

Urban Compact Areas: State vs Municipal Maintenance Responsibilities on State and State Aid Highways

Town Maintenance in Compact Areas, State Statute and Definitions

- [Title 23 § 754](#): Jurisdiction-- all state and state aid highways within compact areas of urban compact municipalities, as defined in [subsection 2](#), as determined by the department must be maintained in good repair by the town in which the highways are located at the expense of the town.
- [Per 23 § 2](#): the definition of "highway" means all of the right-of-way that may have been laid out by the State, county or town.

Municipal Urban Maintenance Duties

- Winter snow & ice control
- Pothole repair
- Pavement markings per MUTCD (centerline, arrows, words, symbols, crosswalks and edgeline (if any))
- Traffic Signs per MUTCD (regulatory, warning, and advisory)
- Ditching
- Driveway and cross culvert cleaning, repair, and replacement
- Catch basin and underdrain cleaning and repair
- Surface treatments i.e. sand seals, chip seals, crack sealing, asphalt shimming, thin overlays (typically less than 1 inch thick and do not improve strength)
- Traffic signal/Support/Foundation maintenance
- Guardrail installation or repair
- RR signs and pavement markings
- Brush cutting, erosion control, mowing, herbicide application
- Tree pruning or removal
- Retaining walls
- Sidewalk maintenance
- Dust control, street sweeping

MaineDOT Maintenance Duties

- Route and destination signs
- Bridge and minor span maintenance
- Speed Limit signs on state or state aid highways when first installed or when changed due to recent DOT review