

# Information on Maintenance of Weeds, Ditches & Culverts in the City Right-of-Way

## **What is the Right-of-way?**

The Right-of-way is the property under, on the surface, and above the roadways and sidewalks usually extending 10 to 20 feet beyond the roadway pavement. Right-of-way often extends well into what you may consider your yard. Assets within the right-of-way may include the roadway, curb, gutter, sidewalks, vegetation, drainage culverts and ditches, sewer and water lines, telephone, power, gas and cable TV. Residents and businesses are required to maintain the right-of-way on their properties except for very rare exceptions. Maintenance includes removal of snow and ice from sidewalks in the winter and weed removal during the rest of the year.

## **Weeds**

The City does mow weeds in the right-of-way on streets throughout the City once a year. Residents are responsible for the remainder of the year to maintain weeds along streets adjacent to their properties. Exceptions to mowing once per year include weeds adjacent to higher visibility and well-traveled streets such as SR 89A, Thunder Mountain Road/Sanborn Drive (Rhapsody Road to just east of Rodeo Road), Upper Red Rock Loop Road, Navoti Drive, and White Bear Road. SR 89A, Upper Red Rock Loop Road, Navoti Drive, and White Bear Road are maintained to aesthetic levels. The other roads are generally maintained to reduce encroachment of weeds on the traveled way. Other exceptions include weeds causing visibility or travel way issues.

## **Storm Drainage**

The City is pursuing a program to clean roadside ditches and culverts throughout the City on a three to five-year cycle. Otherwise, residents are responsible to keep the culverts under their driveways clear. The City will clear drainages, including driveway culverts that appear to pose a flooding hazard to several properties. Natural channels and washes are not maintained. On occasion, if a City facility is threatened then the debris will be removed from natural channels and washes. Right-of-way permits or approved residential improvement plans are required for improvement work in roadside ditches. Always remove any obstruction of a drainage channel to prevent constriction and overtopping, resulting in flooding or excessive erosion. Never fill (with rock or dirt) or dump debris including trimmings in a drainage area.

## **When do I need a Right-of-way Use Permit?**

You will need a permit for any activity that disrupts traffic, restricts access or modifies any infrastructure within the right-of-way. This includes replacement or modifications to driveways, placement of fences/walls or rocks in the right-of-way, placement of dumpsters, Porta-Johns and construction materials in the right-of-way, parking moving vans or other vehicles in restricted parking areas, block parties, and other uses. Utility and construction companies are required to obtain permits for all work within the right-of-way.