CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH Fire Department

## Fire Prevention Division GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

GUIDELINE C. 01 - Emergency Fire Access: Roadways, Fire Lanes, Gates, and Barriers

## C.01.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to provide information necessary to ensure that the design of emergency fire access roadways, gates and barriers meet the applicable regulations and standards. These provisions allow the emergency resources to respond to an incident in a safe and effective manner. The Newport Beach Fire Department, local law enforcement, and property owners are responsible for enforcing these requirements from the California Fire Code (CFC), California Vehicle Code (CVC), and the Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC).

## C.01.2 SCOPE

For the purpose of this guideline, the terms "street," "roadway" and "road" apply to all roads, streets, ways, lanes, alleys, avenues, fire lanes, etc. These outlined procedures are applicable to all emergency access roadways, whether public or private. It includes the requirements for emergency access roadway design, signage, striping and alternative surfaces, plus requirements and provisions for enforcement.

## C.01.3 PROCEDURE

## FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS AND FIRE LANES

1. Approved fire apparatus access roads shall be provided for every facility, building or portion of a building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction. The fire apparatus road shall comply with the requirements of this guideline and shall extend to within 150 feet of all of the facility and all portions of the exterior walls of the first story of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building or facility.

- More than one road may be required when it is determined that access by a single road may be impaired by vehicle congestion, condition or terrain, weather conditions which could result in dangerous situations or other factors that could limit access.



## Legend:

Denotes furthest point on the exterior of the building as measured along the path of firefighter travel around the exterior of the building
(Example) Assume that the parking lot is not accessible to fire apparatus due to the turning radii and fire lane widths less than the required minimums:

- All portions of building "A" are within 150 ' of the public road as measured along the path of firefighter travel.
- Building " B " is not accessible; the presence of a fence enclosure forces firefighters to backtrack once they pass through the gate, increasing their travel distance beyond 150'.
a. On-site fire apparatus access roadways or a change in the location of the gate would be necessary to provide access to Building "B."
- Building " $C$ " is also accessible despite the obstruction posed by the raised planter.

Note: It still may be necessary to enter property even though this example is for in accessibility. Situations such high traffic flow of the facing street, may warrant staging of Emergency responder equipment on site to provide added safety off the roadway. Additional measures may be necessary for access as deemed by the Fire Code Official.

- When required by the Fire Code Official, approved signage or other approved notices shall be provided and maintained for emergency access roads to identify such roads and prohibit obstruction thereof or both. Signs or notices shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and to be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility.

2. Widths are to be measured from top of the face of the curb on streets with curb and gutter, from flowline-to-flowline on streets with rolled curbs. Flowline is the lowest continuous elevation of a rolled street curb defined by the path traced by a particle in a moving body of water at the bottom of the rolled curb. (see page 7 for detail)

- These dimensions are for straight roadways only; apparatus turning radius requirements must also be met.
- For new developments with public fire access roadways, the minimum width of the street shall be 36 feet, with parking allowed on both sides.
- For new developments with private fire access roadways, the minimum width of the street shall be 32 feet, with parking allowed on one side. The minimum width for parking on two sides of the street is 36 feet. (As referenced in Council Policy L-4)
- For existing fire access roadways, the minimum street width shall be 20 feet, with no parking on either side. The width shall be increased to 26 feet within 30 feet of a hydrant, no vehicle parking allowed. Parking on one side is permitted for streets that are a minimum of 28 feet wide. Parking on both sides of a street is permitted for streets that are a minimum of 36 feet wide.
- Access roads shall have an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13'6".

3. Roads must be constructed of a material that provides an all-weather driving surface and capable of supporting 72,000 pounds imposed load for fire apparatus and truck outrigger loads of 75 pounds per square inch over a two-foot area. Calculations stamped and signed by a Registered Professional Engineer (RPE) shall certify that the proposed surface meets the criteria of an all-weather driving surface and is capable of withstanding the weight of 72,000 pounds.
4. The gradient for access roads shall not exceed $10 \%$.
5. Speed bumps are prohibited.
6. Any obstruction in required fire access roadways such as speed humps or other traffic calming measures, when approved by the Fire Code Official, shall be in accordance with the Newport Beach Public Works Department's Neighborhood Traffic Management Guidelines.
7. The inside turning radius for an access road shall be 20 feet or greater. The outside turning radius shall be a minimum of 40 feet. Cul-de-sacs with center obstruction (islands) will require a larger turning radius as approved by the fire code official.
8. Dead end fire apparatus access roads in excess of 150 feet in length shall be provided with an approved cul-de-sac for turning around fire apparatus without backing up. Turnarounds shall meet the turning radius requirements identified above as well as local standards for cul-de-sac design. The minimum cul-de-sac radius is 40 feet without parking. (see alternate turn around next page)
9. Approach to fire access roads shall be constructed in accordance with the City of Newport Beach Design Criteria for Public Works Construction manual. A rolled curb approach shall have a 9:12 batter.
10. The design shall incorporate a curb cut or rolled curb at both the entrance and exit points that delineates entry onto the alternative surface. The curb cut or rolled curb must be indicated on the plan and must meet public works standard STD-103-L.


Roadway no less than 26 '
For existing fire access roadways, the minimum street width shall be 20
feet, with no parking on either side. The width shall be increased to 26
feet within 30 feet of a hydrant, no vehicle parking allowed
*Parking is prohibited and roadway is required to be posted as a fire lane.


Roadway at least 32,
*Roadway is required to be posted as a fire lane on at least one side.


Roadway 36' or wider
*Parking is permitted on both sides of the roadway.

