

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Change the word GAS to FUEL and/or define GAS and FUEL in the manual include alternative fuels. These terms should be defined to include at least the fuels Congress included in the FHWA Alternative Fuels Corridor Program (electric, hydrogen fuel cell, propane, natural gas). Precedent exists, some states that have changed GAS to FUELS in their own version of the manual.
- States should be enabled to use either General Service or Specific Service signs for Alternative fuel stations. If a state wants to incorporate alternative fueling stations into their existing logo programs, they should not be prohibited from doing so by FHWA. Likewise, if a state should also continue to be allowed to incorporate alternative fueling stations into their program using General Service signs if they so choose.
- Businesses with logo panels in categories other than GAS should be permitted to include supplemental messages indicating the availability of an alternative fuel at their location.
- States should be enabled to use the Alternative Fuels Corridor identification sign as a way of notifying road users that they are on an existing corridor without a requirement to also utilize General Service and/or Specific Service signs.
- These recommendations are consistent with the purpose stated in the law when Congress established the Alternative Fuels Corridor program through Section 1413 of the [FAST Act](#) and FHWA goals for the program which were published in the federal register in 2016. Congress created the corridor program “to improve the mobility of passenger and commercial vehicles that employ electric, hydrogen fuel cell, propane, and natural gas fueling technologies.” FHWA published in the federal register that goals of the program include ‘promote the buildout of a national network’ through ‘national signage and branding to help catalyze applicant and public interest,’ ‘promote and advance alternative fuel corridor designations,’ and ‘reduce tailpipe emissions which accounted for 27% of total US GHG emissions.’

MAJOR ALTERNATIVE FUEL RELATED CHANGES:

- Alternative Fuel stations will be prohibited from using Specific Service signs unless they are also a gasoline station. *The only transportation fueling station permitted to display their logo on a highway sign will be a gasoline station.*
- Alternative fuels can only be listed on specific service signs as a supplemental message along the bottom of a logo of a Gasoline station. *For example, a gasoline station could indicate on their GAS sign logo they have propane Autogas available but a standalone, non-gasoline fueling station has no way to include their logo on a sign.*
- Categories of businesses other than gasoline stations with logo signs (FOOD, LODGING, ATTRACTION) will be prohibited from including a supplemental message indicating they offer an alternative fuel. *For example, a coffee shop will be prohibited from adding a supplemental message on the FOOD sign indicating they have EV charging available at their location.*
- Signing for alternative fueling stations will only be permitted using General Service signs. *This is against the wishes of many states that would prefer to sign for alternative fueling stations using Specific Service signs.*
- Alternative Fuels Corridor sign(s) shall only be installed on highways officially designated as Alternative Fuel Corridors. When the sign is used, the applicable General Service sign(s) shall be installed at the approach to each exit or interchange where stations exist with directional sign assemblies directing road users to the station if it is not visible from the exit ramp.
- Up to three General Service symbol signs may be installed horizontally below the Alternative Fuels Corridor sign displaying the alternative fuels available in the designated corridor. If there are more than three alternative fuels available, a plaque with two- or three-letter designations should be used in place of the General Service symbol signs.

ALTERNATIVE FUEL STATIONS IN THE US

[Link: AFDC TransAtlas Map](#)

