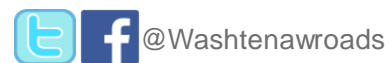


Tree Policy - Draft

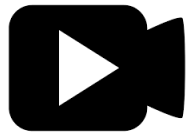
December 3, 2020 Public Meeting



Agenda

- I. Housekeeping
- II. Policy overview
- III. Next steps
- IV. Public comment
- V. Closing

Housekeeping



Meeting audio and video are being recorded and will be posted to wcroads.org




You will be asked to virtually “raise your hand” to provide public comment



Written comment can be provided to us via today’s Zoom chat, online, email or mail.

Draft Policy

- Posted to wcroads.org

 ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY	GENERAL ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS APPLICATION: All County Roads				
TITLE: Tree Policy	RESOLUTION NUMBER	SUPERCEDE	EFFECTIVE DATE	SUPERCEDE	POLICY NUMBER
Tree Policy					

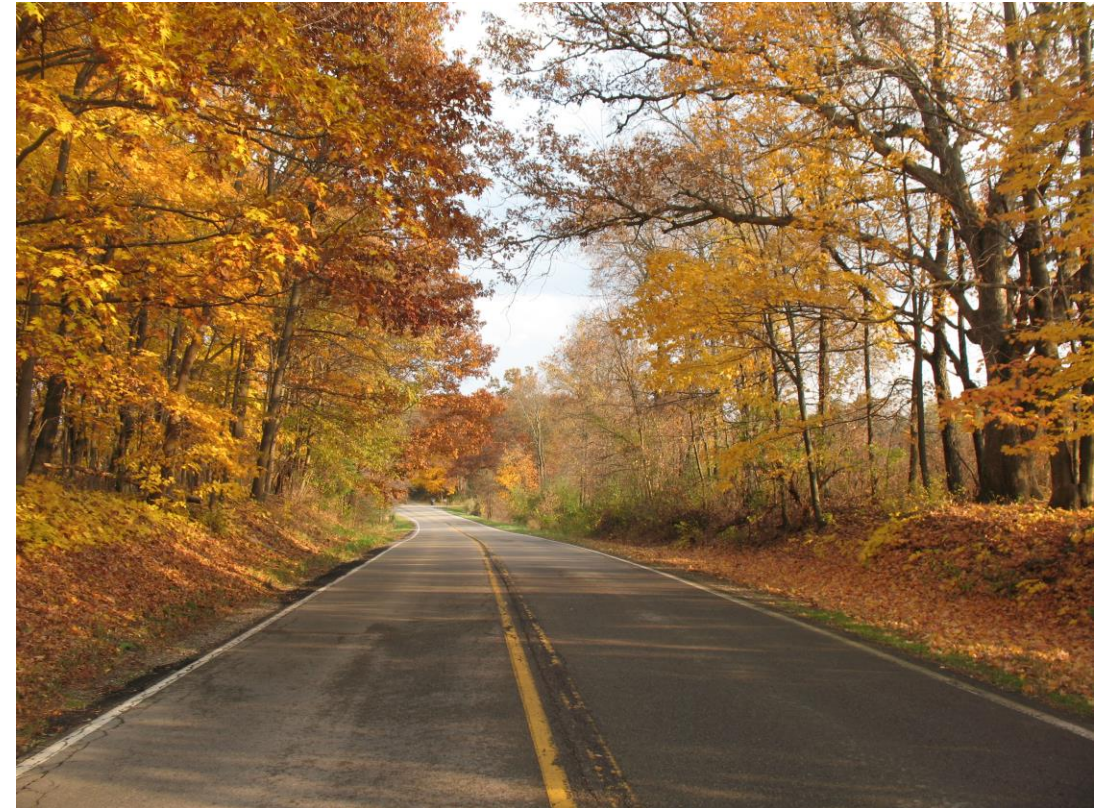
INTENT

The Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) has a statutory duty to maintain a county road system that is reasonably safe and convenient for public travel. While carrying out this duty, either through the course of maintenance activities, improving roadside safety or constructing road improvements, sometimes trees must be trimmed or removed by WCRC staff, its contractors, or third parties under permit.

The intent of this policy is to provide guidance to staff making decisions regarding necessary tree removals and trimming while acknowledging the importance of trees to the Washtenaw County community.

Background

- Right-of-way serves many purposes for road users:
 - Recovery room
 - Sight distance
 - Space for maintenance activities
 - Road drainage
 - Sense of openness for drivers
- It also has many trees!



