

POLICY



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Policy Title ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS	Date: October 9, 2025	Resolution No. C/448/25

Policy Statement

Lacombe County will establish and maintain a road construction program that takes into consideration long-term transportation needs, as well as smaller emergent projects that can be completed in a relatively short time period. The needs of all areas of the County shall be given equal consideration when road construction programs are established.

The annual road construction program will normally be comprised of 85% of projects that are classified as long-term transportation needs and 15% as emergent projects.

Regulation

Long-Term Construction Program

1. Long-term construction projects are defined as projects that will normally utilize the entire construction fleet, have a minimum length of one mile and require a minimum of three weeks of uninterrupted construction to complete.
2. Priorities for the long-term construction program are to be based on the greatest need and most benefit, using the following criteria:
 - a) Public safety
 - b) General condition of the existing road
 - c) Traffic volumes and the type of traffic
 - d) Traffic patterns and alternative roads available
 - e) Service for new developments
 - f) Maintenance concerns
 - g) Cost of construction
3. To facilitate land acquisition, bridge funding requests, environmental approvals and planning a two to four year construction schedule will be maintained.
4. Council will review and update the long-term construction program at a Council meeting in each odd-numbered calendar year.
5. The County Manager or designate will review the proposed projects, complete an evaluation based on the above criteria, and arrange for Council to tour the roads if requested.
6. Projects that are currently on the long-term construction program will normally be given a higher priority and be completed prior to any new projects.

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- When developing the long-term construction program, Council will endeavour to coordinate projects so as to minimize the costs of moving the construction equipment. Where possible the minimum length of long-term construction projects will be one mile.

Supplementary Construction Program

- Supplementary construction projects are defined as projects that are generally less than 400 metres in length and can normally be completed in less than three days. The approved short-term projects will be scheduled to maximize crew efficiency and minimize moving costs.
- Priorities for the supplementary construction program are to be based on the greatest need and most benefit, using the following criteria:
 - Public safety
 - Improvements to sight lines
 - Improvement to drainage
 - Repairing of isolated soft areas in the road surface
 - Maintenance concerns
 - Cost of construction
 - Type and amount of equipment required
- The County Manager or designate shall prepare a listing of proposed road construction projects prior to January 1 of each year.
- The County Manager or designate will review the proposed projects, complete an evaluation based on the above criteria and prepare a recommendation for Council.
- Council will review and update the supplementary construction program on an annual basis. Projects that are currently on the supplementary construction program will normally be given a higher priority and completed prior to any new projects.

Examples of supplementary construction program projects include:

- Drainage improvements to natural run-off areas in order to protect the integrity of the road structure
- Remedial road improvements such as cutting down a hill or filling through a low area
- Reclamation work on past construction projects

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