

TITLE 12

Highways

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Highway and Transportation Department

- 12-1-1** Highway and Transportation Department
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- 12-1-3** Authority to Contract

Sec. 12-1-1 Highway and Transportation Department

- (a) **Creation.** There is hereby created a Columbia County Highway and Transportation Department.
- (b) **Purpose.** The purpose of the Columbia County Highway and Transportation Department is to plan for, maintain, and build county roads and to fulfill the duties of a county highway department as set forth in Chapter 83, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 12-1-2 Emergency Work Outside County.

- (a) The Highway Committee/Commissioner may enter into agreements with Highway Committees/Commissioners of other counties and states to do emergency work in and for such other counties and states, and for local units of government in said counties and states provided that such emergency work is officially requested by the Highway Department of a respective county or state.
- (b) Any work done for a municipality in other counties or states by the Columbia County Highway and Transportation Department shall be paid for by the county or state which requested assistance. The requesting municipality shall provide a certificate of insurance to provide liability insurance coverage during the time the Columbia County Highway and Transportation Department provides services.

Sec. 12-1-3 Authority to Contract.

The Columbia County Highway Committee/Commissioner is hereby authorized to enter into contracts with cities, villages and towns within the County borders to enable the County to construct and maintain streets and highways in such municipalities.

Traffic Safety Commission

12-2-1 Traffic Safety Commission

Sec. 12-2-1 Traffic Safety Commission

- (a) **Traffic Safety Commission.** The Chair of the County Board shall appoint a Commission to be titled, "Columbia County Traffic Safety Commission", pursuant to Sec. 83.013, Wis. Stats.
- (b) **Commission Officers.** The Sheriff or a designee shall serve as Chair of the Traffic Safety Commission. The Commission shall elect the following officers whose terms shall be commensurate with the terms of the Commission:
 - (1) Vice Chair
 - (2) Secretary
- (c) **Required Commission Members.** Each Commission is required to have at least the following nine (9) members:
 - (1) County Highway Commissioner or a designated representative
 - (2) Sheriff or a designated representative
 - (3) County Highway Safety Coordinator, appointed by the County Board
 - (4) Education Representative, appointed by the County Board
 - (5) Medical Representative, appointed by the County Board
 - (6) Legal Representative, appointed by the County Board
 - (7) Division of State Patrol Representative, designated by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT)
 - (8) Highway Traffic Engineering Representative, designated by WisDOT
 - (9) Traffic Safety Representative, designated by WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety (BOTS, Regional Program Manager)
- (d) **Additional Commission Members.** The County Board Chair may appoint additional members to the Commission to include:
 - (1) County Board Supervisors or other elected officials
 - (2) Citizen members concerned with traffic safety
- (e) **Commission Member Terms.** The County Board Chair, with County Board approval, shall appoint statutorily mandated members as other standing committees are appointed. All County Board Supervisors and other County Board appointees shall serve a two (2) year term to coincide with the biennial organizational meeting of the County Board held in April on even numbered years.

The County Board Chair shall reappoint no less than six (6) members of the Commission for the purpose of assuring continuity of programs and planning; and shall appoint one (1) member the County Highway Safety Coordinator.

- (f) **Meetings.** The Commission shall meet at least quarterly to review traffic accident data from the County and other traffic safety related matters.

The Commission Secretary shall properly notice the meetings and keep a record of attendance and minutes of all proceedings, which shall be on record in the County Clerk's Office.

- (g) **Duties and Responsibilities.** The Traffic Safety Commission shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) To secure voluntary coordination and reinforcement of traffic safety activities conducted by the political subdivisions of the County and the functional areas of: driver education; codes and laws; traffic courts; alcohol in relation to highway traffic safety; identification and surveillance of accident locations; traffic records; emergency medical services; highway design; construction and maintenance; traffic control devices; pedestrian safety; police traffic services; debris hazard control and cleanup; and school bus safety.
- (2) Review and develop a written statement of highway traffic safety needs in the aforementioned functional areas and develop immediate priorities and long-range goals for highway safety programs.
- (3) To advise the County Board and its various committees on highway traffic safety matters. The Commission shall report annually in May of each year to the County Board.
- (4) The Commission shall maintain liaison with highway traffic safety programs carried on by the cities of the County and related State functions conducted in the County.
- (5) It shall act as an advisory body to the County Highway Traffic Coordinator for the purposes of developing local actions necessary to implementing projects under the Federal Highway Safety Act.
- (6) It shall cooperate with the nonofficial organizations and groups in developing and conducting public information programs directed toward highway safety improvements.
- (7) Develop procedures for periodic review of local highway safety improvement programs.

- (h) **Committees and Study Groups.** The Commission may establish technical or advisory panels for the functional areas outlined above.

Chapter 3

Speed Limits

- 12-3-1** Speed Limits
- 12-3-2** Temporary Speed Limits

Sec. 12-3-1 Speed Limits.

- (a) **Speed Limits Established.** A traffic and engineering investigation having been made on the following described County Trunk Highways, the maximum permissible speed at which vehicles may be operated on said highways, which speed is herein established as reasonable and safe pursuant to Sec. 349.11, Wis. Stats., shall be as set forth herein upon creation of standard signs giving notice thereof:

<u>CTH</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DISTANCE</u>	<u>SPEED</u>	<u>LAST UPDATED</u>
A	South from Long Crossing	966 ft.	35	04/21/98
B	South from CTH P	3,482 ft.	25	04/21/98
C	South from STH 16	1,538 ft.	35	04/21/98
C	North from STH 60	1,710 ft.	45	09/06/18
C	South from CTH DM	1,500 ft.	45	03/29/07
C	North from CTH DM	1,500 ft.	45	03/29/07
CS	West of Bridge Deck Abutment over I90-94-39 for 990 ft. East of Bridge Deck Abutment over I90-94-39 for 2,355 ft. Bridge Deck Length over I90-94-39 is 233 ft.	3,578 ft.	45	04/21/98
CS	East from CTH V	2,082 ft.	45	04/21/98
CS	West from STH 51	7,950 ft.	30	04/21/98
CS-Q	East from STH 51	1,365 ft.	25	04/21/98
CS-Q	West from STH 51	7,950 ft.	25	04/21/98
CX	North from STH 16	2,871 ft.	25	05/16/18
CX	North from STH 16	2,871 ft.	45	04/21/98
CX	North from STH 16	8,185 ft.	30	04/21/98
CX	North from US 51	1,584 ft.	35	12/30/08
D	East from STH 16	300 ft.	35	04/21/98
D	East from STH 16	1,165 ft.	25	04/21/98
D	East from STH 16	5,822 ft. (15 when children are present)	25	04/21/98
D	East from STH 16	6,576 ft.	25	04/21/98
D	From Fall River East Village Limit To CTH DG Intersection	2,828 ft.	35	09/06/18
DM	East from CTH C	1,500 ft.	45	03/29/07
DM	West from CTH C	1,500 ft.	45	03/29/07
EF	North from Friesland Rd	2,644 ft.	25	04/21/98
EF	South from Friesland Rd	1,614 ft.	25	04/21/98
G	East from STH 22	2,403 ft.	25	04/21/98
G	West from STH 22	1,600 ft.	35	04/21/98

