
Municipality of the County of Cumberland Policy 12- 05

Private Road Signage and Standards

General

1. This policy is entitled “Private Road Signage and Standards Policy” and shall be administered by the Director of Public Works or designate.

Purpose

2. The Municipality of the County of Cumberland has created this Policy regarding municipal signage for private roads for the purposes of:
 - a. aiding emergency first responders; and
 - b. providing clear and consistent signage to assist with the identification of private roads.
3. By erecting signage, the Municipality assumes no responsibility or liability. Residents who choose to live and/or buy property on private roads should not expect the same access and services as provided by and on public roads.

Definitions

4. In this Policy, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - a. “Municipality” means the Municipality of the County of Cumberland;
 - b. “not publicly accessible private road” means a private road which does not intersect a public road;
 - c. “NSCAF” means the Nova Scotia Civic Address File;
 - d. “private road” means any street, road, lane, bridge or other thoroughfare accessible to motor vehicles which is not a public road and which serves as a principal vehicular access to three or more dwelling units or buildings and is listed and identified in the NSCAF system;
 - e. “publicly accessible private road” means a private road which intersects and has direct access to a public road; and
 - f. “public road” means any street, highway, road, lane, bridge, or thoroughfare accessible to vehicular traffic owned and maintained by the Province of Nova Scotia, the Municipality or any other municipality.

Policy

5. The Municipality may provide signage for private roads on the following basis:
 - a. The Municipality may provide and install a sign to identify a publicly accessible private road that is identified in the NSCAD system.
 - b. The Municipality will not provide signage unless there are currently buildings with civic addresses on the road.
 - c. The Municipality will not normally provide signage for not publically accessible private roads.
 - d. Damaged or lost signs will only be replaced when reported to the Municipality and as time and budgets permit.

Installation and Maintenance of Private Road Signs.

6. Where this Policy provides for the installation of a private road sign, such signs will be installed or maintained by the Municipality's Public Works Department or an agent thereof.
7. The Municipality will strive to ensure that where private road signs require replacement that those signs are replaced in a timely manner as budgets and time permits.

Not Publicly Accessible Private Road Signs

8. Notwithstanding that the Municipality will not normally provide signage for private roads which are not publicly accessible, such signage may be provided in cases where it has been determined by the Municipality that there is a significant risk to persons or property and that such signage is likely to help mitigate such risk.
9. Where residents feel that such signage is warranted, they may request that the Municipality erect such signage. Such requests shall be made in writing and submitted to the Director of Public Works who will assess the need and determine if there are sufficient budgetary resources. The request shall be accompanied by a letter from the owner of the land where the proposed sign is to be located, giving the Municipality irrevocable permission to erect and maintain the sign.
10. When considering requests for not publicly accessible private road signs the Director of Public Works shall base a recommendation on the following factors:
 - a. the number of dwellings on the road,
 - b. the number of dwellings with permanent residents on the road,
 - c. any life-threatening health conditions of residents on the road,
 - d. any other factor the Director deems important in assisting emergency response.

Sign Standards

11. Private road signs shall only be posted in the following manner:

- a) Only double sided signs, with reflective white lettering on a reflective blue background, shall be used or posted;
- b) Sign blanks shall be a minimum of 158mm in height and shall have thickened top and bottom edges sufficient to resist warping or bending;
- c) The typeface used for lettering shall be *Clearview Highwaytm* or approved alternate typeface designed specifically to enhance road sign legibility;
- d) Letter height for capital letters shall be a minimum of 100mm and 60mm for road name suffixes;
- e) Signage lettering shall be initial capitals followed by lower case;
- f) Road name suffixes shall be abbreviated;
- g) Private road signs shall be perpendicular to the public street.
- h) Private road signs shall be a minimum of 2.0 metres and a maximum of 6.0 metres from the closest edge of the traveled portion of any road; and
- i) The bottom of the private road sign shall be a minimum of 1.5 and a maximum of 2.8 metres above the traveled portion of the adjacent public road;
- j) Where it has been determined that a not publically accessible private road warrants signage, the sign shall be located on the private road which provides access. In addition, a secondary directional sign shall be added to the private road sign for the access road (see figure 2).

