement: All Identification Signs shall be located at the major entries to the locality (for instance in Northbourne Avenue median for the City).

1.4.4.3 Beacon signs

Requirement: All Beacons shall be located and oriented for best possible assistance of pedestrian wayfinding.

1.4.4.4 City Information Pillars

Requirement: All pillars shall be located and oriented for best possible assistance of pedestrian wayfinding.

1.4.4.5 Arcade Directories

Requirement: Arcade Directories shall be located and oriented strategically outside arcades to minimise signage clutter while providing directional assistance and wayfinding.

1.4.4.6 Street Name Blades

General: Street Name Blades are located at road intersections.

Requirement: Street Name Blades shall be used in place of the typical street name blades used in other parts of Canberra.

1.4.5 Canberra central and town centre signage materials

1.4.5.1 Identification Signs

General: The information symbols are internationally recognised and indicate the direction of toilets, the post office, the bus interchange for local transport, accommodation, cafes, shopping areas, petrol stations, and parking.

All cut-outs are internally lit. And detailed with a baked enamel.

Requirement: Footings shall be designed to specification and as described in construction drawings. Frame shall be manufactured of mild steel and clad with 2mm thick steel panels. Panels shall contain cut-outs that are back faced with coloured acrylic sheets for the locality text, the Canberra Central or Town Centre logo, and tourist information symbols and arrows.

1.4.5.2   Beacons

General: Two engraved acrylic blades are mounted at the top of the sign, with a light source at their base which shines up through the acrylic and is captured by the engraving.

One face of the sign displays map information that is easily replaced for updating. This map information is oriented 'heads-up' toward the visitor rather than north.

The opposite face displays cultural information containing text and images inspired by local history, geography and stories. The map and cultural information are printed on clear vinyl which is applied directly onto the stainless steel cladding.

The spine displays the street name with which the sign is associated. The base of the unit is painted with micaceous iron oxide paint as specified.

Requirement: Footings shall be designed to specification and as described on construction drawings. Frame shall be manufactured of mild steel and clad with 3mm No.4 finished 304 grade stainless steel.

1.4.5.3   Information Pillars

General: One face displays map information that is easily replaced for updating. This map information is oriented toward the visitor rather than north, and is printed on clear vinyl and then mounted on an acrylic substrate.

The opposite face contains an A1 size poster display area advertising ACT Government events and information.

At the base of the display is directional information highlighting key destinations within the immediate vicinity. The internal cavity is lit using a proprietary light box to highlight the map, poster and directional information.

The spine shall display the street name with which the sign is associated.

The City Pillars shall be detailed with burnt orange baked car enamel Glasurit MY071.50.

Requirement: Footings shall be designed to specification and as described on construction drawings. Frame shall be manufactured of mild steel and clad with 3mm No.4 finished 304 grade stainless steel.

1.4.5.4   Arcade Directories

General: Both faces display a changeable listing of arcade tenants. The changeable listing is a proprietary machine engraved acrylic within a natural anodised slide.

The spine displays the name of the arcade with which the sign is associated.

The directories are detailed with baked enamel in a colour determined by arcade tenants and complementary to Information Pillars.

Requirement: Footings shall be designed to specification and as described on construction drawings. Frame shall be manufactured of mild steel and clad with 3mm 304 grade finished stainless steel.

1.5 ACT parks and conservation signs

General: ACT Parks and Conservation Signs are the suite of signs used to identify and provide information on and for the use of National Parks, Reserves and Nature Parks.

1.5.1 Visitor orientation messages

General: Visitor orientation messages are categorised as:

> Regulatory - which instruct people on what they must or should do (or not do) under a given set of circumstances. They indicate or reinforce laws, regulations or requirements, the disregard of which may constitute a violation and incur a fine;
> General Safety - that Identify elements within the user setting that represent a hazard to visitor safety over and above what someone could reasonably be expected to already be aware of; and
> Utility - for general user locality information including maps and trail details supported by in situ directional signage appropriate to the class of track / activity being undertaken.

Regulatory Messages

There are two types of regulatory messaging:

> Off site messages delivered primarily via digital and print media that warn people in advance of the conditions that will apply to their entry and use of a precinct to allow them to plan in advance confident of compliance.
> On site messages delivered via signage as people approach and enter the precinct that directly inform the user of permitted, conditionally permitted and prohibited activities relevant to the area they are in.