G	East from STH 22 2,403 ft.	940 ft.	30	05/16/18
G	West from STH 22	1,600 ft.	25	04/21/98
I	South from STH 60	1,308 ft.	25	04/21/98
J	North from STH 113	4,082 ft.	45	04/21/98
K	East from STH 113	1,288 ft.	25	07/25/00
K	East from STH 113 1,288 ft.	4,214 ft.	45	07/25/00
K	West from STH 73	1,085 ft.	25	04/21/98
	(15 when children are present)			
K	West from STH 73 1,085 ft.	1,567 ft.	25	04/21/98
K	West from STH 73 2,652 ft.	1,794 ft.	25	04/21/98
	(15 when children are present)			
N	STH 60 North to Hall Rd		45	04/21/98
O	West from STH 16	2,283 ft.	25	04/21/98
O	West from STH 16 2,283 ft.	1,114 ft.	35	04/21/98
O	West from East bridge abutment to Boeck Road	2,545 ft.	45	09/22/98
P	East from STH 146	964 ft.	25	04/21/98
P	East from STH 146 964 ft.	1,204 ft.	25	04/21/98
	(15 when children are present)			
P	West from STH 146	3,695 ft.	25	04/21/98
P	West from STH 73	665 ft.	25	04/21/98
P	West from STH 73 665 ft.	1,745 ft.	45	04/21/98
P	West from STH 22	3,284 ft.	25	04/21/98
P	West from STH 22 3,284 ft.	720 ft.	35	04/21/98
Q	South from CTH CS	1,348 ft.	35	04/21/98
V	North from CTH CS	6,610 ft.	45	04/21/98
V	West from CTH CS	2,654 ft.	45	04/21/98
V	West from CTH CS 2,654 ft.	11,188 ft.	35	04/21/98
V	West from CTH CS 13,842 ft.	1,914 ft.	35	04/21/98
V	West of I90-94 bridge 570 ft.	3,968 ft.	35	04/21/98
V	West of I90-94 bridge 703 ft.	6,372 ft.	35	04/24/02
V	West from CTH J 2,238 ft.	4,350 ft.	35	04/21/98
V	State Highway 113 East to Rapp Road	3,055 ft.	25	01/27/99

Sec. 12-3-2 Temporary Speed Limits.

- (a) If a highway is being constructed, reconstructed, maintained or repaired; temporary speed limits may be established as set forth in Wis Stat. s. 349.11(10).
- (b) The Columbia County Highway Commissioner, or his/her designee to, is authorized, at his/her discretion, to impose mandatory temporary speed limits under the continuing authority of this section and without need of further action of this body.
- (c) Temporary speed limits shall be in accord with this section and shall be imposed by the posting of other portable or fixed temporary regulatory speed limit signs of the same face size and design as permanent regulatory speed limit signs, type R2-1, as described in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices as adopted by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.
- (d) Signs may be posted on any highway under the jurisdiction of this authority (and any state trunk highway upon which this county performs maintenance under S 84.07, Wis Stats.) when such highway is being constructed, reconstructed, maintained or repaired, but only in the immediate area of such work and of those persons engaged in performing such work.
- (e) Any temporary speed limit imposed in an area where construction, reconstruction, maintenance or repair is being performed on the shoulders or what is normally the travelled portion of the roadway, or where the highway construction or maintenance workers performing such work area necessary on the shoulders or what is normally the traveled portion of the roadway, shall be determined by, and at the discretion of, the Columbia County Highway Commissioner or his/her designee.
- (f) No temporary speed limit shall be imposed when construction, reconstruction, or maintenance or repair work is being performed inside the highway right-of-way but not on the shoulders or the traveled portion of highway.
- (g) Any speed limits imposed under the authority of this section are temporary, and the signs imposing such limits shall be removed, covered, or otherwise obscured when the highway construction or maintenance workers performing construction, reconstruction, maintenance or repairs and their equipment are not present on the shoulders or the traveled portion of the highway.
- (h) The area in which any temporary speed limit imposed shall be terminated by posting a regulatory speed limit sign informing the public of the specific speed limit outside of the area where construction, reconstruction, maintenance or repair work is being performed.

- (i) Nothing herein shall prohibit the Columbia County Highway Commissioner from posting advisory speed limit signs of the type W13-1 as described in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, in areas of highway construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair suggesting such speed as he or she deems appropriate to promote the safety of highway construction and maintenance workers, pedestrians, and highway users and that such advisory signs may also be posted in conjunction with the temporary mandatory speed limit signs, as described and authorized above.

Highway Access Control

12-4-1	Title, Purpose, and Jurisdiction
12-4-2	Definitions
12-4-3	Regulations
12-4-4	Administration and Enforcement

Sec. 12-4-1 Title, Purpose, and Jurisdiction

(a) **Title.**

This ordinance shall be known as, cited and referred to as: THE COLUMBIA COUNTY HIGHWAY ACCESS CONTROL ORDINANCE.

(b) **Statutory Authorization.**

This ordinance is established by the provisions set forth in Section 83 and 86 of the State of Wisconsin Statutes, and Trans Chapters of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

(c) **Purpose.**

The purpose of this ordinance is to restrict and regulate access onto county highways in order to promote the public safety, convenience, general welfare, economic viability and to protect the public investment of existing and proposed highways, by preventing costly road improvements, premature obsolescence, and to provide for safe and efficient ingress and egress to Columbia County Highways.

Sec. 12-4-2 Definitions

For the purpose of simplicity, the following terms shall be applied as indicated throughout this ordinance.

(a) **General.**

- (1) The present tense includes the future tense and the singular tense includes the plural.
- (2) The word "shall" is mandatory; the word "may/should" is permissive.
- (3) The words "used" or "occupied" also mean intended, designed or arranged to be used or occupied.
- (4) The word "person" includes any individual, firm, association, joint stock association, organization, partnership, limited, trust, body politic, governmental agency, company, corporation and includes any trustee, receiver, assignee, or other representative thereof.
- (5) All distances unless otherwise stated shall be measured in the horizontal direction.

(b) **Definitions.**

ACCESS. Driveway or road access point for any motorized/non-motorized vehicles except for State of Wisconsin funded snowmobile trails.

ACCESS PERMIT. A driveway or road access permit issued by Columbia County Highway and Transportation granting access onto a CTH.

ADT. Average Daily Traffic generated on a given road or highway.

COUNTY TRUNK HIGHWAY (CTH). Any segment of a Columbia County Trunk Highway.

DRIVEWAY. Any type of access for motorized/non-motorized vehicles to one or more parcels.

EXPIRATION DATE: The final completion date in which any/all installations, updates and changes can be made.

HIGHWAY and TRANSPORTATION: Columbia County Highway and Transportation

LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAY. Highways (or segments of highways) on which access is provided with entrance and exit ramps (ie: I39, I90, I94, USH 151).

PARCEL. A contiguous area of land described in a single description in a deed or lot or outlot on a subdivision plat or Certified Survey Map, separately owned or capable of being separately conveyed. Not necessarily the same as a "tax parcel."

ROAD. Any road, street, alley, expressway, highway, avenue, parkway, lane, drive, boulevard, circle, bypass or other pathways intended for the use of motorized/non-motorized vehicles to obtain access to more than two parcels.

RURAL CTH. Any CTH with a 55 m.p.h. (88km/h) speed limit.

SEMIURBAN CTH. Any CTH outside of the municipal boundaries of a city or village with a speed limit below 55 m.p.h. (88km/h).

URBAN CTH. Any CTH within the municipal boundaries of a city, village, or township with a speed limit below 36 m.p.h. (57.6km/h).

Sec. 12-4-3 Regulations

(a) **Existing Access.**

Any use of access to a CTH (via driveway or road) prior to February 15, 1995 will be allowed provided a permit has been issued or the access is used for an agriculture field entrance.

(b) **Vacated Access.**

If Columbia County Highway and Transportation considers the use of an access to have been discontinued for a period of at least two years, Highway and Transportation shall notify the owner by certified mail that the access is to be considered vacated. Highway and Transportation will allow the owner thirty (30) days to reply. If after this time period Highway and Transportation decides that the access has been abandoned for at least one year, the access shall be considered vacated and its use will be illegal thereafter.

