

## **CONTACT:**

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## **PROBLEM STATEMENT:**

Two of the Street Departments many tasks include maintaining all of the City's information and regulatory signage (name signs, speed limits, stops, etc.) and low to the ground right of way tree trimming around signage and other structures. Unfortunately the City is not resourced with a vehicle (bucket truck) specifically designed for these duties. As a result we would end up with somebody standing in the back of a pickup or climbing a ladder to do these low to the ground maintenance repairs. We feel climbing a ladder always represents a risk factor, especially on uneven rights of way, during all forms of weather conditions. We further felt that climbing in and out of a pickup bed, reaching out over the edge of the bed, and just standing in a wet or snow covered pickup bed while doing repairs was too great a risk for staff members to continue doing. A new truck, mounted with the appropriate attachments and safety protection, was not a feasible option. We needed a low budget solution that was both practical and safe.

## **SOLUTION:**

The Street Department is fortunate to have a Crew Leader that is very knowledgeable in area of steel fabrication. When faced with the task of building some kind of a sign repair stand, it was desired to find a low cost solution that would fit in the bed of a pickup, be easily installed or removed by two men, and provide the safety measures needed for personnel doing repairs. The Crew Leader, Josh English, talked with other crew members and quickly came up with the following design.

## **LABOR/MATERIALS/COST:**

Total Cost of Sign Repair Stand: \$380.00

## **SAVINGS/BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY:**

Having knowledgeable manpower, all power tools needed, and budgeted time, the City feels it saved somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2,000 on this project. Professional welding fees alone could have exceeded these costs. Of far more importance to the City than savings is the tremendous increase in safety for its street personnel. With a tailgate ladder to enter and exit the bed of the truck, nobody has to climb over a tailgate. The sign stand has a railing at just below waist level, allowing a worker to reach beyond the edge of the truck. The grip strut decking allows for sure footing while inside the stand and on the step while entering and leaving the stand. There is a safety chain to close off the entrance to the stand to eliminate accidental falling backwards out of the stand. The stand is bolted to the truck body to prevent it from moving when in use. The stand also elevates the worker an additional two feet from the pickup bed floor, allowing an expanded work area without having to do dangerous reaching for signage or tree limbs.

