

Council Policy No.:	CP2025-004
Council Policy Name:	Right of Way Widths Policy
Date Approved by Council:	October 21, 2025 CW2025-163/CR2025-381
Date revision approved by Council:	
Related SOP, Management Directive, Council Policy, Forms	

Policy Statement and Rationale:

Right of ways are common public lands and provide space for the placement of common services such as roads, sidewalks, water and sewer and utilities such as telephone, electricity and natural gas. Because we are in a northern climate, right of ways must also provide sufficient volume for the storage of snow plowed from the streets.

The widths recommended in the policy are considered the minimum necessary to provide for the placement of common services for the public. They represent a reasonable balance between the needs of the road authority to provide for the services and desires of the development community to minimize the allocation of lands for such common purposes.

Scope:

This policy applies to all existing and proposed right of ways within the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Definitions:

Local Roads – These roads provide access to individual properties and neighborhoods, offering convenience and connectivity for daily activities. Local streets typically have lower speed limits, fewer lanes, and are intended for local traffic within neighborhoods or communities.

Collector Roads – Collector roads form the backbone of the local transportation system, providing essential connections between arterial roads and local streets. They play a

crucial role in distributing traffic within the City and ensuring accessibility to residential, commercial, and recreational areas. Collector roads may have moderate traffic volumes and are designed to balance local access with the need to move traffic efficiently.

Arterial Roads – Arterial roads are major roads designed to carry high volumes of traffic over long distances. They serve as primary routes for the movement of vehicles between different areas, often connecting major centers such as cities or neighborhoods. Arterial roads typically have high speed limits, multiple lanes, and limited points of access.

Window Street – is a road that runs parallel to an arterial or collector road, designed to limit direct access from properties and to provide visual screening or a buffer between the arterial or collector road and the properties it serves.

Policy:

The City of Kawartha Lakes adopts the following minimum widths for public purposes:

Road Classification	Urban	Rural
Local	20.0 metres	20.0 metres
Window Street	18.0 metres	--
Collector	26.0 metres	--
Arterial	26.0 metres	26.0 metres

Additional widths may be required if additional lanes are warranted as a result of a traffic management plan.

Other Corridors/Blocks

All other corridors/blocks of land for drainage, servicing, utilities and pedestrian connectivity are to be a minimum of 6.0m in width and are to be sized in accordance with current City of Kawartha Lakes Infrastructure Guidelines.

Revision History:

Proposed Date of Review:

Revision	Date	Description of Changes	Requested By
0.0	21/10/2025	Policy approved to replace policy CP2021-004	Kenneth Becking
1.0	July 17, 2018	Renumbered as per new Policy System	Juan Rojas

2.0	April 20, 2021	Policy Number Updated	Council
3.0	October 21, 2025	Policy Definitions and Minimum Widths Updated	Juan Rojas