Any further use of this access after this period will require a permit and be subject to the regulations of this ordinance as a new access. It will no longer be considered an existing access.

(c) **Access to Highway.**

Entrance upon or departure from a CTH shall be prohibited except at locations specifically designated by this section. No road shall be opened into or connected with any CTH, under this section or converted from one use of access to another use of access without an ACCESS PERMIT.

(d) **Land Division and Zoning Approvals.**

- (1) Before any vacant parcel of land is allowed to be subdivided, pursuant to the Columbia County Land Division and Subdivision Ordinance, it shall be proven by the applicant that access can be provided to each proposed parcel in such a way that it will not violate any of the regulations of this ordinance.
- (2) A land division for an existing house with an existing driveway does not have to be approved by Highway and Transportation.
- (3) An application for a rezoning to a Commercial or Industrial zoning district or a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in a Commercial or Industrial district shall be sent to Highway and Transportation to determine if the access permit or existing access needs to be updated based on the proposed use which will result from the rezoning or CUP. Highway and Transportation will provide this determination within ten (10) working days of receiving a copy of the application.

- (4) Zoning and Sanitary Permits and Emergency Response Numbers
 - i. An application for the first new building on the parcel, first sanitary system or new Emergency Response Number on the parcel shall not be approved until an access permit has been issued by Transportation and Highway.
 - ii. A new access permit will not be required for building additions and accessory structures.
 - iii. A new access permit will be required for residential building demolition and replacement with a new building(s).
 - iv. Highway and Transportation will review access permits for all commercial and industrial buildings that are replaced.

(e) **Access Spacing and Frequency.**

- (1) In a case where a property owner owns more than one adjacent parcel (of the same land use) with frontage, all parcels shall be treated as a single parcel for the purposes of this section.
- (2) Where a property owner owns more than one adjacent parcel with frontage, all of which are zoned A-1 Agriculture or AO-1 Agriculture and Open Space no more than six accesses shall be allowed in a mile (see Sec. 12-4-3 [8]).
- (3) Only one access shall be allowed per parcel zoned R-1 Single Family Residence, RR-1 Rural Residence or A-2 General Agriculture Districts.
- (4) Two points of access may be allowed in all Commercial and Industrial zoned districts, the RC-1 Recreation, R-2 Multiple Family and R-3 Manufactured/Mobile Park Districts provided they each separately meet the remaining criteria of this ordinance, and require more than 50 parking spaces.
- (5) ACCESS TO MINOR ROAD. Whenever possible, access should be granted onto the most minor road adjacent to the property when there is a choice between roads.
- (6) ACCESS PERMITS shall not be issued where the horizontal distance between access points measured at the centerline, would become less than:

300'	(91.44 m)	for RURAL CTH
150'	(45.72 m)	for SEMIURBAN CTH
100'	(30.48 m)	for URBAN CTH

(7) MAXIMUM ACCESS POINTS PER SIDE PER MILE shall be no more than:

- 6 for RURAL CTH
- 12 for SEMIURBAN CTH
- 36 for URBAN CTH

unless there is no other way of providing access to the existing parcel. This distance is to be measured one half of a mile in each direction from the centerline of a proposed driveway and is to count all driveway centerlines within one half of a mile in each direction.

(8) PRIVATE ENTRANCES ON CORNER LOTS. Access on a corner lot shall not be allowed at a distance of less than:

- 300' (91.44 m) for RURAL CTH
- 150' (45.72 m) for SEMIURBAN CTH
- 100' (30.48 m) for URBAN CTH

from the centerline of an intersecting road to the CTH.

(9) ROAD ACCESS in addition to the remaining criteria in this ordinance, must be at least:

- 1000' (304.8 m) for RURAL CTH
- 500' (152.4 m) for SEMIURBAN
- 250' (76.2 m) for URBAN CTH

from the nearest road which enters onto the CTH in question.

Where possible roads should NOT be staggered, creating "T" intersections, but connect with another road on the other side of the highway.

(10) SAFETY shall not be interfered with due to access locations near hills, curves or other locations, which may not be in clear and apparent view of on-coming traffic.

(f) **Paved Apron.**

Access onto a CTH may require a paved apron within the right-of-way of the CTH, at owner's expense, in instances when usage or drainage warrant.

(g) **Design Standards.**

Driveways and roads within the CTH right-of-way must comply with the following design standards:

- (1) CULVERTS, when required, must be at least 24 feet (7.315 m) long plus endwalls, placed at least 1 foot (30.48 m) under the access, be a minimum of 15 inches (38.1 cm) or equivalent in diameter or as large as needed for adequate drainage, be at least 10 feet (3.048 m) from the nearest culvert, and be constructed of corrugated metal or concrete, with endwalls. Culvert placement shall not be within 10 feet (3.048m) of the property line except for entrances with a shared access. Plastic pipe and/or plastic endwalls shall not be allowed.

- (2) ACCESS HEIGHT at the point of the culvert, shall be equal to/or lower than the level of the outside edge of the road shoulder.
- (3) SLOPES to the side of the access shall not be steeper than 4 to 1 (25 percent desirable) or that of the embankment of the existing CTH whichever is less.
- (4) RETAINING WALLS, STONE WALLS, ETC. shall not be allowed on driveways or within right-of-way.
- (5) ANY PAVEMENT of access shall consist of asphalt (concrete shall not be allowed).
- (6) ANY PAVEMENT in the right-of-way, whether new, resurface, or replacement may be required to be replaced at the owner's expense when it causes a safety or drainage problem.
- (7) CROWNING of access shall be provided with a minimum pitch of 1-1/2 percent towards the side of the access.
- (8) CURB AND GUTTER shall not be allowed within the CTH right-of-way for private access.
- (9) ANGLE of a driveway shall be as close to 90 degrees with the centerline of the CTH as possible, but not less than 75 degrees.
- (10) FACING ACCESS on opposite sides of a CTH shall be located directly opposite each other whenever possible.
- (11) SHARED ACCESS is encouraged to minimize the number of access points and interruption of traffic flow.
- (12) TYPE "A" ACCESS: PRIVATE DRIVEWAYS with access to one or two agricultural or residential parcels must have a driveway width of 24 feet (6.096 to 7.315 m) and a return radius of 20 feet (6.096 m) (see diagram A).
- (13) TYPE "B" ACCESS standards (see diagram B) must be used for residential with 3-20 units, and commercial or industrial with up to 25,000 square feet (2,322.5 sq. m).
- (14) TYPE "C" ACCESS standards (see diagram C) must be used for residential with over 20 units, and commercial or industrial over 25,000 square feet (2,322.5 sq. m).
- (15) BYPASS LANE is required for access when the ADT of the abutting CTH is 2,500 or more for type B access, and 1,000 or more for type C access.
- (16) TURNAROUNDS should be provided so that vehicles do not need to back out onto a CTH.
- (17) EXISTING CTH PROPERTY including road surfaces, curbs, shoulders, slopes, ditches and vegetation shall be restored to its original condition.

(18) VISION CORNERS must be free of all obstructions at each access point in accordance with the applicable VISION CORNER diagram below. Driveway Vision corners are to be measured from a point 3.5 feet (1.0668 m) above the center of the proposed access, 15 feet (4.572 m) back from the edge of pavement of the CTH, to two points 4.5 feet (1.3716 m) above the center of the nearest on-coming lane of the CTH in each direction, at a distance of "D" from the point where the CTH meets the center of the proposed access. Distance "D" shall correspond to the speed limit of the road. If the given speed limit is not listed, the next highest speed limit shall be used. Signalized intersections need only meet the standards provided for driveways, in addition to approval by Columbia County Highway and Transportation.

