

## District Office Addresses

Bismarck District Office  
ND Department of Transportation  
218 Airport Road  
Bismarck, ND 58504-6003

Valley City District Office  
ND Department of Transportation  
1524 Eighth Avenue SW  
Valley City, ND 58072-4200

Devils Lake District Office  
ND Department of Transportation  
316 Sixth Street South  
Devils Lake, ND 58301-0817

Minot District Office  
ND Department of Transportation  
1305 Hwy. 2 Bypass East  
Minot, ND 58702-1396

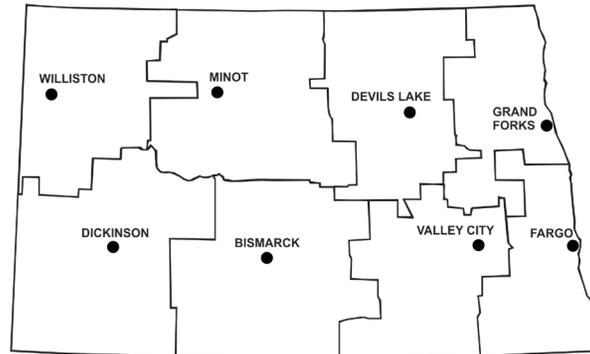
Dickinson District Office  
ND Department of Transportation  
1700 Third Ave. West, Ste. 101  
Dickinson, ND 58601-3009

Grand Forks District Office  
ND Department of Transportation  
1951 North Washington  
P.O. Box 13077  
Grand Forks, ND 58208-3077

Williston District Office  
ND Department of Transportation  
605 Dakota Parkway West  
P.O. Box 698  
Williston, ND 58802-0698

Fargo District Office  
ND Department of Transportation  
503 38th Street South  
Fargo, ND 58103-1198

## District Map



## For further information contact:

Gregory F. Doll  
Billboard and Property Management  
ND Department of Transportation  
Maintenance Division  
608 E. Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0700  
[gdoll@nd.gov](mailto:gdoll@nd.gov)  
Phone: 701-328-2613

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**NORTH DAKOTA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
Bismarck, North Dakota  
[www.dot.nd.gov](http://www.dot.nd.gov)

**MAINTENANCE**  
Brad Darr  
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# North Dakota Roadside Advertising



(See map of districts on following page.)

MTC0413

## What Does State Law Say?

Advertising structures cannot be erected on state highway right of way and a permit is required for all commercial advertising signs which can be seen from the edge of the highway right of way. The area selected to erect a commercial message sign must be zoned either commercial or industrial, which is generally near towns. (See Example 1.)

If there is no zoning in the area considered for signing, but there is an ongoing business activity adjacent to the highway that is also unzoned, the area can be considered an unzoned commercial zone. Therefore, any commercial signing can be placed within 600 feet of the business in either direction and on either side of the highway. Measurements begin from the used portion of the business including parking and storage areas. (See Example 2.)

Cities which use their extra territorial zoning jurisdiction and zone beyond their city limits, must use comprehensive zoning and not simply spot-zone next to the highway for the sole purpose of signing. In other words, the area must be zoned for commercial activities, not just for the purpose of erecting billboards.

In addition to zoning, there are spacing requirements:

Location	Spacing of Signs
Interstate Highways . . . . .	At least 500 feet apart
Federal and Primary Highways (outside incorporated city limits) . .	At least 300 feet apart
Federal and Primary Highways (inside incorporated city limits) . .	At least 100 feet apart

There are also size limitations and special legal provisions depending on the type of sign (official, directional, commercial, farm directional, or on premise).

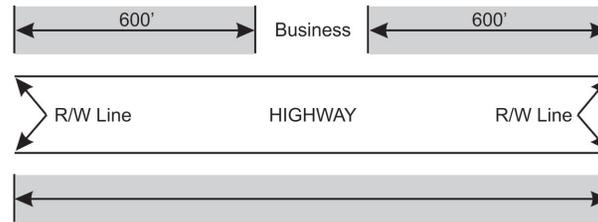
With the exception of commercial advertising signs, all other signs are exempt from the permit, permit fee, and strict zoning requirements.

This is only a basic overview of rules for outdoor advertising in North Dakota. Signs cannot be erected or exist unless state billboard laws are followed, which can be explained further by the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT.)

### Example 1: Zoned Commercial or Industrial



### Example 2: Unzoned Commercial or Industrial



## How Do I Get a Permit for a Commercial Advertising Sign?

If you have an existing sign or plan to erect one, here's what you need to do.

1. Contact the NDDOT district office. They can determine if the location you want is legally permissible. If it is, you'll be given a permit application.
2. Contact the landowner to get a verbal or written lease. The landowner can simply sign the permit application or write a simple lease agreement:

(name of person erecting sign) has the right to erect a sign on my land at \_\_\_\_ (location) \_\_\_\_ .

\_\_\_\_ (landowner's signature) \_\_\_\_

3. Complete the permit application and return it to the district office with a one-time permit fee of \$50 for the life of the sign. (See reverse side for district office addresses.)

NOTE: Zoning status must be completed and signed by proper zoning authority.

4. The district office will mail permit and fee receipt to sign owner after approval is made.
5. Contact your local city or county officials to see if they have any regulations in regards to erecting your sign.
6. The department will accept a conditional second party permit and will retain the permit until such time a permitted sign is installed or the initial permit installation period expires. Upon expiration of the initial one-year time period, if no sign is installed under the initial sign permit, the first party will be notified of the revocation of the sign permit, and the second party will be notified of the acceptance of the conditional sign permit pending the submission of the sign permit fee. Should the first party install the sign in accordance to the initial permit and within the required time frame, the second party conditional permit will be returned with notification of the reasoning i.e. sign spacing etc.

