



What you **need** to **know** about...

Signs, Gates & Fencing in the Road Margin

maintaining our roads

There are approximately 5000 km of roads within the Southland District Council network: 2000 km sealed, 3000 km unsealed, including over 960 bridges, with 27 townships & a growing population (28,440 as per 2006 Census) who use these roads.

With an annual Roading Budget of over \$23M it is our aim to keep the roads maintained to an acceptable standard and are always looking at ways to improve the network as an asset for the community while keeping to an ever tightening budget.

Signs

Signs have a function and Council allow the installation of signs on or adjacent to the road margin, subject to meeting the requirements of the Roading Policy, District Plan and Transit New Zealand Manual of Traffic Signs and Markings (as applicable).

Policies and guidelines are in place to ensure that signs are installed to a consistent type and standard, and in suitable locations. Excessive, inconsistent and poorly placed signage can confuse motorists and contribute to the risk of accidents.

- Requests for signs should be made in writing by the applicant and include details of sign position, type, information to be on sign, applicant details and site plan.
- All signs, excluding general advertising signs, shall be supplied by an approved manufacturer (applicants may do this thru Council and its contractor).
- All temporary signs shall be removed or folded down when not in use.
- Advertising signs may require resource consent, applications for these should be directed to the Resource Planning Department.
- Requests for tourist interest signs should be made to Council for approval.

For State Highway routes Transit New Zealand is the Road Controlling Authority and all signs enquiries must be directed to them on 04 4996600.

Gates Across Roads

Council may in some circumstances grant permission for gates, cattlestops and electrical cattlestops across roads



where practical, while ensuring the public right of access is maintained.

- Requests should be made in writing and include details of gate location, purpose, type of construction, site plan, and signed consent of **all** adjacent landowners affected.
- Any gates across a road shall not be locked (unless specified) and must have a "Public Road" sign affixed.
- The gate or cattlestop is a private structure, and is the responsibility of the applicant; Council is not liable for any damages arising from its existence.

Permanent Fencing in the Road Margin

Erection of any permanent fencing on the road margin requires the approval of Council as it is necessary to check the siting and construction, and ensure it does not adversely affect other road users. If approval is given to erect a fence and occupy the road margin it shall be "at the pleasure of Council" and subject to conditions.

- Any fence structure must comply with Council's Clear Zone Standard, be painted white, reflectorised, be no closer than 3m from edge of road, and have Council approval.
- At construction all care should be taken to avoid any existing roadside drainage, drainage ditches or underground services.
- The property owner is responsible for the cost of any reinstatement of or damages to underground services, claims or damages.
- The property owner is required to arrange for and keep in force Public Liability Insurance.

Unforeseen circumstances may mean the fence location is inappropriate in a particular situation and require it be removed.

**Contact our Customer Services
on 0800 732 732 if you have a concern about the
state of any of our roads, sealed or unsealed,
or if you come across a mess.**



If you would like to learn more about Roadings other "Need to Know" sheets you can find them on our website: www.southlanddc.govt.nz



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