(h) **Access Control Map.**

The location of access points on CTHs will be established on a map named "THE OFFICIAL HIGHWAY ACCESS CONTROL MAP OF COLUMBIA COUNTY", which will be drawn and updated by Columbia County Highway and Transportation. Copies of this map shall be available to the public at Columbia County Highway and Transportation.

Sec. 12-4-4 Administration and Enforcement

(a) **Administration.**

Columbia County Highway and Transportation is hereby authorized to administer this ordinance.

Applications for permits and variances shall be made to Columbia County Highway and Transportation. The Highway Commissioner or his designee shall review the proposed development or construction and shall either grant or deny the proposed access based upon the provisions, standards, and requirements of this ordinance, within twenty (20) working days. When a variance is required, the Highway Commissioner or his designee shall review the proposed variance request and present the findings to the Highway Committee, which shall either grant or deny the proposed access based upon the provisions, standards, and requirements of this ordinance, within sixty (60) working days. The Highway Committee may at its option postpone any actions to a future meeting to research a variance request.

(b) **Interpretation.**

All restrictions on the use of land is restricted to the objects, growth, and use of land within the right-of-way of the Columbia County Highways. Whenever it is questionable as to whether or not an object or a part of an object is within the jurisdiction of this ordinance, the entire object shall be considered to be entirely within.

(c) **Permits for Driveways and Obstructions, such as, Fences, Shrubs, Etc., on Highway Access.**

No structure, object, excavation nor growth shall be constructed, reconstructed, altered, placed, installed, or planted within the right-of-way of a CTH until an ACCESS PERMIT has been issued by Columbia County Highway and Transportation.

Said permit shall be placed in clear view as near to the point of proposed construction or access as possible. An access permit shall expire one (1) year from the date of approval. All construction must be completed within this time. Columbia County Highway and Transportation may extend approval of an access permit.

The access applicant shall be liable for all materials, labor and other costs connected with the construction of the access within the highway right-of-way. The County of Columbia shall not be liable for any damage or injury, which results from the construction of an access. Columbia County shall not be responsible for any maintenance of a private access/access culvert including the removal of snow, ice, or sleet from the access.

Mowing within the right-of-way is exempt from the Access Permit requirement provided the right-of-way being maintained is adjacent to land owned by the party that is ordering the activity to be completed.

(d) **Fees.**

The applicant shall pay to Columbia County Highway and Transportation a non-refundable fee for each access permit application as determined by the type of access. All fees shall be received prior to the issuance of any application for permit.

Refer to Columbia County Fee Schedule for amendments and changes to current fees.

If a variance is required of the Highway Committee, the applicant shall pay to Columbia County Highway and Transportation a non-refundable fee for each access application permit for variance. The variance fee is over and above the standard application fee. All fees shall be received prior to meeting with the Highway Committee and the issuance of any application for permit.

Refer to the Columbia County Fee Schedule for any amendments and changes to current fees.

If an appeal is requested of the Highway Committee, the applicant shall pay to Columbia County Highway and Transportation a non-refundable fee for each access application permit to be appealed. The fee is over and above the standard application fee. All fees shall be received prior to meeting with the Highway Committee and the issuance of any application for permit.

Refer to the Columbia County Fee Schedule for any amendments and changes to current fees.

(e) **Hazard Marking and Lighting.**

Any access location shall during construction within the right-of-way be provided with adequate warning device, hazard marking and lighting to prevent possible accidents. Any type of warning device, hazard marking and lighting shall be in conformance with all current Uniform Traffic Control Manual standards. The warning device, hazard marking and lighting shall be provided by the owner of the parcel to which the access will enter.

(f) **Appeals.**

Any person aggrieved by any decision made in the administration of this ordinance may appeal to the Columbia County Highway Committee. Appeals shall be filed within thirty (30) calendar days following the administrative decision by Columbia County Highway and Transportation. Appeals shall be filed in writing with the Commissioner. The appeal shall specify the legal description of the parcel and access location in question, and the reason given for the appeal.

The Highway Committee shall make a decision on the appeal within thirty (30) calendar days from the day the appeal was filed. The decision of the Highway Committee shall be made by the majority present.

(g) **Violations.**

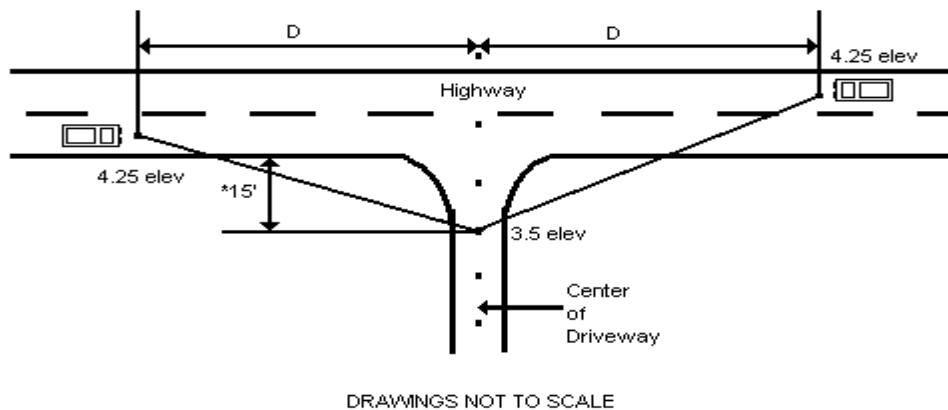
In the case of any violation of this ordinance, the Commissioner may institute appropriate legal action. Each day in which a violation continues to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

(h) **Penalties.**

Any person, firm or corporation found guilty of violating any part(s) of this ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to penalties as listed in the penalty section of the Code of Ordinances.

Sec. 12-4-5 Vision Triangle and Design Standards

Vision Triangles



Vision Corners (Driveways Only):

4.572 m (15 feet) or backedge of right-of-way; whichever distance is further.

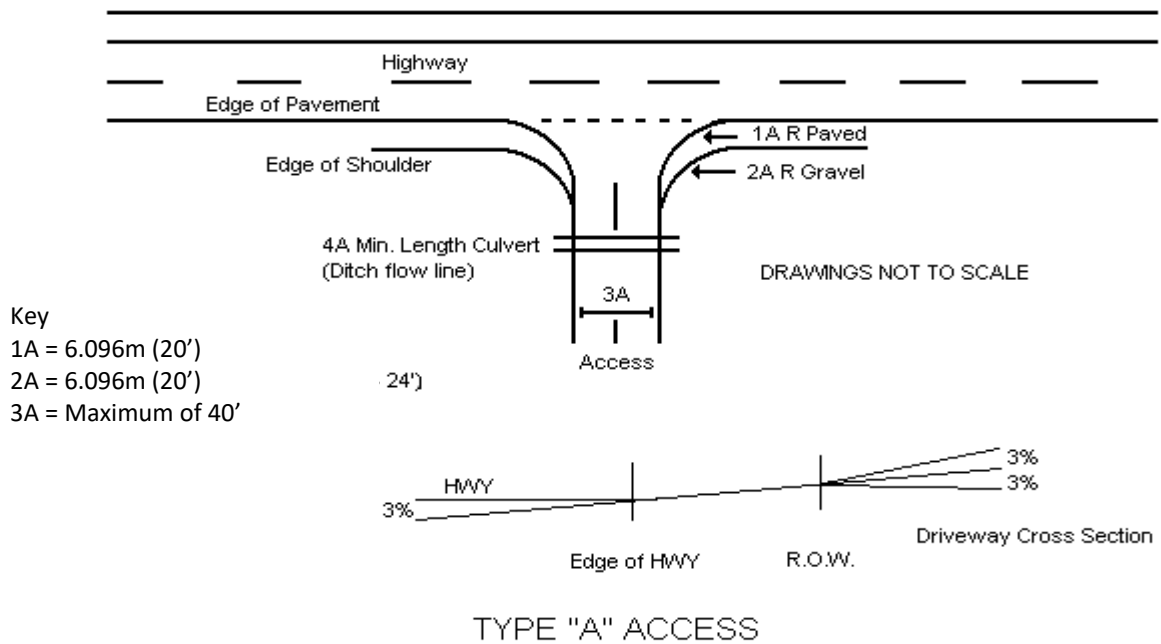
Speed Limit km/h (MPH)	Distance "D" in m (feet)
40 (25)	68.58 (225)
56 (35)	83.82 (275)
72 (45)	106.68 (350)
88 (55)	152.4 (500)

