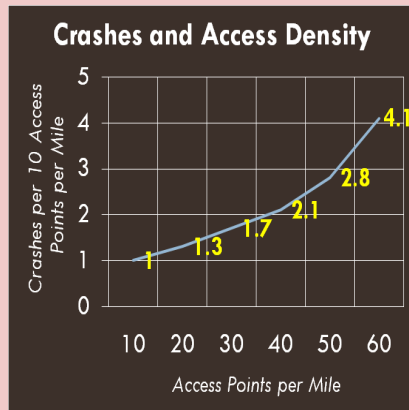


What Is Access Management?

Access management involves maximizing the existing street capacity and reducing potential for crashes through limiting the number of access points, carefully placing and spacing access points (side streets, commercial driveways and median crossovers), ensuring driveway designs meet standards, properly spacing traffic signals and other enhancements.

Why is it Important?

SAFETY: Direct relationship between the number of driveways along a corridor and the number of crashes. Successful access management reduces the number of driveways.



CAPACITY: Maintains capacity and improves traffic flow without costly widening or reconstruction.

COMMUNITY: Sustains vibrant business districts and makes roads more livable.

Want more information?

www.starkcountyohio.gov/engineer

Key Contacts:

Keith A. Bennett, Stark County Engineer
330-477-6781

Dave Torrence, Chief Deputy Engineer
330-477-6781

Process for Developing the Regulations:

The Stark County Engineer's office developed the Access Management Regulations with the assistance of an engineering consultant team specializing in traffic issues. Our office would like to thank the following volunteer Advisory Committee members, who vetted the document:

- Richard Regula – Stark County Commissioner
- Todd Hawke – Jackson Township Trustee
- Scott Haws – Plain Township Trustee
- Dick Pero – Osnaburg Township Trustee
- Jim Benekos – North Canton Engineer
- Robert Nau – Director of Stark County Regional Planning Commission
- Jeff Dutton – SCATS Technical Director
- Fred Tobin – Stark County BIA (Home Builders)
- Larry Beaver – local Professional Surveyor
- Beth Campbell – Stark County Association of Realtors

The Stark County Commissioners will seek input from the public and key stakeholders that may be affected by the regulations. In the near future, two public hearings will be scheduled to provide a forum in which to learn the benefits of access management and to address questions and comments from the public and stakeholders.

Consulting Team:

DLZ Ohio, Inc.
LSL Planning, A SAFEbuilt Company



Improving Traffic in Stark County

The Stark County Engineer has developed new standards to improve traffic flow and safety on county and township highways. The proposed Access Management Manual includes regulations and guidelines for access to roadways within the unincorporated areas of Stark County. These regulations are based on successful models from across Ohio and the rest of the country, but are tailored to fit the unique characteristics of Stark County. As required by Ohio law, an advisory committee made up of individuals representing numerous entities vetted the regulations. The Manual includes:

- Standards to improve traffic flow and safety by controlling the number, location and design of access points (streets and driveways).
- Guidelines for when and to what degree access management applies.
- How the Access Management process works.
- Guidelines for Traffic Impact Studies – when they are needed, what should be evaluated, and how to coordinate with the County Engineer.

The Regulations leave the administration of minimum and very low volume driveways accessing township roads with the individual township. Please review this brochure - intended to provide an overview of access management, why it is important, what is in the regulations, and where to go for more information. Please feel free to contact us with any comments or questions you may have.

January 2016

Keith A. Bennett, P.E., P.S.
Stark County Engineer

What is the Purpose of the Regulations?

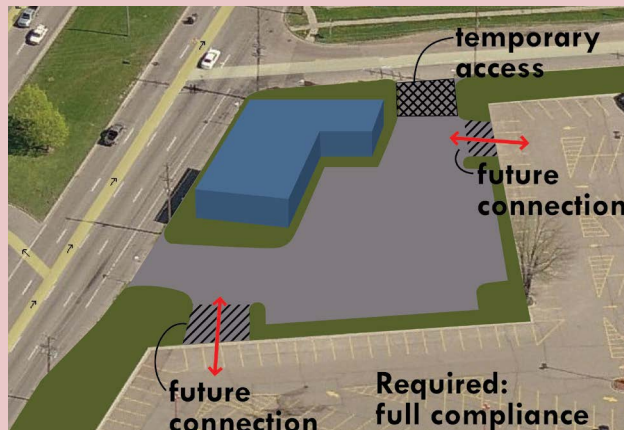
The Stark County Access Regulations outline the requirements for acceptable access to county and township highways. Those interested in obtaining approved access will follow the process described in these regulations. The regulations also provide a means for fair and equitable exceptions, an appeals process and enforcement of the regulations.

Who Applies Access Management?

- **The Stark County Engineer** will apply access regulations during the site plan and driveway review process. Regulations can also be applied as part of road construction projects.
- **Stark County Regional Planning and Townships** can incorporate these standards into local zoning and/or site development regulations.

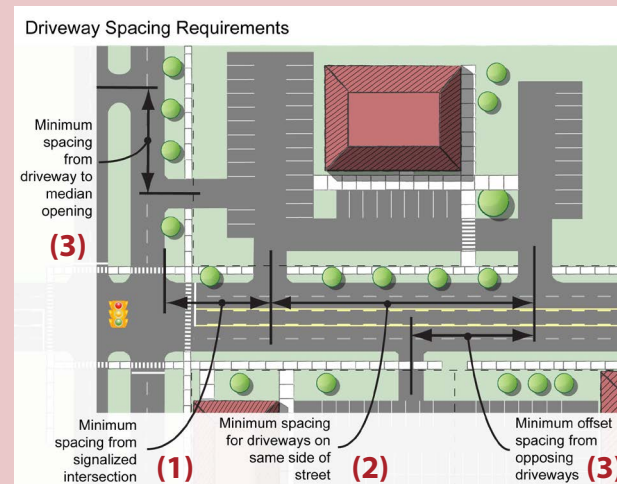
When are Concepts and Standards Applied?

- **With New Development or Redevelopment** (during site plan/permit review process)
- **During road reconstruction projects**, the county and townships may work with property owners to close or redesign access points as part of a road improvement project.



What the Regulations Contain...

- Access placement standards
- Cross-access standards
- Functional road classifications
- Right-of-way preservation and connections
- Traffic impact study guidelines
- Administrative procedures



Result without Access Management?

- Traffic congestion and longer travel time
- Increased Transportation Costs
- More crashes
- Shorter operational life of the street system

How is Access Management Implemented?

Access Placement:

- Separate driveways from intersections **(1)**
- Spacing between access points **(2)**
- Offset driveways from access points across the street and/or median crossovers **(3)**
- Consolidate closely spaced driveways **(4)**

Access Design:

- Promote service drives or shared/cross-access between parking lots **(4)**
- Restrict turning movements (i.e. right-in/right-out only)
- Require proper driveway radius and storage length of driveway

Roadway Design:

- Turn lanes to improve traffic flow
- Proper traffic signal spacing and coordination
- Medians to improve flow and reduce crash potential

