

ROAD HIERARCHY FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA
ROAD TYPES AND CRITERIA (see Note 1)

CRITERIA	PRIMARY DISTRIBUTOR (PD) (see Note 2)	DISTRICT DISTRIBUTOR A (DA)	DISTRICT DISTRIBUTOR B (DB)	REGIONAL DISTRIBUTOR (RD)	LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR (LD)	ACCESS ROAD (A)
<i>Primary Criteria</i>						
1. Location (see Note 3)	All of WA incl. BUA	Only Built Up Area.	Only Built Up Area.	Only Non Built Up Area. (see Note 4)	All of WA incl. BUA	All of WA incl. BUA
2. Responsibility	Main Roads Western Australia.	Local Government.	Local Government.	Local Government.	Local Government.	Local Government.
3. Degree of Connectivity	High. Connects to other Primary and Distributor roads.	High. Connects to Primary and/or other Distributor roads.	High. Connects to Primary and/or other Distributor roads.	High. Connects to Primary and/or other Distributor roads.	Medium. Minor Network Role Connects to Distributors and Access Roads.	Low. Provides mainly for property access.
4. Predominant Purpose	Movement of inter regional and/or cross town/city traffic, e.g. freeways, highways and main roads.	High capacity traffic movements between industrial, commercial and residential areas.	Reduced capacity but high traffic volumes travelling between industrial, commercial and residential areas.	Roads linking significant destinations and designed for efficient movement of people and goods between and within regions.	Movement of traffic within local areas and connect access roads to higher order Distributors.	Provision of vehicle access to abutting properties
<i>Secondary Criteria</i>						
5. Indicative Traffic Volume (AADT)	In accordance with Classification Assessment Guidelines.	Above 8 000 vpd	Above 6 000 vpd.	Greater than 100 vpd	<u>Built Up Area</u> - Maximum desirable volume 6 000 vpd. <u>Non Built Up Area</u> – up to 100 vpd.	<u>Built Up Area</u> - Maximum desirable volume 3 000 vpd. <u>Non Built Up Area</u> – up to 75 vpd.
6. Recommended Operating Speed	60 – 110 km/h (depending on design characteristics).	60 – 80 km/h.	60 – 70 km/h.	50 – 110 km/h (depending on design characteristics).	<u>Built Up Area</u> 50 - 60 km/h (desired speed) <u>Non Built Up Area</u> 60 – 110 km/h (depending on design characteristics).	<u>Built Up Area</u> 50 km/h (desired speed). <u>Non Built Up Area</u> 50 – 110 km/h (depending on design characteristics).
7. Heavy Vehicles permitted	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes, but preferably only to service properties.	Only to service properties.
8. Intersection treatments	Controlled with appropriate measures e.g. high speed traffic management, signing, line marking, grade separation.	Controlled with appropriate measures e.g. traffic signals.	Controlled with appropriate Local Area Traffic Management.	Controlled with measures such as signing and line marking of intersections.	Controlled with minor Local Area Traffic Management or measures such as signing.	Self controlling with minor measures.
9. Frontage Access	None on Controlled Access Roads. On other routes, preferably none, but limited access is acceptable to service individual properties.	Prefer not to have residential access. Limited commercial access, generally via service roads.	Residential and commercial access due to its historic status Prefer to limit when and where possible.	Prefer not to have property access. Limited commercial access, generally via lesser roads.	Yes, for property and commercial access due to its historic status. Prefer to limit whenever possible. Side entry is preferred.	Yes.
10. Pedestrians	Preferably none. Crossing should be controlled where possible.	With positive measures for control and safety e.g. pedestrian signals.	With appropriate measures for control and safety e.g. median/islands refuges.	Measures for control and safety such as careful siting of school bus stops and rest areas.	Yes, with minor safety measures where necessary.	Yes.
11. Buses	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	If necessary (see Note 5)
12. On-Road Parking	No (emergency parking on shoulders only).	Generally no. Clearways where necessary.	Not preferred. Clearways where necessary.	No – emergency parking on shoulders – encourage parking in off road rest areas where possible.	<u>Built Up Area</u> – yes, where sufficient width and sight distance allow safe passing. <u>Non Built Up Area</u> – no. Emergency parking on shoulders.	Yes, where sufficient width and sight distance allow safe passing.
13. Signs & Linemarking	Centrelines, speed signs, guide and service signs to highway standard.	Centrelines, speed signs, guide and service signs.	Centrelines, speed signs, guide and service signs.	Centrelines, speed signs and guide signs.	Speed and guide signs.	Urban areas – generally not applicable. Rural areas - Guide signs.
14. Rest Areas/Parking Bays	In accordance with Main Roads' <i>Roadside Stopping Places Policy</i> .	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.	Parking Bays/Rest Areas. Desired at 60km spacing.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.