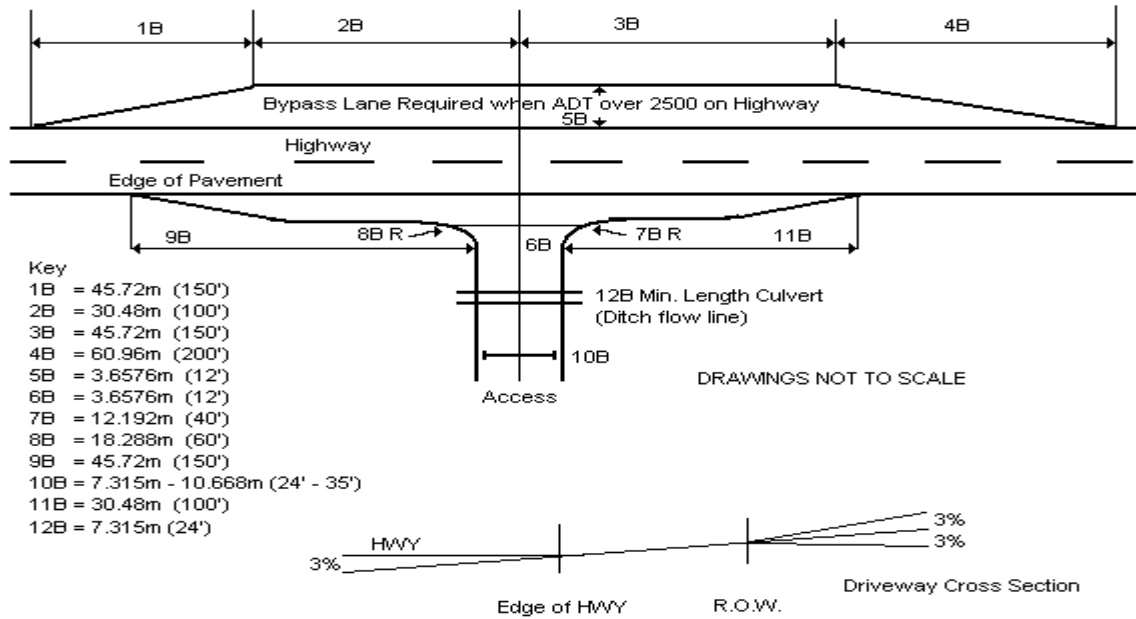
VISION CORNERS: STOP CONTROL ON MINOR ROAD GUIDE DIMENSIONS:

Design Speed km/h (MPH)	Distance "A" m (feet)	Distance "B" m (feet)
64 (40)	45.72 (150)	36.576 (120)
80 (50)	60.96 (200)	45.720 (150)
88 (55)	76.20 (250)	48.768 (160)
97 (60)	91.44 (300)	53.340 (175)

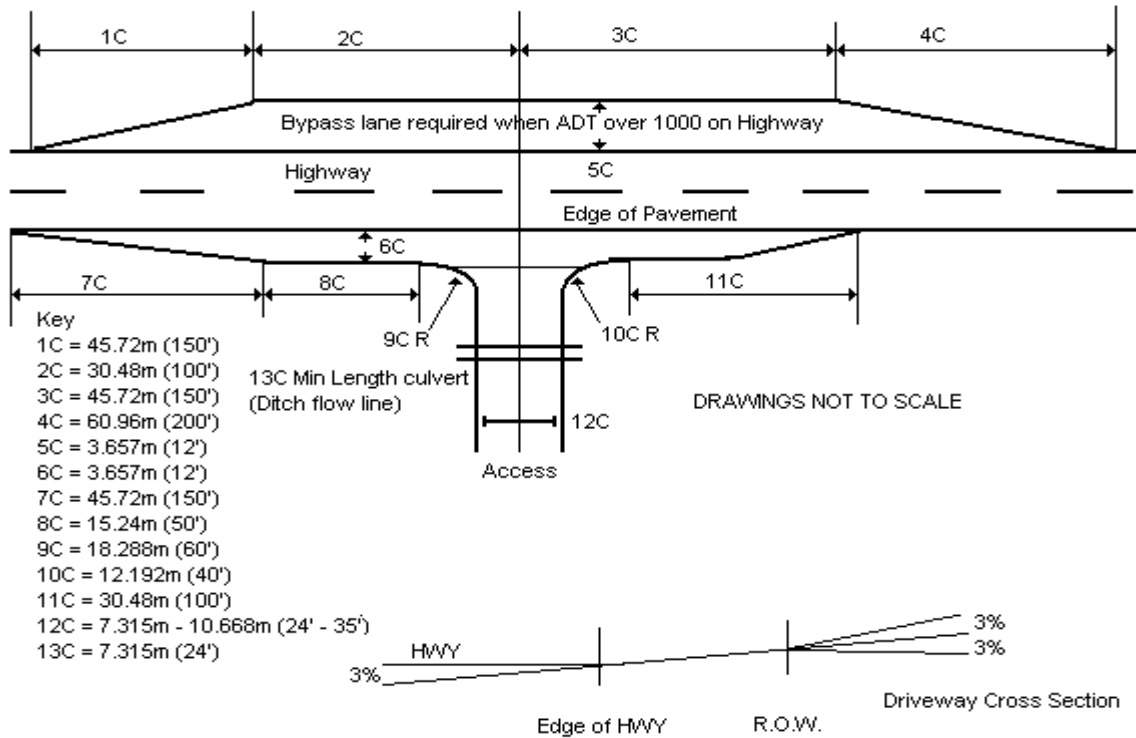
Use design speed of minor road to determine Distance "B"

Access Design Standards





TYPE "B" ACCESS



TYPE "C" ACCESS

Chapter 5

Land Converted from Highway Purposes

12-5-1 Portion of Former Highway P

Sec. 12-5-1 Portion of Former Highway P

The below described portion of the former Highway P in the Town of Springvale, Town of Randolph, and Town of Courtland, shall:

- (a) Be converted from highway purposes to a wetland mitigation site,
- (b) Remain in the public domain,
- (c) Continue to be under the jurisdiction of and maintained by Columbia County, and
- (d) Shall no longer be eligible for highway allotments.

