

# SCDOT HISTORICAL MARKER POLICIES

As soon as possible, applicants for South Carolina Historical Markers should contact their county's South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) Maintenance Engineer to determine if their proposed marker location is in a state right-of-way and, if so, what steps must be taken to comply with SCDOT regulations.

If your marker *is* located in a state right-of-way, **you will have to apply for an SCDOT encroachment permit** to erect the marker. Encroachment applications should not be submitted to SCDOT until after SCDAH has finalized the marker text and sent sponsors a formal approval letter.

SCDOT may also require that markers in the right-of-way **be installed using a breakaway post system**. Breakaway systems **must be purchased separately** from the standard marker and post. Such systems cost several hundred dollars and require professional, specialized installation. Markers being installed in urban or low-speed areas may not require a breakaway system. Sponsors should confirm any applicable requirements with their local SCDOT maintenance office **before** submitting their order to Sewah Studios.

If your marker will require a breakaway post system, you must notify marker manufacturer Sewah Studios **when you place your order** that your marker will require a breakaway system. **Sewah does not sell breakaway systems**, but they must know if one will be used so they can specially fabricate the marker to receive the correct type of post for the system. Sewah will provide a **round 4-inch OD (outside diameter) post** to fit the breakaway system, instead of the standard octagonal post. For more information on how to obtain a breakaway system, please contact Edwin Breeden, coordinator for the South Carolina Historical Marker Program.

Sponsors should also be aware that SCDOT does not accept delivery of markers, does not install markers, and does not maintain markers, even those that are placed in the right-of-way. Marker sponsors are responsible for all of these tasks.

If your marker *is not* located in a state right-of-way, then SCDOT does not require any of these additional steps. However, sponsors must also ensure their preferred marker location complies with any applicable local regulations, which vary across the state.

For additional information on SCDOT requirements, contact marker program coordinator Edwin Breeden at [ebreeden@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:ebreeden@scdah.sc.gov) or 803-896-6182.