



# *Cypress County - Policy* **UNDEVELOPED ROAD MAINTENANCE**

**Policy Owner:** Roads  
**Adoption Date:**  
**Resolution:** 93/264

**Policy:** R 9  
**Effective Date:** September 21, 1993  
**Last Amended Date:** January 13, 2026

## **UNDEVELOPED ROAD MAINTENANCE**

### ***Policy***

Cypress County has many miles of undeveloped road allowances. Many of these are used by residents and landowners to access farm and ranch lands. It is economically unfeasible to develop all of these access roads to a Low Grade or High Grade standard. The County recognizes the importance of these undeveloped roads in the operation of the agricultural community.

To provide a minimum standard of service to its ratepayers for the provision of agricultural access along undeveloped roads, maintenance or improvements will be subject to the following conditions:

1. The road must be the only access to the land, that is, no other developed road touches the quarter section.
2. Minor maintenance, upon request, will generally be limited to grader work of less than one hour, coordinated with regular gravel road maintenance:
  - a. to touch up ruts, minor low spots
  - b. fill or build up minor low spots utilizing material from the road allowance
  - c. replace or remedy a failed culvert.
3. Annual or bi-annual maintenance, upon request, of existing bladed trails that have been bladed within the past five years will be coordinated with regular gravel road maintenance.
4. Major maintenance projects may be completed based on applications received from ratepayers by August 31st each year. The Operations Manager will inspect sites to ensure alignment with this policy, prepare cost estimates and present a cost share agreement to the applicant. The applicant will be required to pay 50% of the total estimated cost with payment due prior to the work being started. If the final cost is less than the estimated cost, the difference will be reimbursed to the applicant for their share.
  - a. Graveling of ruts – filling in wagon trails of grass covered road allowances; maximum project length of 2 miles (3.2 km) per year per ratepayer, with a program funding limit of \$50,000 per year.
  - b. Impassable low spots - may include earth work, ditching, culverts, pit-run gravel, road crush gravel, etc., with a program funding limit of \$180,000 per year. Where a project cost estimate exceeds \$45,000 per mile (1.6 km), consideration may be given to construction of a Low-Grade Road under the Road Construction Program. County staff will supervise approved project implementation to ensure built up spots meet an 8-

metre-wide standard and gravel is deposited appropriately. Gravel will typically be delivered through the County road graveling program when the trucks are in the area.

5. While spot projects and graveling ruts are preferred due to low annual maintenance costs, ratepayers may apply to the County to have a new bladed trail created. All requests must be approved by Council.
6. Industrial companies (e.g. Oil and Gas) shall not be eligible for this program.

### ***Policy History***

#### **Amendment Dates & Descriptions:**

January 4, 2011 - Resolution No. 2011/07  
February 4, 2014 - Resolution No. 2014/54  
January 12, 2016 - Resolution No. 2016/18  
September 6, 2016 - Resolution No. 2016/443  
January 13, 2026 - Resolution No. 2026/020

#### **Review Dates & Outcomes:**