

# GATES AND GRIDS POLICY

**Original Adopted Date:** 24 July 2013

**Policy Number:** GRC0063

**Policy Type:** Strategic

**Responsible Officer:** Director of Engineering Services

**Department:** Engineering Services

Version	Decision Number or CEO Approval	Decision Date	Status / History
1	OM-119/13	24 July 2013	Review June 2015
2	OM-242/15	16 December 2015	Review June 2020
3	OM-105/17	24 May 2017	Review June 2020

## 1. BACKGROUND

Council has control of roads in the local government area and has responsibility for the construction, maintenance, improvement and regulation of these roads. As such Council must ensure that all existing gate and grid structures do not prejudice the safety of vehicular traffic.

## 2. POLICY STATEMENT

1. A gate or grid installed in a road controlled by Council must be constructed and maintained to a standard to allow for the safe and unimpeded movement of all traffic.
2. A gate or grid installed in a roadway under the control of Council is subject to Local Law.
3. Council will be proactive in pursuing a reduction in the number of gates and grids throughout the Council area.
4. All new gates and grids applications shall be considered by full Council.
5. All gates and grids remain the property of the registered owner.
6. Public gates and associated fencing are to be maintained in a safe and serviceable condition and are the responsibility of the landholder.
7. Council will not allow for any reason, a grid on a public road to be replaced with a gate.
8. Grids are to be maintained in a safe and serviceable condition and are the responsibility of the landholder.
9. Any welding carried out on a grid must be undertaken by a qualified welder/boilermaker.
10. Where a grid is installed, a gate with a width of at least 7.0 metres must be provided in the fence outside the table drain at a location approved by an authorised person. A suitable access for the safe passage of wide loads/machinery must be constructed to the gate from the road formation on each side of the fence.
11. Locks will not be permitted on any gate within the gazetted road reserve without the express permission of Council.
12. A gate/grid permit fee will be set by Council at its budget meeting and charged annually. The fee shall recover costs relating to annual inspections, administration and associated activities.
13. Council will inspect all gates and grids on an annual basis and a register of all gates and grids will be maintained by Council. Such inspections will be a visual inspection on the condition of the components and will not guarantee the structural integrity of the components.

14. Replacement grids installed after the date of adoption of this policy must comply with the following Load Rating:
  - (a) Grids installed on shire roads shall be designed and constructed to a minimum T44 Load Rating. Prefabricated/modular grids from manufacturers to this standard are preferred.
  - (b) Alternative grid designs may be acceptable however engineering certification may be required and written approval must be obtained from Council prior to installation.
15. All repairs to existing grids shall be undertaken:
  - (a) In accordance with this policy.
  - (b) Engineering design and certification for repair methodologies may be required and approval must be obtained from Council prior to work being undertaken.
  - (c) Engineering design and certification will be at the grid owner's expense.
16. All grids inspected will be given a condition rating in accordance with Table 1 provided as **Attachment A**. Grid owners will be advised in writing of the condition ratings assigned.
17. Where an area is under Exceptional Circumstance (EC) declaration, a landholder so affected may make application to defer grid maintenance work except those that involve signage or have a grid rating of 13 or above or where the gate or grid component is deemed to be unsafe.
18. Gate and grid owners are to arrange to have the remedial actions identified undertaken within the timeframe specified in accordance with Table 2 provided as **Attachment B**. If a grid owner disputes the necessity or scope of the defects and remedial actions the matter will be referred to Council. If agreement cannot be reached, the grid owner may provide independent engineering advice and certification at their cost.
19. Any work undertaken on gates or grids must be approved by Council and undertaken by competent and qualified people. The following requirements will be the minimum required for such approval:
  - (a) All roadwork signage is to be in accordance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices; relevant qualifications to install this signage.
  - (b) Persons erecting signs must have the appropriate qualifications.
  - (c) All requirements of the Workplace Health & Safety Act and Regulations for works on public roads must be met.
20. Council will undertake to remove a gate or grid and associated fencing, and reinstate the road free of charge to the owner on surrender of a gate or grid licence.
21. If any gate or grid maintenance issues arise as a result of routine maintenance inspections, notification from the public etc., Council will contact the gate or grid owner and issue a notice listing the identified defects.
22. Council will undertake emergent repairs to gates or grids if requested by the gate/grid owner, with resultant costs recouped under a private works agreement. This work cannot be warranted. Further remedial repairs may be required to be undertaken by the owner in addition to any emergent works undertaken by Council.
23. If works of an emergent nature are identified, Council reserves the right to effect such repairs as deemed necessary for public safety, with such costs incurred recouped from the gate or grid owner. This work cannot be warranted.
24. Council will consider financial assistance in terms of a deferred payment program where the owner of the grid/s has made application to Council for such assistance.
25. If traffic safety issues are identified, Council may cancel the grid permit and remove the grid after a 30 day notification period if the owner/s do not effect repairs or comply with recommendations within this period.
26. As legislation changes in relation to signage, design requirements, case and civil law outcomes, grid owners will be advised of these changes and notified where possible so that compliance can be arranged. Owners will be given 120 days to comply with these changes.
27. Council reserves the right to undertake maintenance and construction work on roads adjacent to grids. It is the responsibility of the grid owner to ensure that the grid in their ownership complies with the alignment of any road repairs or upgrades. It is also the responsibility of the grid owner to widen the grid width requirements for road type.
28. Where an agreement cannot be reached on removal of a grid as can be the case where more than one owner is involved the permit will be revoked and the grid removed.

