

**CHAPTER 27 - CONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAYS AND  
BRIDGES ON THE SECONDARY ROAD SYSTEM  
OF DUBUQUE COUNTY, IOWA**

Adopted October 26, 2015

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**PART 1  
INTRODUCTION**

27-1 **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this ordinance is to establish Dubuque County’s policy for the construction of roads, reconstruction of roads, construction of bridges, reconstruction of bridges and other roadway and drainage features associated with road and bridge construction.

27-2 through 27-10 Reserved

**PART 2  
LEVEL OF SERVICE, DESIGN CRITERIA**

27-11 **LEVEL OF SERVICE** The level of service shall be based on traffic counts, pavement type, roadway geometrics and other data used in accepted engineering design as established by the County Engineer, Iowa Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

27-12 **DESIGN CRITERIA** In implementation, this policy shall set the minimum design standards that Dubuque County will follow in the construction or reconstruction of roads and bridges. These criteria shall be based on accepted engineering practices and standards established by the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

The County Engineer shall assure the minimum design standards established herein are adhered to in a uniform manner unless, in his or her professional judgment, a deviation from standards is warranted. Minimum design standards are not subject to discretionary enforcement. Any deviations must be documented as unreasonable and or impossible to implement by the County Engineer and/or the County Board of Supervisors.

27-12.1 **PAVED ROUTES**

a **New Pavement**

- (1) New pavement shall be constructed with a 22’ wide pavement and granular shoulders. Intersections with non-paved roads shall have pavement extended back onto the intersecting road 50’ beyond the end of the intersection radius.
- (2) Rumble strips shall be installed on all approach stop situations.

b **Reconstruction of Pavement**

- (1) Paved roads shall be reconstructed with a 22’ wide pavement or to the previous pavement width, whichever is greater with granular shoulders.
- (2) Rumble strips shall be installed on all approach stop situations.

27-12.2 **UNPAVED ROADS**

a **Gravel Roads**

- (1) New construction of a gravel road shall have a 26' finished top, including shoulders.
  - (2) Reconstruction of a gravel road shall be to the previous width prior to reconstruction.
  - b Class B & C Roads Class B and C roads will be built to the minimums as outlined by Iowa Code.
- 27-12.3 BRIDGES & DRAINAGE STRUCTURES
- a Paved Routes
    - (1) Bridges on paved routes shall be built with a minimum width of 30'. Wider structures will be installed when there are issues relating to oversized vehicles, pedestrian facilities, biking usage or other issues where the additional width is felt to be warranted.
    - (2) Culverts under paved roads shall be concrete or CMP.
    - (3) Pipe culverts larger than 54" in diameter may be substituted with reinforced box culverts.
    - (4) Design for drainage structures will be governed by accepted hydraulic design standards. Input from IDNR, Corp of Engineers, Iowa DOT, NRCS, or USGS may impact the size and type of the structure to be placed.
  - b Unpaved Routes
    - (1) Bridges will normally be a minimum of 24' on gravel roads. Dead end roads may be narrower at the discretion of the County Engineer.
    - (2) Culverts may be metal or concrete. Pipe culverts larger than 54" in diameter may be substituted with reinforced box culverts.
    - (3) Design for drainage structures will be governed by accepted hydraulic design standards. Input from IDNR, Corp of Engineers, Iowa DOT, NRCS, or USGS may impact the size and type of the structure to be placed.
  - c Class B & C Roads. Class B and C roads will be built to the minimums as outlined by Iowa Code.

27-13 through 27-20 Reserved

**PART 3  
REPEAL, SEVERABILITY & ENACTMENT**

- 27-21 REPEALER. All ordinances and resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.
- 27-22 SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.
- 27-23 EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be in effect immediately after its final

passage and publication as provided by law. In addition, this ordinance shall remain in effect until such time the Board of Supervisors passes a future ordinance repealing this ordinance.