



City of Madison, Mississippi

Gated Public Streets Policy

Definitions:

Public Street - A public vehicular access way (street) shared by and serving two or more lots, which is dedicated to the public and is publicly maintained.

Gates controlling entry to residential subdivisions on public streets shall meet the following requirements:

1. The street must be fully and equally accessible to the public, by reasonable and obvious means. No plan will be approved which is designed, marked with signs or otherwise laid out so as to give an impression that the street is a private one. At a minimum, this would mean a clearly visible sign identifying the access mechanism.
2. Any request should include specific plans and specifications for the gate. The Mayor and Board will not be in a position to authorize the gate unless City personnel have had an opportunity to review all technical and design aspects of the proposed gate. Specific requirements include:
 - a. A design professional, preferably a registered Landscape Architect, shall design every element of the gated entry including, gate design, location, pedestrian access, lighting, planting, signage, etc. and present the design to the Director of Community Development for preliminary review and subsequent review by City personnel representing the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments.
 - b. Specific elements of the design include:
 - i. The entry gate will be designed in such way as to avoid any damage to any public infrastructure including road surface, base, and curbing.
 - ii. A turn around shall be required before the gate to allow an average size car, SUV, etc., to be able to turn around in no more than two turning movements in order to leave without accessing the gate.
 - iii. All gates will be required to open away from, not toward, a vehicle.
 - iv. A “BE PREPARED TO STOP” caution sign (*plate 1*) shall be installed at least 100 feet before the gate on both the entry and exit side. If one hundred feet is not feasible the sign shall be located at the discretion of the Chief of Police. The sign shall be 36 inches square for installations where the traffic speed is 30 miles per hour

- or greater and 30” square for installations on roadways less than 30 miles per hour consistent with the current edition of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices Handbook (MUTCD). The sign shall be supported on a post meeting city specifications and matching other signs in the City of Madison as supplied by Custom Products in Flowood, Mississippi (601) 932-5854 or equal.
- v. A “PULL HERE FOR ENTRY” and “PULL HERE FOR EXIT” sign (*plate 2*) shall be installed prior to the gate where the access control mechanism is installed along with a 12” min. width white painted line to indicate the appropriate stopping point. *As stated above it should be obvious that anyone can enter the subdivision.*
 - vi. Pedestrian access shall also be provided. This access can be gated or open and connected to existing sidewalks or constructed to allow for connection to planned future sidewalks on either side of the gate.
 - vii. Emergency access will consist at minimum, of a Siren operated System and a Fire Box.
 - viii. Free access loops will be provided at least 5 feet back from the center line of the gate and a free exit loop will be provided 5 feet back from the swing of the gate. The loops shall be set sensitive enough to detect a carbon frame bicycle with a standard metal drivetrain. If this is not feasible, another type of system may be required to ensure that bicyclists can access the public street.
 - ix. Gate equipment will be either pre-finished in an approved color or painted with an approved color and screened with plant material as required.
 - x. Lighting – The gate will be lighted sufficiently to be easily seen at night without any added external light source, i.e., from car or bicycle headlights.
 - xi. Some element of reflectivity shall be part of the main body of the gate centered on the access way. This reflectivity shall be obtained by using a diamond grade or diamond cut reflective material.
3. The parties requesting the gate should be prepared to assume all costs and responsibility for installation and maintenance of the gate, including repair or replacement costs if anything happens to the gate for any reason, including accident, vandalism or simple mechanical failure.
 4. The City must have the right to remove the gate at any time for any reason or for no reason whatsoever, although we could make arrangements to return the mechanism to the parties who installed the gate, if feasible. If the gate is removed for any reason except safety issues, street or utility construction, reconstruction or relocation, or failure of the sponsoring party to comply with any of the policies established herein, the city will reimburse the sponsoring party for the original cost of the gate, or any portion which is removed.
 5. Any request for a gate must be submitted by the homeowners association, or, if an association does not exist, by 75 % of the property owners fronting the public streets directly affected by the request.

6. The parties requesting the gate shall sign an agreement (*Exhibit 1*) to indemnify and hold harmless the city from any and all costs and expenses associated with defending any claims associated in any way with the approval of such request and the installation and maintenance of the gate. The city may require proof of insurance or other evidence of ability to provide indemnification.

General Information:

1. Any approval should be based upon a finding by the Board that approval of the request is necessary to preserve the good order and peace of the City or to prevent injury to public or private property.
2. All signage, posts, etc., to be paid for by the HOA or other responsible parties and installed by the City.
3. This policy applies only to gated public streets, *whether or not they are planned to be open for the majority of the day*. Private Streets are subject to separate application and evaluation.
4. All gate installations are to be reviewed and approved by the City Staff prior to making the gates functional.
5. The City will install the required signage and can pick up the signage if purchased through Custom Products, (601) 932-5854, in Flowood, Mississippi.
6. Damaged signs are to be replaced by the Home Owners Association or other responsible parties.

Adopted by
City of Madison, Mississippi
Mayor and Board of Aldermen
May 18, 2010



Plate 1



12"x15" Bronze metal sign
White Times New Roman Font

NOTE:
All signs to be
Mounted on standard
City of Madison posts
and installed by the
City of Madison



Plate 2

[DATE]

City of Madison, Mississippi
P.O. Box 40
Madison, Mississippi 39130-0040

Dear Mayor:

As part of the request of the undersigned party to install a traffic control gate on a public street, we hereby acknowledge the receipt of and agree to abide by the terms of the City's "Policy Regarding Gated Public Streets."

We specifically agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City from any and all costs associated with defending any claims associated in any way with the approval of this request and the installation and maintenance of the gate or gates.

We understand and agree that before any gate or gates are installed, we will furnish proof of insurance, in a form acceptable to the City, in an amount not less than \$1,000,000.00, with the City as a named insured.

We understand that any failure to abide by the terms of this agreement, or any terms of the City's policy identified above, may result in removal of the gate with no compensation or damages of any type paid to us. We further acknowledge that the gate may be removed at any time in accordance with the provisions of the policy.

[APPLICANT]
Accepted by:

On behalf of the City of Madison, Mississippi

Exhibit 1