



Fairfield Fire Department
Fire Prevention Division
1200 Kentucky Street, Fairfield, CA 94533
Phone (707) 428.7375

FIRE ACCESS ROADS and FIRE LANES
STD# 01-24 Effective Date: 01/01/2024

SCOPE

This standard is for the design, installation and maintenance of designated fire department apparatus access roads and fire lanes and is pursuant to the 2022 California Fire Code and Local Ordinance.

PLANS

A plan shall be submitted for permit and shall meet the Fairfield Fire Prevention Bureau Standard 20-24.

Fire Department access plans shall be provided for all projects that alter the property access, traffic lanes, parking, building dimensions, building uses, or building access. Fire Department access plans shall be provided in association with all plans submitted to the City of Fairfield Building or Planning Departments, or in association with other permits. Submittals shall show compliance with all portions of this document by providing plans with notes, details and dimensions.

SPECIFICATIONS

1. Developers shall be responsible for the planning, permitting, construction and identification of all new fire apparatus access roads and their respective markings and signs. Property owners shall not designate and identify any roadway on their property as a fire lane without prior Fire Prevention Bureau approval.

2. A minimum of 2 remote fire apparatus access roads shall be provided when:
 - a) Single buildings are in excess of 62,000 square feet.
 - b) Multiple buildings within a single parcel where the total combined square footage is in excess of 62,000 square feet.



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- c) Buildings or facilities exceeding 30 feet or 3 stories in height.
 - d) Developments of one and two-family dwelling in excess of 30 dwelling units.
 - e) Multi-family dwellings in excess of 100 units.
3. Where 2 fire apparatus access roads are required, they shall be placed a distance apart equal to but not less than one-half of the length of the maximum overall diagonal dimension of the property or area to be served, measured in a straight line between accesses (CFC 503.1.2.1).
 4. Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed live load of 75,000 pounds (CFC 503.2.3).
 5. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13 foot 6 inches (CFC 503.2.1).
 6. Fire apparatus access roads width shall be measured from the flow line to flow line of roadways that have curbs. When roadways do not have curbs, measurements shall be from the edge of the all-weather surface of the roadway, excluding the header or edge boards.
 7. Fire apparatus access roads for aerial fire apparatus shall be provided for all buildings exceeding 30 feet in height. Aerial apparatus access roads shall be provided on at least 2 intersecting building sides and shall extend the entire length of the building. Overhead utility power lines shall not be located over aerial apparatus access roads or between the access road and the building. Carports, fencing, solar panels, ESS systems, trash enclosures, sound walls and similar structures shall not be located between the building and the aerial fire apparatus access road. The unobstructed width of aerial apparatus roads shall not be less than 26 feet and shall be located not less than 15 feet and not greater than 30 feet from the building.
 8. Turns in fire apparatus access roads shall have a minimum turning radius of 48 feet outside and 28 feet inside. Required turn radius may increase for fire lanes provided for aerial operations (CFC 203.2.4).
 9. Fire apparatus access roads shall not exceed 15% in grade (CFC 503.2.7).
 10. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an approach and/or departure angle not to exceed 8 degrees (CFC 503.2.8).



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11. Fire apparatus access roads in excess of 150' in length shall have an approved fire equipment turn-around within 50' of any dead end. The shape and dimensions of this required turnaround shall be at a minimum those shown in Figure 1: A, C, D, and E for commercial properties and subdivisions. Figure 1: B is only for private roads with a maximum of four dwellings (CFC 503.2.5).
12. The installation of perimeter fencing, gates or barriers that obstruct Fire apparatus access roads shall require a separate plan submittal, review and approval by the Fire Prevention Bureau prior to installation. Gates crossing fire apparatus access roads shall comply with Fire Prevention Standard 02-24.

PAINTING AND SIGNAGE

Designated fire lanes and access roads shall be marked with one of the following:

1. Where the fire lane has curbing, the curb shall be painted red
2. Where the fire lanes are without curbs, there shall be a red, 6-in-wide stripe, painted on the edge of the road surface.
3. "NO PARKING – FIRE LANE" shall be stenciled with white or reflective paint.
4. This stenciling shall be no less than 3" in height and applied at a minimum of every 50 feet to the vertical surfaces of curbs or road surface stripes.

Signs shall be posted immediately adjacent to the marked fire lane or at the main vehicular access points to the property and shall be clearly visible from a vehicle. Additional signs may be required due to visibility and location of fire lanes upon the designation of the Fairfield Fire Prevention Bureau (CFC 503.3 and Appendix D 103.6).