

EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE OF UNACCEPTED ROADWAYS

POLICY NO. 19-06

PURPOSE: To ensure that the public welfare and safety is preserved on rights-of-way owned by Hernando County.

BACKGROUND:

Hernando County has adopted rules and specifications which must be complied with prior to acceptance of roadways by the County for maintenance. Many existing County owned rights-of-way do not have roadways that meet these standards and have not been accepted for maintenance by the County. The conditions of these non-maintained roadways periodically deteriorate to a point that emergency vehicles may have difficulty traveling on the roads. The County recognizes the need to establish a policy to protect the welfare and safety of the citizens of the County who reside on these county owned rights-of-way.

POLICY: It will be the responsibility of the Department of Public Works to administer and execute this policy in providing emergency maintenance on County owned rights-of-way that have not been accepted by the County for maintenance. The department will determine that the roadway has deteriorated to a point that emergency vehicles (police, fire and ambulance) may have difficulty traversing the road prior to performing maintenance.

Roadways, for the purpose of this policy, are those located in/on dedicated rights-of-way or easements **owned by Hernando County** that provide the only access to an occupied dwelling. Meandering roads that are not within a County right-of-way do not fall within the purview of this policy. Private roads and easements, including 60' access tracts, **are not** eligible for maintenance under this policy.

If, after inspection by Department of Public Works personnel, a roadway is determined to be eligible for emergency maintenance as provided for in this policy, such **minimum maintenance** will be performed as deemed appropriate by the department to render said roadways passable for emergency vehicles. When the volume of road maintenance requires prioritization of work, County accepted and maintained roads will receive priority.

The intent of this policy is to simply restore non-maintained roadways to their pre-existing condition which allowed vehicular traffic. It is **not** the intent to improve the roadway to allow an increase in the size or type of vehicles that could traverse the roadway prior to the request for maintenance. It is also **not** the intent of this policy to clear rights-of-way to establish new roadways.

Replaces: Policy No. 17-07
Reference: May 19, 1985
Adopted: September 18, 1991
Amended: February 7, 1995