DEFINITIONS

Built Up Areas	See Note 3 below. The criteria was provided by Clive Shepherd from the Western Australian Local Government Grants Commission (WALGGC).
Primary Criteria	A road, or road section, must meet all of these criteria to qualify for the category.
Secondary Criteria	These criteria are provided as indicators of the likely characteristics of a road designated under a particular road type. Ideally, a road should have all of these characteristics, but it is recognised that is unlikely to occur in a number of instances, particularly for traffic volumes in rural areas.
vpd	vehicles per day

NOTES

1. The type designated to each road should represent the role that the road is intended to perform. It may not necessarily reflect the current conditions on the road.
2. Declared Roads under the Main Roads Act ('highways' and 'main roads')
3. Built Up Areas (as defined by the Western Australian Local Government Grants Commission)
Built up areas are identified because roads within them generally involve greater expenditure than roads in non built up areas. This is because roads in built up areas :
 - have high traffic volumes;
 - have large numbers of intersections, necessitating intersection treatments, pavement markings, signs, etc;
 - require kerbing for traffic control and or drainage;
 - require an asphalt surface where traffic volumes are high, or where noise reduction is important;
 - require underground drainage because surface drainage is impractical;
 - involve high cost of service alterations during reconstruction;
 - involve high costs because road works have to be carried out under heavy traffic.

The following definition is intended to limit built up areas to localities where the above conditions prevail.

Residential localities, which have lots with areas less than 0.45 ha, and commercial and industrial areas that meet the following criteria are classed as built up:

- at least half the blocks are developed;¹
- existing roads have a minimum standard of a gravel road for old subdivisions and a sealed road for new subdivisions.

Areas serving sporting complexes, schools and caravan parks are classed as built up where:

- they are located in an area which is developed as residential; or
- the existing roads serving these facilities are already sealed and kerbed.

A road connecting two built up areas is classed as a road in a built up area where the connecting road is less than 300m in length.

4. Except where the Regional Distributor is passing through, or terminating in a town.
5. Buses may need to use Access Roads in some instances e.g. Rural areas for school buses and in cities and towns to provide connectivity for a route.

¹ Roads within new subdivisions being developed in accordance with a Structure Plan should be designed and constructed in accordance with the planned use of the road once the area is fully developed. They should be categorised on the basis of the intended purpose.

DESCRIPTION OF ROAD HIERARCHY

Primary Distributors :

Provide for major regional and inter-regional traffic movement and carry large volumes of generally fast moving traffic. Some are strategic freight routes and all are State Roads. They are managed by Main Roads Western Australia.

District Distributor A : Urban area roads - (Built Up Area -)

Carry traffic between industrial, commercial and residential areas and generally connect to Primary Distributors. These are likely to be truck routes and provide only limited access to adjoining property. They are managed by local government.

District Distributor B : Urban area roads - (Built Up Area)

Perform a similar function to type A District Distributors but with reduced capacity due to flow restrictions from access to and roadside parking alongside adjoining property. These are often older roads with a traffic demand in excess of that originally intended. District Distributor A and B roads run between land-use cells and generally not through them, forming a grid which would ideally space them around 1.5 kilometres apart. They are managed by local government.

Regional Distributor : Rural - (Non Built Up Area)

Roads that are not Primary Distributors but which link significant destinations and are designed for efficient movement of people and goods within and beyond regional areas. They are managed by local government.

Local Distributor :

Urban - (Built Up Area)

Roads that carry traffic within a cell and link District Distributors or Regional Distributors at the boundary, to access roads. The route of Local Distributors should discourage through traffic so that the cell formed by the grid of District Distributors only carries traffic belonging to, or serving the area. These roads should accommodate buses, but discourage trucks.

Rural - (Non Built Up Area)

Connect to other Rural Distributors and to Rural Access Roads.

Not Regional Distributors, but which are designed for efficient movement of people and goods within regional areas

Urban and Rural Local Distributor roads are managed by local government.

Access Roads :

Provide access to abutting properties with amenity, safety and aesthetic aspects having priority over the vehicle movement function. These roads are bicycle and pedestrian friendly. They are managed by local government.