

Santa Ana River Parkway

Minimum Sign Guidelines



October 2011

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SANTA ANA RIVER PARKWAY MINIMUM SIGNAGE GUIDELINE

Background

The Santa Ana River Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has prepared a draft Minimum Sign Guideline (Guideline) for use along the Santa Ana River Parkway. The Guideline was prepared at the request of the Santa Ana River Policy Advisory Group (PAG). The Guideline includes information from local agencies and from other sign guidelines.

Purpose

To communicate important Wayfinding, Interpretation, Safety and Regulation and Branding information about the Santa Ana River Parkway through cost-efficient methods agreeable to the Santa Ana River Parkway Partners.

Goals

1. Create a Guideline which unifies and recommends Wayfinding, Interpretation, Safety and Regulation and Branding signs for use along the Santa Ana River Parkway.
2. Adopt the draft Guideline
3. Implement the Wayfinding portion of the Guideline as a first step.

Tasks

1. Develop minimum Wayfinding, Interpretation, Safety and Regulation and Branding signs with emphasis initially given to Wayfinding signs.
2. Expand the Guideline to include additional Interpretation, Safety and Regulation and Branding signs in a subsequent revision.
3. Recommend a modular sign system that is readily available, easily implemented, expandable and inexpensive.
4. Remove old or outdated Parkway signs as appropriate

WAYFINDING

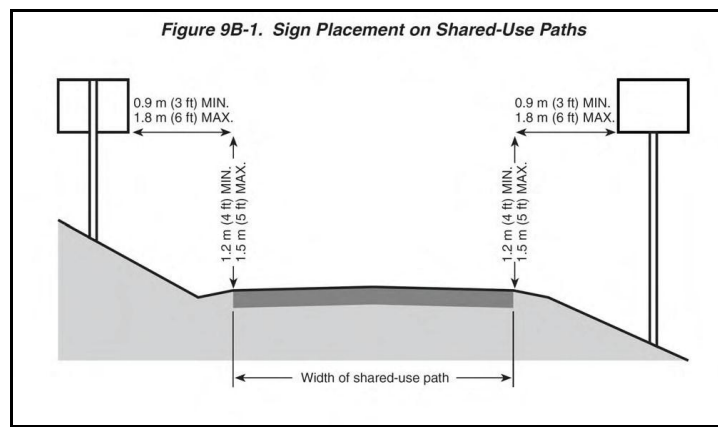
NAME SIGNS

Wayfinding signs are an important device to convey key information to Parkway visitors. Signs can direct, place emphasis, inform and warn. Signs can also create a sense of place and create value and significance.

Wayfinding name signs should clearly identify the Santa Ana River Parkway and its Riding and Hiking Trail and Class I (off-road paved) Bikeway. Name signs are commonly placed on vertical posts with a sign affixed to its top. Another option is to affix the name sign (as a sticker) on the post itself. Stickers affixed to sign posts (on 2 or more vertical edges) allow signs to face bicyclists from multiple directions.

Signs should be located where the visitor enters the Parkway right-of-way and begins to interact with other trail users. Name signs should be installed at least 3 feet from the edge of the trail or bikeway.

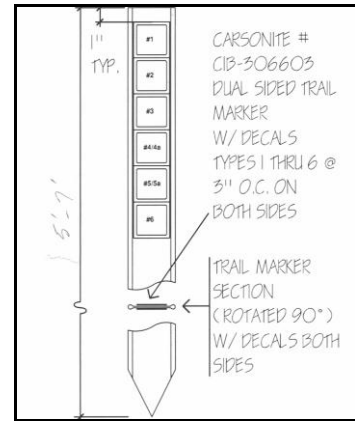
Suggestion #1: Install name signs at locations just outside of the Parkway right-of-way and into other public right-of-way as a way to suggest an alternative route of travel. Signs may be placed where road right-of-way adjoin Parkway right-of-way and/or along road right-of-way as cyclists approach the connection to the Parkway (similar to signs used to alert motorists to an approaching road intersection.)



