



DCS Transportation Division: Road Rules Update

Presented by:

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Planning Commission
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Road Rules Update: **Agenda**

Tonight's agenda:

- Overview of Transportation Division documents
- Explanation of code authority
- Process for changing the Road Rules
- Proposed changes

Road Rules Update: Documents

Transportation Division Documents

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Transportation System Plan● Transportation Policy Framework | Our vision, policies, values |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Transportation Capital Improvement Plan● Title II ADA Transition Plan | Project lists that implement our values |
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|---|---------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Multnomah County Code● Road Rules (Rules)● Administrative Procedure● Design and Construction Manual (Standards)● Operational & Compliance Manuals | How we carry out our work |
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Road Rules Update: Code

Multnomah County County

The Code is the “general and permanent law of the county”. It provides the Transportation Division the authority to set rules and standards in order to meet Federal and State requirements and best practices.

Chapter 27: Community Services

1. Creates the Department of Community Services and associated work.
2. Creates ability to set fees for permitted work in the right of way, system development fees, survey fees.

Chapter 29: Building Regulations

1. Allows the Director to adopt **Rules**;
2. Establishes the process for adopting rules (Road Rules); and
3. Establishes the **Design and Construction Manual**.

Road Rules Update: Road Rules

What is the “Road Rules”?

A document (allowed by Code) that allows the Director to set rules (which we call “Road Rules”)

When and how do we update it?

The code establishes the process to update the Road Rules:

- MCC § 29.530: The director, a member of the planning commission or any member of the Board may propose adoption, amendment or repeal of a rule under this subchapter.
- MCC § 29.531: A proposed rule shall be approved as to form by the County Attorney and filed with the director, the clerk of the Board and with the staff of the planning commission.
- MCC § 29.532 - § 29.550: outline process for noticing and rule adoption, appeal process, and temporary rules

Road Rules Update: Road Rules

MCC § 29.532 - § 29.550 Noticing, review, rule adoption, appeal process, etc.

- Review period is 15 days (begins 11/3, ends 11/18)
- Notice in newspaper required
 - Press Release
 - Website
 - Presentation to Planning Commission
- Adoption is by Director within 10 days of close of review period
- Unless, during the review period:
 - Request for postponement (10-90 days)
 - Request for public hearing
- Appeal to Board of County Commissioners
- Temporary rules allowed

Road Rules changes will not affect any permit currently approved or in process. They will only apply to new applications after the updated rules are posted.

Road Rules Update: Road Rules

The following “can be set by administrative rule or the County Design and Construction Manual”:

- Streets, roads, and rights-of-way
- Drainage facilities
- Traffic control and traffic control devices
- Pedestrian paths and bikeways
- Sanitary sewer; utility location; right-of-way use
- Street lighting
- Street trees
- Development support and financing
- Accessways
- Street closure

Road Rules Update: Road Rules

Section	Change
2.000	Add “rights of way” to governance sentence Update code and transportation system plan references. Update to include “road” in rules reference
3.000	Clarified, updated, or added several definitions: Access, Driveway, Functional Classification, Non-conforming Condition, Design Exception, Variance
4.000	Removed “Access Analysis” requirement Identified differences in Urban and Rural areas Added clearer language for what is required as part of “nonconforming access” submittal
6.000	Added reference to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirement as part of frontage improvements
13.600	Changes submittal requirement from 60 to 30 days Removes deposit requirement for outreach (work to be done by applicant) Removes ability of public to request a board hearing in opposition to a technical determination

Road Rules Update: Online Information

Website:

<https://multco.us/info/road-rules-updates-2025>

Website includes:

- Current version of Multnomah County Road Rules
- Redlined version of rules showing proposed changes
- Webform to submit comments

Contact:

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Comments due:

- November 18, 2025

Questions

