

2283 Road Network Management

Governance Policy



PURPOSE

- 1) The purpose of this policy is to:
 - (a) define the extent of capital improvements and/or maintenance Council provides in relation to access to properties on gazetted roads, whether they are unmade, unformed or formed; and
 - (b) outline Council's requirements where requests are received for the construction, extension and/or upgrade relating to new and existing Council roads.

SCOPE

- 2) This Policy applies to all local government Roads within the North Burnett Regional Council area as listed on Council's adopted Road Register.
- 3) This Policy does not apply to:
 - (a) private roads; or
 - (b) new roads or upgrades of existing roads required in accordance with a Development Permit (such as reconfiguration of a lot, material change of use or new subdivisions).

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Council	means North Burnett Regional Council.
Formed Road	means for the purposes of this policy, a road, other than a paved or sealed pavement road, formed so that stormwater drains from the road.
Paved Road	means for the purposes of this policy, a road surface, or pavement that is of durable surface material laid down on an area intended to sustain vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
Private Road	Means for the purposes of this policy, a road over land that is owned by a person who may lawfully exclude other persons from using the road.
Road	means an area of land that is: <ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) dedicated to public use as a road;(b) is developed for, or has as 1 of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles and is open to, or used by, the public;(c) a footpath or bicycle path; or(d) a bridge, culvert, ford, tunnel or viaduct. Does not include a State-controlled road or a public thoroughfare easement, but for the purposes of this policy, does include a private road.
Road Register	means the register of all roads within Council's local government area as required by section 74 of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> (Qld) and referred to in Council's Register of Roads Policy.
Sealed Road	means a road with a surface of asphalt, bitumen, concrete or pavers.
Unformed	means a road or track that is not formed, paved or sealed, but is open to, and used by, the public.
Works	means for the purposes of this policy, either the construction of new a road and/or maintenance or improvement to existing roads listed on Council's adopted Road Register, but excludes private roads.

POLICY

OBJECTIVES

- 4) The objectives of this Policy are to:
 - (a) establish guidelines to assist Council Officers when responding to requests for the construction, maintenance or improvement for new and existing roads, including extensions or access to an existing road;
 - (b) ensure that all requests received by Council are dealt with in a consistent, transparent and equitable manner;
 - (c) ensure all Council Officers, both administrative and operational staff, understand Council's obligations and the limits imposed in relation to maintenance of its roads; and
 - (d) clearly identify the limits of Council's obligations in relation to the construction, extension and/or upgrade of new and existing Council roads.

PRINCIPLES

- 5) Council is responsible for the construction, maintenance and improvement to all Roads within its local government area pursuant to section 60 of the *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld).
- 6) Given the expansive road network that falls within Council's control and limited funding allocation, it is neither feasible nor reasonable for Council to maintain and upgrade all roads within its local government area.
- 7) Council will prioritise its capital works program both for the construction of new roads as well as the maintenance, improvement and/or extension of existing roads.
- 8) In determining Council's priority, regard will be had to:
 - (a) the type of road and whether it is listed in Council's Road Register;
 - (b) the extent of public use of the road;
 - (c) the public benefit that would result from undertaking the Works against the anticipated expenditure; and
 - (d) any safety risks that may arise should the Works not be undertaken.

POLICY STATEMENT

- 9) Council will continue to maintain its roads to a standard set by resourcing and budgetary constraints.
- 10) Council will preserve the current road lengths as established in the Road Register in accordance with its Asset Management Plan as amended from time to time. Council will not incorporate any additional roads or sections of roads unless sufficient funds are available.
- 11) Council will not undertake capital improvements or maintenance works to unmade, unformed, or formed roads unless a community benefit can be demonstrated to Council's satisfaction by Resolution.
- 12) Council will not maintain a road past the access to a property unless such road is a through road utilised by bona fide through traffic (such as mail roads) or provides access to a property or properties held by another landholder which are not operated as part of the first property.
- 13) Where the disposal of land or part of land occurs other than through a development application, Council is not obliged to provide additional road or property access from a current or new road.
- 14) If the landholder requests the new road or access and subject to agreement from Council, the landholder will be required to contribute 50% of the cost to undertake the Works and will need to be constructed to the standard required by Council.
- 15) The hierarchy principles of road classification provide:
 - (a) a means of classifying a roadway according to its purpose, function and management;
 - (b) guidance when considering the standard of maintenance and upgrading work on a particular road; and
 - (c) allows consistent standards to be applied across the region and ensures that the greatest value for money is attained.