Suggestion #2: Consider a modular sign post that addresses:

- Post and materials
- Signs and stickers
- Wording and information order
- Sign Placement
- Durability
- Easily obtainable sign materials and processes to install and maintain.

Examples of Flexible Sign Posts and Decals



Optional Name Sign Treatments

Option #1:

In the future consider using color and symbols (combined) to further emphasize the Parkway name and user location along the Parkway. Limit the types of signs to reduce cost. An example of a bikeway sign from San Mateo, California is below.



MILEAGE MARKERS

Mileage Markers can provide the following benefits:

- Designate where users can enter and exit the Parkway,
- Identifies the path of the bikeway and trail
- A point or destination along the Parkway
- Useful to plan rides and hikes
- Measure distance between 2 or more points
- Serves Parkway operators
- Wayfinding for emergency service staff

Mileage Markers should have the following characteristics:

- Visible and easy to read from the surrounding space
- Accurately placed (beginning at a fixed point along the Parkway)
- Installed at regular intervals (between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile) and where users may be expected to stop and rest
- Contain useful information organized in a uniform manner
- Of a height and scale to not be a hazard.
- Include features (such as a reflective surfaces) that allow the marker to be seen day and night
- Easy to maintain and to replace
- Made of readily available materials that are durable and economical.

Develop a Sign Post Template (see Mileage Marker and Sign Post Templates) that addresses:

- Acceptable public uses of the Parkway
- Post shape
- Seals and Logo
- Mileage Number
- Installation

Suggestion #1: Prepare a map of the Mile Markers as part installation. The map will identify marker sites (estimated to be about 250 to 300) with unique mileage designations.

Suggestion #2: Coordinate the following Mileage Marker activities:

- Agreement on a modular post and sign palette
- Purchase of posts, stickers, and other sign materials
- Installation of the signs along the river
- Removal of unnecessary posts and signs

Examples of Mileage Markers



Optional Marker Treatments

Option #1: Use color and symbol codes (if useful) to emphasize the user's location along the Parkway.

Option #2: Use 2 or 4 sided posts to communicate multi-directional travel information.

Option #3: Consider painting a bar across the bikeway that corresponds to the location of the marker as a way to highlight the post.

MAP AND EXHIBIT SIGNS

Prepare regional and local maps of the Parkway. Regional maps should include the entire Parkway. Local maps should depict sections of the Parkway with sufficient detail of the surrounding area. Parkway maps should be designed to serve:

- The widest visitor population.
- Parkway staff and their contractors
- Emergency services staff
- Other stakeholders

Parkway maps should be easy to read, accurate, allow visitors to find their position, show destinations and features along the Parkway and occur at regular intervals. Parkway maps should contain the following information:

- Entire Parkway as the primary map or as an insert to a map
- Parkway information where the exhibit is located
- Agency jurisdictions
- Key staging and entry points to the Parkway
- Major destinations along the Parkway - parks, commercial, educational and residential areas.
- Provide information where to download Parkway maps

Parkway maps should be located at:

