



1.0 Authority

1. Under Section 84.07(1), Wisconsin Statutes, the department has the responsibility to maintain state highways.
2. Under this authority, the department deems it necessary and desirable to specifically define the maintenance responsibility within municipalities, including cities, villages and towns. Under Section 990.01(22), Wisconsin Statutes, the term municipality includes cities and villages, and may be construed to include towns.

2.0 Policy

A state trunk highway through a municipality remains on the state maintained highway system unless it is designated a connecting highway. If it is not designated a connecting highway, the responsibility for maintenance of the traveled way remains with the department. The traveled way is defined as the width of roadway accommodating through traffic and all marked turn lanes, this includes the paved surface and base course only.

The maintenance of features outside or under the traveled way within a city, village, or urban-section township, is the responsibility of the municipality. These features include, but are not limited to:

- maintenance of the parking lanes,
- curb and gutter,
- sidewalks,
- sidewalks on bridges,
- multi-purpose paths,
- drainage facilities (including all storm sewers, inlets, related manholes and structure, storm water quality devices, etc., either outside or under the traveled way).

Snow removal from parking lanes, sidewalks, and sidewalks on bridges is also the responsibility of the municipality. This policy applies except where an existing state and/or municipal agreement states otherwise.

In those areas where the department's practice is to maintain features outside the traveled way despite having no specific agreement, the department should cease doing so or formalize the added maintenance responsibility in writing.