

Circulation



Jamestown's streets are unpaved gravel surfaces except for County Road 94 (Mill Street) which is paved to the west end of town. They are generally narrow and sometimes allow only one direction of traffic. Erosion from improper drainage has left some roads in poor repair. This and the steep grades of Mesa and Hill Streets make access to the the higher plateau particularly difficult. Also, as snow accumulates cars left parked on the road further impede vehicle circulation.

The county road is patrolled by the Boulder County Sheriff's Department and the Colorado State Patrol. The road maintenance and snow removal is provided via a contract with the Boulder County Public Works Department because Jamestown does not own equipment or employ staff for either job.

A concern often discussed is the through-town traffic on the county road as it relates to the safety of the residents. The validity of the two stop signs (one each direction) is questionable per strict traffic engineering, but their use is considered necessary to break up the traffic flow. More importantly, if the county road is paved west of town, greater traffic volume might result which could make the use of stop signs even more important.

The fall 1978 Household Survey showed a split response between a satisfactory rating of the road maintenance vs. a fair and poor rating, (41.2% vs. 46.1%). Most people (57%) felt the same amount of money should continue to be spent for road maintenance while a significant minority (39.6%) wanted to spend more.

Street paving was not considered important by about 80% of the respondents. However, the provision of "slow children" signs was ranked important and very important by almost 80%. Hiring law enforcement personnel was not favored in this survey nor was instituting a town traffic court. But at the same time, the present controls were found unsatisfactory.

The issues reiterated in the September 1979 town meeting were better road maintenance/improvements and regulation of through town traffic. Also the control of Forest Service land access was discussed.

During the meetings with the planning committee, the same issues as previously mentioned surfaced. The policies and proposed programs are a result of those meetings.



Circulation Policies

1. Jamestown should ensure the provision of safe, clear streets by providing safe flow of traffic, proper access in case of an individual emergency, and emergency evacuation in case of an areawide disaster (ie: flood, forest fire). The town is responsible for providing snow removal and maintenance of roads and bridges.
2. The speed and volume of traffic should be kept at safe levels. Future paving of town roads should be discouraged if the result is danger to school children at bus stops, pedestrians, or auto passengers at driveway accesses because of greater traffic volume.

Proposed Programs

1. The stop signs on the county road should be placed and installed so that violators can legally be cited for any offense.
2. Weight capacity of bridges should be posted and over-sized vehicles should be denied use of the bridges.
3. New road construction to access new building/development should meet county road standards prior to or as a condition of development and prior to the town accepting responsibility for maintenance. All new development shall be served by roads which are adequate for fire equipment.
4. The town should look into the feasibility of owning a previously used grader and hiring a competent operator to maintain roads and remove snow. This may be done in cooperation with surrounding communities, subdivisions, or the county.
5. In order to ease safe access to the upper plateau, the top of Mesa Street should be graded down and Hill Street should be designated one-way if increased traffic warrants it. Mesa Street grading would necessitate lowering the water lines buried under it.
6. Sand barrels should be provided where needed.
7. Dead end streets should be marked by signs.
8. Street name signs should be installed at major intersections.
9. Speed limit signs, "Caution-Children" signs, and school zone signs should be installed.
10. Improper drainage that is eroding most of the town roads should be corrected.