General Safety Messages

General Safety messages relate either to a generic precinct wide level of risk such as fire danger or to site specific hazards such as swimming in rivers.

Safety Message content shall be provided by the authority responsible for the park management.

Utility Messages

This is an open category that embraces an array of information and map detail. This material can help people make informed decisions about the recreational opportunities open to them in a given setting. It has a "value add" potential that can significantly increase a user's safe enjoyment of a precinct and level of satisfaction with their visit.

While signage can deliver a base level of functionality with this messaging, printed maps and trail guides have traditionally played a role in this sphere. Custom designed multilingual digital content delivered to users as by simple one click access as they stand beside a sign provides a major additional means of communicating this information.

1.5.2 Maps

General: Maps underpin the successful delivery of every visitor orientation message class [i.e. regulatory, safety, utility].

Requirement: Maps shall be of high quality and detail that allows visitors to photograph the map on a mobile device for reference throughout their journey regardless of internet connection.

1.5.3 ACT parks and conservation service sign types

General: ACT Parks and Conservation Services Sign types are:

> Major Road Entry

- Road entry signage shall be able to communicate effectively with people in cars relative to the speeds they are travelling at the time of encountering the sign. This signage shall fully accord with all regulations relating to the location of signage along public road easements.

> Major Trailhead

- Major trailhead signage shall be able to be easily visible even on peak days when car parks may be full. This requires sufficient height to the sign to ensure at least its top banner can stand out above the general level of precinct congestion. Signage shall always be installed in concert with hard surfacing to define a user precinct around the unit.

> Minor Trailhead

- Minor trailhead signage shall stand out from the undergrowth and be easily seen from at least 50m away depending on clear lines of sight. All essential user information content on the signage shall be positioned at least 900mm above ground level. Only larger elements presenting discretionary content shall be positioned below this 900mm level.

> Trail Intersection

- Trail intersection signage shall stand out from the undergrowth and be easily seen from at least 50m away depending on clear lines of sight. All essential user information content on the signage shall be positioned at least 900mm above ground level. Only larger elements presenting discretionary content shall be positioned below this 900mm level.

> Offsite Orientation

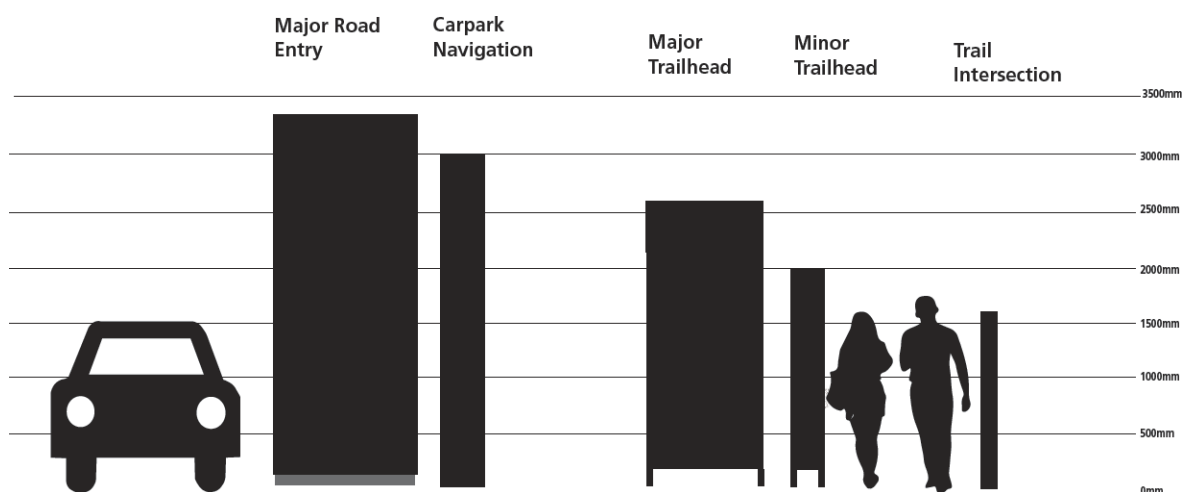- Offsite orientation signage expands the visitor orientation messaging along roadways leading to park destinations.

Figure 22-32 ACT Parks and Conservation Sign Types

1.5.3.1   Major Road Entry Signage

General: Major Road Entry Signage marks the entry into Parks and Reserves (such as Mount Ainslie or Pine Island).