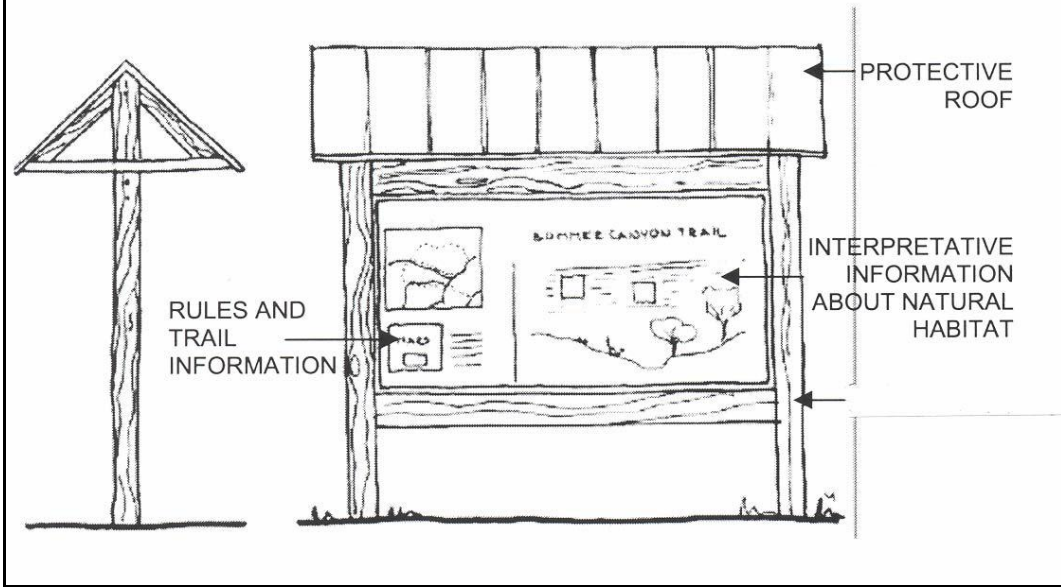
- Intersections with other local and regional trails and bikeways
- Parkway end points and key entries to cities and communities as requested by each Partner.
- Staging and major rest areas.
- Significant interpretative features (as needed)
- Where visitors can safely pull off the bikeway to access and read the map.

Parkway maps should be designed to also include:

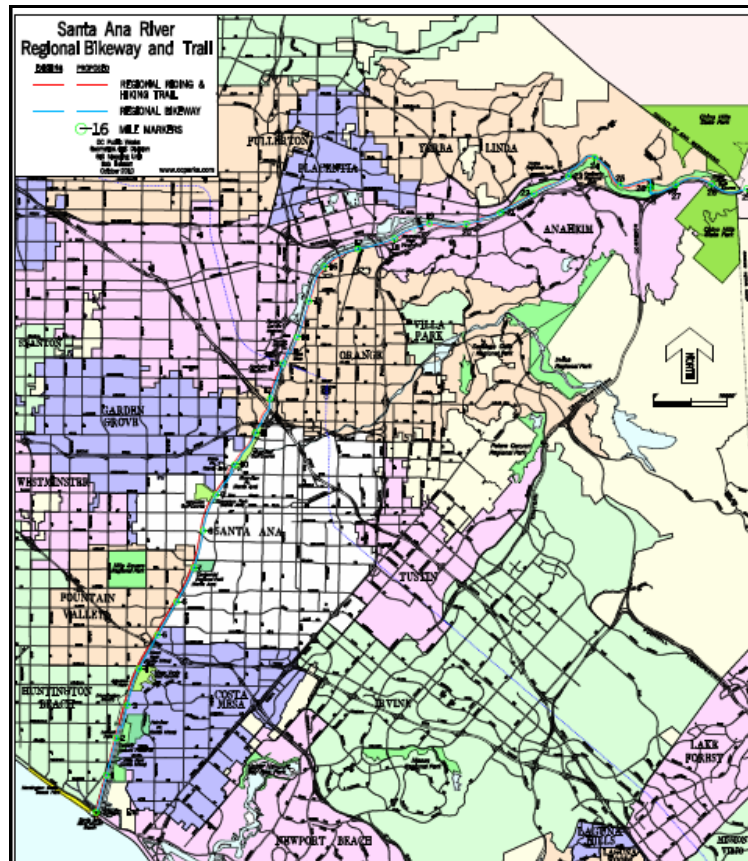
- Disabled parking
- Step-free access points
- Facilities for those with disabilities.
- Scan-able icons to download a regular and large-print version of the Parkway map

Suggestion #1: Consider developing a Parkway Kiosk Template (example below)

Typical Kiosk / Bulletin Board Sign (Conceptual Only, Final Design Will Vary)



Example of a Parkway Map with mileage



REGULATORY SIGNS

Regulatory signs impart official information about permitted uses and activities within the Parkway. Regulatory signs are commonly located at entrances to the Parkway (mostly at intersections with public roadways), staging lots and information kiosks.

