

SECONDARY ROADS: SIX-YEAR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

HOW TO GET YOUR ROAD PAVED AND STATE-MAINTAINED



In 1932, the General Assembly passed legislation that created the Virginia Secondary System of State Highways and designated the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to manage and maintain the new highway system. To ensure that qualifying roads could become eligible for acceptance into the new state-maintained secondary system, guidelines were established through the Secondary Street Acceptance Requirements (SSAR). Streets that meet the minimum standards of VDOT's SSAR become state maintained through a process under which the County Board of Supervisors or developer requests VDOT to operate and maintain the streets.

THE LOCAL PROCESS:

The process to add existing roads that are not maintained by the state to the Secondary System of State Highways begins at the local level. Citizens should contact their Board of Supervisors representative to recommend streets to be added as secondary streets. By law, the Board of Supervisors must take formal action to review and approve the addition of roads and request VDOT to maintain them. If a proposed road does not meet minimum standards, the Board of Supervisors must also identify the source of funding to be used to finance any improvements that are needed.

Washington County road requests are considered by the Board of Supervisors **EACH SPRING** on a case-by-case basis.

THE STREET ACCEPTANCE PROCESS:

- 1 Contact your Board of Supervisors representative to recommend streets and gain their support.
- 2 The Board of Supervisors considers requests from citizens to add roads to the Secondary System of State Highways. The locality coordinates with VDOT to review the eligibility of proposed street additions.
- 3 VDOT advises the locality of the requirements, improvement costs, and other issues related to the acceptance of proposed street additions.
- 4 The Board of Supervisors must guarantee the right of way for the road and take formal action to make the road part of the secondary system.
- 5 The Board of Supervisors formally requests VDOT to add the road to the secondary highway system for maintenance.
- 6 VDOT accepts the maintenance responsibility for the road as part of the secondary system.

HOW OLDER, SUBSTANDARD ROADS BECOME STATE-MAINTAINED:

Generally to be eligible for state maintenance, older, privately maintained, public roads must:

- » Have been in public use for at least for 20 years
- » Be available for the public to use 24 hours a day
- » Have a right of way that is available to be dedicated to public use and is:
 - » Wide enough to meet minimum safety standards (usually 40 feet)
 - » Sufficient to permit future maintenance
 - » Be unencumbered by utility placement
- » Serve at least three occupied homes
- » Be able to safely handle the traffic volume
- » Connect to other roads already maintained by VDOT or a locality

IF IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED TO MEET STATE STANDARDS:

State funds are very limited, however, each year, eligible counties are allowed to set aside five percent of the secondary road construction fund they receive from the state, in order to improve the county's secondary system of state highways and to improve qualifying roads that are not state maintained.

These are called "rural addition" funds. In addition to rural addition funds, eligible counties may also finance the cost of improving qualifying roads with funds from:

- » The County's General Fund
- » A special assessment of the land owners served
- » Revenue derived from the sale of bonds

CURRENT SIX-YEAR PLAN 2018/19 - 2023/24

AZURE LN
CAMPBELL HOLLOW RD
LOGAN CREEK RD
JUSTICE DR
WAYSIDE RD
FLEENORS MEM. CHAPEL RD
BUTTERFLY RD
RATTLE CREEK RD
CONCORD RD
MURRAY FIELD RD
SLAUGHTER RD
FAIRHAVEN RD
BENFIELD LN
YELLOW SPRINGS RD
LARGE HOLLOW RD
PIPER RD
HILLEDALE RD
MOORE CREEK RD
RHYMER RD
SHAFFERTOWN RD
MCCULLOCH DR
ANDERSON DR

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON VDOT SECONDARY STREET ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS:

www.virginia.gov/info/secondary_street_acceptance_requirements.asp

Washington County Administration Offices
276.525.1300