

ADOPTED

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Objective

This policy outlines Council's stance on requests for the installation of new signage.

This policy will assist Council in achieving Theme 4, Goal 4.1 of the Community Plan, "Connecting our Region High Quality Road Network that is Safe and Efficient"

Legislative requirements

- Roads Act 1993
- Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Act 1999
- Road Rules 2008
- Road Transport (Road Rules) Regulation 2017

Related policies and plans

- Transport for NSW (TfNSW), Delegation to Councils Regulation of Traffic
- Traffic Control at Worksites technical manual

Policy

Signs will only be installed if authorised by the Roads Authority and must comply with the relevant Australian Standards and meet the appropriate Transport for NSW guidelines.

Background

To achieve safe and efficient operation of the road network, it is essential that all signage provided is necessary, clear and unambiguous and gives its message to road users at the appropriate time. The message must be quickly and easily understood at the point it is needed, neither too soon that the information be forgotten, not too late for the safe performance of any necessary maneuver. The excessive or insensitive use of traffic signs and other street furniture has a negative impact in the success of the road network as a place.

Regulatory signs inform road users of traffic laws and regulations. They tell road users what they must do by law in different situations (where it may not be otherwise obvious). Regulatory signs include, but are not limited to, stop signs, give-way signs, roundabout signs, keep left or keep right signs, no entry sign, no left turn or no right turn signs, school crossings, hospital zone sign, pedestrian, accessible parking, loading, speed limit signs and parking signs.

Warning signs are used when it is deemed necessary to warn traffic of existing or potentially hazardous conditions on or adjacent to a roadway. These can be permanent or temporary traffic hazards and obstacles. Warning signs are easily recognisable, usually diamond shape, yellow/fluorescent background and black symbols or text. Some road warning signs may be red,

such as 'prepare to stop' signs, or a bright green colour, such as a warning for pedestrians or children that may be in the area.

Warning signs use diagrams and symbols to alert you of potential hazards or dangers up ahead – for example, a black cross means a crossroad is ahead, or a black T means the road ahead is ending. They will also signal curves or sharp turns ahead, giving you the opportunity to appropriately adjust your driving in a timely manner.

Regulatory Signs

Regulatory signs are a form of prescribed traffic control device which fall within two categories:

1. Regulatory signs which are delegated to council to install on the network they manage. Council can only authorise their installation in accordance with conditions of the delegation, and must seek the advice of Local Traffic Committee prior to exercising its delegation to install this signage.
2. Signs that are NOT delegated to councils. Signs such as speed zone signs can only be authorised by direct Transport for NSW written approval.

Information regarding signs delegated to Council for authorisation can be found within Transport for NSW's Traffic Signs database.

Council may authorise Roadwork Speed Limit signs (Speed Series (R4) Sign No. R4-212n). This should be done in accordance with the Traffic Control at Worksites manual.

Council staff will work with the applicant and gather the pertinent facts for requested changes/additions to regulatory signage. A report may be prepared and submitted to the Local Traffic Committee, who will provide technical advice to Council and/or Transport for NSW.

It is important to note that the legislative power to control traffic through the authorisation of traffic control devices, lies with Transport for NSW and the delegation of this power does not remove Transport for NSW's ability to exercise those delegated functions should circumstances warrant action.

Warning Signs

Transport for NSW has responsibility for authorizing and installing warning signs on all State roads, including Castlereagh Highway.

Council has responsibility for authorizing and installing signs on regional roads. Regional roads include Ilford Road, Bylong Valley Way, Wollar Road, Ulan Road, Hill End Road, Goolma Road, Cope Road and Gollan Road.

Council is wholly responsible for signage on local roads.

Traffic analysis, engineering, and property use facts and data shall be reviewed when considering warning signs. In the absence of supporting facts and data, warning signs will not be erected on the region's roads.

Warning signs will only be considered in the following circumstances and remain subject to budgetary and resource availability constraints:

- a) Speed Advisory Warning Sign - In conjunction with another warning sign where geometrics or operating conditions warrant a reduced speed. Generally, not to be installed on roads with a

classification lower than Collector and only where the defined speed is less than 70km/hr on Collector and Sub-Arterial Roads, and less than 100km/hr on Arterial Roads

- b) Curve or Turn Warning Sign - Installed in locations when inadequate sight lines warrant. Installed when a roadway turns at a right angle, or for roads complying with clause 1, or where the defined radii of the curve indicate an 85th percentile speed of less than 40km/hr.
- c) Blind Driveway Warning Sign - Installed on roads classed as collector and higher where the speed limit is 60 km/hr or greater and inadequate sight lines warrant.
- d) Pedestrian, School, School Crossing, & School Bus Stop Warning Signs - Installation in accordance TfNSW guidelines
- e) Advance Crossing Warning Signs (Kangaroos Etc.) will only be considered when the following applies.
 - i) May be installed on roadways with a speed limit of 80 km/hr or greater
 - ii) The road is sealed.
 - iii) Traffic counts exceed 500 vehicles per day.
 - iv) If the species is listed under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 or the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 as a threatened species, confirmed sightings of the species have been recorded along the proposed road, and the location serves as a known connectivity corridor.
 - v) In the case where the signage is not related to threatened species, only where a high incidence of the event occurs
- f) Senior Citizen Warning Signs - Installed on any street in the vicinity of a senior citizen housing project, nursing home, residential care facility or other locations generating crossings by seniors.
- g) Crest Warning Sign - Installed in advance of a downgrade where the length percent of grade, horizontal curvature or other physical features require special precautions on the part of drivers and only on roads classed as Collector or higher, unless specific risk assessment warrants.
- h) Stop Ahead, Give Way Ahead, Signals Ahead Warning Signs - Installed on approaches where the traffic control sign is not continuously visible to the driver for the distances identified in the appropriate guidelines
- i) Chevron Alignment Warning Sign - Installed to give notice of a sharp change of alignment with the direction of travel, and only on roads classed as Collector or higher, unless specific risk assessment warrants.
- j) No Through Road Warning Signs - Installed where a roadway terminates in a dead end or where a turn-about is necessary to return to a point of origin.
- k) Disabled Person Warning Signs
 - i) Council may install warning signs upon the request of a disabled person or by the representative of a disabled person.
 - ii) Requestors will be asked to notify the Council to remove the sign when the disability no longer exists, or the person moves.

- iii) Disability specific signs or signs of a more generic nature will be the choice of the requestor.