

## CHAPTER 173

### ADVERTISING DEVICES

173.02	Definitions.
173.085	Star city signs.
173.13	Devices along interstate highways.

#### 173.02 DEFINITIONS.

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1984]*

Subd. 2. "Advertising device" means any billboard, sign, notice, poster, display, or other device visible to and primarily intended to advertise and inform or to attract or which does attract the attention of operators and occupants of motor vehicles and shall include any structure erected primarily for use in connection with the display of any such device and all lighting or other attachments used in connection therewith except "star city" signs erected under section 173.085.

*[For text of subd 4, see M.S.1984]*

Subd. 6. Directional and other official signs and notices shall mean:

(a) "Official signs and notices" mean signs and notices erected and maintained by public officers or public agencies within their territorial jurisdiction and pursuant to and in accordance with direction or authorization contained in federal or state law for the purposes of carrying out an official duty or responsibility. Historical markers authorized by state law and erected by state or local governmental agencies or nonprofit historical societies and star city signs erected under section 173.085 may be considered official signs.

(b) "Public utility signs" mean warning signs, notices, or markers which are customarily erected and maintained by publicly or privately owned public utilities, as essential to their operations.

(c) "Service club and religious notices" mean signs and notices, not exceeding eight square feet in advertising area, whose erection is authorized by law, relating to meetings and location of nonprofit service clubs or charitable associations, or religious services.

(d) "Directional signs" means signs containing directional information about public places owned or operated by federal, state, or local governments or their agencies, publicly or privately owned natural phenomena, historic, cultural, scientific, educational, and religious sites, and areas of natural scenic beauty or naturally suited for outdoor recreation, deemed to be in the interest of the traveling public. To qualify for directional signs, privately owned attractions must be nationally or regionally known, and of outstanding interest to the traveling public.

(e) All definitions in this subdivision are intended to be in conformity with the national standards for directional and other official signs.

*[For text of subds 7 to 15, see M.S.1984]*

**History:** 1985 c 25 s 1,2

#### 173.085 STAR CITY SIGNS.

Subdivision 1. **Authority to erect.** (a) A lesser populated statutory or home rule charter city of Minnesota that has received instruction and expertise from the department of energy and economic development on attracting and retaining busi-

nesses for the city and subsequently has been designated and annually recertified as a star city for economic development by that department may erect star city signs upon payment of a fee required under section 173.13, subdivision 4, to the department of transportation. One sign may be erected at each approach to the city within the right-of-way of an interstate or other highway that passes inside the city limits.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), a lesser populated statutory or home rule charter city that has an official sign in an adjacent area of an approach of an interstate highway passing through or near the city as of August 1, 1985 may replace that sign with a star city sign upon payment of a fee required under section 173.13, subdivision 4, to the department of transportation.

Subd. 2. **Sign standards.** The department of transportation shall design and manufacture the star city sign to specifications not contrary to other federal and state highway sign standards and substantially similar to those star city signs approved for display on state highways as of August 1, 1985.

**History:** 1985 c 25 s 4

### 173.13 DEVICES ALONG INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS.

*[For text of subds 1 to 3, see M.S.1984]*

Subd. 4. The annual fee for each such permit or renewal thereof shall be as follows:

(1) If the advertising area of the advertising device does not exceed 50 square feet, the fee shall be \$20.

(2) If the advertising area exceeds 50 square feet but does not exceed 300 square feet, the fee shall be \$40.

(3) If the advertising area exceeds 300 square feet, the fee shall be \$80.

(4) No fee shall be charged for a permit for official signs and notices as they are defined in section 173.02, except that a fee may be charged for a star city sign erected under section 173.085.

*[For text of subds 5 to 11, see M.S.1984]*

**History:** 1985 c 25 s 3