



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

PLANNING BOARD

CITY HALL ANNEX, 57 INMAN STREET, CAMBRIDGE 02139

Minimum Standards for Acceptance of Existing Private Ways as Public Ways

The following standards must be met before a determination can be made that an existing private way should be accepted as a public way, following the procedures specified in the Cambridge Municipal Code, Chapter 12.16, Section 12.16.010. It should be noted that these standards apply only to platted rights-of-way that have never been accepted; ways that have not already been platted would have to be surveyed and mapped at the expense of the private owner(s), and appropriate standards would be applied, depending upon the circumstances that prevail in the particular case. In addition, these standards apply only to local residential streets with an ADT of 400 or less. Other roadways will be dealt with on a case by case basis. If the following standards are met, the Planning Board will consider the way to be acceptable.

1. The private way has been an existing private way since before 1950.
2. The private way serves as the only access to two or more structures on separate lots.
3. The following minimum width of right-of-ways for proposed new local residential streets with an average daily count of 400 vehicles or less shall include the travel way and at least one walkway:

Traveled way (one direction):	12' minimum
Traveled way (two directions):	20' minimum
Walkway	4' minimum*
Curb parallel parking lane	8'
- *Walkway minimum width may be increased depending on amount of pedestrian use.
4. The street shall connect two or more public ways or shall be a two-way dead end street. New dead-end legal public ways shall have provisions for drivers to turn around before exiting the street.
5. There must be no other physical or legal encumbrances on the right-of-way.
6. Acceptance of the ways must not create a violation of the Zoning Ordinance or a new nonconformity.



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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March 18, 1996

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached for your information the new minimum standards for the acceptance of existing private ways as public ways adopted by the Planning Board on March 5, 1996.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
attachment

Consent Agenda #18

S-128

Relative to the new minimum standards
for the acceptance of existing private
ways as public ways.

In City Council March 18, 1996

3/25/96

Placed on file