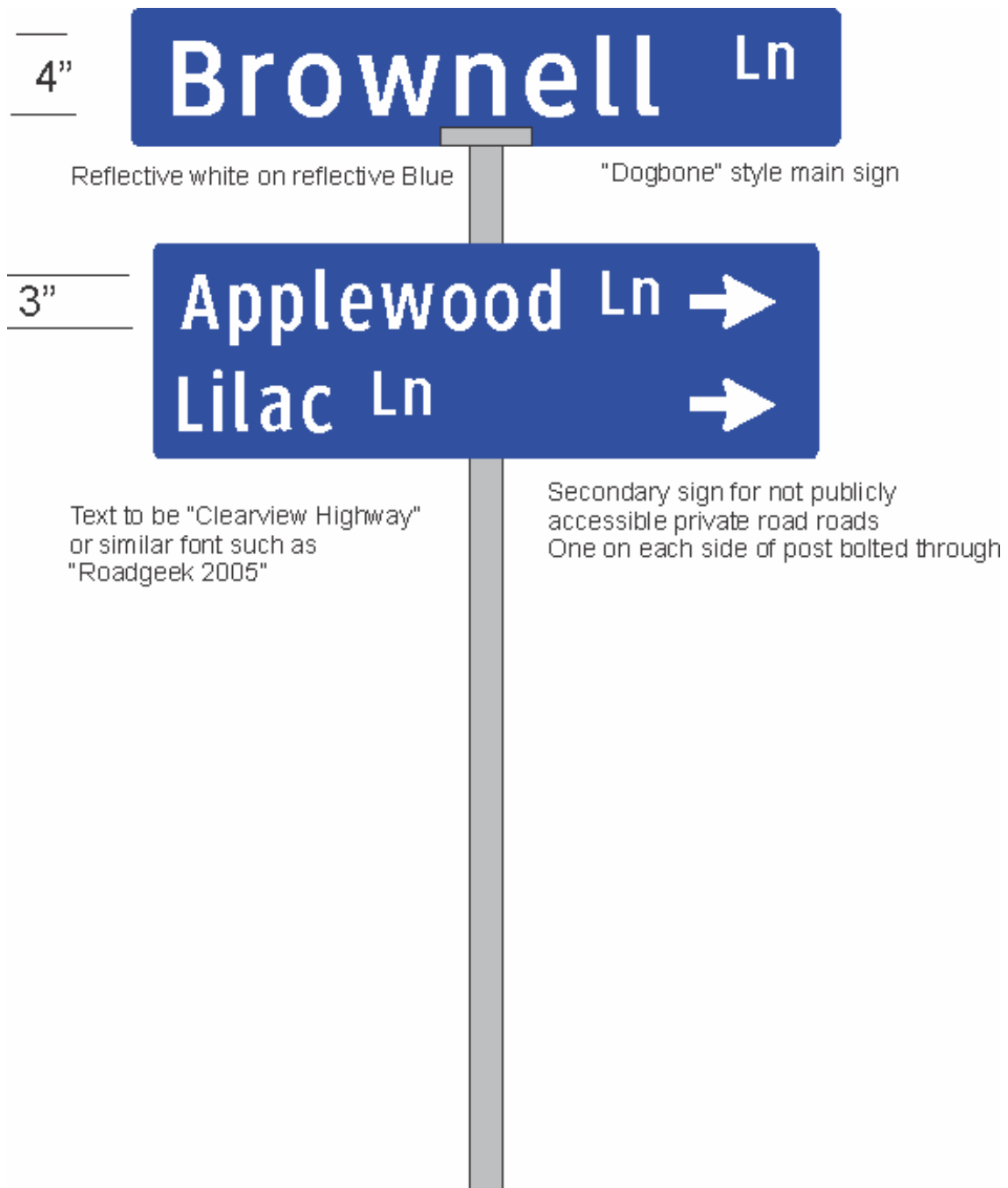


Figure 2 - Typical Installation of not publicly accessible private road sign



Figure 3 - Typical Sign Layout

<u>Clerk's Annotation For Official Policy Book</u>	
Date of Notice to Council Members of Intent to Consider [7 days minimum] _____ Jul 4, 2012 _____	
Date of Passage of Current Policy: _____ July 18, 2012 _____	
I certify that this Policy was adopted by Council as indicated above.	
_____	_____
Clerk	Date