The property is more particularly described as follows:

A parcel of land in Government Lot 9 and Government Lot 16 of Section 1, T12N, R11E, in the Town of Springvale, and in SW 1/4-SW 1/4 of Section 31, T13N, R12E, in the Town of Randolph, and in NW 1/4-NW 1/4 of Section 6, T12N, R12E, in the Town of Courtland, all located in Columbia County, Wisconsin, contained in the following description: Commencing at an aluminum monument at the southwest corner of Section 31, T13N, R12E; Thence N 00 degrees 38'14" E along the west section line of said Section 31, 161.23 feet to a point on the existing south right-of-way line of CTH P and the point of beginning; Thence northwesterly 72.60 feet along the existing right-of-way line also being the arc of a curve concave to the northeast having a radius of 333.63 feet (the chord of which bears N 19 degrees 49'38" W, 72.46 feet); Thence N 76 degrees 24'25" E, 66.00 feet to a point on the existing east right-of-way line of CTH P; Thence southeasterly 357.82 feet along the existing right-of-way line also being the arc of a curve concave to the northeast having a radius of 267.63 feet (the chord of which bears S 51 degrees 53'41" E, 331.76 feet); Thence N 89 degrees 48'12" E, 379.73 feet along the existing right-of-way; Thence S 00 degrees 12'02" E, 66.00 feet to a point on the existing south right-of-way line of CTH P; Thence S 89 degrees 48'12" W, 379.73 feet along the existing right-of-way; Thence northwesterly 373.46 feet along the existing right-of-way line also being the arc of a curve concave to the northeast having a radius of 333.63 feet (the chord of which bears N 58 degrees 07'44" W, 354.26 feet) to the point of beginning. Said parcel contains 1.18 acre of land (net centerline length is 782 feet).

Weight Limits for Implements of Husbandry

12-6-1 Weight Limits for Implements of Husbandry

Sec. 6-1-1 Purpose

- (a) Section 348.15(9)(f)1., Wis. Stats., provides that there is no weight limitation per wheel, axle, or group of axles for Category B implements of husbandry as defined in Section 340.01(24)(a)1.b., Wis. Stats., but does apply gross vehicle weight limitations to those vehicles. Section 348.15(9)(f)2.a., Wis. Stats., authorizes the governing body of a county to require compliance with axle weight limitations established under Section 348.15(3)(g), Wis. Stats., for Category B implements of husbandry as defined in Section 340.01(24)(a)1.b., Wis. Stats., on any highways under its jurisdiction. The Highway Committee of the Columbia County Board of Supervisors, after due consideration, determined that regulating the weight of implements of husbandry on a per axle basis is appropriate for maintenance purposes of all highways under the jurisdiction of Columbia County.

Sec. 6-1-2 Weight Limits for Implements of Husbandry

- (a) Pursuant to Section 348.15(9)(f), Wis. Stats., all implements of husbandry (including Category B implements of husbandry) defined in Section 340.01(24)(a)1.b., Wis. Stats., operating on highways under the jurisdiction of Columbia County may not exceed the weight limits imposed by Section 348.15(3)(g), Wis. Stats.

Sec. 6-1-3 Permit to Exceed Length and/or Weight Limitations

- (a) To exceed the length and/or weight limitations on highways under the jurisdiction of Columbia County, a no-fee permit may be applied for from the Columbia County Highway and Transportation Department.

Sec. 6-1-4 Alternate Route Provided in the Event of Permit Denial

- (a) Pursuant to Section 348.27(19)(b)4m.a., Wis. Stats., in the event an application for a no-fee permit is made to Columbia County for a Category B implement of husbandry as defined in Section 340.01(24)(a)1.b., Wis. Stats., Columbia County is required to provide an approved alternate route, which may include highways that are not under the jurisdiction of Columbia County if prior approval has been given by the jurisdiction over the alternate routes not under jurisdiction of Columbia County for operation of Category B implements of husbandry as defined in Section 340.01(24)(a)1.b., Wis. Stats.

Sec. 6-1-5 Effective Date

- (a) This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon enactment and publication as required by law, but no earlier than January 1, 2015.

Sec. 6-1-6 Amendment, Repeal and Expiration

- (a) This Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect permanently until either duly amended or repealed by the Columbia County Board of Supervisors or until January 1, 2020, as mandated by Section 348.15(9)(g), Wis. Stats.

Sec. 6-1-7 Prior Inconsistent Ordinances Repealed

- (a) All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with or in contradiction of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

All other provisions of Title 12 Highways are unchanged and remain in full force and effect.

Tourist-Oriented Directional Signage (TODS) Regulations

12-7-1	Jurisdiction
12-7-2	Intent and Definitions
12-7-3	Severability
12-7-4	Eligibility
12-7-5	Regulations
12-7-6	Enforcement
12-7-7	Restrictions and Exceptions

Sec. 12-7-1 Jurisdiction.

- (a) **Columbia County Highway Committee.** In accordance with Wis. Stats. § 83.015 and County Ordinance, the Columbia County Highway & Transportation Committee (Highway Committee) shall represent the County in constructing and maintaining highways within the County.
- (b) **Columbia County Highway Commissioner** shall be charged with the administration, permitting, and enforcement of the TODS Ordinance (Chapter 12-7).

Sec. 12-7-2 Intent and Definitions

- (a) **Advertising in Highways Prohibited.** No person shall erect, or cause to be erected, any advertising, direction, guide, warning, or other sign or marker within any County Trunk Highway unless permission is first obtained from the officials charged with the maintenance of such highways per County Ordinance 16-145-020(c).
- (b) **Intent.** This ordinance is created pursuant to County Board authority under Wis. Stats. § 86.196 (3), 86.19 (c), and 346.41 and Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter 200 following due consideration of the tourism, recreational, and economic value to connect traveling motorists with various tourist destination opportunities.
- (c) **Definitions.**
 - (1) County Trunk Highway shall refer to the entire road right-of-way for each respective highway.
 - (2) "Department", "Wisconsin Department of Transportation", and "WisDOT" shall have the meaning within statutory provision for the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation.
 - (3) "Highway Department" shall refer to the Columbia County Highway & Transportation Department; which is the responsible entity for County Trunk Highway right-of-way.
 - (4) "Tourist-Oriented Directional Signage" has the meaning specified with Wis. Stats. § 86.196 (1)(a) which means "a sign providing identification of and directional information for tourist-related businesses, services or activities."

- (5) "Tourist related business, store, or activity" has the meaning specified with Wis. Stats. § 86.196 (1)(b) which means "a business, service or activity the major portion of whose income or visitors is derived during the normal business season from motorists not residing in the immediate area where the business, service or activity is located."
- (6) "Urban Areas" has the meaning specified within Wis. Stats. § 86.196 (1)(c) which means "the areas located within the urban area boundaries contained in the January 1, 1989, document prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in cooperation with the federal highway administration and entitled 'Urban Federal Aid Systems'."
- (7) All words not defined herein shall have those meanings prescribed by Wisconsin law, or if not applicable, applied other plain meaning.

Sec. 12-7-3 Severability

(a) Severability.

- (1) Provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that Columbia County would have approved the other provisions of this Ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid.
- (2) If any provision of this Ordinance or the application of such provision(s) is judged invalid to a particular location, property, or owner, such judgement shall not affect the application of said provision to other person(s) and circumstance(s) not specifically included in the said judgement.

(b) Saving Clause.

- (1) The Ordinance shall in no way be deemed to supplant or otherwise invalidate any provision of State statute or local ordinance related to the subject matter herein.
- (2) Any person entrusted with the enforcement of this Ordinance may, in the exercise of his or her discretion, proceed under applicable State statutes and this Ordinance.

Sec. 12-7-4 Eligibility.