### **3. POLICY PURPOSE**

This policy has been developed to provide guidelines for implementing the consistent management of the maintenance of gates and grids throughout the Goondiwindi Regional Council area.

### **4. POLICY OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this policy are to:

- Provide a policy for landholders and Council relating to the maintenance of gates and grids on public roads.
- Provide the basis for Council to condition rate existing gates and grids; and
- Establish guidelines and timeframes for landholders and Council in relation to the requirements of the policy.

### **5. NECESSITY TO COMPLY WITH THIS POLICY**

Compliance can be enforced through the:

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- Council Local Law No. 2 (Gates and Grids)

### **6. REVIEW DATE**

June 2020

### **7. ATTACHMENTS**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Attachment A: | Table 1: Grid Condition Rating Criteria             |
| Attachment B: | Table 2: Grid Removal / Replacement / Repair Action |
| Attachment C: | Gates and Grids Signage                             |

**Attachment A – Table 1: Grid Condition Rating Criteria**

**Table 1: Grid Condition Rating Criteria**

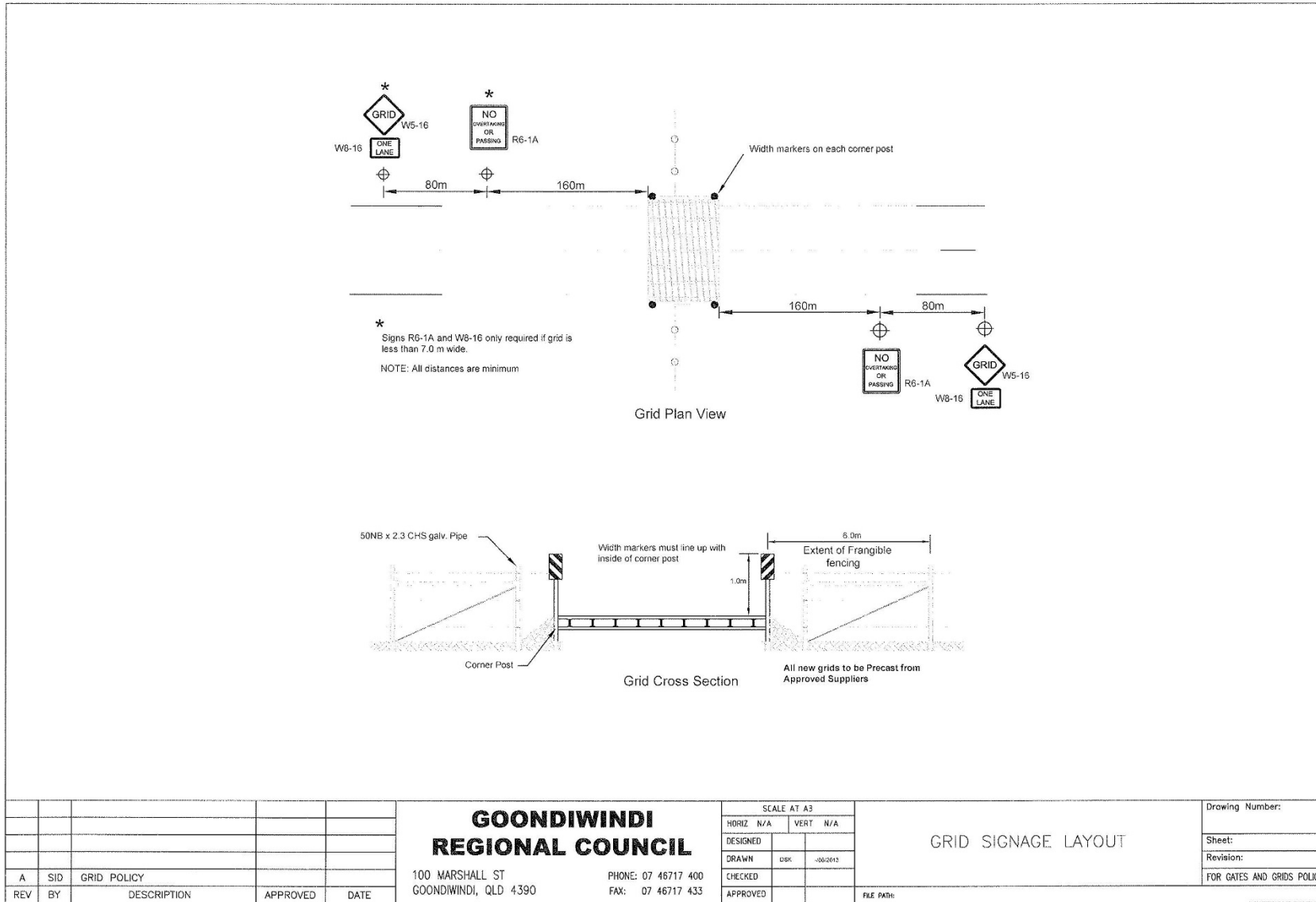
