

South Carolina Department of Transportation

Engineering Directive

Directive Number: ED-16 **Effective:** December 6, 2024

Subject: Driveway Entrances

References: S.C. Code of Laws, Section 57-5-1140
SCDOT Standard Specifications for Highway Construction – Latest Edition
SCDOT Standard Drawings – Latest Edition
SCDOT Access and Roadside Management Standards (ARMS) – Latest Edition

Purpose: To Provide Direction for Installation and Maintenance of Driveway Entrances

Primary Department: Maintenance

Installation of Residential Entrances

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) shall permit and construct, at its expense, a single, all-weather driveway for the portion within the right-of-way of state highways, to provide ingress and egress to the abutting property at locations where access does not constitute hazardous conditions. The driveway must access an existing, developed residential property or property that is being developed for the personal use of the owner and not for commercial, speculative or resale purposes. Standard driveway installations shall have a maximum paved throat width of 16 feet, and, as required for drainage, up to a 30-inch diameter pipe. Upon request, and at SCDOT's discretion (resident engineer and above), a driveway with additional paved width or larger diameter pipe may be installed. The difference in cost for installation requests in excess of the standard driveway may be at the expense of the requesting property owner and agreed upon prior to installation. Driveways requiring drainage structures other than pipe must be brought to the attention of the Director of Maintenance. Driveways constructed as outlined in this engineering directive shall include base and surface materials necessary to provide all-weather access. If additional driveways are requested and approved, construction may be done by SCDOT at the owner's expense. If there is an existing driveway and the land use of the property changes, the District Engineering Administrator will review the location to determine if the land use is residential or commercial, and adhere to the appropriate permitting and installation policy. All work on driveways must be documented as a work request in SCDOT's Maintenance Management System.

Driveway Maintenance

Maintenance of entrances of residential and commercial driveways located within the right-of-way may be performed by SCDOT should the Department determine a hazard exists. This may include any hazardous conditions that exist within the limits of the roadway shoulder. These maintenance activities may be performed by SCDOT at the owner's expense. All work on

driveways must be documented as a work request in SCDOT's Maintenance Management System.

Driveway Construction

Pipes 15 inches in diameter or larger will be used for all driveway installations requiring pipe. The pipe, where possible, should be placed in the center of the ditch and fit the alignment and slope of the ditch. Pipe shall be of a sufficient length to extend to the toe of the backfilled slope. Driveways should have a 2-foot wide shoulder at a 4:1 slope and have no greater than a 3:1 slope for the remainder of the driveway's front slope. Where necessary, the shoulder and slope shall be grassed and/or protected by riprap to prevent erosion. The surface should be an all-weather concrete or asphalt surface. Asphalt surfacing should be a minimum of 2 inches thick with a compacted 6-inch base; concrete surfacing should be a minimum of 6 inches thick with a compacted base. Driveways shall be permitted and constructed in accordance with the SCDOT Access and Roadside Management Standards (ARMS), SCDOT Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, and SCDOT Standard Drawings (all latest editions).

Submitted by: Jeff Terry
Director of Maintenance

Recommended by: Andy Leaphart
Chief Engineer for Operations

Approved by: Rob E. Perry
Deputy Secretary for Engineering

History: Issued on November 21, 2003
First Revision on March 30, 2009
Second Revision on December 6, 2024