



Planning Commission,

I am writing in support of the proposed changes to the County's Private Road Naming code. In 911, obtaining a correct address or location of the emergency is the first, most important step to ensuring we can get citizens the help they need in a timely manner. When addresses are confusing or contain elements outside of the norm, it can create communications issues that delay help.

Dashed addresses are one such example. These addresses may be relayed to the dispatcher by the caller in a variety of ways, so clarification is often required. Additionally, the system used by 911 to log information and dispatch units requires these addresses to be entered in a very specific way that is more time consuming than a standard address. Furthermore, if the property does not have clear signage, responders may be delayed determining which property at the numerical location is designated with the reported dashed alpha.

All of these complications in addressing increase the time it takes to get help to people in need. It is for these reasons that 911 supports the proposed Private Road Naming Amendments.

Thank you,

Jennifer Libby-Jones
Director
Lewis County 911 Communications



Lewis County Department of Public Works

Josh S. Metcalf, PE, Director

Geoff Soderquist, PE, County Engineer

Matt Hyatt, GIS Manager
Lewis County Department of Public Works

5/13/2024

Dear Members of the Lewis County Planning Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the county Geographic Information System (GIS) Division and the Department of Public Works in support of the proposed amendments to the county code and policies for private road naming.

The GIS Division performs mapping and geographic analysis for the department and other county departments. As a part of those duties, we maintain road network and address data which is used in county maps, the county's communication/dispatch system, and the state Next Generation 9-1-1 system. We assist the Department of Community Development in verifying new and existing addresses to ensure that the assignments meet standards, are logical and consistent, and that they are useable in the communications systems mentioned. We also coordinate with cities, utilities, and fire districts to assist them with addressing issues.

The issue of "dashed" addressing and multiple lots on unnamed private roads is one of our biggest challenges to deal with when verifying addresses. It can cause confusion for dispatchers and responders during emergencies, and it also complicates and sometimes delays regular business transactions for the landowners -- such as receiving deliveries and acquiring mortgages or insurance.

The proposal will help to resolve this issue in certain instances of land development where 3 or more lots are being created and accessed by a single private road. The proposal is consistent with the LCC Chapter 16 definition of a private road as serving 3 or more lots. It will assist us greatly in the short and long term by reducing the number of dashed addresses and other difficult addresses on unnamed private

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roads. The result will be an improved ability to accurately and quickly dispatch and respond to emergencies on such roads.

The Department of Public Works urges you to recommend these amendments for adoption by the county. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Matt Hyatt

