

LAWS OF UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE & POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION

Updated through 5/2025

Union County Offices

Administration Building
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207
Telephone: (908) 527-4100

UNION COUNTY OFFICIALS

2025 Board of County Commissioners

LOURDES M. LEON, **Chairwoman**
JOSEPH C. BODEK, **Vice-Chairman**
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County Manager

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Deputy County Manager

BRUCE H. BERGEN, ESQ.
County Counsel

JAMES E. PELLETTIERE
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

**Ordinance Number 862-2025
Introduced on 12/4/2025
Adopted on 12/18/2025**

Chapter 133, TRANSPORTATION POLICY

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Union 12-22-1977 as Res. No. 574-77. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Land development -- See Ch. 80.

Land subdivision -- See Ch. 84.

County maps -- See Ch. 91.

Site plan review -- See Ch. 122.

Streets and sidewalks -- See Ch. 131.

Vehicles and traffic -- See Ch. 138.

ARTICLE I, Adoption of Standards

§ 133-1. Establishment of policy.

The Union County Board of County Commissioners does establish all Union County policies and Union County traditions as listed in the December 1977, Current Commissioner Transportation Policy Report as established policies of the Union County Board of County Commissioners on County road matters.

§ 133-2. Administration of policy.

The Union County Board of County Commissioners does hereby notify all elected officials and residents of Union County that it will administer the County road policy as fairly as possible with the intention of giving paramount consideration to the wishes and desires of these locally elected officials and residents.

ARTICLE II, Commissioner's Transportation Policy

[Amended 4-10-2003 by Ord. No. 569]

§ 133-4. Introduction.

- A. This report is made up of a tabulation of policy and an appendix. Each separate tabulated policy item includes applicable state law and a follow-up comment where appropriate. Following is an appendix of Union County Board of Chosen Commissioner policy resolutions and the County Road Plan Cartway and Right-of-Way Width Requirements of the Planning Board's adopted Transportation Plan.

- B. The document which best conveys the current Commissioner outlook on transportation policy is Resolution No. 257-1976, passed April 22, 1976, which states the Board of County Commissioners intention to give “paramount consideration to the wishes and desires of locally elected officials and residents.” It is the intention of the Union County Board of County Commissioners to honor home rule to the furthest extent possible with the exception of where the individual community's home rule request unsatisfactorily affects the general public's interest in neighboring communities and throughout the County.
- C. It is the Commissioner's intent to serve the wishes of the elected municipal officials and residents of the County to the furthest extent possible to preserve residential areas, local commercial areas, parks and other recreation facilities and the environment in general. It is also the concern of the Union County Board of County Commissioners to encourage, support and implement transportation improvements which give special attention to the transportation needs of the elderly and handicapped, to alternative transportation modes to reduce automotive usage in the County, to transportation improvements to reduce safety problems on the road system and to implement transportation improvements to reduce traffic congestion with its resulting increased air pollution and unwanted diversion through residential neighborhoods.

§ 133-5. Right-of-way acquisition.

- A. State law: The County is enabled to acquire right-of-way.
- B. Union County policy: Right-of-way acquisition is left to the municipalities. This shall include the acquisition of real property, permanent easements, maintenance easements and temporary access easements for all projects that include work beyond the curb line.
- C. Comment: In most cases recently, right-of-way acquisition has been accomplished by the municipalities or the New Jersey Department of Transportation on County road projects through the Federal Air Urban System program with municipal consent. The only exception in recent years was the acquisition of property from the Hudson City Savings Bank by the Union County Board of County Commissioners to preserve the Five Points Intersection Plan in Union Township. This section shall apply to road, bridge, intersection, storm and any other infrastructure related project undertaken by the County related to municipal operations.

§ 133-6. County road construction.

- A. State law: The County is enabled to construct or reconstruct County roads.
- B. Union County policy: The County constructs or reconstructs County roads with municipal consent.
- C. Comment: Most County road reconstruction projects consist of milling & paving of existing top surface, intermediate course and base courses of the asphalt roadway. The County selects which roads are in need of reconstruction and advises the Municipality in which the road is located.

§ 133-7. Sidewalks.

- A. State law: The County is enabled to construct sidewalks.

- B. Union County policy: Sidewalks on County property may be financed and installed by a municipality only after notifying the County Department of Engineering and Public Works.
- C. Comment: Some sidewalks are installed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation as part of NJDOT funded projects. Sidewalk adjacent to properties not owned by the County shall be installed by the municipality, adjacent property owner or other third party.

