



LANDSCAPING

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to acknowledge the Department's duty to include landscaping in its projects.

Legal Authority

Idaho Code 40-313(3) - The Board shall acquire, maintain and improve areas adjacent to highways for the restoration, preservation and enhancement of scenic beauty.

Idaho Code 40-317(2) and (3) - The Board may enter into cooperative agreements with local governments for the improvement and maintenance of state highways and secondary roads.

23 Code of Federal Regulation Part 752 – Landscape and Roadside Development

A landscaping project is defined as "any action taken as part of a highway construction project, or as a separate action to enhance the aesthetic value of airports and highways through the placement of plant materials consistent with a landscape design plan." Idaho's landscape projects are normally confined to rest areas, airports, urban areas, and interchanges and differ from roadside vegetation, which is primarily for erosion control and roadside soil stability. Projects for landscaping, as opposed to functional planting, will be included in the annual construction program subject to the following requirements:

- The degree of landscaping is limited to that necessary to insure that the appearance of the airport or highway is compatible with the appearance of the surrounding area and will not interfere with public safety and overall maintenance operations.
- The local agency that requests landscaping enters into an agreement with the Department to assume appropriate responsibility for future maintenance.

Approved by the Board on:

Signed _____
Jerry Whitehead
Board Chairman

Date July 10, 2013
