RESO

C.D. No. 2011-080

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A ROADSIDE MEMORIAL SIGN PROGRAM ACKNOWLEDGING VEHICULAR FATALITIES THAT HAVE OCCURRED ON CITY-OWNED STREETS.

WHEREAS, the City of Thornton recognizes the public's desire to commemorate victims of fatal crashes on City of Thornton streets through the placement of roadside memorial signs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Thornton desires to accommodate requests for roadside memorial signage; and

WHEREAS, the City of Thornton recognizes that guidelines for a Roadside Memorial Sign Program are necessary to maintain the safety of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO, AS FOLLOWS:

A Roadside Memorial Sign Program is hereby adopted as shown in the attached Exhibit A.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Thornton, Colorado, on July 26, 2011.

CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO

Mack Goodman, Mayor pro tem

ATTEST:

Nancy A. Vincent, City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

CITY OF THORNTON
Roadside Memorial Sign Program

July 26, 2011

Roadside memorial signs can help grieving families and friends deal with the loss of a loved one. Memorial signs can also alert drivers to the very real and serious consequences of unsafe driving. The City of Thornton's Roadside Memorial Sign Program accommodates these important interests by allowing residents to have roadside memorial signs installed that are consistent with this program.

Roadside Memorial Sign Eligibility. The City of Thornton will allow immediate family members of the victim(s) of fatal crashes, or in the absence of any immediate family members, close friends of the victim(s) of fatal crashes, to apply to have a roadside memorial sign installed near the location of the crash. For the purposes of this program, an immediate family member shall mean: a husband, wife, domestic partner, daughter, son, father, mother, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, grandparent, grandparent-in-law, step-parent, step-child, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandchild, half-brother, half-sister, step-brother, step-sister, ancestor or descendant, by blood or marriage, and all relationships listed above as they relate to a domestic partner. In order to be eligible for the installation of a roadside memorial sign, the following criteria must be met:

- The crash must have occurred within one year of the date of application;
- The crash must have occurred on a City-owned roadway;
- The crash must have resulted in a human fatality;
- Only one memorial sign may be installed per crash, regardless of the number of fatalities. If the crash resulted in multiple fatalities a larger sign may be used if necessary in order to fit all of the names of the deceased;
- There is no written opposition to the installation of a roadside memorial sign from any family member of the victim(s);
- Victim(s) of the crash were not involved in unlawful activity at the time of the crash.

Memorial Sign Design, Installation, Maintenance and Removal. Memorial signs will be supplied to the City by the applicant for installation by the City of Thornton. The memorial sign will remain in place for a period of two years from the date of installation. Maintenance of the sign will be the responsibility of the applicant during the posting period. At the conclusion of the posting period, the sign will be removed by the City and the City will make reasonable efforts to contact the applicant to inform them that they may pick-up the memorial sign. Memorial signs not picked up after 90 days from the date of the sign removal will be discarded. At any time during the posting period the applicant may submit a request in writing to the City for the memorial sign to be removed from the installed location. There is no fee to the applicant associated with the

installation or removal of a memorial sign. In the event of conflicting wishes among immediate family members, no sign will be erected or the sign will be removed if it's already in place. The memorial sign design shall meet the following requirements in order to be eligible for installation:

- Memorial signs shall be of a standard design, shape, color, materials, and size as required by the City of Thornton and the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices as amended by the City of Thornton;
- No logos shall be allowed on the memorial sign;
- The applicant shall submit a sample of the memorial sign layout and design to the City for approval prior to sign fabrication.

Memorial Sign Location. The City of Thornton will make every effort to install the sign at the approximate location of the crash site; however, the specific location of the memorial sign shall be at the sole discretion of the City. The City of Thornton will deny any application if the proposed location of the memorial sign would result in a potential safety hazard or maintenance impediment. In this event, the City may suggest that the applicant consider an alternative placement that meets the requirements of this program. Memorial signs will be installed on the right-hand side of the road. Memorial signs will not be installed in medians, on bridge structures or other locations deemed inappropriate or unsafe by the Traffic Engineer. Because memorial signs are sometimes placed in close proximity to high speed or high volume motor vehicle traffic, family and friends are discouraged from visiting the crash site, leaving mementos or otherwise adorning the roadside memorial sign. If this occurs and represents a hazard, the family of the victim(s) will be asked to remove such items. If a hazard persists from the leaving of mementos or other adornments the roadside memorial sign may be removed at the discretion of the Traffic Engineer. The City of Thornton reserves the right to temporarily remove or relocate a sign, at any time, for roadway maintenance or construction.

Unauthorized Roadside Memorials. The City of Thornton will remove any unauthorized roadside memorials found within City owned right-of-way. Reasonable effort will be made to contact the family of the victim(s) to provide information on how to request a sign in accordance with the guidelines of this program.

Requests for Roadside Memorial Signs. A request for roadside memorial signage shall be made in writing to the City. Upon receipt of a request for roadside memorial signage, the Infrastructure Department will coordinate with the requestor to ensure the signage is installed in accordance with this program.

Memorial Sign Example:

- Signs are to be constructed of flat aluminum with a minimum thickness of 0.080 inches.
- Signs shall have a blue retroreflective background, retroreflective white lettering and a retroreflective white border.
- In the case of multiple fatalities the sign height may be increased from 36-inches to 48-inches in order to fit the additional names.