

RURAL MAILBOX LOCATION POLICY COMMISSIONERS COURT ORDER 13-163

SCOPE: To provide a standard for the development of the county road system and insure that county roads can safely accommodate all (1) fire and emergency vehicles, (2) road maintenance equipment and (3) all modern day auto and farm equipment traffic, the Austin County Commissioners Court does hereby adopt the following policy regarding mailbox locations on county right-of-way.

1. Mailbox installation on Austin County roads is expected to conform to the standards set by the United States Postal Service, Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT MB-06[1] Mailbox Mounting) and the Austin County Subdivision Regulations, as related below. Any deviations must be approved, in writing, by the County Commissioner of that precinct. A copy of the approval letter must be kept by the mailbox owner. No installation will be allowed to interfere with the safety of Emergency Vehicles, the traveling public or the function, maintenance or operation of the County roadway system.
2. This order **does not apply** to residences located in municipalities exercising jurisdictional control.
3. **REQUIREMENTS:**
 - a. All mailboxes located on county roads must, **where possible**, be mounted on posts placed at least 3 (three) feet from the edge of the roadway surface. The mounting post shall not impede the flow of water and debris alongside the road. On county roads that do not allow room for the three (3) foot requirement, the Commissioner of that precinct must approve the location in writing.
 - b. The prescribed height of the mail box is 42" (forty two inches) from the base of the box to the ground.
 - c. Mailboxes must be mounted on posts that break-away easily. Posts must be of metal. Metal posts must be of galvanized or powder coated metal (thin wall steel tube), 2.375" (inches) O.D. (TXDOT)
 - d. As a matter of public safety, concrete, brick, iron or other massive mail box supports shall not be allowed on county right-of-way.
 - e. Homeowners that desire this type of installation (i.e. brick or masonry enclosures) must build them on their own, private property with the written approval of the Postal Service.
 - f. Emergency Location Numbers (i.e. 911 addresses) shall be prominently displayed on each mailbox.

- g. Residents shall be responsible for the cost of proper installation and care of their mailboxes.
4. All existing mailboxes on county roads are grandfathered.
5. Any violation of this order may be punished as a Class C Misdemeanor.

Adopted by Austin County Commissioners Court this 13th day of May, 2013.

Motion made by Commissioner Reichardt, second by Commissioner Turner, and adopted by a vote of 4 AYE and 0 No. Whereupon the County Judge declared the Motion and Order passed, approved and adopted as the Order of the Court.



Carolyn Bilski

Carolyn Bilski
Austin County Judge