§ 133-8. Reconstruction of curbing.

- A. State law: The County is enabled to reconstruct curbing.
- B. Union County policy: Curb reconstruction and repair on county roadways by a municipality may occur only after notifying the County Department of Engineering and Public Works.
- C. The County does not maintain the curbing along County roadways. The curbing is the responsibility of the Municipality or adjacent property owner. The County reserves the right to reconstruct curbs as necessary to facilitate certain infrastructure projects.

§ 133-9. Widening required through site plan and subdivision review.

- A. Union County policy: The Union County Planning Board requires developers to provide curbing with widening in accordance with the Transportation Plan through the site plan and subdivision resolutions as adopted by the Union County Board of County Commissioners on August 14, 1970. Approximately 17% of the current County road mileage requires no widening or curbing, according to the Plan. In all cases of required widening, paramount consideration will be given to the wishes and desires of locally elected officials and residents.
- B. Comments: Commissioners often give waivers to the municipalities and developers on this requirement after an appeal is taken from the Planning Board's decision on the matter. In addition, the Union County Department of Public Works has paved some shoulders in extenuating circumstances and single homes exempted from shoulder paving.

§ 133-10. Traffic ordinances.

- A. State law: The County is responsible.
- B. Union County policy: The County adopts consenting resolutions after enactment of local ordinances.
- C. Comment: The Commissioners have concurred with all municipal traffic ordinances on County roads.. The Municipality should first coordinate with the Department of Engineering and Public Works to ensure concurrence. Certain ordinances may require compliance with engineering practices, such as traffic counts, studies, etc.

§ 133-11. Traffic signal maintenance.

- A. State law: The County is responsible for traffic signal maintenance on County roads.
- B. Union County policy: Signal maintenance is left to municipalities and newer signals are covered for maintenance in the November 23, 1971, resolution.

§ 133-12. Traffic signal installation.

- A. State law: The County is enabled to install signals.
- B. Union County policy: The municipality initiates a request for traffic signal installation pursuant to the requirements of the November 23, 1971, Commissioner resolution.
- C. Comment: Most new traffic signals in Union County are funded via state or federal capital grants. Any request received by a municipality for a new or replacement signal along a County roadway shall first be considered for federal funding, then state funding and only then for County Capital Funding. The County will finance installation of new traffic signals under the provisions of the Union County Board of County Commissioners resolution adopted on November 23, 1971, where applicable.

§ 133-13. Pavement markings.

- A. State law: The County is responsible for all pavement markings on County roads.
- B. Union County policy: The County paints longitudinal lines with municipal consent. The municipalities paint the remainder of the markings.
- C. There are existing agreements between the County and some municipalities on the maintenance of striping within certain intersections. Those agreements shall supersede the above.

§ 133-14. Traffic signs.

- A. State law: The County is responsible for all traffic signs on all County roads.
- B. Union County policy: The municipality installs regulatory signs and school warning signs. The County provides directional signs and other warning signs.

§ 133-15. Trees.

- A. State law: The County is enabled to provide trees.
- B. Union County policy: The County takes responsibility for the trees on County roads and requires trees be provided by developers through the site plan and subdivision resolutions where not required by the municipality.
- C. Comment: Trees are replaced by the Department of Public Works where both requested and practical.

§ 133-16. Road drainage.

- A. State law: The County is enabled to make drainage improvements and also can require them through site plan and subdivision review procedures.

B. Much of the County drainage system along County roadways are interconnected with the systems owned & maintained by Municipalities or private owners. In those instances, the County maintains the infrastructure between curblines.

§ 133-17. Charging Stations.

A. State Law: The County is enable to allow vehicle charging statations within the County Right of Way and parking spaces for said stations.

B. Union County Policy: The County will not allow dedicated parking spaces within County Right of Way solely for the purpuposes of Charging of Electric Vehicles. Vehicle Charging Stations will also not be permitted within the County Right of Way.

§ 133-18. Bump Outs.

A. State Law: The County is allowed to install “bump outs” along County roads.

B. Union County Policy: The County will only allow the installation of stripped bump outs along County Roads.

§ 133-19. Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons.

A. State Law: The County is allowed to install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons along County Roadways.

B. Union County Policy: The County will allow municipalities to install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons at crosswalks once deemed appropriate by the municipal and county engineer. A formal agreement must be executed by the municipality and county prior to its intallation. All future ownership and maintenance of said Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons shall be by the Municipality.

ARTICLE XV, Traffic Control Signals

§ 138-51. Conditions for installation.

