

REQUIREMENTS FOR VEHICLE ACCESS IN RURAL / HILL AREAS

A. GENERAL

1. This information sheet covers the general requirements for the construction of vehicular accessways across road reserve to serve 1 or 2 properties in areas where it is not feasible to construct Council's standard concrete dish type vehicle crossings.
2. These requirements are set to ensure that driveways constructed on road reserve are of a reasonable quality and that they do not compromise possible access to neighbouring properties nor conflict with future road construction works.
3. As a guarantee that the work is completed in accordance with the conditions of the Road Asset Engineer's approval, a refundable deposit equivalent to the current standard motor crossing deposit is to be paid.
4. Before commencing construction written approval to carry out the work is to be received from the Road Asset Engineer.
5. A plan must be submitted with the application showing the alignment and gradients of the proposed driveway, the location of the existing carriageway and property boundaries, ground levels at key points. The extent of any cutting or retaining walls required along with details of any provision for stormwater drainage and the location of underground services in the area should also be shown.

In situations where the possibility of access to the site is marginal or location of the boundaries is difficult to determine a detailed plan prepared by a suitably qualified person may be required.

6. The property owner remains responsible for any future maintenance required on the driveway and must meet the full cost of the work.
7. If it is intended that the access be formed across the frontage of an adjoining property, the applicant shall supply a letter from the relevant owner indicating that there are no valid objections to the proposal.

Council retains the right to authorise future extensions to vehicle accessways within road reserve to serve adjoining properties, subject to conditions it considers equitable to all parties.

8. Prior to excavation or filling the applicant must make full enquiries regarding the location and possible need for alteration of services. This includes water supply, sewer and stormwater drainage, gas, telephone, power services and survey marks.

The full cost of repairing damage to or adjusting any service shall be borne by the applicant

B. DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

1. Gradient

The recommended maximum gradient is 1 in 4.5 measured along the centre line. In special cases approval may be given for steeper gradients on parts of the driveway on the condition that there is no practicable alternative and that suitable transitions are provided at either end of the steep portion.

2. Width

The formation shall have a minimum width of 2.5m, with suitable splays where it meets the road carriageway.

3. Pavement

The full formation width shall be surfaced in an approved manner e.g. 115mm thick concrete, minimum 30mm asphalt or a 2 coat chip seal on a compacted basecourse, 150mm thick.

4. Public Footpaths

In areas where the driveway crosses an existing or possible future public footpath the maximum gradient permitted across the footpath is 1 in 9.

Where this footpath is adjacent to the kerb, the formation of this portion of the driveway is to conform to Council's standard plan for concrete dished motor crossings.

5. Stormwater Control

A crossfall is to be constructed across the drive to a suitable channel to ensure adequate stormwater control. In locations where the foot of the drive crosses a public footpath a 100mm diameter pipe must be installed under the footpath to discharge stormwater runoff into the street channel.

6. **Pipe Crossings**

In areas without standard concrete kerb and channel, existing drainage channels adjacent to the carriageway may be piped to enable the entrance of the driveway to span the channel. The pipe is to be a minimum of 225mm diameter and the channel at either end of the pipe is to be regraded to prevent the formation of low spots which hold water. The formation of the entrance of the driveway must tie in with the edge of the existing road pavement and not encroach onto the carriageway.

7. **Guard Rail**

Where considered necessary for safety an approved railing or crash barrier and a concrete kerb will be required along the outer edge of the driveway.

8. **Retaining Walls**

A building consent must be uplifted for retaining walls subject to traffic loading or over 1.5 metres in height. An engineering design by a Chartered Professional Engineer is to be submitted with the Building Consent application and a producer statement is to be provided on completion of the wall.