

RIGHT OF WAY MOWING INFORMATION AND WORK PLAN

Public Works Operations and
Maintenance Roads Division



DEPARTMENT OF
**PUBLIC
WORKS**

VANESSA DALE BURNS
DIRECTOR

ROAD DISTRICT MAINTENANCE FACILITIES LOCATIONS

East Road Maintenance Yard 595 Hubbards Lane

West Road Maintenance Yard 617 Outer Loop

Central Road Maintenance Yard 3515 Newburg Road (State funded road crews)

Introduction

Public Works Road Maintenance Division is responsible for Right Of Way mowing activities throughout Metro Louisville/ Jefferson County. This also includes all “non-interstate” State owned surface roads belonging to the Kentucky Department of Transportation. This partnership is possible due to a written agreement between Metro Louisville Government and the Department of Transportation.

Metro Louisville is a very diverse community ranging from an urban inter-city environment to suburban neighborhoods and it even contains rural farm lands and country side settings. Due to this wide range of geography there are several different types of mowing activities that must occur along the Public Right of Way’s. For instance there are selective areas that require 9 to 10 mowing cycles per year of turf quality mowing. There are approximately 304 acres of Metro Right of Way, 867 acres of State Right of Way and 44 acres of State Odd Lots that receive bush hog quality mowing and are mowed 3 to 5 times per year.

Right of Way mowing is conducted by utilizing internal road crews and also by using contract services. Contractors are primarily used to perform the larger volume bush hog mowing cycles with the higher amount of road miles/acres to cover. Metro Road crews primarily handle the turf mowing locations that require a more pleasing aesthetic finish. Our mowing contracts are written and executed in a manner to include both types of mowing (bush hog and Turf style) should the need arise. Litter pick up is performed before mowing cycles begin by both Metro crews and the Contractors.

OPERATIONS & ROAD MAINTENANCE **MISSION STATEMENT**

TO MAINTAIN AND PRESERVE THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY AND ROADWAYS OF LOUISVILLE /JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE MOTORING, CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN PUBLIC.

During Turf Mowing (Metro Crews)



During Bush Hog Cutting (Contractors)



Litter Removal Underway



After Turf Mowing



After Bush Hog Cutting



Mowing Schedule Information

A tentative mowing schedule is developed before each mowing season annually. This schedule is utilized as a template for when to begin each cycle and assist with budget preparation for the upcoming season. This schedule is flexible and may be altered based on the varying weather conditions and climate changes that occur. For example if spring and early summer rains are above normal then the second cycle may need to be moved up due to faster growing vegetation. By the same token if drought conditions present themselves then mowing schedule may need to be moved back or even eliminated if grass goes dormant and is not growing. These decisions are made using a delicate balancing between Mother Nature and budget constraints. (See the tentative mowing schedule below)

Public Works 2015 Tentative Mowing Schedule					
Metro Right of Way		State Right of Way		State Owned Odd Lots	
1st Cycle	April 14, 2016	1st Cycle	April 14, 2016	1st Cycle	April 18, 2016
2nd Cycle	June 13, 2016	2nd Cycle	June 13, 2016	2nd Cycle	May 23, 2016
3rd Cycle	August 1, 2016	3rd Cycle	August 1, 2016	3rd Cycle	June 20, 2016
4th Cycle	September 26, 2016	4th Cycle	September 26, 2016	4th Cycle	August 1, 2016
				5th Cycle	October 10, 2016

