

POLICY FOR WORKING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY **Policy Statement**
PS - 2

1. Beaufort County Council has designated public roads that are maintained by the County's Public Works Department. Any roads not so designated and maintained as public roads are considered private roads. Beaufort County employees shall not enter private property for the purpose of repairing or improving non-public roads, except as provided hereunder.

(A) Property owners on private roads heretofore maintained by the County and under active consideration to be designated public roads have until October 31, 1994, to apply for road acceptance through the County Engineering Department. Beaufort County will continue to maintain said roads, in anticipation of the roads being designated a public road, as long as the application is active and pursued in an expeditious manner. The application process and maintenance can continue no longer than three months or ninety (90) days from the original application process, unless the County Administrator grants an adjustment due to considerations beyond the control of the County. After October 31, 1994, citizens who have not asked for their roads to be converted from the designated private road to a public road can apply to the County Engineering Department through the petition process for the purpose of having their roads maintained and classified as "County-maintained public roads". Said roads shall not be maintained until such time as the appropriate right-of-way is donated and the application process has been concluded.

(B) Private roads heretofore maintained by the County for which the property owner(s) has not indicated a willingness to designate such road as a public road, shall have until October 31, 1994, to continue to have their road maintained by County crews.

(C) Effective 90 days from adoption of this policy, Beaufort County will cease maintenance of private "driveways" as defined herein. A driveway is defined as any vehicular pathway where ownership of the land abutting both sides of such pathway is the same. Exceptions to such policy may be granted, on a case-by-case basis, by a majority vote of County Council upon presentation by the County Administrator of a property owner's written request for a driveway which serves five (5) or more discrete dwelling units but only with the appropriate right-of-way and public road designation will said driveways be considered and maintained. Also, said roads shall not be considered without the donation of the

appropriate right-of-way, and the public road designation of the aforementioned driveway will, from the point of acceptance by County Council, be as any other publicly-maintained road.

2. Beaufort County employees shall not enter private property for the purpose of correcting drainage problems, unless it can be conclusively shown by the Engineering Department and approved by the County Administrator, that actions of Beaufort County created the problem. This does not preclude Beaufort County employees from securing easements or right-of-ways to traverse property with drainage easements and ditches so as to move water from point-to-point in the best interest of the Beaufort County Drainage Program.
3. Any requests for work on private property must be approved in advance by the County Administrator, with the appropriate documentation from the Engineering Department, to be filed with the application.

Adopted: October 11, 1993
 Beaufort County Council