

# Works and Assets

## Roads - Construction, Clearing and Grading

---

### **Objective**

To ensure safe, environmentally responsible, and cost-effective construction, maintenance, and vegetation management of road infrastructure within the Shire of Koorda (“**the Shire**”), while complying with State legislation and promoting sustainable land management practices.

---

### **Policy**

#### **Scope**

This policy applies to:

- Construction of new bitumen and gravel roads
- Maintenance and grading of rural roads
- Vegetation and verge clearing within gazetted road reserves
- Vegetation management at passive railway crossings

#### **Road Construction Standards**

- Major Roads: All new bitumen-sealed major roads must be constructed to a minimum seal width of 8.0 metres.
- Minor Roads: All new bitumen-sealed minor roads must be constructed to a minimum seal width of 6.2 metres.
- Townsite Roads: Bitumen roads within townsite boundaries must include concrete kerbing, where feasible, to ensure drainage and edge support.

#### **Road Maintenance and Grading**

- All major rural roads shall be graded at least once annually.
- A second grading may be undertaken as required based on road condition, school bus routes, seasonal factors, and community use.
- Grading frequency and priorities shall be outlined in the Annual Road Maintenance Program and reviewed regularly.

#### **Vegetation Clearing and Road Reserve Management**

##### **General Clearing Restrictions**

- The clearing of native vegetation within gazetted but unformed road reserves is not permitted, in line with the Shire’s land conservation objectives and relevant State environmental legislation.
- Clearing activities must comply with the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and associated clearing regulations, particularly for Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs).

##### **Road Verge Clearing by Shire Workforce**

When undertaking road works, Council’s workforce may only clear vegetation:

- Back to the original water table or
- To the top of batter cut, where applicable.

##### **Fenceline and Private Landowner Clearing**

- Landowners are encouraged to relocate fencelines within their own property boundaries rather than clearing within the road reserve.
- Council does not permit private clearing inside the road reserve except up to 1.5 metres from the boundary line, subject to compliance with relevant regulations and environmental approvals.

## Corner Visibility

For road safety at intersections and bends, vegetation may be cleared up to 200 metres to ensure adequate line-of-sight for drivers, where justified.

## Passive Railway Crossings

Where vegetation or other obstructions impede driver visibility at public road/railway crossings, responsibilities are allocated as follows:

- Road Authority (Council) is responsible for clearing vegetation within the road reserve and any adjacent private property, where required.
- Rail Authority is responsible for clearing vegetation within the railway reserve.

---

## Related Documents (Legislation/Local Law/Policy/Procedure/Delegation)

*Local Government Act 1995*

*Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)*

*Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (WA)*

Main Roads WA standards and guidelines

Shire of Koorda Policy "P - Fencing Contributions - Shire Owned Properties"

---

## Review History

Date	Council Resolution	Description of review/amendment
18/06/2025	RES: 040625	V1.0. Merge old policies (W1, W2, W13 & W14) and re-write in line with current practices and standards.
<b>Former Policy No: W1 Roads – Bitumen, W2 Maintenance Grading Regularity – Annual Program, W13 Clearing of Gazetted Road Reserves &amp; W14 Vegetation Clearing at Passive Railway Crossings</b>		
19/09/2001		Adoption of Policy (W1)
15/06/2011	RES: 110611	Amendment to Policy
19/09/2001		Adoption of Policy (W2)
19/09/2001		Adoption of Policy (W13)
16/05/2007	RES: 159.1.1-2007	Amendment to Policy
20/02/2002		Adoption of Policy (W14)