ITEM 642.04000003 - RIGHT OF WAY MOWING AND LITTER REMOVAL

DESCRIPTION
This work shall consist of:

- Mowing existing turf/vegetation in those locations designated in the contract documents
- Trimming of vegetation from around roadside appurtenances
- Pickup and removal of litter and debris from roadside rights of way
- Care of damaged plant material

Completion of the above mentioned work in accordance with the contract documents and as directed by the Engineer will be considered one mowing cycle.

MATERIALS
Non Specified

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
1. Right of Way Mowing - Right of way mowing shall be performed on all areas where vegetation exists beyond the shoulder or pavement edge along both roadway edges, medians, and ramps and shall extend back to the limits established by previous cuttings within the right of way or as directed by the Engineer.

   a. Existing turf/vegetation shall be mowed to a height of four inches.

   b. The contractor shall use only properly equipped tractors and mowing equipment which have been approved by the Engineer. The cutting blades on all mowers must be sharp and in proper operating condition. Mowing some areas such as drainage ditches, stone-lined ditches, raised curbs, cut slopes, fill slopes, and around roadside appurtenances may require the use of specialized equipment. The types of equipment required may include but not be limited to: articulated mowers, (for mowing over guide rail) slope mowers; sickle, flail, or rotary mowers as well as hand-held trimming equipment.

   c. The contractor may, as approved by the Engineer and according to good horticultural practice, remove the lower branches of major trees that interfere with safe mowing. Such pruning will only be performed on plant material where the removal of branches is consistent with the plant material’s typical habit of growth.

   d. Removal of Dead Plant Material - Prior to each mowing cycle, the engineer may instruct the contractor to remove any dead plant material that interferes with the mowing operation. No standing tree, dead or alive, over 3 inch diameter at breast height (DBH) shall be removed.

2. Trimming - Trimming shall be performed on all areas designated for right-of-way mowing. Trimming shall consist of the reduction of turf/vegetation from around all
roadside appurtenances including but not limited to sign posts, utility poles, guide rail posts, ditch lines, headwalls, bridge abutments, and from around landscape trees and shrubs.

3. Litter Removal - Prior to mowing the contractor shall be responsible for removing all litter and debris along the project limits from right of way line to right of way line including areas not to be mowed. Litter to be removed shall include but not be limited to: tires, metal, plastic and glass bottles, cans, and paper. The area may include ditches, areas behind guide rails, and medians. Any litter remaining after mowing shall also be removed. Litter shall be disposed of as per Section 107-10 of the Standard Specifications.

4. Removal of Dead Animals - The contractor shall be responsible for the removal and proper disposal of large and medium dead animal carcasses, including deer, raccoons, skunks, possum, etc. encountered during mowing and sweeping operations.

5. Care of Damaged Plants - The contractor shall be responsible for the replacement or care, as determined by the Engineer, of any plants that as a result of the contractor’s operations become dead or damaged. Care may consist of, but not be limited to, pruning and fertilizing.

6. Mowing Cycle - The commencement of each Right of Way Mowing and Litter Removal cycle will be determined by the dates listed in the project documents. The Engineer may modify the schedule, or increase or decrease the number of cycles to accommodate prevailing weather conditions and vegetation growth. In the event of a change in the schedule appearing in the project proposal, the Engineer will notify the contractor a minimum of forty eight hours prior to the revised mowing date.

**METHOD OF MEASUREMENT:**
Right of Way Mowing and Litter Removal will be measured per removal cycle. A cycle and the extent of work done in the cycle under this item will be defined in the contract documents.

**BASIS OF PAYMENT:**
The unit price bid for each Right of Way Mowing and Litter Removal cycle shall include the cost of furnishing all materials, labor, and equipment necessary to satisfactorily complete the work.