

Richmond Selectboard Town Highway Repairs Policy

The Richmond Selectboard hereby adopts the following policy for the repair and maintenance of town highways. The Highway Department is expected to follow this policy in the execution of its duties and refer all concerns with this policy, including budgetary concerns, to the Richmond Selectboard through the Town Administrator's Office.

- ◆ The Town maintains Class 2 and Class 3 town highways on a regular basis to provide passage for a standard pleasure car.
- ◆ Any maintenance to Class 4 Town highways must be approved by the Selectboard.
- ◆ The **top priority** of the highway crew is to maintain, on a year-round basis, through-traffic in both directions on all Class 2 and Class 3 town highways.
- ◆ Access to the town highway is allowed for property owners by the Town via a local Access Permit except on State highways where a State Highway Permit must be obtained. "Property owners" are the individual(s) having the right to access the highway by constructing a road or driveway.
- ◆ The property owner is responsible for all associated materials and structures utilized to construct a new access. In some instances, the Road Foreman may require that a new culvert be installed, at the Owner's expense. Culvert deteriorated due to damage or rot will be the replacement responsibility of the property owner.
- ◆ Should the town highway be significantly repaired, upgraded, or altered, the Town will improve any access affected by the work in the town highway, except where the pre-construction access is determined to be in non-compliance with prior permits. If non-compliance exists, the property owner will be responsible for the "fair-share" cost of the improvements.
- ◆ Private culverts, bridges and traveled ways not maintained in good condition and which negatively affect the town highway road network may be noted by the Town and reported to the owners. Should damage to the town highway occur due to the insufficient operation or construction of a private access, the owners may be held responsible for the town highway repair costs, with or without prior notice by the Town of such insufficiencies.
- ◆ Private roads, driveways and properties, within of the town highway right-of-way, shall be repaired or reconstructed by the Town if the damage was caused by improper functioning of town highway infrastructure. If outside of the right-of-way, the Selectboard may authorize repair work after requested by the Road Foreman.
- ◆ Necessary tree clearing, fence removal or similar instances required within the town's right-of-way shall be determined by the road foreman except when controlled by the Tree Warden. Should trees larger than 12 inches in diameter need to be removed, the property owner will be contacted to inquire whether or not the property owner wants the wood.

Modifications to this policy shall be by formal motion of the Richmond Selectboard.
Adopted by the Richmond Selectboard on April 15, 1996.

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