



**CITY OF MANITOWOC**  
WISCONSIN, USA  
*www.manitowoc.org*



**TO:** Public Infrastructure Committee

**FROM:** Chad Scheinoha, Operations Division Manager

**RE:** 19-1067 City Right of Way Grass Cutting on S Rapids Road

Recently the City of Manitowoc has taken over maintenance jurisdiction of Rapids Road from Custer Street to Broadway Street. The County Code and Municipal Code differ when considering property owner responsibility of grass cutting adjacent to the right of way. The County will generally cut the grass in the right of way on a rural street. The City will not generally cut the grass in the right of way on an urban street; it is the adjacent property owner's responsibility to the road way edge.

The City has sent the attached letter to a group of residents on Rapids Road to inform them that they will now be responsible for the grass cutting. I received calls from 2 of them voicing concern of this added responsibility to the homeowners. There are 6 properties on the west side of Rapids Road between Custer St and Hessel Ct and these two calls came from 2 of these 6. They voiced concern about the hardship that this additional cutting will cause on them.

MMC 13.050 addressed the cutting required here by the adjacent property owners. The property owners are requesting a waiver of this ordinance and would like the city to assume this cutting.

I recommend the residents of these 6 properties sign a non-access agreement, and that the City begin to cut the frontage on Rapids Rd back to the right of way limits adjacent to these 6 properties for the following reasons:

All 6 properties are very similar and I agree that this has added a significant amount of work and cost to the upkeep that the homeowner is responsible for. If we would consider doing it for 2 of them then all 6 should qualify.

In the past the city has waived assessment fees if a resident agrees to sign a "non-access agreement". I would recommend the same here, only waiving the noxious weed ordinance for the right of way portion adjacent to Rapids Rd.