Requirement: Major Road Entry Signs shall:

> Not be of a shape that could not be confused with regulatory or warning signs. Rectangular, arched, and depending on colour selection, circular shapes are considered satisfactory,
> Letter types used on signs shall conform with *AS 1744:1975 - Standard Alphabets for Road Signs (excluding A and B series)*, or as otherwise approved.
> Not conflict with colour coding requirements of traffic signs, and the combination of colours used shall ensure appropriate colour contrast is provided between legend and backgrounds. Signs that have red or yellow backgrounds, or red letters, or which could in any other respect be confused with regulatory or warning signs, shall not be used.
> Be reflectorised,
> Be erected on frangible posts and at an angle to the roadway which takes into account requirements for specular reflection. The siting of signs shall not impact on the sight distance requirements at intersections, traffic signs or devices, or visibility to other road users, such as pedestrians.
> Conform to Australian standards and Austroads requirements.

Consider: The rear panel of both the Major Road Entry signs has the option of addressing post visit connectivity by speaking to people as they complete their activity and leave the reserve.

The level one message in this regard is to promote the ACT Government Facebook and Twitter links.

1.5.3.2   Major Trailhead

General: Major Trailhead signs are located at significant trailheads such as adjacent car parking or at significant pedestrian entries to reserves. Major trailhead signs are important local landmarks identifying the beginning of a trail showing relevant information for the trail and area.

Requirement: Major trailhead signs shall;

> Be visible from the general car park area (even when parking is full – visible above cars)
> Be integrated into landscape design:

- Accessible paving (hard paving) to all sides:
- Not block the adjacent trail/path (including space for users to view/read the sign without blocking the path or spilling onto the road/car park surface).

The picnic / playground precinct at Pine Island shown in **Figure 22-33 Picnic Playground precinct at Pine Island** features how important it is to take control of visitor flows from the outset of people's connection with the locality.

Figure 22-33 Picnic Playground precinct at Pine Island

The example, in **Figure 22-34 Picnic Playground precinct at Pine Island Indicative signage Car park / trailhead upgrade,** of Pine Island Beach shows one possible solution for adapting the new major trailhead signage design to older landscape settings.

Figure 22-34 Picnic Playground precinct at Pine Island Indicative signage Car park / trailhead upgrade

Consider: Seating shall be considered to encourage these points to be natural gathering places where people reorganise themselves in the transition from parking to natural area activity.

1.5.3.3   Minor Trailhead

General: Minor Trailhead signs are used as a marker for minor trailheads and to clear up key intersections of trails. Minor Trailhead signs identify the beginning of a trail or major intersection of trails and show relevant information for the trail(s). A Minor Trailhead sign shall be used to reduce clutter and provide a consolidated point of information and way finding for the area. Minor Trailhead signs shall be used as entry signs to low profile nature reserves.

Requirement: Minor trailhead signs shall:

> Be visible from at least 50m;
> Be integrated into landscape design; and
> Provide sufficient space for users to read the sign without blocking the trail(s).

Figure 22-35 Kambah Pool Car Park Precinct Indicative Trailhead Signage Upgrade shows how a minor trailhead sign can reduce clutter and become a more visible marker of the trail.

Figure 22-35 Kambah Pool Car Park Precinct Indicative Trailhead Signage Upgrade

1.5.3.4   Trail Intersection

General: Trail intersections signs are provided via a single sided 150mm wide rectangular aluminium post. This post shall also serve as a reserve entry / activity declaration totem in many settings and a choice of two functional content layouts is available – one for internal reserve track junctions, the other for reserve entry points.

Trail intersection signs are not focused on attempting to predict user destinations. This is in keeping with the collaboration between agency and user whereby the park tells people where they are, the user then makes up their own mind where they want to go.

Requirement: Trail intersection signs shall:

> Be visible from at least 50m;
> Include latitude longitude location of the marker post; and
> Include instructions to dial 000 in an emergency:

- In areas with no mobile phone reception the sign shall inform people of the nearest point where they can get coverage.

Figure 22-36 Indicative Trail Intersection Sign

1.5.3.5   Offsite Orientation Signage

General: Offsite Orientation signage extends the visitor experience along Roadways leading to park destinations. It assists road safety by ensuring motorists were well informed of key intersections in advance and provides reassurance along the route to destinations.

Refer to *MIS12 Guide Signs* for details on offsite Orientation Signage.

Offsite Orientation signage is classified as;

> Tourism Signage:

- Road signage that provides destination information, distance to destination, user functions (camp site, hiking etc) and user restrictions (no dogs, no camping etc): and

> Service Signage.

