

**Jefferson County**  
**County Road Establishment**

The Establishment of a county road in accordance with RCW 38.81 may be initiated by petition of the owners of the area specially benefited by the establishment or by resolution of intention by the Board of County Commissioners. The petition method is the most common method of road establishment under this RCW. A petition must be signed by ten (10) or more freeholders in the vicinity along with their mailing addresses, legal descriptions of their properties and the appropriate tax parcel number.

A description of the road being petitioned for and a map must accompany this petition along with a bond in the penal sum of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) payable to the county, executed by one or more persons as principal or principals, conditioned that the petitioners will pay into the Jefferson County road fund all costs and expenses incurred by the County in examining and surveying the proposed road and in the proceedings therein case the road is not established.

Once the above has been accomplished, the petition must be turned in to the Board of County Commissioners who will verify the signatures and instruct the county engineer to prepare a report on the necessity and practicability of the road. The petitioner may also be asked to secure deeds and waivers for right of way from the landowners affected by the road.

The Board of County Commissioners will fix a time and place for hearing the engineer's report and any comments, concerns or questions from the public in general with regard to the establishment of the road as a County road.

During the hearing the Board of County Commissioners may elect to deny the request, or it will be determined what needs to be done to bring the road up to county road standards at the expense of the property owners, with the Department of Public Works inspecting the work.

Once all work has been completed and all deeds for right of way have been secured, a resolution establishing the road as a County road will be brought before the Board of County Commissioners for their approval.

The Right of Way Representative will assist you in preparing the petition, the necessary maps, and exhibits for Road Establishment, and will relay relevant information to and from other departments as needed. Any questions should be directed to the Right of Way Representative.

**If you have questions contact:**

The Right of Way Representative  
Jefferson County Public Works Department  
623 Sheridan Street  
Port Townsend, WA 98368  
360-385-9160