All requests for new Tourist-Oriented Directional Signage (TODS) shall come from a business, service, activity group, or organization. The business, service, activity group, or organization shall meet the following criteria:

- (a) The entity requesting signage must qualify as a tourism-related business pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 86.196 (1)(b). Generally, tourist related businesses include the following; as described below:
 - (1) Gas; as is consistent with Wis. Stat. § 86.195(3)(a), an applicable business under this section shall include vehicle services for fuel, oil, and water; have restrooms and drinking water available to the public; continuous hours of operations of at least twelve (12) hours

- a day for seven (7) days each week; and a public telephone.
- (2) Food; As is consistent with Wis. Stat. § 86.195(3)(b), an applicable business under this section shall be licensed or approved whenever required; be open to the public five (5) days per week with hours at no later than 10:00 am until at least 7:00 pm with at least fifty (50) percent of its gross receipts from food and non-alcoholic beverages; and have a public telephone.
 - (3) Lodging; As is consistent with Wis. Stat. § 86.195(3)(c), an applicable business under this section shall be licensed or approved wherever required; have adequate sleeping accommodations; and a public telephone.
 - (4) Camping; as is consistent with Wis. Stat. § 86.195(3)(d), an applicable business under this section shall be licensed or approved wherever required, have adequate parking accommodations, and possess modern sanitary facilities and drinking water available to the public.
 - (5) Tourist Attractions: "as is consistent with Wis. Stat. § 86.195(3)(e) and Wis. Admin. Code Tran § 200.03(2)(e), an applicable business under this section shall have a primary purpose of providing amusement, historical, cultural, or leisure activity(s) to the public; be of significant regional interest; be licensed or approved whenever applicable; have adequate parking accommodations; be open at least eight (8) hours per day for at least five (5) days per week for at least three (3) consecutive months of each year have public restrooms and drinking water, and the minimum number of visitors for a tourist attraction as determined by the Department (e.g., antique shop, amusement park, bait shop, etc).
- (b) The tourism related business must be within five (5) miles of the proposed signage location on the County Trunk Highway.
 - (c) The tourism related business must not have direct access to the portion of County Trunk Highway the signage resides on.
 - (d) The tourism related business shall have the primary business purpose of providing amusement, historical, cultural, or leisure activities to the public. As is consistent with this section, the following types shall be considered as conditionally permissible:
 - (1) Hotel, motel, cabin, resort, or cottage if for rent less than thirty (30) days;
 - (2) Campground or recreational vehicle park;
 - (3) Museum, zoo, or other amusements;
 - (4) Athletic facility, horseback riding, or shooting ranges;
 - (5) Ski trail, nature trail, conservation area, if open to public;
 - (6) Church, school, theater, religious camp, or youth camp;
 - (7) Marina, boat landing, recycling station, or exhibition area;
 - (8) Supper club, country club, or restaurant, if open to the public; or
 - (9) Experimental station – such as agricultural, art, or other sciences.
 - (e) Under this chapter, the following types shall be considered as excluded from application and may not have TODS:

- (1) Park, cemetery, hatchery, and fishery;
- (2) Government office, post office, and tourist bureau;
- (3) Plumber, electrician, builder, contractor, painter, material supplier, and home improvement;
- (4) Landscaper, nursery, and tree service;
- (5) Auto body repair, detailer, dealer, or rental; and
- (6) Others not meeting the criteria of 12-7-4 (a) through (e); above.

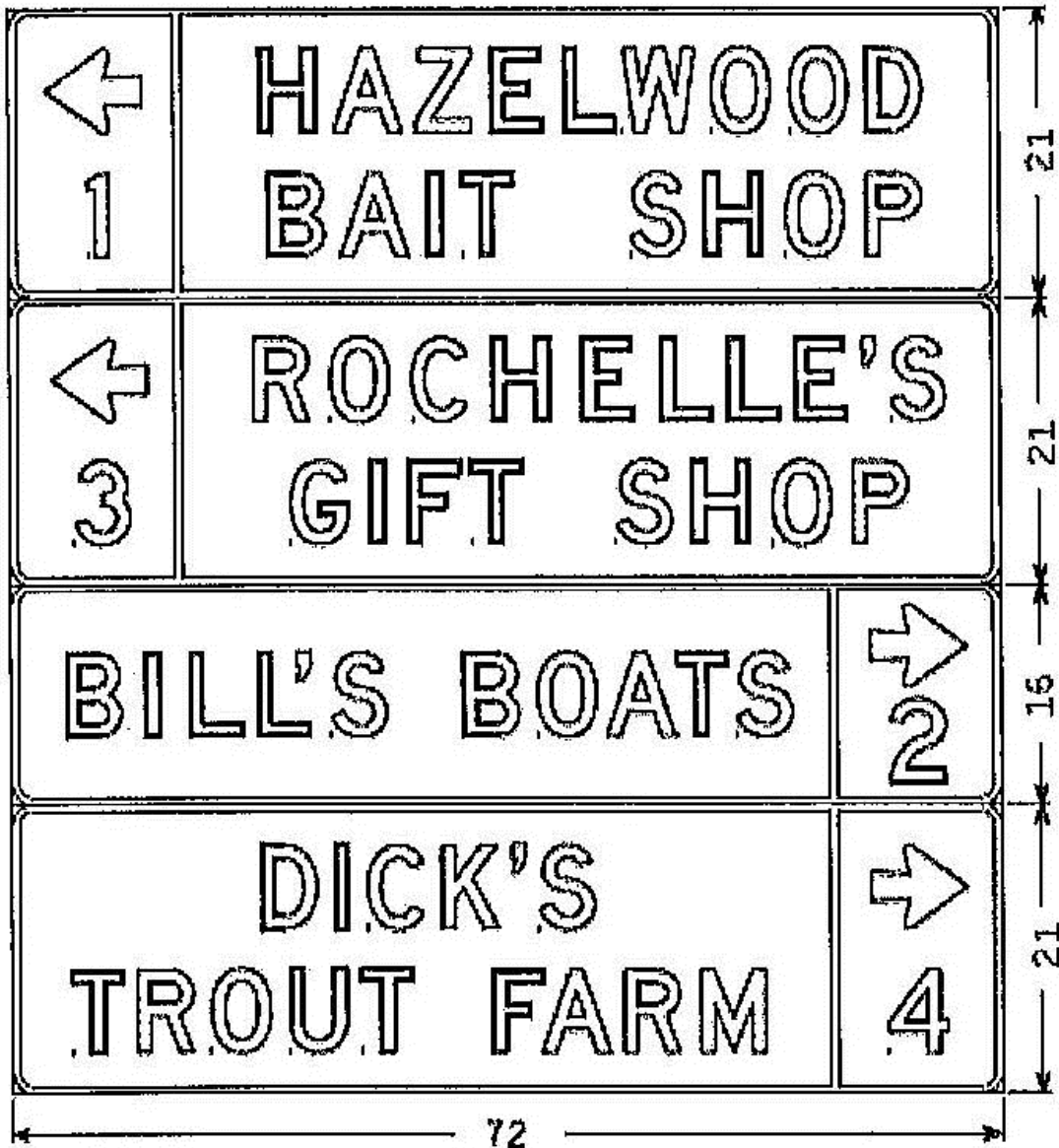
Sec. 12-7-5 Regulations.