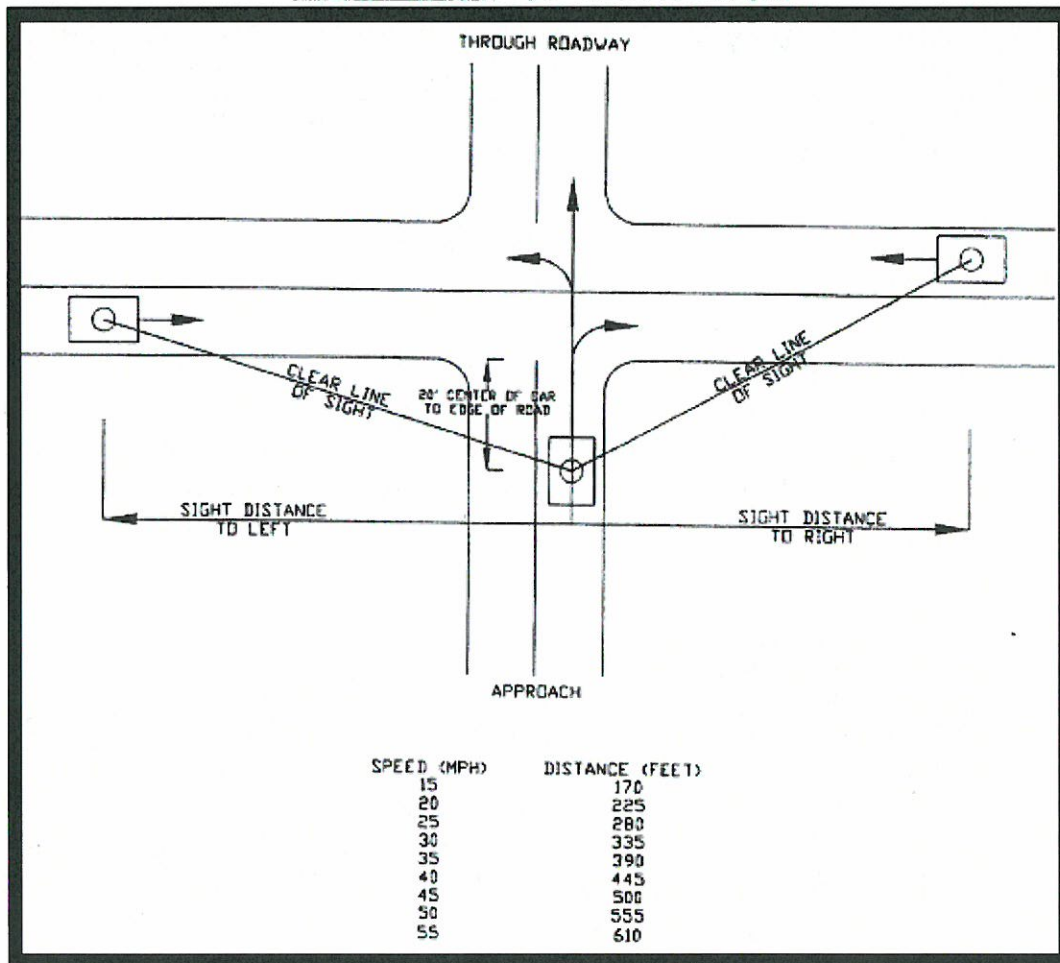
Herbicide Spraying Program:

Public Works sprays selective herbicides to help control fast growing noxious and invasive weeds such as Johnson Grass and Nut Sedge. Spraying is performed along trouble spots at guardrails and other affected roadsides and median sections. We are constantly researching and looking for new and improved products that selectively reduce growth and eliminate these hard to control weeds.



From a safety standpoint and in addition to regular mowing cycles Road Crews respond and mitigate sight distance concerns and issues. In the event Public Works finds or is made aware that vegetative overgrowth is beginning to impede the proper visibility for the motoring public at cross roads, inter-sections, stop signs or stop lights then crews are mobilized to remove the obstruction by mowing or cutting back the vegetation that is creating the problem. (See the information for proper sight distance requirements below)

Roadway Sight Distance Triangle



Metro Public Works Additional Mowing Cycle Request Procedures

The Department of Public Works will work diligently to stay within the limits of the budget to perform Right Of Way mowing operations by utilizing both internal crews and contractors. However Metro Council and other Governmental entities have the option to request and fund additional mowing cycles through Public Works Administrative group. The proper and most efficient process to insure this service is performed in a timely and efficient manner is listed below:

1. Contact the Public Works Operations Administrator Tim Maier at 574-3921 or his back up designee with your specific mowing request.
2. The Administrator will then review the specified locations; He or his back up will field measure the unit quantities as listed within the existing mowing contracts so he can provide an accurate cost estimate for the mowing locations provided.
3. The aforementioned unit cost information will then be provided to the person(s) making the request so they may take the appropriate actions to secure funding.
4. Once the additional funding is secured and dedicated for transfer to the Department of Public Works the additional mowing will be scheduled to proceed as requested.
5. In the case of Metro Council mowing request it is highly recommended that these types of request be discussed as a whole and consolidated together into one single or several request if possible. This will allow Public Works to be more efficient in scheduling and conducting additional mowing cycles.



Please Note:

There are other Metro Government Divisions and Agencies that mow grass in specific locations and areas. Please see the list below of responsible Metro Departments that also provide mowing services.

1. Roads Division of Public Works is responsible for Mowing the Public Right Of Way along roadways.
2. Facilities Division of Public Works mows metro owned buildings and grounds
3. Metro Parks mows Metro Parklands, golf courses and bike trails
4. Department of Codes and Regulations, Vacant Lots Division mows a maintenance list of Metro owned vacant properties and privately owned vacant properties that have been referred to abate code violations.
5. Metropolitan Sewer District mows and maintains all the flood control levee trails, retention and detention basins, drainage easements through out Metro Louisville and Jefferson County.