

3. Vehicle Accessways

Subject to specific approval, Council allows property owners to establish driveways (vehicle crossings and accessways) to their properties for both private and commercial use.

3.1 Purpose

To provide the requirements for constructing a vehicle accessway in urban and rural areas.

3.2 Objective [new section]

The objective of this policy is to ensure that:

- vehicle crossings are constructed where they are required
- that crossings do not compromise the safety of the crossing user or road users
- that crossings do not impede drainage
- that District Plan and resource consents requirements are adhered to
- that crossings are located with regards to other street furniture and street trees
- that crossings are constructed to an appropriate standard
- that road and services assets are not damaged during construction.

3.3 Road Safety

Vehicle crossings create a safety issue when there is inadequate sight distance or if they are located too close to intersections.

A hazard is also created when access ways are not surfaced appropriately and loose gravel is flicked onto the road carriageway. In some cases gravel and silt can be washed down the access way and onto the road. This results in a loss of traction for vehicles using the access, and can create a danger for vehicles using the road, particularly motorcycles.

If road side drainage is blocked then this can result in flooding on the road.

3.4 Key Linkages

- Tasman Resource Management Plan
- Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual

3.5 Policy – New and Upgraded Accessway

All new driveways (crossings and accessways) including those proposed to be upgraded for a different class of vehicle i.e. commercial or as part of a resource consent shall be subject to permit from Council (See attached Permit Application at the back of this policy).

The proposed new or upgraded driveway (crossing or accessway) shall fully comply with those conditions set out in both the Tasman Resource Management Plan (TRMP) and the Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual.

Under special circumstances Council's Transportation Manager, or Council's Environment and Planning Manager in the case of resource consents, may permit a variation to the requirements set out in either the Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual or TRMP documents respectively.

Private Urban Accessway

Further conditions are:

- All driveways (crossings) shall be finished with a permanent surface of either, Concrete or Asphalt Concrete. Where there is an adjacent footpath to the new driveway then the finished surface in the road shall generally be the same of either concrete or Asphaltic Concrete but not chip seal.
- No silt gravel or debris of any kind shall be able to runoff or migrate from the premises on to the roadway or associated drains.
- All storm water runoff shall be managed so that it is not directed onto the footpath or road.
- The construction of new and upgraded access way shall be undertaken by an engineering services contractor that meets the minimum training standards outlined in the Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual

Comment

Driveways should be constructed properly ensuring they do not create maintenance issues and drivers are able to use them safely. Silt, gravel or debris runoff or migration on to the roadway from the premises or driveway can also create a nuisance and safety hazard for road users.

Commercial & Industrial Urban Accessways

Commercial accessways shall be those which service businesses or cater for heavy trucks/vehicles on a regular basis.

All commercial accessways shall be subject to a permit from Council and be designed to the appropriate standard relative to the type of vehicles using the accessway.

Further conditions are:

- Where kerb and channel exists then this will be reconstructed to comply with the requirements of Council's the Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual;
- All crossings (accessways) shall be finished with a permanent surface of either, Concrete, or Asphalt Concrete and ideally matching the surrounding footpath where one exists, except in industrial zones when it will be concrete.
- No silt gravel or debris of any kind shall be able to runoff or migrate from the premises on to the roadway or into drains.

Comment

Driveways (Crossings) should be able to withstand the type of traffic using them without sustaining damage affecting the footpath or roadway.

Private Rural Accessways

Private Rural Driveways (Accessways) shall require a permit.

Further conditions are:

- The (accessway shall be constructed of an appropriate depth of hard-fill and sealed with a two coat chip seal;
- Adequate provision shall be made to ensure there is no impedance to the water channel, drainage paths, or pipes under the accessway;
- The accessway shall be laid out -and sealed as shown in diagram SD 409 of the NTLDM, for Diagram 1 Rural Vehicle Crossing For Up To Six Dwellings.
- Visibility of approaching traffic shall meet the minimum sight distances set out in the Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual Table 4-14 to allow safe entry and exit;
- Intersection with the main roadway shall be at 90degrees ;
- Available off roadway standing area of relatively flat grade shall be provided to allow safe entry and exit, enabling drivers to stop and clearly see with adequate visibility approaching traffic. See the Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual Table 4-14
- No silt gravel or debris of any kind shall be able to run from the property on to the roadway or into drains.

Comment

These conditions allow road users to safely turn into and out of the accessway.

Commercial Rural Accessways

Commercial rural accessways shall be those that service businesses or cater for heavy trucks/vehicles including access to dairy sheds, woolsheds, grain stores, silage pits and stockyards.

All commercial driveways (accessways) shall be subject to a permit from Council and be designed to the appropriate standard, relevant to the type of vehicle using it.

Further conditions are:

- *Adequate provision shall be made to ensure there is no impedance to the water channel or drainage paths, pipes under the driveway (accessway);*
- *Intersection with the roadway shall be at 90 degrees;*
- *The driveway (accessway) shall be laid out including sealed as shown in Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual, SD 409, for either Diagram 2 "Vehicle Crossing For More Than Six Dwellings or For a Rural Activity " or Diagram 3 "Commercial Access –Vehicle Crossing for Commercial or Industrial Activity" whichever is appropriate;*
- *Visibility of approaching traffic shall meet the minimum sight distances set out in the Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual Table 4-14 to allow safe entry and exit;*
- *Available off roadway standing area of relatively flat grade shall be provided to allow safe entry and exit, enabling drivers to stop and clearly see with adequate visibility approaching traffic. See the Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual Table 4.10.2.2*

No silt, gravel or debris of any kind shall be able to run from the property on to the roadway or into drains.

Comment

These conditions allow vehicles to safely turn into and out of the accessway without causing excessive damage.

3.6 Policy - Temporary Commercial Driveways (Accessways)

Temporary commercial accessways are used for operations such as establishing dairy lands, harvesting trees and field crops, relocating houses, etc.

All temporary commercial accessways shall require a permit from Council.

Any application shall include the following:

- *Location of temporary accessway which shall ensure that visibility of approaching traffic is adequate to allow safe entry and exit.*
- *Time period of usage.*
- *Vehicle numbers.*
- *Establishment works designed to ensure no damage or inconvenience is caused to the road or road user respectively, including ensuring that debris shall not be left on the road and drainage paths are not inhibited.*

Comment

Accessways should allow vehicles to turn into and out of the accessway safely without causing damage to the road. Where debris is left on the road, it shall be removed in accordance Council's Transportation Policy 'Debris on the Road'.

3.7 *Associated Documents:*

Permit Application for Vehicle Crossing or Accessway, refer Council website