

# SPUR ROAD MEDIAN

## Property and Facilities Inventory

This document is one of a series of staff reports to document important information about properties owned and utilized by the Town of York. It is an attempt to compile and make available relevant information about properties to ensure the institutional knowledge is not lost over time.



May 27, 2022

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## SPUR ROAD MEDIAN

Location: This is the median strip down the middle of Spur Road.



History: Spur Road is a state-owned, limited-access highway. The Town has no ownership interest in this property. The Town did, however, accept responsibility for the plantings in the median.

Information about the Town agreeing to plant and maintain the median has been difficult to find, but available documentation is included. The situation in the late 1990s was that the State proposed to pave the median strip and the Town objected, indicating it wanted green space instead of asphalt. The State offered to paint the asphalt green as a compromise. The Town, in turn, agreed to take responsibility for planting and maintaining the median.

At some point in between the Town and MDOT reaching agreement to maintain the plantings, the State re-designed the intersection with Route One. The slip lane to allow free right turns onto Route One southbound was eliminated so the composition and location of plantings to be maintained has changed. The triangular island shown in the planting plan on Page 9 no longer exists.

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With approval of the Selectboard in 2020, the Public Works Department utilized funds allocated to the Tree Warden to remove some of the dead trees in the median and plant new trees.

Restrictions: In 2022, the State placed signs along the sides of Spur Road indicating that it is a limited access highway and therefore temporary signs, such as election signs, are not permitted in this right-of-way.

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## Documents Pertaining to Spur Road Maintenance by the Town

TOWN HALL PHONE NUMBERS  
(Area Code 207)

Town Manager's Office	363-1000
Code Enforcement Office	363-1002
Treasurer's Office	363-1004
Assessor's Department	363-1005
Fax Number	363-1009



**TOWN OF YORK**

186 York Street  
York, Maine 03909-1314

FILE COPY

Selectmen's Office	363-1000
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	363-1003
Finance Department	363-1004
Planning Department	363-1007
Public Works Office	363-1010

December 1, 1998

Peter V. Hanson, Administrator  
Municipal/Developer Services  
Program Management Div.  
Dept. of Transportation  
16 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0016

Dear Mr. Hanson:

Enclosed please find two (2) signed originals of a Memorandum of Agreement regarding the proposed planting and maintenance of trees by the York Tree Committee within the Right-of-Way of the York Connector of I-95. Please return one signed original for our records.

Sincerely,

*Mark Green*

Mark Green,  
Town Manager

Enclosures

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# MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
AND THE  
**TOWN OF YORK**  
REGARDING THE  
**PLANTING & MAINTENANCE OF TREES**  
**WITHIN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF THE YORK CONNECTOR**  
**AT EXIT 1 BETWEEN I-95 & U. S. ROUTE ONE**

This **AGREEMENT** is entered into on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1998 by and between the **STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** (hereafter **DEPARTMENT**) and the **TOWN OF YORK**, a municipal corporation located in the County of York (hereafter **TOWN**) regarding the planting and maintenance of trees within the right-of-way of the York Connector, so-called, at Exit 1 between I-95 and U.S. Route 1 (hereafter *Connector*) as follows:

- A. The **DEPARTMENT** shall allow the **TOWN**, including its Tree Committee, to plant and maintain certain evergreen trees within the controlled access right-of-way along the northerly side of the Connector for so long as certain terms and conditions as hereinafter provided are met, as follows:
1. The planting and maintenance of such trees shall be limited to an approximate thirty foot wide strip along the northerly side of the Connector from U.S. Route 1 westerly for a distance of about one thousand feet to just short of the I-95 northbound on-ramp. All such planting shall be parallel to the highway in two or three rows, at ten to fifteen foot intervals in each row, to the north of and outside of a thirty (30) foot wide safety clear zone as measured northerly from and everywhere parallel to the northerly edge of pavement (hereafter *safety clear zone*). Reference is hereby made to a sketch plan prepared by the **DEPARTMENT** showing the allowable planting area and the safety clear zone as hereinbefore described.
  2. The **DEPARTMENT** shall continue to mow and otherwise maintain the safety clear zone and shall furnish to the **TOWN**, for their installation, mowing delineators to be installed and maintained along the northerly edge of the safety clear zone to define the limits of the allowable planting area.
  3. Prior to undertaking any planting or maintenance activities within said right-of-way, the **TOWN** shall give notice to the **DEPARTMENT** by contacting its Division 6 office in Scarborough at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. The **DEPARTMENT** shall approve or supply all necessary traffic control.