- Service Signage provides outreach messaging and has more flexibility than Tourism Signage responding to specific needs and opportunities of a particular setting.
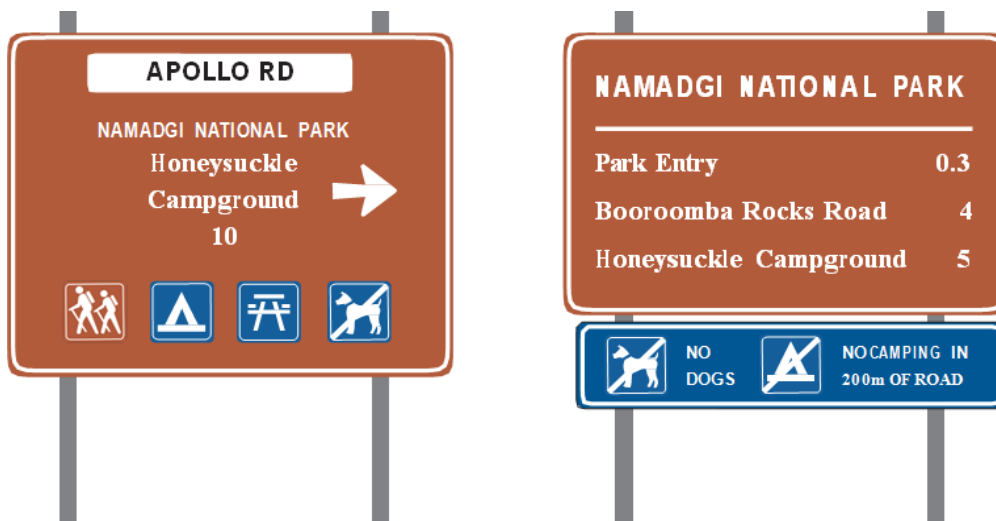

Figure 22-37 Offsite Signage - Tourism Signage

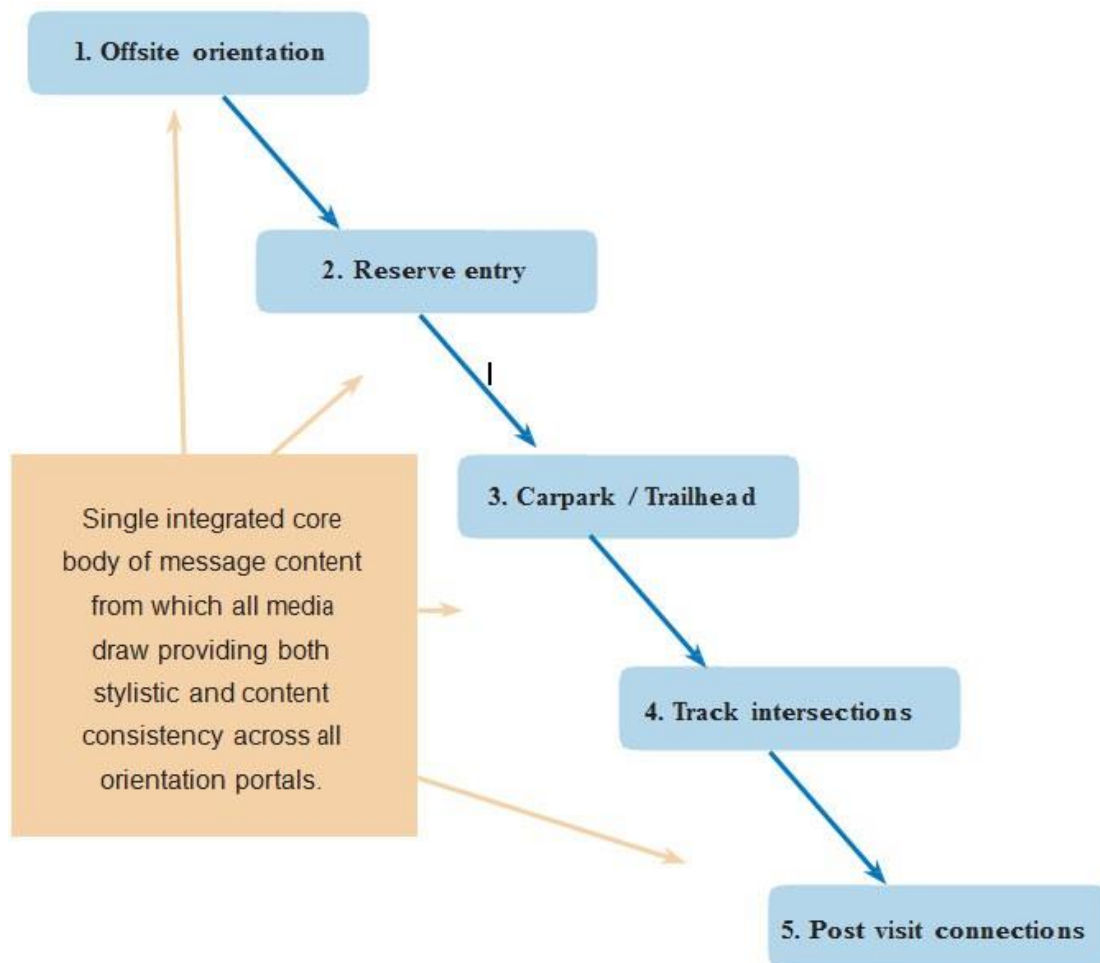**Figure 22-38 Offsite signage - Service Signage**

