

**173.085 STAR CITY AND COUNTY SIGNS.**

Subdivision 1. **Authority to erect.** (a) A county or lesser populated statutory or home rule charter city of Minnesota that has received instruction and expertise from the Department of Employment and Economic Development on attracting and retaining businesses for the county or city and subsequently has been designated and annually recertified as a star county or star city for economic development by that department may erect star county or star city signs upon payment of a fee required under section 173.13, subdivision 4, to the Department of Transportation. In the case of star cities, 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. In the case of star counties, one sign may be erected within the right-of-way of an interstate or other highway at or near the point where the highway enters the county.

(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. A county that has an official sign on the right-of-way or adjacent area of an interstate highway at the point where the highway enters the county may replace that sign with a star county sign on 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 county and star city signs 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; 1987 c 312 art 1 s 26 subd 2; 1988 c 636 s 12; 1988 c 698 s 3; 1Sp2003 c 4 s 1