Regulatory Signs:

Rules and Regulation: Explain the operation and use of a facility including information about the operator, hours of operation and approved uses. Seals or logos often accompany this type of sign. (See Template for larger example)



Yield/Courtesy: Identify acceptable Parkway uses and user right-of-way.



Animal Ordinance: Consider unifying the different animal control signs into one sign in a subsequent amendment to the Guideline.

Closure/Detour: These signs inform the user about a change to the public's use of the Parkway when:

- There is a closure or interruption of the public's use of the Parkway
- Alternative routes are available through or around affected areas.





M4-9a



M4-9c

Regulatory signs should be installed where the visitor enters the Parkway right-of-way and where the adopted rules and regulations apply. Sign posts should be installed a minimum of 3' off the edge of the trail or bikeway tread.

Suggestion #1:

Compare existing Rules and Regulations signs of the Parkway partners. Possible differences may include:

- Seasonal operating hours
- Acceptable activities within the Parkway
- Use of paved and soft treads by different users
- Sections of the Parkway where only the trail or bikeway are open and both groups must share a single path.

Suggestion #2:

Consider developing a Minimum Regulatory Sign Template to be used by the Parkway partners (see Regulatory Sign Template). Consider adopting one or two Minimum Regulatory Signs that:

- Are uniform in appearance and content
- Provide key information
- Made of inexpensive and readily obtainable sign materials which are easy to install and maintain.
- Can be modified or expanded

Suggestion #3:

- Consider including Rules and Regulations information in the Parkway kiosk.

Optional Regulatory Sign Treatments

Option #1: Use colors and symbols to highlight the Parkway's rules and regulations where emphasis is needed.

Option #2: Consider a sign template which groups signs to reduce cost and clutter

Option #3: Design a Regulation Sign to also include the Parkway logo and local seal

ARTERIAL ROADWAY NAME SIGNS

Roadway name signs are an indispensable type of guidance sign common to every highway system in the nation. As the popularity of cycling grows roadway name signs can provide the same location and decision-making benefit for the non-motorized Parkway user.

Arterial Roadway Name signs would be used to identify arterial highways which overcross the Parkway. Roadway signs are popular and often requested by cyclists.

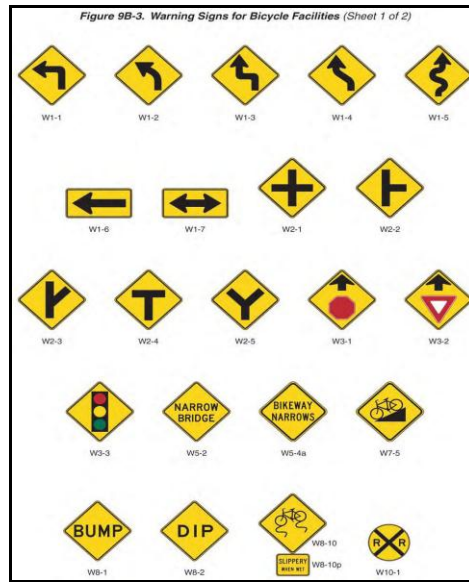
Roadway name signs should be prominently displayed on the upstream and downstream sides of a bridge soffit (2 signs per bridge). Lettering should be sufficiently large to insure cyclists can easily read the signs before reaching the undercross.

Suggestion #1: Develop an Arterial Roadway Name Template employing large, reflective lettering.