Figure 22-39 Transition Stages

General: Visitor orientation shall embrace each of these aspects of the visitor experience as an integrated part of the one message delivery platform.

While the transitions between these five stages have major significance in the planning and delivery of a coherent orientation platform, the visitor shall not be conscious of this. Rather they shall connect with a coherent body of content at the outset of their planning, and thereafter rely on this product to deliver the totality of their essential orientation requirements.

1.5.3.6   Reserve Major Entry

General: The entry precinct for major reserve entry points includes the transition zone between arriving in the reserve and alighting from a vehicle in the car park. Typically however this precinct has not been treated as a zone but rather as discrete points where lines are crossed and signage clusters occur. Signage clusters are confronting to visitors and ineffective in communicating messages.

Requirement: Reserve major entries shall be treated as zones with a series of clear messages that are legible. The signage transition zone shall:

> Identify all types of messages that need to be conveyed;

- User restrictions (no dogs, no camping etc)
- Additional regulatory information
- AFDS
- Welcome Sign (place name)

> Separate messages into a series of signs across the reserve major entry transition zone;

- User restrictions located 200m to 300m before the entrance
- Additional regulatory information to be located within the reserve/park (at key access points such as trailheads to picnic areas)
- AFDS located a minimum 200m from other signs
- Welcome sign at entry point

Consider: The signage transition zone delivers the information in a legible manner, the layout of signage shall consider the specific information relevant to a reserve or park and explore the most effective method to deliver the information for that site. The siting and spacing of signage shall consider:

> Road speed limit;
> Sightlines;
> Hierarchy of information;
> Active travel routes (a different set of signs may be appropriate);

Requirement: For proposed signage within the road reserve the designer shall seek approval of signage siting, content and design from the authority responsible for roads.

1.5.3.7   Reserve Minor Entry

General: Roadside Minor Reserve entry signage response options are shown in **Figure 22-40 Reserve Minor Entry.** The use of small scale tourism roads signage to communicate essential user information to drivers as they cross this transition point is in keeping with the principles outlined above. In addition to the functionality of these sign units they are an extremely cost effective way of communicating essential information to people in these zones.

Additional support for this signage comes in the form of two boundary marker options, both of which draw upon the standard suite of signage units to deliver their message.

The content and also the means of affixing this to the sign (i.e. reflective vinyl stickers) changes to adapt to the specific needs of the situation. The larger 1800mm x 300mm signage panel is the preferred entry marker, the smaller 1600mm x 150mm post provides options for an inexpensive response where multiple boundary identifier points are required.

General: Trackside Minor Reserve entry signage aims on fulfilling the need for both essential visitor orientation and also the delivery of Activity Declaration messages is equally applicable to both settings.

The standard minor trailhead sign and also track intersection signage options that are core elements of the signage suite, are designed to function effectively as both reserve entry signage and also as internal placements located within the reserve where people may encounter it after having passed a major trailhead node.

The essence of this orientation signage strategy is to ensure that the signage ensemble can be adapted by varying its content to meet the specific needs of a visitor setting in a stylistically consistent manner.

Figure 22-40 Reserve Minor Entry

1.5.4 ACT parks and conservation service sign siting

Requirement: Signage location shall:

> Be as near as practicable to the edge of carriageway consistent with safety and possible dirt accumulation, if located within or near a road reserve signs.
> Consider the clear zone requirements relative to the edge of the roadway. Refer to *MIS 06 Verges*, *MIS 10 Fences, guardrails and barriers* and *MIS 12 Guide signs* for siting of signs.

