

**ARTICLE XI**

**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**INTERSTATE MOWING –MAINTENANCE WORK PLAN**

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The Mowing Requirements consist of furnishing all labor, material, tools, equipment, and incidentals necessary to perform mowing, trimming, and litter removal operations within the limits of the right of way and easement areas in a safe, effective, and timely manner. At a minimum, follow the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD, current edition). The Mowing Requirements as part of the Mowing and Maintenance Agreement Work Plan are detailed below.

**1. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS**

Reference the guidelines as set forth in the following documents:

- 1.01 ***Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)***, current edition
- 1.02 ***American National Standards Institute [ANSI A300 (Part 1)]***, current edition

**2. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

- 2.01 **Interchange**: An area allowing for access to and from the interstate mainline.
- 2.02 **Mainline**: The area(s) between interchanges on interstate and limited access routes.
- 2.03 **Mowing Cycle**: A Mowing Cycle consists of complete mowing and litter pick-up in the areas designated in the scope of the project.
- 2.04 **Mowing Limits**: All areas that are mowable with tractor mowing equipment within the right of way that are on a 3:1 or flatter slope.
- 2.05 **Shadow/Buffer Vehicle**: A vehicle used to buffer mowing and/or litter operations that may interfere with traffic.

**3. EQUIPMENT**

- 3.01 **Assign appropriate equipment quantities and types to perform mowing and litter pick-up. Equipment shall meet the following safety requirements:**
  - A. Equip each tractor with two (2) flashing signal lights, two (2) orange flags and an eighteen (18) inch slow moving emblem sign. Equip each mower with two (2) orange flags.
  - B. **Acceptable guards are to be on all open portions of mowers and trimming equipment to prevent objects from being thrown from under the mower while in operation.**
- 3.02 **Equip support vehicles, such as pickups and service trucks with a minimum of one (1) revolving or strobe type light, with amber lens.**
- 3.03 **Use a shadow vehicle to buffer the Mowing operation when it is on or within three (3) feet of the travel way.**
  - A. Equip support vehicles used as shadow vehicles with a forty-eight (48) inch square "Watch for Mowers" sign with an eighteen (18) inch slow moving emblem attached and mounted on the rear of the shadow vehicle.
  - B. Follow current MUTCD standards or equip a shadow vehicle with a minimum of one (1) revolving or strobe type light, with amber lens.

**4. MOWING REQUIREMENTS**

**4.01 MOWING LIMITS AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

- A. **Mowing Limits for Each Cycle**: All mowable areas within the right of way that are on a 3:1 or flatter slope.
- B. **Special Mowing Conditions**: Perform all scheduled mowing operations during daylight hours. No work will be allowed on holidays. No work will be allowed on weekends in which a holiday falls on a Monday or Friday.

1. For the following counties; Clayton, Cobb, Dekalb, Douglas, Fulton, Rockdale, (all of District 7) and Gwinnett, do not perform work between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
2. For the following counties; Bibb, Chatham, Cherokee, Columbia, Forsyth, Hall, Henry, Richmond, , between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., do not perform work, in the direction of rush hour traffic, Monday through Friday.

#### 4.02 MOWING COMPLETE REQUIREMENTS

To perform a Complete Mowing:

- A. Mowing: Perform mowing within the Mowing Limits for vegetation on slopes no steeper than 3:1. For safety reasons, do not mow on slopes steeper than 3:1, or in any other situations that may be a hazard to the operator or the traveling public, including areas that may be too wet or otherwise inaccessible.
- B. Trimming: Trim vegetation to provide a neat appearance within the Mowing Limits that are inaccessible by Tractor Mowing.
- C. Bridge Structures: Trim vegetation located at, under, or near existing bridge structures within the scope of the project including Bridge End Rolls and riprap areas within the right of way.

