

Lanes – Roadways

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 115

1. POLICY

It is estimated there is a total of 16km of “laneways” within townships throughout the Municipality. These laneways were originally created to serve as night cart routes or to provide additional access to the rear of a property.

The majority of these laneways serve only as additional access for residential properties to backyards and sheds. Only a small number of these laneways currently act as what would be considered by the general public as a roadway, that is to provide access to public car parks.

1.1. Classification of Laneways

Historically, a small number of laneways have been mapped and included on Council’s Road Register as “Not Maintained” while others are not included in the register in any form. Council’s Road Management Plan provides a number of classifications for roads within Council’s road network. These classifications ensure at a minimum that the road surface is fit for purpose and inspected on a regular basis. Classifications applicable to identified laneways include:

Access-Major

- Primarily provides access to residents or secondary commercial/industrial access.

Access-Minor

- Primarily provides access to property, river access, fire access and seasonal produce haulage.

Ancillary Road Areas

- A roadway generally contained within a Caravan Park, public park or public reserve. These are generally not within a road reserve but on Council owned or managed land.

Not Maintained

- Primarily un-formed roads, tracks, laneways and treed reserves and rarely used.

A road authority may under the *Road Management Act 2004* increase the classification of a road if it believes the road is generally required for public use. The road will then be listed on Council’s Road Register as a higher category to be inspected and maintained at a particular level of service in accordance with Council’s Road Management Plan.

1.2. Hierarchy of Laneways

It is understood that Laneways throughout the municipality provide for a variety of access situations depending on their location and the surrounding uses. Each laneway, as it is identified will be assessed against the following criteria for classification:

Access-Major

A laneway that provides access to public car parks; or to private business car parks where more than five businesses are serviced within a segment.

Access-Minor

A laneway that provides access to private business car parks and may also be used as a delivery route for those businesses.

Ancillary Road Areas

Generally not assigned to a laneway as such, but includes public car parks serviced from a laneway.

Not Maintained

A laneway that provides secondary access to property, generally residential, however, may include businesses with no associated rear parking areas. This classification of laneway includes the majority of the former night cart routes.

2. POLICY REVIEW

Council will review this policy as required but always within two years after a general election of the Council.

At the time of review, this policy was compliant with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna office or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au.

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to the Director Infrastructure & Development on (03) 5450 9333.

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