Planning and Design

- Staff will attempt to minimize impact when possible
- Tree removal/trimming will be necessary at times



Removal Criteria

- This policy will apply to trees 6 inches or greater in diameter
- Trees and brush less than 6 inches in diameter may be removed at staff discretion



Removal Criteria

Removal/trimming may be necessary due to:

- Road and drainage improvements
- Crash frequency
- Intersections and railroads
- Curves
- Partner projects (non-motorized)



Removal Criteria

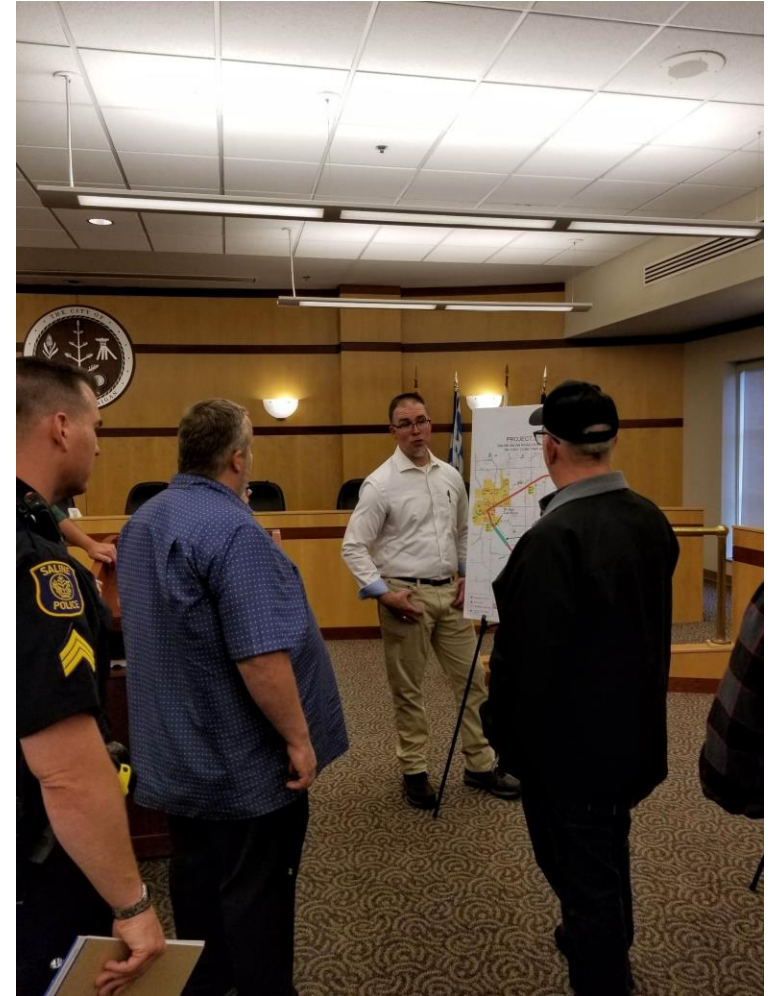
Removal/trimming may be necessary due to:

- Shading
- Fallen trees
- Dead trees
- Potentially hazardous trees



Notification

- Per the Community Engagement Policy and Procedure
- Adjacent property owner notification



Tree Replacement

- Projects
 - When possible, staff may explore options for tree replacement within project area
- Grant opportunities
- Property owners may plant in ROW under permit



Third-Party Tree Work

- Permit holders will be made aware of policy and expected to comply where possible





NEXT STEPS



Next Steps

- Now – December 18
 - Written comment can be submitted
 - Online at: wcroads.org/public-comment-form/
 - By mail: 555 N. Zeeb Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
 - By email: wcrc@wcroads.org
- January 19, 2021 Working Session
 - Staff will present to board a summary of public feedback

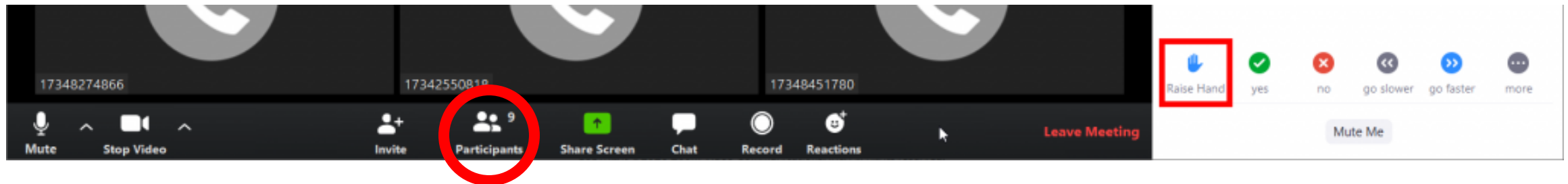


PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD



To Make a Comment

- On your computer or smart phone:
 - Join audio then click “participants” at the bottom of screen and select “raise hand”



- On your touchtone phone: Dial *9
- Each person will have 3 minutes to speak



CLOSING



Next Steps

- Now – December 18
 - FAQ and meeting recording will be posted to wcroads.org and social media
 - Written comment can be submitted
 - Online at: wcroads.org/public-comment-form/
 - By mail: 555 N. Zeeb Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
 - By email: wcrc@wcroads.org

Next Steps

- January 19, 2021 Working Session @ 9 a.m.
 - Staff will present to board a summary of public feedback



Thank you for attending!