



# COUNTY OF LEAVENWORTH

## Department of Public Works

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## Leavenworth County Participatory Road Program

### Commonly Asked Questions:

**How much of my property does the County want for this project?** Leavenworth County would like to obtain a total permanent road dedication width of 80 to 100 feet (*generally* 40 to 50 feet each side of the existing road centerline) along the travelled way of each Participatory Road Program candidate, to include existing easements. It will also be necessary for some property owners to donate permanent drainage easements and/or temporary construction easements (which would expire one (1) year after completion of the project) of various sizes in addition to the standard permanent road easement. Furthermore, the County would not “own” the land within the easements donated for the project – the easements provide the County with the authority to construct, manage, and maintain public infrastructure, as needed. However, no private improvements (fences, structures, landscaping blocks, etc.) would be permitted within the donated easements.

**Will the County replace / relocate my fence?** Fences, as well as various other private improvements or items (flower beds, landscaping, etc.) located within existing and proposed easements, will need to be relocated by the respective property owners prior to construction. Private improvements and items not relocated prior to commencement of construction will likely be removed during construction, and will not be replaced by the County.

**What will happen to the trees and vegetation affected by the project?** All trees and vegetation located within both the existing and newly donated easements will be subject to removal by County forces.

**What types of improvements are proposed?** Under the *Participatory Road Program Policy*, Leavenworth County proposes to widen and upgrade the existing travelled road surface from gravel to chip-seal. Also during construction, some culverts will be upsized, some of the hills will be “lowered”, some of the valleys will be “raised”, and ditches will be widened at locations where utilities do not interfere.

**How will this affect existing utilities?** In many instances, utilities (power lines and poles, water lines, etc.) might be relocated to locations farther away from the public road (closer to existing private property / private improvements) prior to construction.

**What will happen if not all affected landowners agree to donate easements for this project?** Consideration will be given only to those projects in which 100% participation is established via signed affidavits received by the Public Works Department. Projects which attain a 100% participation rate will be given top priority on a “first come, first serve” basis, and will be scheduled for construction accordingly. Those projects that do not attain 100% participation will not be eligible for road improvements under this specific program.

**Are there any County roads on which this program has been successfully implemented?** Dempsey Road from 147<sup>th</sup> Street to 155<sup>th</sup> Street (2009), 163<sup>rd</sup> Street from Fairmount Road to Cattlemont Drive (2012), and Metro Avenue from 150<sup>th</sup> Street to 158<sup>th</sup> Street (2013) were all successfully improved under this program.

**What happens next?** After having considered the information presented to you, if you wish for “your” project to move forward and you are agreeable to donating all necessary easements to the County, sign the appropriate affidavit, and then return it to the Public Works Department. If / When all signed affidavits are received for a specific project, land survey and engineering design activities will be prioritized in the order in which 100% participation was achieved. After completion of the engineered construction plans, arrangements will be made for you to sign and notarize an easement agreement to be recorded at the Leavenworth County Register of Deeds, and construction of the proposed improvements will be scheduled accordingly.

**Website?** All of this information, as well as periodically updated status maps for each location, will be made available on the Leavenworth County website at [www.leavenworthcounty.org](http://www.leavenworthcounty.org) (then subsequently click *Public Works* → *Documents* → *Participatory Road Program - PRP*). Feel free to contact this office with any questions or comments.