<b>Element</b>	<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	<b>Score</b>
Width	<3.25m	4
	<4.0	3
	<6.0	2
	<7.0	1
	>7.0	0
Rail	Very Poor	4
	Poor	3
	Average	2
	Good	1
Bearer	Very poor	4
	Poor	3
	Average	2
	Good	1
Abutment	Very Poor	4
	Poor	3
	Average	2
	Good	1
Road Classification	3C	4
	4A, 4B, 4C	2
	5A, 5B, 9A, 9B	0
Signage	Not included in assessment	Not scored

**Attachment B – Table 2: Grid Removal / Replacement / Repair Action**

**Table 2: Grid Removal / Replacement / Repair Action**

<b>Grid condition rating</b>	<b>Remedial action</b>	<b>Due date</b>
13 - 15	Replace or repair grid within 14 days in accordance with attachment A.	14 Days
11 - 12	Fix or replace specifically identified defects (component score of 3 or 4)	6 Months
1 - 10	Non critical defects to be monitored and maintained in accordance with attachment B.	N/A
All	Upgrade signage in accordance with attachment A.	6 Months

Attachment C – Gates and Grids Signage



					<b>GOONDIWINDI REGIONAL COUNCIL</b>		SCALE AT A3		GRID SIGNAGE LAYOUT		Drawing Number:	
					100 MARSHALL ST GOONDIWINDI, QLD 4390		PHONE: 07 46717 400 FAX: 07 46717 433					
											Revision:	
											FOR GATES AND GRIDS POLICY	
A	SID	GRID POLICY										
REV	BY	DESCRIPTION	APPROVED	DATE								