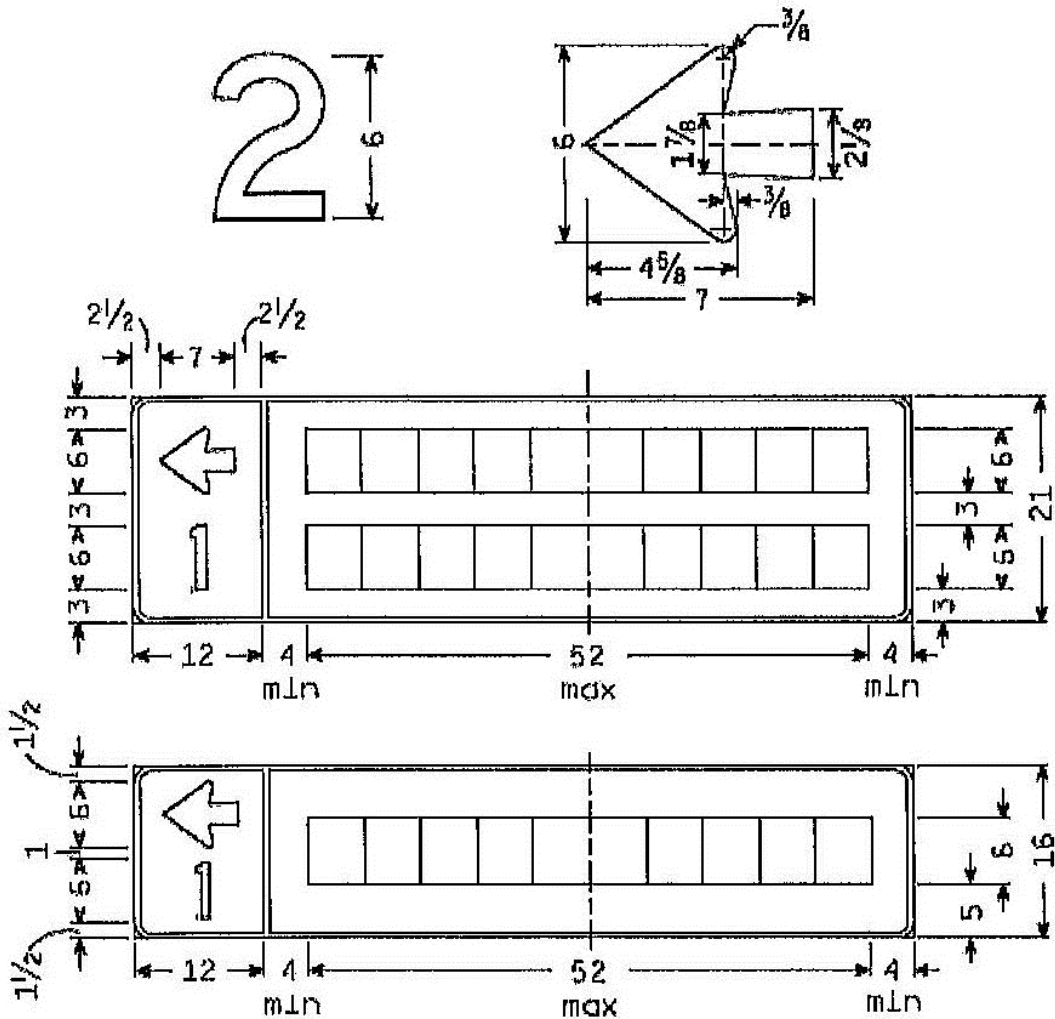
- (a) Signage may only be erected where deemed appropriate by the Highway Department and all of the following criteria shall apply:
 - (1) Signage for any one entity shall not be erected at more than four (4) locations;
 - (2) No more than two (2) County Trunk Highway intersections shall be marked for any one entity or destination;
 - (3) Signage will not be allowed if the entity has any advertising in the vicinity of the intersection where the guidance is requested; and
 - (4) Highway Department may require TODS to be co-located if an existing TODS is placed within the vicinity of the requested location.
- (b) Signs shall be of type, size, shape, and design as herein specified:
 - (1) Shall be constructed of metal with reflective blue backing and reflective white lettering; 6' x 9" for 1 line, and 6' x 18" for two lines;
 - (2) No flashing, illuminated, or reflecting signs or installation shall be permitted;
 - (3) May not resemble, regulate, or imitate any Stop, Stop condition, Yield, Traffic Signal, or other regulatory signs;
 - (4) May not resemble any official traffic control device or railroad sign or signal; and
 - (5) May not contain any logo.
- (c) No signs shall be erected until the location and manner of erection is approved and a permit is issued.
- (d) The owner or applicant shall be responsible for all costs related to the signage; installation, maintenance, damage, and/or disrepair. Fees shall be determined based on actual cost of labor, equipment, materials, overhead, and administrative costs incurred by the Department. Equipment, overhead, and administrative rates and charges shall be as determined annually by the Department within the Routine Maintenance Agreement and the guidelines of the Highway Maintenance Manual. Applicant shall pay Highway Department all costs as agreed within the permit process; see County Ordinance 9-1-8.
- (e) All signage shall erected and maintained by the Highway Department.
- (f) Signage shall only be at such locations as permitted.
- (g) Sign requests within any city or village shall meet the requirements of the city or village. Where the city or village does not have an ordinance or requirements, all TODS shall be prohibited.

- (h) A permit shall be valid for a period not to exceed ten (10) years from the date of the approved application. Upon the expiration of permit, a new permit application must be sought from the Owner if the signage is to continue.
- (i) Expired TODS shall be removed by the Highway Department. However, if a new permit application is in process, expired TODS may remain in place until such time as the Highway Department is able to replace it with a new sign, pursuant to sections 12-7-4 and 12-7-5.

SAMPLE TEMPLATE FOR TYPICAL INSTALLATION:

RURAL LOCATIONS





Sec. 12-7-6 Enforcement.

- (a) Signs or installations in violation shall be removed.
- (b) Prior to removal of violating signs, Highway Department may provide a letter to the owner of the sign demanding removal in accordance with this chapter. Once letter is sent, Highway Department will not remove sign for a minimum of sixty (60) days from the date of the letter. Failure to provide notice as described herein, does not alleviate the owner, sign, or Highway Department from compliance with this chapter.
- (c) All removal shall be conducted by the Highway Department.
- (d) In addition to any removal, enforcement of this ordinance applies to any officer of the Columbia County Sheriff Department.
- (e) Pursuant to Columbia County Ordinance 1-2-2, the penalty for violating any provision of this chapter shall result in a forfeiture of at least \$243.00. Additional costs, such as actual labor and equipment costs, shall also be due.
- (f) Each day of continued offense shall constitute a separate offense.

- (g) Solely upon and at its discretion, any violation of this chapter shall be prosecuted by the Columbia County Corporation Counsel. As is consistent with Wisconsin law, nothing within this chapter or otherwise shall limit any recourse available to Columbia County Corporation Counsel in its prosecution of any applicable action.

Sec. 12-7-7 Restrictions and Exceptions.

- (a) Signs existing as of September 1, 2019, that do not meet the Eligibility requirements of Section 12-7-4, shall be removed by the Highway Department. Prior to removal of these observed and identified sign types, Highway Department will provide written notice to the known sign owner presenting this chapter and explaining why the sign is non-compliant. The sign will not be removed for a minimum of sixty (60) days from the date of the letter.
- (b) Signs existing as of September 1, 2019, that meet the Eligibility requirements of Section 12-7-4 but do not meet the Regulation requirements of Section 12-7-5, shall be allowed to remain for a period to not exceed two (2) years. Effective September 1, 2021, this signage shall be required to have a permit from the Highway Department and comply with this Ordinance. Highway Department will provide written notice to known owners of these type of signs in as timely a manner as sign is identified and owner determined.
- (c) The following signs shall not be subject to the conditions of this Ordinance:
- (1) Regulatory, warning, route signage of the Highway Department or utilized on any route for legal purposes related to traffic control, speed, direction, or guidance;
 - (2) Temporary signage of any nature that is used specifically by the Highway Department for its operations;
 - (3) Signs erected for the purposes of marking, locating, or identifying any underground or buried utility lines, pipes, conduits, cables, or other services for the transmission of electric power, communications, liquids, gaseous fuels, or other products shall be allowed and regulated by the issuance of a Utility Permit for public utilities or a Work in Right-of-Way Permit and Private Utility Agreement for any private utilities under the Utility Accommodation Policy and the Supplemental Conditions, in lieu of this ordinance; and
 - (4) Signs regulated within County Ordinance 16-145.

This Ordinance shall be effective upon approval of the County Board and publication.