B. The **TOWN** shall be responsible for all mowing and maintenance of trees within the allowable planting area as hereinbefore defined, and more particularly:

1. The **TOWN** shall trim or remove all trees or branches that block any of the sight distances to traffic signs or intersections and shall remove all trees or branches that fall on any right-of-way fence or into the safety clear zone.
2. Any additional work not specifically authorized herein must be approved in advance by the **DEPARTMENT** and coordinated with its Division office in the same manner as hereinbefore prescribed under Paragraph A.3.
3. The **TOWN** shall give all notices as hereinbefore prescribed under Paragraph A.3 and observe, at all times, all of the rules and regulations imposed by the **DEPARTMENT** pertaining to the controlled use of the right-of-way of the Connector.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have executed this Memorandum of Agreement in duplicate effective on the day and date first above written.

**STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Witness*

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
*John G. Melrose  
Commissioner*

**TOWN OF YORK**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Witness*

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Mark Green  
Town Manager*

*pvh 11/19/98*



## Town of York

186 York Street  
York, Maine 03909-1314

Town Manager/  
Selectmen  
(207)363-1000

Town Clerk/  
Tax Collector  
(207)363-1003

Finance/  
Treasurer  
(207)363-1004

Code  
Enforcement/  
Planning  
(207)363-1002  
(207)363-1007

Assessor  
(207)363-1005

Police Department  
(207)363-1031

Dispatch  
(207)363-2557

York Beach Fire  
Department  
(207)363-1014

York Village Fire  
Department  
(207)363-1015

Public Works/  
Harbor Master  
(207)363-1010

Senior Center/  
General Assistance  
(207)363-1036

Parks and  
Recreation  
(207)363-1040

Grant House  
(207)351-1204

Fax  
(207)363-1009  
(207)363-1019

[www.york.maine.org](http://www.york.maine.org)

July 30, 2001

Mr. Kent P. Cooper  
Senior Landscape Architect  
Department of Transportation  
16 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0016

Dear Kent:

I had an opportunity to discuss with the Selectmen the proposal to landscape a portion of the median strip and shoulders on the Spur Rd. We discussed the fact that the State would pay for the improvements but that the Town would be required to maintain the plantings. The Selectmen are comfortable with this concept but want to withhold final judgment until they see the plan that you are preparing.

I look forward to working with you. Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Green  
Town Manager

PC: Mike Sullivan, Parks and Recreation Director





ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
16 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0016

August 13, 2001

JOHN G. MELROSE  
COMMISSIONER

Mr. Mark Green  
Town Manager  
Town of York  
186 York Street  
York, ME 03909-1314

Dear Mark;

Enclosed please find our Landscape Drawing for the York Median Planting Gateway To Maine Project.

This drawing reflects our recent meeting. Plantings in the median and island include:

- |    |                             |                          |
|----|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 7  | Quercus palustris           | (Pin Oak)                |
| 9  | Crataegus crusgalli inermis | (Hawthorne)              |
| 12 | Ginkgo biloba               | (Ginkgo)                 |
| 3  | Amelanchier Canadensis      | (Serviceberry)           |
|    | Rosa 'Noatraum' Pink Carpet | (Pink Carpet Shrub Rose) |

Not indicated on the drawing, and to be field located by the MDOT Landscape Architect on site include 24 Picea Abies (Norway Spruce) and 6 Acer rubrum 'Red Sunset' for the North and South edges of the project, respectively. We will include hydro-seeding of lawn mix grass seed of the median strip in the Planting Contract.

We will anticipate your earliest approval and comments, and look forward to working with you and your committee on this project. Please feel free to call as I can be of further assistance.

Cordially,



Kent R. Cooper  
Senior Landscape Architect

cc: Rebecca Linney



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THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IS AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION - EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

## EWAY TO MAINE

