



## **1.0 Terms and Definitions**

Curb and gutter – curb and gutter is intended to allow storm-water runoff to flow away from the highway pavement or bridge carrying the water to inlets, catch basins, manholes, ditches or flumes. Curb and gutter is a channel usually made of monolithic concrete without any reinforcement. Typical concrete curb and gutter has a vertical face on the curb, but some higher speed or more rural curb and gutter is flatter with a sloped curb face. Asphalt curb may be placed on an asphalt pavement to direct water away from the highway. Asphalt curb typically has a shorter life than concrete and is often used in rural areas at bridges and under guardrail. Rural curb and gutter often flow into a flume.

## **2.0 Maintenance**

Maintenance functions of curb and gutter include:

- Keep the watercourse free of accumulations of dirt, debris, vegetation and other obstructions to ensure the flow of water.
- Repair settled or damaged curb and gutter if it does not allow water to flow to its intended destination.
- Asphalt and concrete curb and gutter with open joints or cracks should be sealed so water does not undermine the structure and cause erosion.
- Sweeping of gutters may be necessary to keep them free of debris.

### **2.1 Maintenance Responsibility**

Curb and gutter maintenance is the responsibility of a municipality when part of an “urban cross section” of roadway. The “urban cross section” is simply defined as having curb on both sides of the road with the possibility of parking lanes and through lanes between the curbs.

Some urban cross sections include a raised median with adjacent curb. In such cases, the maintenance of the median curb is also the responsibility of the municipality.

Curb and gutter located within the connecting highway limits of a municipality is the maintenance responsibility of that municipality. Curb and gutter outside connecting highway limits but still within city or village limits are also the responsibility of that municipality because the curb and gutter is not considered part of the ‘travelled way’. Chapter 02-15-10 describes this policy.

Short sections of rural type curb or curb and gutter not within a municipality, rural sections of curb located at guardrail, and curb located at bridges that are not located within connecting highway limits are the responsibility of WisDOT.