



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: January 4, 2010

To: John Szerlag, City Manager

From: Mark F. Miller, Acting Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Services
Steven J. Vandette, City Engineer *SV*

Subject: Agenda Item – Removal of Overhead “Keep Right” Sign
Square Lake Road, East of Crooks Road

Background

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) has been reviewing locations where overhead “Keep Right” signs have been installed to determine the necessity for maintaining them. Many of the installations were completed as a matter of standard practice and not based on engineering study or need. After reviewing the RCOC locations, they have determined that many will be scheduled for removal. Due to the age and cost to replace or maintain these installations, including energy costs and the liability associated with the possibility of having one of these fall on an unsuspecting motorist, the ROCC considers the other traffic devices such as ground mount signs and pavement markings sufficient for motorist guidance in lieu of the overhead sign.

The Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD) does not require a “Keep Right” sign be installed as an overhead installation. Additionally, the MMUTCD, Section 2B.32, does not require that a ground mount “Keep Right” sign be installed. However, it is a standard practice to install a ground mount “Keep Right” sign at the beginning of all divided highways (i.e. boulevard). Currently, at locations where there is an overhead “Keep Right” sign, there is also a ground mount “Keep Right” sign in place. The RCOC will be removing overhead “Keep Right” signs on County Roads and has contacted the City about removing the overhead “Keep Right” sign on Square Lake Road, east of Crooks Road where the boulevard section starts for westbound traffic. The RCOC has been maintaining this sign for the City since its installation.

The RCOC requests a City Council resolution approving the attached agreement and a copy of the signed agreement for their files.

Recommendation

It is recommended that City Council approve the attached RCOC agreement for the removal of the overhead “Keep Right” sign located on Square Lake Road, east of Crooks Road. Furthermore, that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the attached agreement.

Fund Availability

The RCOC will remove the overhead “Keep Right” sign as part of their removal efforts throughout the County at no cost to the City.

Legal Considerations

The agreement as presented is consistent with previously approved RCOC agreements for traffic signal work and/or permanent signing agreements.



December 21, 2010

William J. Huotari, P.E.
Deputy City Engineer
City of Troy
500 West Big Beaver Road
Troy, MI 48084

**Re: Overhead "Keep Right" Sign Removal
Square Lake Road, East of Crooks Road (Co. # Never Assigned)**

Dear Bill Huotari:

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) has been reviewing locations where overhead Keep Right signs have been installed to determine the necessity for maintaining them. Many of our installations were completed as a matter of standard practice and not based on an engineering study of need.

After reviewing the RCOC locations we have determined that many will be scheduled for removal. Due to the age and cost to replace or maintain these installations, including energy cost and the liability associated with the possibility of having one of these fall on an unsuspecting motorist, we consider the other traffic devices such as ground mount signs and pavement markings sufficient for motorist guidance in lieu of the overhead sign.

There is an overhead "Keep Right" sign installation we're maintaining for the City of Troy on Square Lake Road, east of Crooks Road. If the City reviews this installation and determines it's not necessary, RCOC will include it in our schedule to remove installations under our jurisdiction at no cost to the city.

Enclosed are three copies of the removal agreement. If the city would like us to proceed with the removal, please have all the copies signed by the appropriate official and return them to us for further processing. A fully executed copy of the agreement will be returned for your records.

If you have any question, please feel free to contact me at (248) 858-4830.

Sincerely,

Charles Keller, P.E.
Traffic Engineer
Traffic-Safety Department
Enclosures (3)

CTK/pm

Board of Road Commissioners

Gregory C. Jamien
Commissioner

Richard G. Skarritt
Commissioner

Eric S. Wilson
Commissioner

Brent O. Bair
Managing Director

Dennis G. Koler, P.E.
Deputy Managing Director
County Highway Engineer

Traffic Safety Department

2420 Pontiac Lk.Rd.
Waterford, MI
48328

248-858-4802

FAX
248-858-4814

TDD
248-858-8005

www.rcocweb.org

RECEIVED

DEC 23 2010

ENGINEERING

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
OAKLAND COUNTY
AGREEMENT FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE**

Type of Work: **Overhead Keep Right Sign Removal**

Location: **Square Lake Road, East of Crooks Road**

Signal No: **Never Assigned**
Date Effective:

Under authority of state law and by virtue of resolution formally adopted by their respective governing bodies, the under-signed hereby agree to participate in the cost of installation, maintenance and operation of the above traffic control device on the basis of the following division of costs. (Title to equipment shall remain with the purchasing agency, unless purchased for roads not under the jurisdiction of the Board of County Road Commissioner.) The proportionate share of all costs are to be billed monthly. This agreement is terminable on thirty days written notice by any party.

DIVISION OF COSTS

AGENCY	REMOVAL		MAINTENANCE Percent
	Percent	Estimated Cost	
City of Troy	0 %	\$ 0.00	N/A
Total	0 %	\$ 0.00	N/A

It is further agreed that the agency responsible for payment of energy billings and/or leased line interconnection billings included in maintenance costs, shall be the ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY.

It is further agreed that the agency responsible for making original and replacement installations and performing maintenance shall be the ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY.

"In the event the traffic control device referred to in this agreement is located on a road or street that is not under the jurisdiction of the Road Commission for Oakland County, the authority having the jurisdiction over the road or street hereby agrees to save harmless, indemnify, represent, and defend the Road Commission for Oakland County from any and all claims, demands, or suits arising out of or relating to the installation, maintenance and operation of the traffic control device which is the subject matter of this agreement."

"In the event the traffic control device referred to in this agreement is located on a road or street that is under the jurisdiction of the Road Commission for Oakland County and by virtue of this agreement will be maintained by an agency other than the Road Commission for Oakland County, then and in that event the said agency hereby acknowledges that it is undertaking the Road Commission for Oakland County's duty to maintain the said traffic control device and further agrees to provide insurance coverage protecting the Road Commission for Oakland County."

APPROVED:

ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY

Date _____

By _____
Gary Piotrowicz

DIRECTOR OF TRAFFIC-SAFETY
Title of Authorized Official

APPROVED:

CITY OF TROY

Date _____

By _____

Title of Authorized Official

*Certified copy of resolution must be submitted with this form for new installations.