#### 4.03 TRAFFIC CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

- A. For safety reasons, at a minimum, abide by the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD), current edition, for traffic control guidance.
- B. Mow only in the direction of traffic.
- C. Any signs used must be of rigid, one-piece construction covered with suitable sheeting and legend (engineering grade). Roll-up type signs may be used if they meet MUTCD Standards. Equip all signs with flags.
- D. Do not cross the median on Interstates or other divided highways. Enter and exit at the existing Interchanges.
- E. Provide "Watch for Mowers" signs as detailed below:
  1. Signs: Place "Watch for Mowers" signs with flags attached at each end of the work zone in the direction of traffic on both the median and outside shoulder.
  2. Ramps: In the event of an on-ramp located within the work zone, place at the top of the on-ramp a "Watch for Mowers" sign with flags. Place all signs before any tractor mowing is performed. Remove all signs at the end of each workday.
- F. Provide buffer vehicles for tractor mowers traveling within three (3) feet of the traveled way, crossing lanes, traveling on paved shoulder, moving equipment to other locations (dead heading), by a shadow vehicle.
  1. Operations may be restricted when, in the opinion of the Department, the continuance of the work would seriously hinder traffic or is unsafe.
  2. Move equipment or materials on or across the traveled way in a safe manner which will not interfere with traffic. There shall be no reduction in the total number of available traveled ways. Schedule and arrange the work to ensure the least inconvenience and the utmost safety to the traveling public.

#### 4.04 SAFETY AND INCIDENT REPORTING

- A. Suspend operations if weather conditions are such that mowing operations cannot be carried out in an effective manner.
- B. Notify the Department immediately by phone of any incident or accident that involves the Licensee while fulfilling this Agreement.
- C. If mowing and trimming operations cause damage to roadside obstacles, vegetation to remain, or ground disturbance, notify the Department within forty-eight (48) working hours and repair or replace the damaged item with a like item.
- D. Do not allow any debris to be thrown onto the road surface by the mowing equipment or by personnel. Perform work in such manner as to leave existing vegetation undamaged.

- E. Mowing equipment, while in operation, must be horizontal with the mowing surface. Operating tractor mowers in a vertical position parallel to a traveled way is prohibited.
- F. Equipment left on the right of way is the responsibility of the Licensee. Do not park equipment on the right of way or on state property for more than five (5) continual working days in the same location.
  - 1. Park no equipment in the median.
  - 2. Park equipment behind guardrail or in other protected areas where such areas exist. Otherwise, park equipment a minimum of thirty (30) feet from the edge of pavement.
- G. Operate no equipment that causes ground disturbance and/or damages any part of the right of way. Repair, at no cost to the Department, all damage caused by equipment.

## 5. LITTER PICKUP REQUIREMENTS

### 5.01 DESCRIPTION

Pick up, remove and dispose of litter and debris within all mowing and trimming areas.

### 5.02 METHODS OF REMOVAL OPERATIONS

A written request may be submitted to the Department for the use of specialized mechanical equipment designed for removal of litter and debris. The Department, prior to any equipment being used, must approve the request. The Department may require additional safety devices or precautions if special equipment is allowed to be used. No ATV's (all terrain vehicles) will be allowed for use during litter pickups.

### 5.03 METHODS OF DISPOSAL

Remove all litter and debris, including larger pieces, from the right of way . Disposal shall be in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

### 5.04 FREQUENCIES AND TIMING OF REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL

Remove litter in advance of each Mowing Cycle. Conduct litter removal activities during daylight hours only.

### 5.05 TRAFFIC CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Use a shadow vehicle when removing litter on paved shoulders. The shadow vehicle may be the litter disposal vehicle.
- B. Follow MUTCD standards when litter pickup does not occur with mowing activities.
- C. A shadow vehicle and litter disposal vehicles must be equipped with a strobe light and slow-moving vehicle signs during removal of trash bags and larger material.
- D. All vehicles, including transport or service vehicles, must not obstruct traffic lanes.

## 6. SCOPE

Include below the mowing locations and limits of the state routes with an estimate of how many times mowing will occur.

State Route	Mowing Limits	Estimate of Mowing Cycles
Exit 14 on I-575	See Attached	2 – 4 Annually
Knox Bridge Hwy	See Attached	As Needed
Exit 16 on I-575	See Attached	2 – 4 Annually/As Needed
Exit 19 on I-575	See Attached	As Needed
Exit 20 on I-575	See Attached	2 – 4 Annually
Hwy 140	See Attached	As Needed
Marietta Hwy	See Attached	2 – 4 Annually