PARKWAY CONDITION AND PUBLIC SAFETY SIGNS

Safety signs call attention to those areas of the Parkway where additional information is to be provided to the visitor. Safety signs alert users to:

- Route conditions (such as a curve, a climb or descent)
- Shared use (where trail and bikeway merge)
- Edges or seams in the tread
- Transitions to a bridge or other crossing or from concrete pavement to asphalt



Safety Signs: Alerts users to locations where:

- The Parkway is not open for public use (the channel invert or a plant restoration area)
- Riders are asked to slow (such as a narrow area)
- Line of sight is reduced (at undercrossings)
- The Parkway is in need of repair or maintenance
- The Parkway is closed or is detoured

Condition and Safety signs installation sites: Should be located at or near the site where the information is needed and on the approach to the site (if advance notice is needed.)

Suggestion #1: Condition and safety signs should be easy to identify and read. Consider colors that are appropriate such as yellow or other strong color.

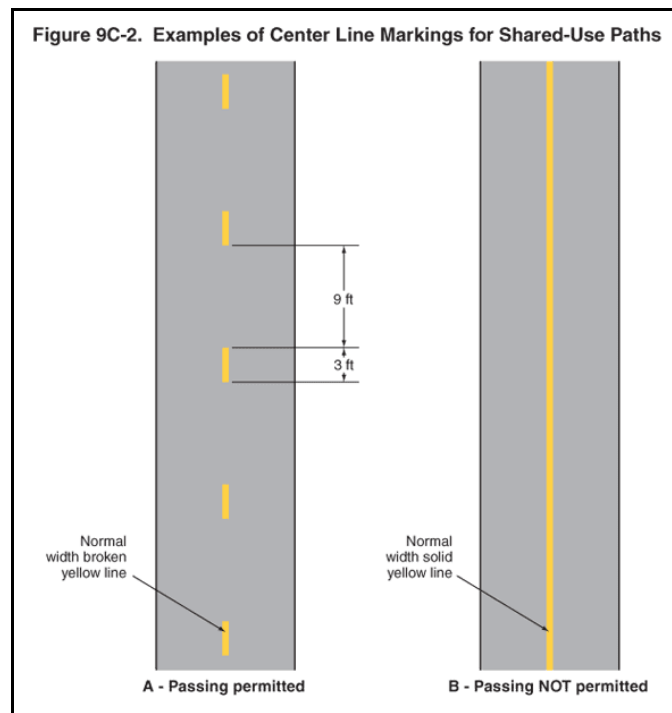
Suggestion #2: Limit Condition and Safety signs to only those areas where additional information is needed.

BIKEWAY MARKING TEMPLATE

Background: These markings denote bidirectional travel and provide information for turning, passing and crossing maneuvers.

Bikeway Marking: Where shared-use paths are of sufficient width to designate two minimum width lanes, a solid yellow line may be used to separate the two directions of travel where passing is not permitted, and a broken yellow line may be used where passing is permitted. Broken lines should have a 1-to-3 segment-to-gap ratio. A nominal 0.9 m (3 ft) segment with a 2.7 m (9 ft) gap should be used. If conditions make it desirable to separate two directions

Striping sites: Bikeway markings should conform to the Caltrans Highway Design Manual Chapter 1000. Chapter 1000 refers the reader to California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways.



Suggestion #1: Adopt a uniform Bikeway Marking Template

Suggestion #2: Strip both edges of the Class I Bikeway with a 4" wide reflective white line to identify the edge of pavement.

MAINTENANCE

Condition: Maintain Parkway signs, markers and kiosks in a manner that:

- Establishes the Parkway theme
- Wayfinding signs are up-to-date
- Provides sufficient Wayfinding information for the Parkway visitor

Inspection: Inspect Parkway signs annually (or more regularly as needed) as part of routine service.

Repair: Repair or replace damaged signs as soon as possible. Keep a supply of signs for easy replacement.

Routine Maintenance: Replaces missing or damaged signs, posts, cleans signs and replaces stickers or reflective decals. Inspect all Parkway signs annually. Keep a 20-30% stock of replacement signs until a pattern of replacement is established.

