



Lethbridge County Policy Handbook

EFFECTIVE: May 18, 2017 **SECTION:** 300 NO. 351 Page 1 of 1
APPROVED BY: County Council **SUBJECT:** Market Access Network –
Haul Routes
REVISED DATE: November 15, 2018

PURPOSE

Maintaining quality of gravel roads within the County over the past several decades has become increasingly difficult to manage and keep up to the changes in the farming and intensive agriculture industries, specifically with respect to the hauling and usage of the roadways for their operations. Providing an appropriate level of service that meets the needs of all road users while preserving efficiency and current budget levels is of utmost importance to the County as a whole.

RATIONALE

In 2013 the County began investigating options for providing a level of service on gravel roads and develop a business plan to achieve the goal of creating a Market Access Network (MAN) that meets the needs of all road users. Following extensive review and testing it was determined to be most beneficial to select “Modified Aggregate Base Stabilization with Calcium Chloride” for upgrading a series of roadways within the MAN. The selection of each individual segment would be based on several criteria:

1. Traffic Volumes
2. Proximity to load origin (Intensive Agricultural Operations)
3. Current maintenance efforts (Grading and Gravelling)
4. Ability to direct loads to a numbered highway
5. Reducing overall haul distances

The inventory of roadways selected for upgrading is considered to be the “Market Access Network – Haul Routes” and consist of approximately 138 miles (in 2017) of gravel roads that as soon as they receive the modified aggregate and are stabilized with calcium chloride will be upgraded to Haul Road Status. The entire MAN will continue to be reviewed and evaluated by staff and roads may be added from time to time to the MAN - Haul Routes as approved by Council.

The road segments selected are as indicated by list in “Schedule A” and mapped as shown in “Schedule B”.

All MAN – Haul Routes shall be signed, indicating the upgraded level of service to Haul Road Status.