

POLICY # PW 030
POLICY TITLE: ROADSIDE GRASS SEEDING

APPROVAL DATE AND MOTION:	February 1994 (ASB 01-02-94)	CROSS-REFERENCE:	Alberta Weed Control Act
RESPONSIBILITY:	Public Works Formerly AG 008 Roadside Grass Seeding		
		APPENDICES:	
APPROVER:	Council	EFFECTIVE DATE:	February 1994
REVISION DATE(s)/ MOTION #:	June 23, 2015 (80-06-15) June 27, 2023 (2023-06-55)	NEXT REVIEW DATE:	2028

1. DEFINITIONS

1.a – None

2. POLICY STATEMENT

2.a - This Policy provides direction on Roadside Grass Seeding. Roadside seeding is a program that provides many benefits to the rural municipality. It can reduce erosion, improve weed control, compliment forage production (haying) and provide aesthetic value. Careful attention to the objectives of this policy will ensure that County of Vermilion River roadsides remain functional and not detrimental to agricultural productivity of nearby farmland.

3. OBJECTIVE

- 3.a – Ensure high germination, weed-free, short height growing and sweet clover free grass seed of appropriate species is used in accordance with the Alberta Weed Control Act.
- 3. b – Establish a protective vegetation cover in roadside ditches quickly.
- 3.c – Ensure that this protection remains permanent.
- 3.d – Compliment the productivity of adjacent agricultural land.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.a – Construction, upgrading and repairs of a road creates a disturbance to the land alongside the road grade. The roadside area then becomes subject to erosion and weeds. It is therefore desirable to establish a protective grass cover to reduce erosion and complete against weeks.

5. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 5.a – Ensure high germination, weed-free, short height growing and sweet clover free grass seed of appropriate species is used in accordance with the Alberta Weed Control Act.
- 5.b – Establish a protective vegetation cover in roadside ditches quickly.
- 5.c – Ensure that this protection remains permanent.
- 5.d – Compliment the productivity of adjacent agricultural land.
- 5.e – Recognize the Limitations
 - 5.e(i) – Many roadside ditches have limited top soil remaining after construction.
 - 5.e(ii) – Some roadsides are too hard, too soft, too wet, too rough or too steep to accommodate grass seeding.

5.e(iii) – The timelines for seeding will vary, depending on the above limitations and the time of year the construction is completed.

5.f – Equipment

5.f(i) – The County of Vermilion River will maintain equipment suitable for seeding the roadside to grass. Currently a tractor and harrows with a mounted spreader is being used.

6. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

ROLE/TASK	TITLE (s) OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE
HANDLING INQUIRIES	Director of Public Works
MONITORING REVIEWS AND REVISIONS	Director of Public Works
IMPLEMENTING POLICY	Council
COMMUNICATING POLICY	Director of Public Works
INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS	Public Works Department
EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS	County of Vermilion River landowners

7. EXCEPTIONS

7.a – None

8. POLICY EVALUATION

8.a – Needs assessment if required.

8.b – Process evaluation to measure whether the policy is meeting its intended objective; and

8.c - Outcome evaluation to determine whether the policy has met its objectives and whether additional opportunities for improvement in the policy can be identified.