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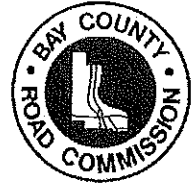
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Board of County Road Commissioners County of Bay

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JAMES C. LILLO, P.E., ENGINEER-MANAGER



SAFETY and SERVICE

March 15, 2022

Township Supervisors
All Township Officials

CONCRETE DRIVEWAY REQUIREMENTS AND REASONING FOR THEM

We respectfully request this letter be discussed at one of your future Board meetings. Further, **we ask this letter be distributed to each of your township officials, including all township staff members, building inspectors, code enforcement officers and any other personnel** that may encounter questions regarding concrete residential or commercial driveways.

Although a driveway permit may not be required by the township, one is required from the BCRC. We are respectfully asking the township's staff and elected officials to please refer, contractors and/or constituents asking about any type of driveway, **ESPECIALLY CONCRETE, to the BCRC.**

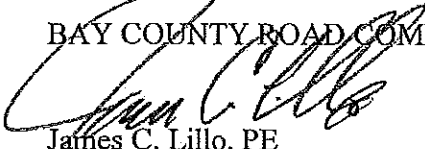
The construction season will soon be upon us. There has been an increase in **non-permitted**, non-compliant, concrete driveways poured to the edge of the road or shoulder. When this happens, the BCRC requires the concrete driveway within the road right-of-way be removed. This costs the property owner (and BCRC) time, money and results in a confrontational discussion, all of which could easily have been avoided.

The contractor hired by the property owner, has the responsibility to follow BCRC requirements when working in the road right-of-way. The property owner pays for and **EXPECTS**, the contractor to follow any and all construction requirements, **including securing needed permits. This applies to the property owner, also!** If they decide to install the driveway themselves, they need to **secure the needed permits from the BCRC.**

The BCRC's policy **DOES NOT** allow driveway concrete to directly abut the edge of any road or shoulder. This includes gravel, concrete, asphalt and chip seal roadways or shoulders. Concrete driveways abutting existing curb and gutter roadways are permitted. Concrete cannot be used as a driveway surface within the road right-of-way, unless an **APPROVED** permit is issued. This applies to new driveways, replacement of an existing driveway or a new addition to an existing driveway.

Reasoning for the current policy is included on the next page. Thank you for your time to review and distribute this letter.

BAY COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION


James C. Lillo, PE
Engineer-Manager

**AN APPROVED PERMIT FROM THE BCRC IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO
COMPLETING ANY WORK WITHIN THE BCRC'S ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY!**

Bay County Road Commission
Concrete Driveways CANNOT abut the Roadway Edge
Reasoning Summary

The current BCRC driveway policy was in place up until August 25, 1999 and was reinstated on May 2, 2012. For the 13-year period between these dates, concrete driveways were allowed to abut the edge of a road or shoulder. The reasons the BCRC's reverted back to the original policy prior to August 25, 1999, which did not allow concrete driveways to the edge of a road or shoulder, are included below.

1. The BCRC pays a higher price to remove and replace concrete driveways, when improvements are made to the road.
2. The BCRC pays a higher price to remove and replace a concrete driveway when road improvements require upgrades to the roadside drainage system.
3. Should road improvements occur and the elevation of the road;
 - a. Increases (goes up). The BCRC does not remove and replace a concrete driveway to make it match the new elevation. We either place chip seal or asphalt on top of the concrete, to taper or wedge the driveway to meet the new road edge.
 - b. Decreases (goes down). The BCRC cuts and removes the concrete driveway to a reasonable distance to make an acceptable transition from the new road elevation to the existing concrete driveway. The area removed is then filled with gravel.
 - c. In either case, a. or b., the property owner is not happy!**
4. When a concrete driveway is removed and replaced, the color doesn't match the remaining concrete driveway. The property owner expects the BCRC to replace the entire driveway to make everything "match".
5. Freeze/thaw cycles and differing concrete driveway and road base materials, cause the concrete driveway to heave or rise above the elevation of the road or shoulder edge. This creates the following:
 - a. A point for our snow plow blade to catch and potentially cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle, sustain injuries and cause damage to the plow vehicle.
 - b. A point for our snow plow blade to catch and break a piece of the concrete driveway off or otherwise damage the concrete. The property owner expects the BCRC to repair the damage.
 - c. The potential for snow plow blades to gouge, scrap or discolor the concrete. The property owner expects the BCRC to repair the damage.
 - d. Downtime for our equipment. The "pins" that hold the underbody snow plow blade to the truck break before the concrete. Thus, the driver must discontinue plowing, return to the maintenance garage, and have the vehicle serviced. This results in two (2) hours of plowing downtime.

We trust this clarifies the current BCRC concrete driveway policy and reasoning for it. If you have questions, please contact our office.

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