

**From:** Miller, Elizabeth [Elizabeth.Miller@state.vt.us]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 15, 2014 4:31 PM  
**To:** Jeanette White; Minter, Sue  
**Subject:** West Bratt sign

Hi Jeanette: VTrans looked into it further and came up with the below. Looks right under the letter of the law. A possible amendment is suggested if you are interested in pursuing; it does seem like a small fix would make this possible. As you know, it is very important for VTrans to enforce the law as written given the myriad ways the billboard/sign issues have caused headache and disagreement in the past. Having said that, a small change in the narrow way described below might satisfy the situation. If you decide to pursue it, let us know...? Liz

West Brattleboro” is not a separate town, city or incorporated village – rather, it’s just a census-designated place.

Accordingly, “West Brattleboro” has no independent standing for “Welcome To” signs.

The relevant provision of the Vermont Sign Law is 10 V.S.A. § 494:

**§ 494. Exempt signs**

\* \* \*

(4) Signs erected and maintained by **a town** outside the highway right-of-way, each of which does not exceed 64 square feet in area, excluding panel and frame, which may show the place and time of services or meetings of churches and civic organizations in the town, and which may include a panel which identifies the name of **the town**, the charter date, the date the town was founded, or any other significant date in the history of the town, and which the town wishes to identify. The panel may bear the wording "welcome to" **the particular town**. Not more than two such signs may be erected and maintained readable by traffic proceeding in any one direction on any one highway. The signs shall meet the criteria of the transportation agency and the travel information council.

If the Legislature wants to add more flexibility to this exemption, I suggest an amendment along the following lines:

(4) Signs erected and maintained by or with the approval of a town outside the highway right-of-way, each of which does not exceed 64 square feet in area, excluding panel and frame, which may show the place and time of services or meetings of churches and civic organizations in the

town or census-designated place, and which may include a panel which identifies the name of the town or census-designated place, the charter date, the date the town or census-designated place was founded, or any other significant date in the history of the town or census-designated place, and which the town wishes to identify. The panel may bear the wording "welcome to" the particular town or census-designated place. Not more than two such signs may be erected and maintained readable by traffic proceeding in any one direction on any one highway. The signs shall meet the criteria of the transportation agency and the travel information council.

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