

STARK COUNTY ENGINEER

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STARK COUNTY GUARDRAIL POLICY REVISED: FEBRUARY 19, 2003

COUNTY ROADWAYS:

1. The Stark County Engineer, acting for the Board of Stark County Commissioners, pursuant to law, is responsible for installing and maintaining guardrail at county culverts (greater than 5') and bridges.
2. The County should also protect roadway embankments that are more than 8' in height if the downward embankment slope is greater than 70 degrees. This also applies to embankments with culverts less than 5' passing through.
3. Guardrail may also be installed in front of a fixed object within the road right-of-way only if the object is a greater hazard than the guardrail itself.
4. Guardrail will only be installed for the protection of the motorist, not for the protection of private property or pedestrians.
5. Guardrail should not be installed at an embankment if there is sufficient shoulder or berm width (minimum 10') for a vehicle to regain control or safely pull off the road.

TOWNSHIP ROADWAYS:

1. The Stark County Engineer, acting for the Board of Stark County Commissioners, pursuant to law, is responsible for installing and maintaining guardrail at county bridges (structures with a span of 10' or greater).
2. The approaches to County bridges will also be protected if the embankment is greater than eight feet high, and the total length of guardrail does not exceed 100' on each approach. Additional approach guardrail is the responsibility of the township.
3. Roadway embankments greater than 8' high, not at a culvert or bridge, shall be the township's responsibility.
4. By written request, the Stark County Engineer's Office will investigate all guardrail requests by the township and provide a cost estimate to install guardrail if warranted.
5. If the Township authorizes the County to install guardrail at an unwarranted location, the township will assume all liability for damages and injuries, which may occur at that location.

This is a general guideline and not meant to relieve any governmental agency from its statutory duties or assume any duties not mandated by law.

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