1.5.5 ACT parks and conservation service signs graphics

1.5.5.1 Symbols

General: The careful and considered use of symbols is essential to the roll out of an effective visitor orientation ecosystem.

Requirement: Symbols on ACT Parks and Conservation signage shall;

> Conform to the road tourism signage guideline standards;
> Conform to Australian Standards;
> Not have red or yellow backgrounds or letters or in any other respect be confused with regulatory or warning signs. This consideration precludes the use of red circled regulatory prohibition symbols on signage communicating with motorists.
> Include the logo of the ACT Government Authority responsible for Parks and Reserves.

1.5.5.2 Park entry symbols viewed in transit on public roads

General: The suite of symbol signage that would be appropriate for communicating with people in their vehicles on public roads includes those shown in **Figure 22-41 ACT Parks and Conservation Signage Public Road Symbols**. For all pictograms used on road signage refer to *MIS 12 Guide Signs*.

These symbols focus on telling people:

> What they need to know at the time they need to know it.
> What for example are the "turn around" messages that would require an incoming driver to think twice about their travel plans?

One of the examples is having a dog in the car when travelling into a no dog reserve. Planning an overnight stay in an area with no camping is another. Against this backdrop, many other regulatory messages can be recognised as second tier elements that can be communicated to people in the course of their visit.

Figure 22-41 ACT Parks and Conservation Signage Public Road Symbols

1.5.5.3   Symbols viewed when stationary in front of signs

General: Once people are no longer in transit in a moving vehicle the park signage ensemble can be informed by the following considerations;

> Regulatory Prohibition – symbols that indicate that an action or activity is not permitted.

Figure 22-42 ACT Parks and Conservation Signage Regulatory Prohibition Symbols

> Hazard Danger – symbols that warn of a particular hazard or hazardous condition that is likely to be life threatening.

Figure 22-43 ACT Parks and Conservation Signage Hazard Danger Symbol

> Hazard Warning – symbols that warn of a particular hazard or hazardous condition that is not likely to be life threatening.

Figure 22-44 ACT Parks and Conservation Signage Hazard Warning Symbol

> Emergency Information – symbols that indicate the location of or directions to emergency related equipment or first aid facilities.

Figure 22-45 ACT Parks and Conservation Signage Emergency Information Symbol

1.5.5.4   Welcome to Country

General: A standard style of Welcome to Country symbol shall be applied to all the parks and conservation signage. The welcome symbol and any accompanying text are paramount to ensure the drive by / walk by message shall be communicated in a glance.

Any supporting narrative that included a welcome sentence or further elaboration shall sit within the body content of the signage.

Consider: The Welcome to Country symbol can then be supported by the use of reserve identifier motifs featuring Aboriginal artwork.
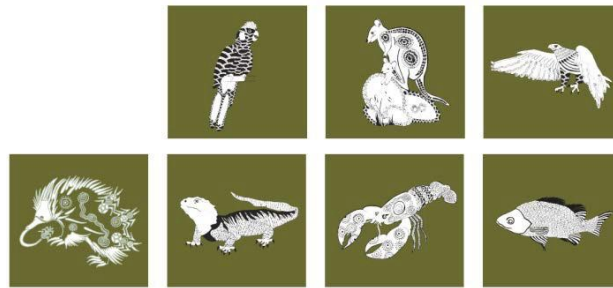
Figure 22-46 ACT Parks and Conservation Signage Welcome to Country Symbols

1.5.5.5   Typeface

Requirement: Parks and Conservation Sign typeface shall be:

> Frutiger Condensed shall be used for Core Text.
> Helvetica Neue shall be used for map text.

Sizing and layout of signage text is available from the authority responsible for Parks and Conservation. Minor variations of font sizing, content and layout will occur on a case by case basis.

1.5.5.6   Colours and Materials

General: The signs are constructed of aluminium with the inclusion of a bottom shield of 3mm Corten set against a painted background colour.

The use of Corten here is intentionally included as a unifying link across the reserves given the widespread use of this material in interpretive and other signage media across the ACT Parks system.

1.6 Documentation

Requirements: Comply with *TCCS Reference document 6 Design Acceptance* submissions.

Transport Canberra and
City Services

SEPTEMBER 2021