

Maintenance Advisory

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Responsibility for Maintenance of Grade Separations on State Trunklines

****This Maintenance Advisory supersedes the previous Advisory, MM 2002-04, dated December 8, 2002****

The determination established here will govern wherever maintenance responsibility has not been specifically established by contractual agreement or by legislation.

1. Railroads Crossing State Trunkline Highways

All new agreements entered into for railroad/highway grade separation will comply with Section 319(1) of Public Act 354 of 1993, which states maintenance responsibility of railroad/highway grade separations must be contained in the agreement.

In those few instances where no agreement exists, maintenance responsibility shall comply with Section 319(7) of Public Act 354 of 1993, which states the Michigan Department of Transportation shall determine the allotment of maintenance responsibility, generally based upon the party whose traffic is carried by the structure.

2. State Trunkline Highways Crossing County or Local Roads and Streets

A. Where the state trunkline highway passes over a road or street owned by a local government unit, the Michigan Department of Transportation will maintain the following:

- structure
- retaining walls
- protective barriers of the bridge and slope (attenuators and associated guardrail)
- under clearance signs
- under bridge lighting

If the grade separation is part of an interchange, the department will also maintain the ramps including the interchange area. (For maintenance purposes, a ramp begins or ends at the local road edge of metal.) Utility contracts and permits in the

interchange area will be under the control of the Michigan Department of Transportation.

The department will not be responsible for the maintenance of the highway or street under the grade separation structure including drainage system.

- B. Where the state trunkline highway passes under a locally owned road, street or a pedestrian walkover serving a locally owned road or street, the Michigan Department of Transportation will maintain the following:
- footings, substructure and superstructure
 - retaining walls
 - its road and the structural integrity of the deck
 - concrete approach slabs
 - associated guardrail protecting the bridge and slope
 - downspouts (from bridge deck)
 - integral parts of the structure: sidewalks, curbs, railings and pedestrian screening.

If the grade separation is part of an interchange, the department will also maintain the ramps including the interchange area. Utility contracts and permits in the interchange area will be under the control of the Michigan Department of Transportation.

- C. The department will not be responsible for the maintenance of the locally owned road or street or any of the following that is beyond the structure abutments:
- approach pavement beyond the concrete approach slabs
 - embankments
 - roadway drainage facilities and curbs
 - sidewalks and railing.

Nor will the department be responsible for the maintenance of the following located on the structure:

- snow and ice removal
- temporary patching of potholes and other depressions on the deck surface or sidewalks not affecting the structural integrity of the bridge
- surface signing and pavement markings

Street lighting, and traffic signals will be the responsibility of the local agency unless an agreement between the local agency and the Michigan Department of Transportation is made to give responsibility to the Michigan Department of Transportation.