HURUNUI DISTRICT COUNCIL

POLICY

Unsealed Roads Policy



Adopted: 18 November 2021

Replaces: Road Seal Extensions Policy

Review date: 18 November 2026

Purpose

To provide clear guidance on the Council's approach to road sealing and dust suppression on Hurunui District's unsealed (gravel) roads.

Scope

The policy applies to all formed, unsealed roads in the Hurunui District.

Objective

To provide a process for parties to gain authorisation from Council to undertake dust suppression or seal extensions on unsealed roads.

Principles

- 1. Council does not provide dust suppression for unsealed roads, but will provide a pathway for property owners to fund and undertake dust suppression.
- 2. Council will only seal gravel roads in accordance with the approved Road Operations and Renewals programs, but will consider applications for seal extensions on unsealed roads, where:
 - a. The costs of sealing, including design and process costs, are met by the applicant;
 - b. The design and physical works meet Council standards; and
 - The seal extension is appropriate in the surrounding environment.

Policies

Road Seal Extensions

- 1. Council will determine sites where new road sealing is to be undertaken and funded by Council through its Road Operations and Renewals programs.
- 2. Any person or group of persons ("the applicant") may apply to Council to have the seal extended on any section of road in the District, where the sealing is not proposed as part of Council's Road Operations and Renewals programs. "Seal", in this context, includes any equivalent surface treatment that may be determined to be the best option in any particular case.
- 3. Council will assess the application and determine whether to approve the request. This will include, but is not limited to, consideration of the following:
 - a. Location;
 - b. Cost of maintenance and renewal;
 - Impacts on Council's roading infrastructure, e.g. drainage, speed environment; and

- d. Traffic volumes.
- 4. Council may impose any conditions on the approval that it sees fit. At a minimum, these will include a requirement to submit the road design for Council approval prior to any physical works occurring, and requirements for inspections to be undertaken of the physical works.
- 5. The applicant is responsible for managing and funding the design and physical works, including engagement of any consultants or technical experts.
- All costs (including council inspection costs, notifications and system updates), contracts and arrangements (e.g. design, project management, supervision, physical works) are the applicant's responsibility.

Dust Suppression

- 7. No one may place dust suppression on a road without an approved Council permit and an approved Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for working on a public road.
- 8. Dust Suppression permits can be obtained from Council. Council will grant a permit where:
 - a. The applicant bears the full cost of dust suppression; and
 - b. The products used for dust suppression are permitted under the current Environment Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan;
 - c. If within township boundaries, the dust suppression is consistent with Council's global stormwater discharge consents; and
 - d. The method does not adversely affect safety of road users or the general public (such as ice caused by over watering, dispersing of dust suppressant materials including chemical run-off or particle spread).
- A permit will be issued for a maximum period of 12 months. This
 may be renewed annually. Council may impose any conditions on
 the permit that it sees fit, including, but not limited to, timing,
 notification of other road users, and the product(s) or methods to
 be used.
- 10. Where a dust suppression permit has been approved and the suppression is in place, Council will not grade that stretch of road until either:
 - a. There is an adverse effect on the safety of the road or road users; or
 - b. In the Council roading engineer's opinion grading of the site is necessary.
- 11. Where unauthorised dust suppression operations are undertaken, Council may carry out remedial work and on-charge the costs to any responsible party.