

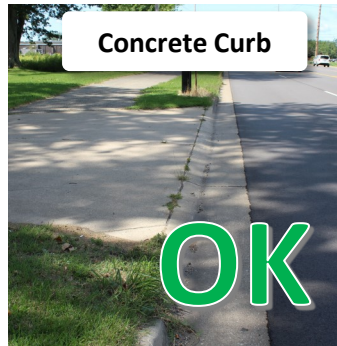
UNDERSTANDING THE CONCRETE DRIVEWAY POLICY

Our Mission - The Ottawa County Road Commission is dedicated to providing roads and bridges that are maintained in a reasonably safe condition for public travel with goals for the prudent use of public funds. A surface type policy for the installation of all new driveways or any work on existing driveways within the road right-of-way was implemented in 2008 to provide the most efficient and cost-effective process for the Road Commission, while promoting a safe environment for our maintenance staff.

The Policy - Roads that have an asphalt or concrete curb typically do not involve any change in elevation for road improvement projects nor do they pose a safety concern for maintenance crews as we do not plow or grade behind the curbs. As a result, concrete driveways are **permitted on curbed roads**.

Roads **without** an asphalt or concrete curb typically result in the restoration of the adjacent driveways in order to match the new road elevation. In addition, these roads have a shoulder that is maintained in the summer and winter, and a rigid concrete surface can pose as safety hazard for our operators and equipment. Therefore, concrete driveways are **not permitted on un-curbed roads within 10 feet of the road pavement edge** for any new or existing driveways being placed, replaced or restored.

EXAMPLES



The Policy Further Explained - The driveway surface policy was developed to promote safety while being cost effective.

Safe Environment - Rigid concrete driveways located in the shoulder of the road can pose safety risks to our maintenance staff and cause equipment damage. Our operators need to grade shoulders in the summer and plow in the winter. Flexible asphalt driveways minimize impacts to both our drivers and equipment.

Efficient and Cost-Effective Restoration - The restoration of concrete driveways with concrete is not very efficient or cost-effective for the Road Commission as compared to asphalt for the following reasons:

- It takes much longer to saw cut, excavate, and remove concrete driveways that need adjusting versus the time it takes to mill an asphalt driveway.
- In order to maintain access for the property owner, concrete driveways are often required to be poured half width at a time, where asphalt can be placed the full driveway width.
- Concrete can take up to 28 days to fully cure, where asphalt can be driven on the same day. In most cases, asphalt driveways can be placed at the same time the contractor is paving the lane of the road.
- There is an additional expense for concrete testing and quality assurance.

REMINDER — A permit **MUST** be obtained from the OCRC in order to construct, reconstruct, relocate, surface or resurface a driveway or private road approach adjoining a road under the Road Commission's jurisdiction.