

Vermont Agency of Transportation

POLICY ON STATE NUMBERED TOWN HIGHWAYS

The Secretary of Transportation may approve a request from the governing body of a town(s) to have various town highways designated as a "State Numbered Town Highway", thus becoming eligible to be shown on the official Vermont State Map. Approval will require the Agency to install directional signs on the State routes that intersect with the State Numbered Town Highway. The following criteria shall be used to determine approval:

1. The initial request must be submitted by the town(s) governing body.
2. The entire route shall consist of paved Class II town highways with legally established speed limits.
3. The entire route must be capable of being posted the same legal load as for State highways, and shall be posted if approval is granted.
4. The signs on the entire route shall conform to the requirements of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), the town(s) bearing the cost of conformance.

The decision to approve/disapprove requests shall be based upon a traffic engineering study conducted by a review group consisting of one representative from the entities of; Maintenance; Planning; and; Engineering. The Agency's Traffic and Safety Engineer shall be responsible in administering the process, which shall include the preparation of a recommendation for the group.

Policy approved by

  
(Secretary of Transportation)

Date

4/24/92

Vermont Agency of Transportation  
STATE NUMBERED TOWN HIGHWAY

A. Definition

One or more Class II paved town highways that have been approved by the Transportation Secretary to carry a State Route No., for example, State Numbered Town Highway 215 starts in Marshfield (Jct. of US-2), goes through Cabot, ending in the town of Walden (Jct. of Vt. 15).

B. Reasons for a State Numbered Town Highway

Principal reason is to provide better guidance to motorists since a SNTH has various route signs and destination boards installed at State highway intersections, and, it is shown on the official State map as a black-colored route.

C. Abbreviations

VAOT - Vermont Agency of Transportation  
SNTH - State Numbered Town Highway  
LLASH - Legal Load as for State Highways  
DOP - Department of Planning  
DTA - District Transportation Administrator or District  
T&S - Traffic and Safety Division  
VRG - VAOT Review Group

D. Requirements of a State Numbered Town Highway (SNTH)

1. The initial request must be submitted by the town(s) governing body.
2. The entire route shall consist of paved Class II town highways with legally established speed limits.
3. The entire route must be capable of being posted the same "Legal Load as for State Highways" and shall be posted as such if request is granted.
4. The signs on the entire SNTH shall conform to the requirements of the MUTCD, with the town(s) bearing the cost of conformance.
5. Any other circumstances deemed worthy by the Agency Review Group, this would be done on a case-by-case basis.

E. Basic Procedures

1. The governing body of a town forwards request to the VAOT, all requests shall be forwarded to T&S whom shall initiate action. If the roadway involves more than one town, the initiating town shall obtain approval from the other towns before the request is honored by T&S.
2. The DTA, DOP and T&S should conduct a field review, use the Agency Review Form. Town officials shall be invited to attend field reviews.
3. The State Numbered Route No. shall be assigned by T&S, which shall be consistent with the Agency's existing policy of State Route Nos.
4. T&S shall consolidate the Agency Field Review Forms, forward a consensual recommendation to the Transportation Secretary for the final decision.
5. Traffic and Safety shall inform all parties as to the final decision, which includes Agency Divisions, the town(s) and the Agency of Development and Community Affairs whom is responsible for the official State map. If approved, the letter to the town(s) shall include the estimated cost to the town(s), mention future sign maintenance. The town shall be responsible for the installation and maintenance of all town highway signs which shall include the legal load signs at the intersection of town highways with the SNTH. Approval must be received from the town(s) before proceeding.
6. T&S shall be responsible for the preparation of sign workorders for directional signing at the State-highway intersections.
7. All Agency entities shall update their records to reflect any changes. The cost to do this shall be absorbed by these entities.