Remedial Maintenance: Where a majority of Parkway signs are upgraded or replaced.

GLOSSERY

Wayfinding - Methods used to arrange indicators to guide people to their destinations.

Sign Post – A post that bears a sign showing the way along a route or path

Mile Marker – A post or sign that indicates miles measured from a fixed point along a route or path.

Miles in County (aka postmiles) – Miles beginning at zero at the western or southern end of the parkway or at the western or southern boundary of the county through which the route is traveling. Mileage increases as you travel north or east and then restarts at zero at the next county line.

Miles from Ocean – Miles beginning at zero at the point where the Santa Ana River Class I Bikeway travels upstream from the Pacific Ocean.

Kiosk - A small structure with one or more sides used to post information.

Bikeway – A designated place for bicycle passage

Parkway – A broad landscaped thoroughfare

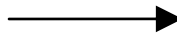
Riding and Hiking Trail – A recreational route or path

Santa Ana River Trail & Parkway Mileage Marker Information Template

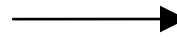
Face View

Edge View

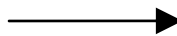
Parkway Logo



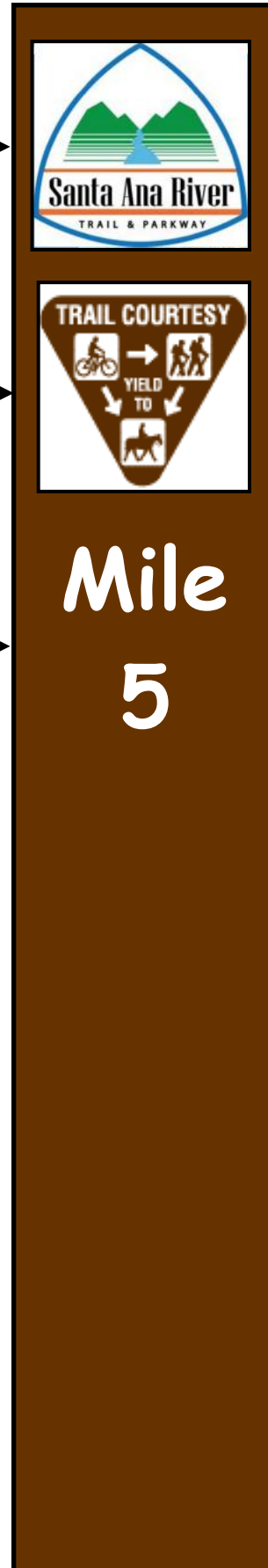
Trail Courtesy Logo



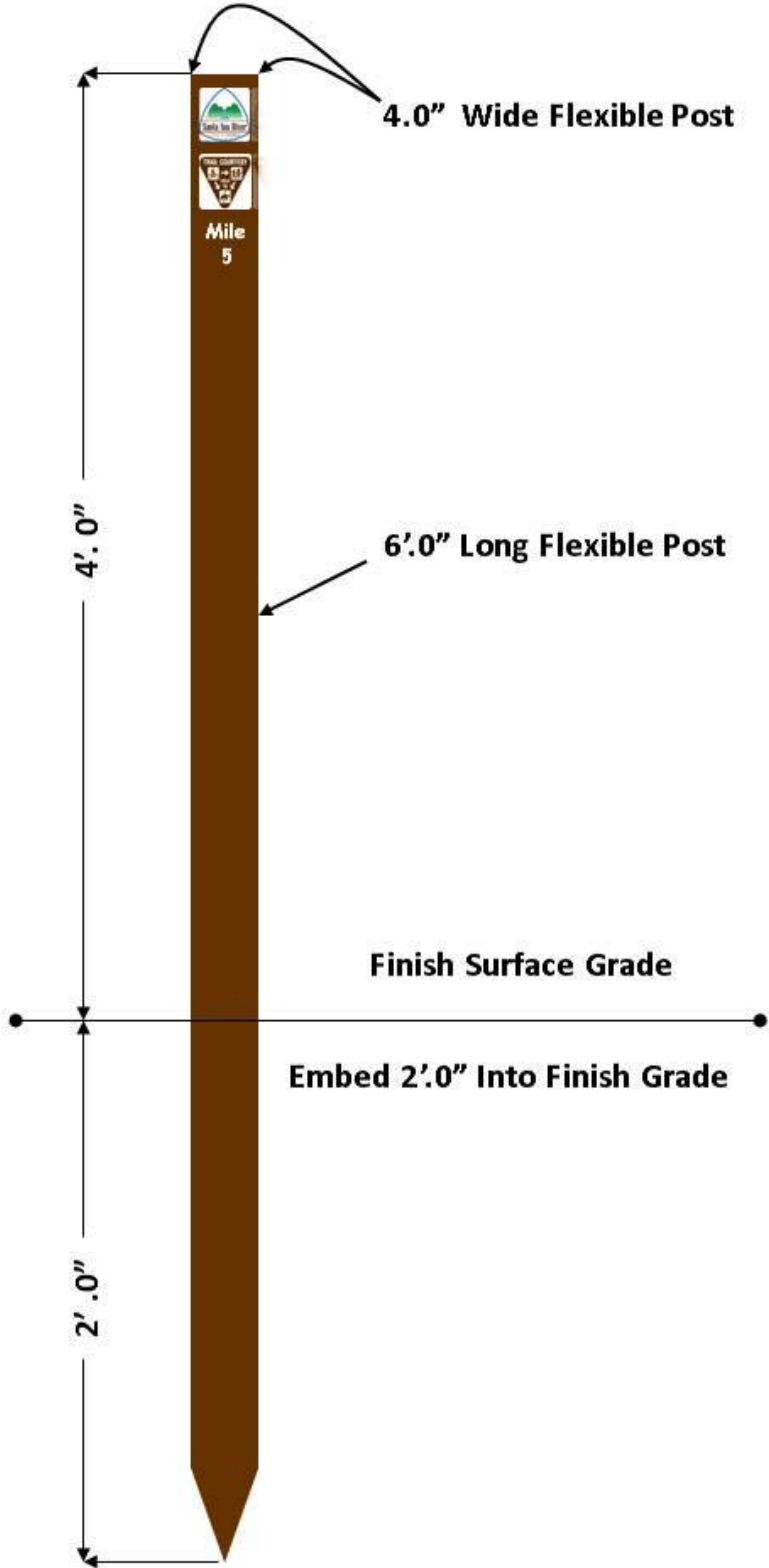
Mileage in direction of travel



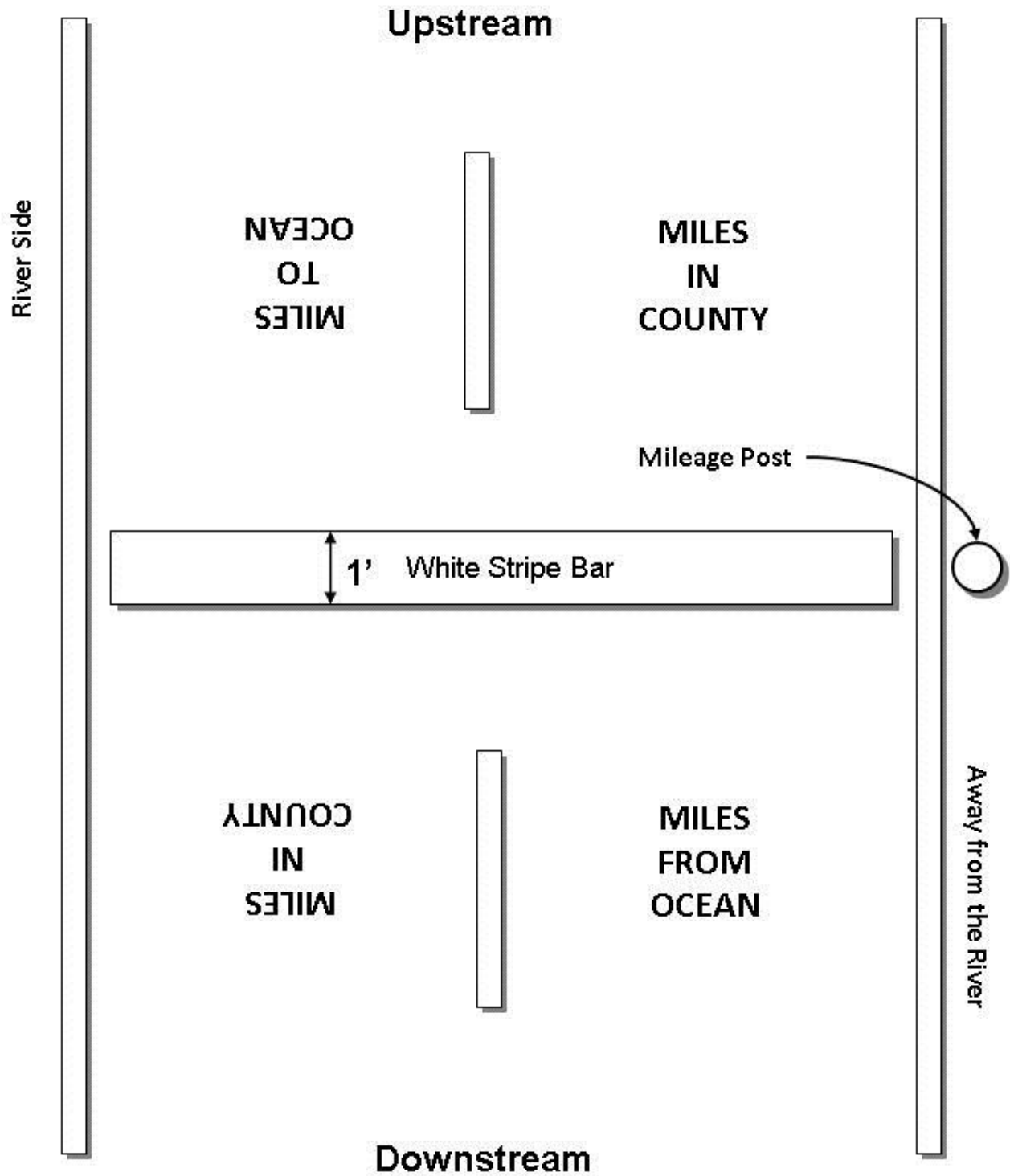
**Mile
5**



Santa Ana River Trail & Parkway Sign Post Template
Install posts every ½ mile



Santa Ana River Trail & Parkway One-Mile Mileage Striping Template



**Example of a Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway
Regulatory Sign Template**

Trail Regulations

Trail Hours

November 1st - February 28th 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 March 1st - October 31st 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

REG. NO. 000000
REV. 01/2011

This is a regional riding & hiking trail. Please exercise safety towards all users.

		
		
<p><small>DO NOT FEED OR DISTURB WILDLIFE OR PLANTS. DO NOT FEED OR DISTURB WILDLIFE OR PLANTS.</small></p>	<p><small>KEEP OFF THE SHOULDER AND SIDEWALK.</small></p>	<p><small>NO BICYCLES</small></p>
		
<p><small>NO MOTORCYCLES OR ATVs ALLOWED ON TRAIL</small></p>	<p><small>NO RUNNING, SKATEBOARDING, OR STROLLER USE</small></p>	<p><small>NO STROLLERS</small></p>





Regional Riding & Hiking Trail

For information, please call
(866) 627-2757