

Town of Oriental

Hodges Street Flood Closure Policy

1. Purpose and Scope

Flooding on Hodges Street presents a recurring safety hazard during heavy rain, storm surge, and coastal flooding events. This policy defines flood levels requiring closure, roles and responsibilities, signage standards, and closure/reopening procedures.

2. Flood Closure Trigger Levels

Hodges Street shall be closed when water depth reaches 3 inches or when any part of the roadway becomes fully submerged. Closure may also occur as a precaution based on NCDOT Flood Warning System alerts and on-site inspection.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

Public Works conducts on-site inspections, deploys barricades, and manages closures. Police provide traffic control and assist in safety assessments. Emergency Management monitors weather alerts and coordinates with county officials.

4. Required Signage and Barricades

Flood closure signage must comply with MUTCD standards. Required signs include W14-3 "Flood," W20-5P "When Flooded," R11-2 "Road Closed," and Type I/II barricades with reflective panels and optional flashing beacons.

5. Closure Procedures

Public Works will inspect and close Hodges Street when thresholds are met, place advance warning signs, deploy barricades, notify relevant departments, and monitor water levels throughout the event.

6. Re-Opening Procedures

Hodges Street may be reopened only once water recedes completely and the road surface is confirmed safe. Public Works and Police must jointly approve reopening.

7. Review and Updating of Policy

This policy shall be reviewed annually ahead of hurricane season and updated to reflect any changes in NCDOT monitoring systems or recommendations from hazard mitigation planning.

8. Adoption

This policy becomes effective immediately upon approval by the Town Board of Commissioners, Town of Oriental, NC.