

MASON COUNTY

Road Vacation Costs

Mason County Code Chapter 12.20. Requires payment by petitioners of all administrative costs incurred in processing petitions for vacation of roads. Payment in full is required prior to finalizing and recording of an Order of Vacation. A recent change in the Code eliminated the requirement of payment of appraised value of the area vacated if the right of way is an easement. This reduces the cost of most vacation actions. Payment for the vacated area is still required if the right of way is owned by the County in fee. The Code change also established that the County Hearing Examiner is to hold the required public hearing, which adds to the administrative costs.

Deposit: \$500. Required upon submission of petition.

Cost Estimate. The following is an estimate of costs for processing a road vacation action:

1. **Public Works: Labor & Overhead – 4-8 Hours @ \$50/Hr, Vehicle 1 Hour @ \$21/Hr = \$221 to \$421.**
 - a. Review of Petition
 - b. Inspection of area to be vacated
 - c. Preparation of County Engineer's Report
 - d. Scheduling and preparation of resolution setting a public hearing date
 - e. Posting of public notices
 - f. Placing of advertising
 - g. Distribution of copies of Hearing Examiner Report to Petitioner and other interested parties
 - h. Scheduling and presenting of Hearing Examiner recommendation to Commissioners
 - i. Preparation of Order of Vacation and cover memo
 - j. Distribution of notice of Commissioners' action
 - k. Recording and distribution of Order of Vacation
 - l. Payment of any bills due (advertising)
2. **Hearing Examiner: 1- 5 Hours @ \$135/Hr = \$135 to \$675.**
 - a. Holding of public hearing
 - b. Legal research if necessary
 - c. Preparation of recommendation to County Commissioners
3. **Advertising: \$120**
4. **Appraisal (if required): \$300**

Estimated Total Administrative Costs: \$476 to \$1216

Cost of Land Area Vacated if fee owned by the County: Per appraisal