

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES**

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b><u>New Road Access Priority Criteria Policy</u></b>		
<b>APPROVED BY COUNCIL:</b>	<b>March 27, 1996</b>		
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	<b>March 27, 1996</b>	<b>AMENDED:</b>	<b>June 25, 1997</b>
<b>POLICY NO.</b>	<b>PW-13</b>		<b>March 13, 2002</b>
<b>LEGAL AUTHORITY:</b>			

**POLICY STATEMENT**

The Municipal District of Big Lakes shall annually include in its Road Construction Budget an amount for new construction for existing residential and farmland accesses prioritized in accordance with the policy.

**PROCEDURE/RESPONSIBILITY**

This policy is established when and under what circumstances new accesses are constructed to residential and farmland property. This policy excludes road construction desirable or required to improve and ease maintenance costs based on traffic volumes, type of traffic, overall condition, safety, improving major traffic movements (connector roads) and secondary roads.

In the order of priority, these roads will be categorized as follows:

- A. To improve or give access to existing residents living in a residence on the land.
- B. To provide access to farmland parcels that do not have access what-so-ever by road access or adjacent ownership of land.

All requests shall be made in writing on the Request for Road Construction attached.

All requests that meet the criteria shall be listed during the annual review of road requests and costs estimated by the Superintendent of Public Works. Priority shall consider the following in order:

The deadline for requests to be received for consideration for the next budget year shall be December 31.

Dependent upon budget changes, the priority list may be reviewed by Council when establishing its final budget for mill rate purposes.

Upon establishment of the road requests approved and the priority listing, construction timelines will be subject to annual funding approved by council and adjustments may be made as council continually reviews the applications for new or improved accesses to residential or farmland properties.

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Annually, contact shall be made with applicants to ensure status or need of each application.

1. Categories
2. Cost - (high cost due to ravines, bogs or other geographical impediments or distance)
3. School bus access required
4. Date of request

The following criteria will be used:

A. Access to Existing Residents:

- i) Local 1 road standard plus approach (one approach per quarter).
- ii) Must be a permanent occupied residence.
- iii) Road will be built to access the quarter of the residence, closest to existing road.
- iv) If land is required from the applicant for the road construction and dugouts, the applicant shall provide it free of charge.
- v) Should existing fencing on road allowance be required to be relocated adjacent to the applicant, the fence will be relocated at no charge to the municipality.

B. Farmland Access

- i) Farmland access road standard plus approach (one approach per quarter).
- ii) Road will be built to the beginning of the parcel of the total farmland holdings (including part ownership) along existing road allowances. Total farmland holdings may be exempted due to nature of terrain or physical obstructions and/or dugouts.
- iii) If land is required from the applicant for the road construction, the applicant shall provide it free of charge.
- iv) Access will not be considered to grazing leases.
- v) The farmland to which access is sought must be a minimum of 80 acres with either a minimum of 25% cleared and under cultivation for crop production or fenced and utilized for grazing.

Council may reject any request that is not cost effective in the opinion of Council.

Where two or more applications are made covering the same section of road, Council may provide it a higher priority.

Council may allow discussion of and give consideration to exceptional circumstances where permanent natural division of a quarter section of land occurs.

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Should the request for road construction be rejected, the applicant shall be so notified and the request removed from the list.

APPROVED:



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REEVE



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C.A.O.