

MIDLAND COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

POLICY

NUMBER: **100.25**

SECTION: **100.25**

SUBJECT: **3' PAVED SHOULDERS**

POLICY: The Midland County Board of Road Commissioners will consider the adoption of the 3' Paved shoulder requirement in the MDOT 3R guidelines on Locally funded Primary projects if the following conditions are met.

Corridor is identified as having above average safety issues  
Maintenance of Gravel shoulders is an ongoing issue  
Significant biker and pedestrian usage of the shoulders

Justification on why they shouldn't be widened and/or paved may include high cost, environmental issues, local public input, and should be documented in the project file.

If the corridor is identified as a bicycle route inside the county, consideration should be given to widening the 3' paved shoulder to 4' paved if feasible. Share the road signs are an option especially if the traffic volume is less than 2000 ADT.

Policy goes into effect in the 2020 construction program.

- 1) Local Agency Programs Guidelines for Geometrics on Local Agency Projects 2017 Edition for projects which are funded thru MDOT Local Agency Programs

ADOPTED 7-10-2019  
POLICY\PAVED SHOULDERS

Geometric Elements	3R Minimum Guidelines: Non-NHS		
<b>Design Speed</b>  <b>Shoulder Width</b> <i>NOTE: Minimum shoulder widths apply for posted speeds greater than 45 mph. Restrictions such as right of way and roadside context sensitivity issues may preclude the use of minimum shoulders within city, village or township limits with posted speeds of 45 mph and less.</i>	<b>Posted Speed Minimum</b>		
	Current ADT Two-Way	Inside and Outside Shoulder Width	
	≤750	2'-0" (Gravel)	
	750-2000	3'-0" (with 1'-0" Paved required when a 3R Safety review shows a pattern of lane departure crashes.)	
	>2000	6'-0" (with 3'-0" Paved required)	
Multi-Lane (Divided & Undivided)	Inside (Divided)	Outside (Both sides for un-divided)	
	3'-0" Paved	6'-0" (3'-0" Paved)	
Lane Width	Current ADT Two-Way	Lane Width* (excluding curb and gutter or shy distance from face of curb)	
	≤750	10'-0" (Lane width may be 9' where design speed ≤ 35 mph and ADT ≤250)	
	>750	11'-0" 10'-0" lanes with curb and gutter may be retained in urban areas for multi-lane un-divided (regardless of ADT) and multi-lane divided (ADT < 10,000) without crash concentration.  12'-0" lanes are desirable on designated truck routes and the Priority Commercial Network (PCN) or where truck traffic ≥10%	
Bridge Width, Structural Capacity & Horizontal Clearances  (Existing Bridges to remain in place)	ADT Two-Way (Design Year)	Minimum Design Loading	Usable Width
	0-750	H15	Width of approach lanes.
	751-1500	HS 15	Width of approach lanes.
	1501-2000	HS15	Width of approach lanes plus 1' each side.
	2001-4000	HS15	Width of approach lanes plus 2' each side.
	>4000	HS15	Width of approach lanes plus 3' each side.
Horizontal/Vertical Alignment and Stopping Sight Distance	Vertical	0-20 mph less than project design speed may be retained without crash concentration.	
	Horizontal	0-15 mph less than project design speed may be retained without crash concentration.	
Grade	Review crash data. Existing grade may be retained without crash concentration.		
Cross Slopes	1.5% Minimum – 2% Maximum (refer to page C-9 for further guidance)		
Superelevation	MDOT Standard Plan R-107-Series; reduced maximum (6%) Straight Line Superelevation chart; or AASHTO requirements with max e=6%.		
Vertical Clearance	Maintain 14'-0" minimum.		

\*Outside lanes: Lane width for outside lanes are measured to the edge of metal of the curb and gutter, or in the case of concrete pavement with integral curb, a 1 foot minimum shy distance from face of curb will be maintained and may not be considered as lane width.