

**COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY**

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<b>RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION</b>	<b>G-4</b>	<b>1 of 1</b>

**Policy:**

1. **Acquisition General** When purchasing right-of-way, a market data appraisal will be made and that figure will be offered to the property owner on the first contact. If severance damage or special benefits exist, these items will be listed separately.

Fee title will be acquired on all road projects if at all possible.

All fees relating to right-of-way acquisition will be paid by the Transportation Department.

2. **Sale of Excess Right-of-Way** Parcels of sub-standard size will only be sold to the abutting property owner at market value to be determined at time of sale.

Larger parcels will be appraised to determine market value and that figure will be used as the minimum acceptable bid price.

Excess parcels acquired as a condition of land use change will be reverted to adjacent owners without charge.

3. **Public Utility Accommodation** When public utilities are required to relocate due to County construction, every consideration will be given to provide adequate space for the relocation and to insure compatibility with the project design.

4. **Abandonment** The Transportation Department will handle all road abandonment proceedings using procedures approved by the Board of Supervisors.

5. **Condemnation (Eminent Domain) Actions** The threat of condemnation will not be used at any time to acquire or speed up right-of-way acquisition. If the project is determined to be a public necessity, a condemnation recommendation will only be made after every effort to negotiate has failed.

6. **Cooperative Project Right-of-Way** When right-of-way is to be donated for a project and some of the owners refuse to participate, the project necessity and schedule will be reviewed and a decision will be made either to pay all property owners, or to cancel the project.

7. **Coordination of Encroachment Clearances** At least 30 days prior to construction of a project, owners of any encroachments in the right-of-way construction area will be advised of the project and requested to remove the encroachment.

**Reference:**

Minute Order dated 01/28/75  
Minute Order dated 04/25/78  
Minute Order 3.4 of 12/18/07