- 16) The concept of the hierarchy of roadways is used to define the main functional objectives of each roadway type, which can then form the basis of ongoing planning and system management, aimed at reducing the mix of incompatible functions and maximising the role of roadways in the network.
- 17) The road hierarchy for North Burnett Regional Council is based on the Austroads functional hierarchy (set out in Appendix 1).
- 18) Council may consider accepting sections of road onto its Road Register for ongoing control and maintenance subject to the requirements of this policy being met by the applicant.
- 19) Subject to the above conditions being achieved, Council will continue to maintain the road to a standard set by resource and budgetary constraints applicable within each financial year in accordance with Council's Strategic Asset Management Planning procedures.

Road Access

- 20) There is no legal obligation on Council to undertake capital improvements on unmade, unformed, or formed roads within a gazetted road reserve for the purpose of access by the landowner to their land as the landowner is responsible for constructing and maintaining the access from the constructed road to the property.
- 21) Any proposed Works that will interfere with an existing road, including kerb and channel or paved footpath, will require written approval from Council prior to work commencing.
- 22) The standard of access must be constructed generally in accordance with North Burnett Regional Councils standard drawings.
- 23) The standard of road traffic control must be in accordance with the Department of Transport and Main Roads Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
- 24) If clearing of vegetation is required, the landowner must obtain written approval from Council either as part of a development application for operational works or as an application for alteration or improvement to local government-controlled areas and roads pursuant to *North Burnett Regional Council's Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011* as required.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 25) Council will be responsible for:
 - (a) Assessing applications for extensions to the Road network;
 - (b) Carrying out the Works required, or, authorising and approving any third to undertake the works;
 - (c) Once construction of the Road has been completed, the ongoing maintenance and improvement works (as resourcing and budgetary constraints will allow); and
 - (d) updating the Roads Register following a Council resolution to add or remove maintenance responsibility from a particular part of the road network.
- 26) The Applicant will be responsible for:
 - (a) Applying to Council to undertake any works that will interfere with the existing road either for road access of extension to the road network (if requested by the applicant);
 - (b) If drainage is deemed necessary by Council due to the topography of the area of Road, the cost of drainage design, and potentially further contribution towards the Works if a more significant drainage structure is required; and
 - (c) If undertaking the Works, ensure that the Works are undertaken in accordance with the required standards as specified by Council.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

- 27) Applicable legislation and regulation:
 - (a) *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld);
 - (b) Department of Transport and Main Roads Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

General Manager Works

APPROVAL DATE

28 October 2021

REVIEW DATE

October 2025 (Standard four year term)

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Meeting	Approval Date	History
1	General	28 August 2019	New
2	General Manager Works	28 October 2021	Revised

APPENDIX 1: FUNCTIONAL ROAD HIERARCHY

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Austrroads Classification	Description	Function
1	Highway	National & state highways; high speed, high volume routes; motorways
2	Main Road	State strategic Roads
3	Rural Arterial	State regional roads & high order local government roads
4	Rural Collector	High order local government roads
5	Rural Access	Low order local government roads
6	Urban Arterial	State strategic and/or regional roads, high order local government roads
7	Urban Sub-Arterial	State regional roads, significant local government road links in urban areas
8	Urban Collector	Local government collector roads
9	Urban Access	Local government local residential streets