



## Jackson Parish Police Jury

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### Revocation of Public Road Policy

Adopted by the Jackson Parish Police Jury effective May 18, 2020

**PURPOSE:** To define the procedures for removal of a road from the Jackson Parish Road System.

**SCOPE:** This policy applies to all roads that are included in the Jackson Parish Road System.

**POLICY STATEMENT:** The Jackson Parish Police Jury ("Jury") may consider a request by the public for the removal of a public road from the parish road system or may upon their own initiative, seek to remove a public road from the parish road system and to thereby abandon said road an/or revoke any dedication pursuant to La. R.S. 48:701, or by any other lawful means.

#### PROCEDURES

- A. The Parish Engineer shall, at the request of the President of the Jury or the appropriate committee, review a road(s) within the Parish Road System for possible removal from the system.
  - a. The Parish Engineer shall provide a report to the designated committee as to each road reviewed. The report shall include any information believed pertinent by the engineer. However, the report shall include: (1) color printout of the tax assessor's ARK GIS system depicting the road and the surrounding land ownership; (2) tax assessment for each landowner with property that appears to be adjacent to the subject road or that in the engineer's opinion may be affected by the abandonment of the subject road; (3) the number of houses or businesses being serviced by the subject road; (4) the estimated cost to maintain the subject road; and (5) any other matter as may be requested by the committee.
- B. The report and supporting documents shall be presented to the appropriate committee as designated by the Jury President. The committee shall then consider the report as well as any other information the committee deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - a. Whether there is any current public use of the road
  - b. Whether the road is necessary for public access to any property including homes, buildings, businesses, or land
  - c. Whether the abandonment will effectively prevent access by any landowner to a public road (landlock a landowner)
  - d. Cost of maintenance vs. value to the public
  - e. Consideration for public safety and welfare
  - f. Consideration of alternate public routes affected landowners may use for access or travel
- C. The committee report shall be delivered to the Jury as a whole, who shall consider the possible revocation/abandonment at a public meeting.
- D. A public hearing shall be held prior to any abandonment/revocation of any parish road, after notice by mail of the meeting date, time, and place to the addresses shown on the tax assessments for each property affected by the proposed abandonment/revocation as determined by the parish engineer.
  - a. Any person may present comments, documents, or other evidence at the public hearing for consideration by the Jury.
  - b. The Jury President shall be authorized to regulate the public hearing by limiting the time allowed for each presentation by members of the public.



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- c. Persons to whom notice is provided is at the discretion of the committee.
  - d. Any allegation of improper notice shall not serve as grounds to set aside an abandonment/revocation by the Jury as a whole.
- E. The Jury may, but is not required to, remove by abandonment/revocation a road from the Parish Road System at a meeting held subsequent to the public hearing described above.
- F. Nothing herein shall in any manner be deemed to limit in any manner the great discretion granted to a Police Jury pertaining to matters related to public roads and whether such roads continue to serve a public purpose and shall not set forth mandatory requirements for removal of a road from the Parish Road System nor mandate abandonment/revocation of any road.