



COUNCIL POLICY
Policy number: 3200.04
Use and Closure of Road Allowances and Other Roads

Department: Infrastructure and Planning Services
Authority: Council

Effective Date: May 14, 2024

STATEMENT

Yellowhead County, being the road authority, has the direction, control, and management of all municipal roads and surveyed road allowances within Yellowhead County and recognizes that access should be maintained for public use unless otherwise directed by Council.

Yellowhead County supports the agricultural use of undeveloped road allowances where there is a mutual benefit to the County and adjacent landowners/leaseholders.

PURPOSE

To provide clear policy direction to the public regarding the use or potential closure of undeveloped roads allowances and other roads.

DEFINITIONS

Administration means the applicable administration staff of Yellowhead County.

Application for Use of Undeveloped Road Allowances means a formal application to be reviewed by Administration that details the portion(s) of undeveloped road allowance and other roads to be considered for general agriculture.

Council means the elected officials of Yellowhead County.

County means Yellowhead County.

Gate means any structure which restricts or limits access on undeveloped road allowances or other roads.

General Agriculture means those agricultural operations producing crops or livestock which require larger tracts of land.

Licensee means the individual, individual(s), or entity who has entered a License of Occupation with the County.

License of Occupation means a legal agreement between the County and an individual or entity for the use of undeveloped road allowances and other roads.

Other Roads means road plans, forced roads, roads within subdivision plans, etc., but does not include road allowances.

Senior Level of Government means the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada.

Temporary Use means a use established for a specified period of time, with the intent to discontinue the use at the end of the designated time period.

Undeveloped Road Allowances means all provincial undeveloped grid roads or portions thereof as previously established by the Dominion of Canada with the implementation of the Grid System of Survey consisting of 66 ft. (20.1 m) wide strips running north to south every 1.0 mile (1.6 km) also known as Range Roads and running east to west every 2.0 miles (3.2 km), also known as Township Roads, within the boundaries of Yellowhead County.

GUIDELINES

1. General Principles

- 1.1. Council supports continued public access to all undeveloped road allowances within the County.
- 1.2. Unless a matter of public safety, a request from a senior level of government, or in the regional economic interest of the County, Council will not consider requests to close and/or sell undeveloped roads allowances under its jurisdiction.
- 1.3. Council may consider closure of other roads when deemed to be unnecessary for public purposes.
- 1.4. Council will support the realignment of road plans and road allowances where previously constructed roads and road right-of-ways have not been located within the surveyed road boundaries.
- 1.5. Council does not permit construction, private use, other alteration of roads (developed or undeveloped) without the written permission of the County.
- 1.6. Council may, in accordance with the *Alberta Traffic Safety Act*, issue a license (License of Occupation) for the temporary use of undeveloped road allowances.

2. Responsibilities

2.1. Council

- 2.1.1. Adopt and approve the policy.
- 2.1.2. Will budget funds annually to support the application of this policy.

2.2. Management

- 2.2.1. The application of this policy will be carried out per the established principles and direction of Council and within budget limitation.

- 2.2.2. Will review the policy a minimum of every four years and bring forward any recommendations to Council.

APPROVAL



Wade Williams, Mayor



Date



Luc Mercier, Chief Administrative Officer



Date

For Administrative use only:

Previous Policy Number:	Use and Closure of Road Allowances and Other Roads no. 3200.04
Supporting Documentation, References:	Use and Closure of Road Allowances and Other Roads Administrative Directive no. 3200.04A <i>Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26</i> <i>Traffic Safety Act, RSA 2000, c T-6</i>

Adopted: November 22, 2005
Revised: April 16, 2024

By: Council

Resolution: 383-11-22-05
Resolution: 142-05-14-2024

Reviewed: 2024

By: Planning & Development Services

Next Review Year: 2028