The Union County Board of County Commissioners will install traffic signals on County roads provided that:

- A. The traffic signal is officially requested by resolution of the governing body of the affected municipality or municipalities.
- B. Plans for the intersection improvements and traffic signals have been approved by the Union County Planning Board, the Union County Department of Roads and Bridges and the New Jersey Department of Transportation.
- C. All intersection approach widening, channelization and realignment are implemented and coordinated with the installation of the traffic signals, including the fulfillment of all municipal responsibilities such as widening street intersection approaches.
- D. The municipality or municipalities and County have utilized all available federal aid, state local government aid and/or other sources of aid for the project.
- E. The affected municipality or municipalities agree to maintain the traffic signal installation, including utility expenses, bulb replacement and all other maintenance, including striping.



UNION COUNTY Board of County Commissioners

ORDINANCE NUMBER: 862-2025

DATE OF INTRODUCTION: 12/4/2025

DATE OF ADOPTION: 12/18/2025

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND "THE LAWS OF UNION COUNTY: ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION" BY AMENDING PART I- ADMINISTRATIVE CODE: CHAPTER 1, UNION COUNTY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE, ARTICLE XXIII, OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL, ARTICLE XXIV, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND PART II-POLICIES AND GENERAL LEGISLATION: CHAPTER 49, FEES, ARTICLE VII, OFFICE OF THE UNION COUNTY SURROGATE - FEES, CHAPTER 107, PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE IV, FEES FOR RECREATION FACILITIES, CHAPTER 115, SAFETY CODE, ARTICLE VI, DISORDERLY CONDUCT, CHAPTER 128, SMOKING POLICY, CHAPTER 132, TOWING, CHAPTER 133, TRANSPORTATION POLICY, ARTICLE II, COMMISSIONERS' TRANSPORTATION POLICY, CHAPTER 138, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE VII, HANDICAPPED PARKING, ARTICLE XV, TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS.

Continue...

BE IT ORDAINED by the Union County Board of County Commissioners that the "Laws of Union County" are hereby amended, to reflect the designated deletions and corrections, or to be set forth in full as follows (those sections not listed are unchanged):

Chapter 133, TRANSPORTATION POLICY

ARTICLE II, Commissioner's Transportation Policy

§ 133-4. Unchanged.

§ 133-5. Right-of-way acquisition.

A. State law: The County is enabled to acquire right-of-way.

B. Union County policy: Right-of-way acquisition is left to the municipalities. This shall include the acquisition of real property, permanent easements, maintenance easements and temporary access easements for all projects that include work beyond the curb line.

C. Comment: In most cases recently, right-of-way acquisition has been accomplished by the municipalities or the New Jersey Department of Transportation on County road projects through the Federal Air Urban System program with municipal consent. The only exception in recent years was the acquisition of property from the Hudson City Savings Bank by the Union County Board of County Commissioners to preserve the Five Points Intersection Plan in Union Township. This section shall apply to road, bridge, intersection, storm and any other infrastructure related project undertaken by the County related to municipal operations.

§ 133-6. County road construction.

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C. Comment: Most County road reconstruction projects consist of milling & paving of existing top surface, intermediate course and base courses of the asphalt roadway. The County selects which roads are in need of reconstruction and advises the Municipality in which the road is located.

§ 133-7. Sidewalks.

A. State law: The County is enabled to construct sidewalks.

B. Union County policy: Sidewalks on County property may be financed and installed by a municipality only after notifying the County Department of Engineering and Public Works.

C. Comment: Some sidewalks are installed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation as part of NJDOT funded projects. Sidewalk adjacent to properties not owned by the County shall be installed by the municipality, adjacent property owner or other third party.

§ 133-8. Reconstruction of curbing.

A. State law: The County is enabled to reconstruct curbing.

B. Union County policy: Curb reconstruction and repair on county roadways by a municipality may occur only after notifying the County Department of Engineering and Public Works.

C. The County does not maintain the curbing along County roadways. The curbing is the responsibility of the Municipality or adjacent property owner. The County reserves the right to reconstruct curbs as necessary to facilitate certain infrastructure projects.
§ 133-9. Unchanged.

§ 133-10. Traffic ordinances.

A. State law: The County is responsible.

B. Union County policy: The County adopts consenting resolutions after enactment of local ordinances.

C. Comment: The Commissioners have concurred with all municipal traffic ordinances on County roads. The Municipality should first coordinate with the Department of Engineering and Public Works to ensure concurrence. Certain ordinances may require compliance with engineering practices, such as traffic counts, studies, etc.

