

HAMPTON VA

NEWS RELEASE

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Procedure set for families seeking roadside memorials

June 12, 2016 – Hampton has developed a procedure to assist grieving family members in placing a roadside memorial for a loved one killed in a traffic accident. The new permit would allow a standardized sign - made and installed by the city but paid for with private funds - to be on display for one year.

“We were asked to find a way to allow families to honor the memory of someone killed in a accident, but to ensure that it is safe for the traveling public, as well as the family,” said Public Works Director Lynn Allsbrook. Staff looked to the Virginia Department of Transportation guidelines when developing the local plan.

The signs will only be placed in the city’s right of way if there is permission of the family, as well as permission from adjacent property owners. Hampton staff will place it as close to the accident site as possible, given traffic and safety concerns.

Signs, about 2 feet square, will say “Drive Safely in Memory of ...” A specific price will be quoted for each sign based on the cost of materials. Current pricing would be about \$425.00 per installation. The sign will be returned to the family after a year. Similar signs will be developed for the victims of homicides, for those families that request them along city roadways.

The new program goes into effect July 1. The permit applications and checklist, as well as the regulations, are available on the city’s website at: Hampton.gov/streets. Here are the applications for [roadside memorial](#) and [homicide victim memorial](#). Attached is a example of what the sign might look like. For more information, contact Leo Blades, lblades@hampton.gov, or call 726-2919.



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