

WAC 468-18-040 Design standards for rearranged county roads, frontage roads, access roads, intersections, ramps and crossings. Because of the wide variety of rearranged county roads, frontage or access roads, intersections, ramps and crossings encountered by the freeway construction and relocation of other state highways, further understandings are desirable as to the jurisdiction and the responsibility between the county and state.

Following are the criteria, procedure and design standards that the state department of transportation shall use in the planning for frontage roads and access roads that counties will be requested to accept as county roads and the construction of rearranged county roads, intersections, ramps and crossings:

(1) At the early stages of planning, the state and county shall review the proposed improvement and determine what cooperative agreements will be needed between the state and county.

(2) The proposed design standards shall not be less than the current "city-county design standards" located within the "Local Agency Guideline Manual," except where an individual county shall have adopted a higher design standard, in which case the higher standard shall apply.

(3) The proposed construction shall include all the necessary traffic control and safety devices and be signed in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, as modified and adopted by the Washington state department of transportation, to protect the driving public.

(4) Unless otherwise agreed to between the state and county, the responsibilities of each agency shall conform to the following basic principles:

(a) Where an existing county road is crossed by a state highway underpass, the state will construct the underpass and necessary approaches and maintain the underpass.

The roadway to be provided for county traffic will be constructed by the state.

If illumination exists on the county road at the time of construction of the underpass, the state shall provide the necessary facilities for illuminating the county's portion of the road over the state highway and the necessary approach roadway.

If it is determined that illumination will be necessary at a later date and it will be necessary to place conduits in the structure, the state shall provide same.

The county will maintain the roadway providing for county traffic including traffic stripe, snow removal, sanding and illumination, if needed, for the county road.

(b) Where an existing county road is crossed by a state highway overpass, the state will construct the structure and necessary approach roadway and maintain the structure.

The county will maintain the entire roadway under the structure except special drainage, if needed.

The state shall provide the necessary facilities for illuminating the county's portion of the road under the structure and necessary approach roadway, unless otherwise agreed.

(c) When an existing county road is crossed at grade by a new state highway, the state will assume all costs for the construction including taper sections, acceleration and deceleration lanes and be responsible for all maintenance to the right of way line.

Stop signs after installation shall be maintained in accordance with the state statutes.

The construction and maintenance of illumination will be the responsibility of the state.

When a new county road intersects a state highway, the maintenance responsibilities will be the same as outlined above. The construction costs shall be the responsibility of the county.

(d) Whenever, because of increased traffic, heavy turning movements, accident frequency or other good cause, it becomes necessary to initiate a project for the improvement of an existing intersection not incidental to a construction project, the state and county will cooperate in the cost of the improvement in each case by mutual agreement in accordance with the following formula:

(i) Ascertain the number of legs of the intersection under the existing responsibility of each agency involved.

(ii) Ascertain the traffic volume on each leg.

(iii) Add the traffic counts on each agency's intersection legs.

(iv) The resulting percentage of the traffic volume total falling to each jurisdiction should be the relative proportion of the improvement's cost to be borne by each agency: Provided, That in no case shall the county's share of the total cost of the improvement exceed fifty percent of that cost.

The maintenance responsibilities will be the same as outlined above in subparagraph (c) of this subsection.

(e) When an interchange is constructed at an intersection of a state highway and county road, the ramps, structure and crossroad within the interchange area shall be maintained and reconstructed, if necessary, by the state. Illumination, if required, shall be constructed by the state and that portion located on state right of way maintained by the state or as otherwise agreed.

Traffic signals on state right of way, if required at ramp terminals, shall be constructed, operated and maintained by the state.

(f) Where it is necessary to relocate an existing county road, the state will construct the road and the county will maintain the road.

(g) If a county road or street is dead-ended, the state will construct a cul-de-sac to the county standards.

(h) When it is necessary for the state to construct service roads, landlock prevention roads or dead-end roads, which may be desirable in lieu of damages to property, the provisions of RCW 47.52.105 shall be the guide.

All roads under this subsection shall be the state's responsibility unless otherwise agreed to between the state and county.

(i) Upon completion of the construction of each rearranged county road, frontage road, access road, intersection or crossing for which an agreement has been entered into between the state and county, an inspection by the state and county road engineer shall be made to determine that all the requirements of the agreement have been fulfilled. Upon fulfillment of the agreement, the state shall notify the county in writing and the county shall assume the responsibilities as set forth in said agreement.

(5) The transfer of any right of way by the state to a county for any rearranged county road, frontage road, access road, intersection, crossing, or improvements constructed under this chapter shall be in accordance with WAC 468-30-070, as amended.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.75.090. WSR 09-09-068, § 468-18-040, filed 4/14/09, effective 5/15/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 47.01.101. WSR 99-01-121 (Order 186), § 468-18-040, filed 12/21/98, effective

1/21/99. Statutory Authority: 1977 ex.s. c 151. WSR 79-01-033 (DOT Order 10 and Comm. Order 1, Resolution No. 13), § 468-18-040, filed 12/20/78. Formerly WAC 252-10-041.]