§ 133-11. Unchanged.

§ 133-12. Traffic signal installation.

A. State law: The County is enabled to install signals.

B. Union County policy: The municipality initiates a request for traffic signal installation pursuant to the requirements of the November 23, 1971, Commissioner resolution.

C. Comment: Most new traffic signals in Union County are funded via state or federal capital grants. Any request received by a municipality for a new or replacement signal along a County roadway shall first be considered for federal funding, then state funding and only then for County Capital Funding. The County will finance installation of new traffic signals under the provisions of the Union County Board of County Commissioners resolution adopted on November 23, 1971, where applicable.

§ 133-13. Pavement markings.

A. State law: The County is responsible for all pavement markings on County roads.

B. Union County policy: The County paints longitudinal lines with municipal consent. The municipalities paint the remainder of the markings.

C. Comment: There are existing agreements between the County and some municipalities on the maintenance of striping within certain intersections. Those agreements shall supersede the above.

§ 133-14. Unchanged.

§ 133-15. Unchanged.

§ 133-16. Road drainage.

A. State law: The County is enabled to make drainage improvements and also can require them through site plan and subdivision review procedures.

B. Much of the County drainage system along County roadways are interconnected with the systems owned & maintained by Municipalities or private owners. In those instances, the County maintains the infrastructure between curblines.

§ 133-17. Charging Stations. [NEW]

A. State Law: The County is enabled to allow vehicle charging stations within the County Right of Way and parking spaces for said stations.

B. Union County Policy: The County will not allow dedicated parking spaces within County Right of Way solely for the purposes of Charging of Electric Vehicles. Vehicle Charging Stations will also not be permitted within the County Right of Way.

§ 133-18. Bump Outs. [NEW]

A. State Law: The County is allowed to install "bump outs" along County roads.

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§ 133-19. Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons. [NEW]

A. State Law: The County is allowed to install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons along County Roadways.

B. Union County Policy: The County will allow municipalities to install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons at crosswalks once deemed appropriate by the municipal and county engineer. A formal agreement must be executed by the municipality and county prior to its installation. All future ownership and maintenance of said Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons shall be by the Municipality.

Chapter 138, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

ARTICLE VII, Handicapped Parking

§ 138-17. Handicapped parking.

The locations described in Schedule XV (§ 138-45), attached to and made a part of this chapter, are hereby designated as parking for handicapped persons only. Also so designated are any and all handicapped parking spaces established and noticed pursuant to statute, on any property owned or controlled by Union County. Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection shall, upon conviction be liable for a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

ARTICLE XV, Traffic Control Signals

§ 138-51. Conditions for installation.

The Union County Board of County Commissioners will install traffic signals on County roads provided that:

A. Unchanged.

B. Unchanged.

C. Unchanged.

D. The municipality or municipalities and County have utilized all available federal aid, state local government aid and/or other sources of aid for the project.

E. The affected municipality or municipalities agree to maintain the traffic signal installation, including utility expenses, bulb replacement and all other maintenance, including striping.

AND, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, in case any section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be judged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such order or judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this ordinance, and to this end, the provisions of each section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable;

AND, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that each section of this ordinance shall take effect at the time and in the manner provided by law, unless otherwise indicated.

INTRODUCTION				RECORD OF VOTE				FINAL ADOPTION							
COMMISSIONER	Aye	Nay	Abs	Pass	Ord	Sec	NP	COMMISSIONER	Aye	Nay	Abs	Pass	Ord	Sec	NP
BAKER, JR.	✓							BAKER, JR.	✓						
DELISFORT	✓							DELISFORT							✓
GRANADOS	✓							GRANADOS	✓						
KOWALSKI	✓					✓		KOWALSKI	✓					✓	
MIRABELLA	✓							MIRABELLA	✓						
PALMIERI- MOUDED	✓							PALMIERI- MOUDED	✓						
WILLIAMS	✓							WILLIAMS	✓						
BODEK VICE CHAIRMAN	✓				✓			BODEK VICE CHAIRMAN	✓				✓		
LEON CHAIRWOMAN	✓							LEON CHAIRWOMAN	✓						

APPROVED AS TO FORM	I hereby certify that the above is an original ordinance approved by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Union on the aforementioned date.	CLERK
	I hereby certify that the above is an original ordinance adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Union on the aforementioned date.	CLERK
	I hereby certify that the above is a certified copy of an original ordinance adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Union on the aforementioned date.	CLERK

NO SUFFICIENCY
OF FUNDS REQUIRED