

HEROES WAY

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Heroes Way Designation Program?

The Heroes Way Designation Program passed legislation in 2009, allowing interstate interchanges to be designated for Missouri residents, who were in the armed forces and were killed in action. In 2011, the original law was expanded to include state highway interchanges. In 2015, the law was expanded a second time to include bridges and segments of highway. To learn more, please visit MoDOT's website at: www.modot.org/services/MemorialDesignationPrograms.htm.

The law tasks MoDOT with administration of the program. The law, in its entirety, may be found at: http://www.senate.mo.gov/15info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=3985614.

Where can Heroes Way signs be installed?

Heroes Way sign designations only apply to state-maintained highway interchanges, bridges or segments of highway. Sign location and placement will be determined by MoDOT to ensure signs do not interfere with the safe operation of the highway system or conflict with other traffic control devices.

How many signs will be installed for a Heroes Way designation?

Two signs will be provided for each Heroes Way designation. Signs for an interchange designation will be placed in area between the mainline highway and the exit ramp of the interchange. Signs for a bridge or segment of highway designation will be placed at the beginning and end of the bridge or segment of highway. All signs remain the property of MoDOT.

Can an interchange, bridge or segment of highway be designated after more than once?

No interchange, bridge or segment of highway may be named or designated after more than once, per the limits of the state statute; including existing memorials designated on Missouri's state highway system under MoDOT's Memorial Highway and Bridge Naming Program and the Heroes Way Designation Program. An interchange, bridge or segment of highway may only receive one designation.

Who can apply for a Heroes Way designation?

Only family members of a Missouri fallen soldier may apply for and make decisions pertaining to a Heroes Way Naming Application. To protect the interests of the family, MoDOT will correspond with the family members regarding these applications/dedication ceremonies and will honor their wishes within the limits of the state statute.

Who do I contact to find out if the interchange, bridge or segment of highway, I have chosen is available for designation?

To find out if the interchange, bridge or segment of highway is available for designation, please contact MoDOT's Highway Safety and Traffic Division at (888) 275-6636 prior to completing the application.

Where do I submit a Heroes Way Naming Application?

All applications for a Heroes Way designation are to be submitted to MoDOT's Highway Safety and Traffic Division. Applications can be downloaded from MoDOT's website at: www.modot.org/services/hwiprogram.htm. Applications should be sent to:

MoDOT
Highway Safety and Traffic Division
P.O. Box 270
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0270

Who decides if a Heroes Way designation is approved?

MoDOT's Highway Safety and Traffic Division verifies the availability of the interchange, bridge or segment of highway and ensures all required information has been received. The information is then submitted to the Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight for review and approval consideration for these applications.



What is the expected timeframe for an application to be approved once submitted to the Committee?

The Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight reviews the applications during the current legislative session of each year (January through May). If an application is received after session, a special meeting is requested by MoDOT. The Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight sets the date for all special meetings and once scheduled, MoDOT is notified. MoDOT has no authority on when the Committee meets.

Who is responsible for the cost of the signs?

The fee for these signs may be provided by the family; however, funds can be provided through private donations, from organizations like HeroesWay.Org, or other sources. If private donations are utilized, payment must be submitted on the family's behalf.

How much does it cost to participate in the Heroes Way Designation Program?

The fee for the Heroes Way Designation Program covers MoDOT's costs for the sign, the post and hardware, and all other expenses associated with the installation and maintenance of the two signs for the 20-year life of the application. Signs are currently priced at \$2,400 (cost includes two signs).

Costs are relatively stable, but could be adjusted to account for increases in material and installation costs due to inflation. The standard, 6' x 3' signs cost \$2,400 (cost includes two signs). Larger, 8' x 3' signs are available for a cost of \$3,200 (cost includes two signs). The cost increase for the optional 8' x 3' sign is due to the increase in size and larger posts required to support the sign.

How is the cost of the application fees for the Heroes Way signs set?

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission determines the fees for memorial designation signs.

Who do I make the payment out to for the Heroes Way signs?

Payment may be made payable to "Director of Revenue – Credit State Road Fund" and must be submitted to MoDOT's Highway Safety and Traffic Division.

Why are there costs associated with the Heroes Way Program?

All memorial highway designation programs in the state of Missouri are based on state law. When program laws were established, fees were required to be paid by private donation so the expense to operate these programs would not divert money from MoDOT's primary responsibility of building and maintaining the state's highway system. The fees do not exceed the cost of constructing and maintaining the signs.

How long do Heroes Way signs stay in place?

Heroes Way signs will be installed and maintained for 20 years with no additional cost to the family. At 19 years, the family may submit a renewal and pay a second application fee for the subsequent 20 years. If the family does not opt to renew, the designated signs will be removed at 20 years and that location will become available for another Missouri fallen soldier.

What size are the Heroes Way signs?

The current size of Heroes Way and all other memorial highway designation signs is 6' x 3'. The Heroes Way Designation Program also has an optional, 8' x 3' sign. This larger sign accommodates the fallen soldier's rank and full name, which may not fit on the standard 6' x 3' sign. The optional 8' x 3' sign will have an increase in costs, due to the increase in size and larger posts required to support the signs.

How long does it take for the Heroes Way signs to be installed?

Once the approved application is received by MoDOT, it can take up to nine to 12 weeks for the two signs to be installed at the interchange, bridge or segment of highway. The installation time can vary depending on the date of the dedication ceremony and weather conditions.