## HAMMER HEADS TURNAROUND "T" TURNAROUND and "Y" TURNAROUND

*This is an alternative to cul-de-sac turn around. Slopes within the turnaround cannot exceed 10 percent.


C. 01 - Emergency Fire Access: Roadways, Fire Lanes, Gates and Barriers

## ANGLE OF APPROACH AND DEPARTURE

The angle of approach or departure affects the road clearance of vehicle when going over short steep grades such as found in a driveway entrance, crossing a high crowned road at right angles, or in off-road service. Too low an angle of approach or departure will result in scraping the apparatus body. In those cases where equipment is stored below the body, the angle of approach or departure must be measured to a line below the equipment.

- Standard NFPA 1901 for Pumper Fire Apparatus - This standard specifies the minimum requirements for new automotive fire apparatus.
- Angle of approach - The smallest angle made between the road surface and a line drawn from the front point of ground contact of the front tire to any projection of the apparatus in front of the front axle.
- The angle of approach and the angle of departure of at least 8 degrees shall be maintained at the front and rear of the vehicle when it is normally loaded.
- The angle of departure and angle of approach of a fire access roadway shall not exceed 7 Degrees, (or $12 \%$ ) or as approved by the Chief.



## ENGINEERED ALTERNATIVE SURFACE FIRE ACCESS ROADS

Alternatives to paved surface fire access roads may only be used when approved by the Fire Code Official. The following standards shall apply to the use of engineered alternatives to surface paved fire access roads.

1. Calculations and a statement stamped and signed by a registered civil engineer shall certify that the proposed alternative surface and its substrate meet the criteria for an all-weather driving surface as specified by the product manufacturer. The engineer shall also certify that the alternative surface is capable of withstanding the weight requirements as specified in this guideline, Section C. 01.3 (3.) "FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS AND FIRE LANES, under all weather conditions.
2. The manufacturer's specification for the product must indicate that the product is approved for the application or consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations. Manufacturer's specifications, including details for the required substrate must be included with the plan.
3. Alternative surface fire access roads may not exceed one hundred and fifty feet ( 150 feet) in length, from beginning to end, unless approved by the Fire Code official. The road shall conform to the width requirements described in this guideline, Section C.01.3 (2.) "FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS AND FIRE LANES.
4. Alternative surfaces shall only be installed on slopes of one degree ( $1.75 \%$ grade) or less unless specified for steeper grade by the manufacturer and approved by the Fire Code Official.
5. A minimum four-inch-wide concrete strip shall delineate the alternative surface on both sides of the lane. Alternatives to concrete must be approved by the Fire Chief. Strip delineations shall be indicated on the plans.
6. The following sentence shall be placed on the plan: "Final approval is subject to actual field acceptance testing utilizing fire department apparatus."
7. A clause requiring permanence, maintenance and upkeep of the alternative surface shall be included in the properties CC\&Rs, deed and/or similar documents. The document shall be submitted with the plans.

## FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS GATES AND BARRIERS

1. Vehicle access gates or barriers installed across streets shall be in accordance with this guideline and the CFC and NBMC. Three site plans are required for gate/barrier plan review and approval. Plans shall indicate measurements, location, type of gate/barrier, and type of locking device, approved opening devices, and gate swing direction.
2. The minimum width of any gate or opening required as a point of access shall not be less than 14 feet unobstructed width. The minimum width may be increased depending on the length of the approach.
3. All emergency vehicle access gates, private gated communities, chains across fire lanes, and gates that provide access to the beach and/or wildland areas, shall have a lock approved by the Fire Prevention Division. Where gates are electrically operated, an approved key switch and an approved remote opening device shall be installed and maintained operational at all times, or the gate shall be locked in the open position until operational.

## CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION ACCESS

Approved vehicle access for firefighting shall be provided to all construction or demolition sites. Vehicle access shall be provided to within 100 feet of temporary or permanent fire department connections. Vehicle access shall be provided by either temporary or permanent roads, capable of supporting vehicle loading under all weather conditions. Vehicle access shall be maintained until permanent fire apparatus access roads are available.

C. 01 - Emergency Fire Access: Roadways, Fire Lanes, Gates and Barriers

## LADDER TRUCK ACCESS


C. 01 - Emergency Fire Access: Roadways, Fire Lanes, Gates and Barriers

Pages 11 of 14
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FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

## LOAD CAPACITIES

The following load capacities shall be established with the stabilizers at full horizontal extension and placed in the down position to level the truck and to relieve the weight from the tires and axles. Capacities shall be based upon full extension and 360-degree rotation.

## 50 MPH WIND CONDITIONS/WATERWAY DRY

| Degrees of -8 to 9 <br> Elevation | 10 to 19 | 20 to 2930 to 3940 to 49 | 50 to 5960 to 6970 to 75 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Egress |  |  |  | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 |  |
| Fly |  |  |  | 250 | 250 | 750 | 1000 |  |
| Upper Mid |  |  |  | 250 | 500 | 1000 | 1000 |  |
| Lower Mid |  |  |  |  | 500 | 750 | 1000 | 1000 |
| Base |  |  |  |  | 750 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |



Aerial positioning is dependent on many factors such as access, type of structure, primary objectives, hazards, obstructions and most importantly the reach of the aerial ladder. This determination of positioning will be subject to a case-by-case basis but at a minimum the Quint or (ladder truck) has to minimum of 15 feet and a maximum of 35 feet from the building. This gives the ladder the greatest load capability when maintained between 40 to 75 degress.

## THE PYTHAGOREAN THEOREM

"To understand the importance of reach and height of a ladder, consider a right triangle. The length of the hypotenuse (longest side of a triangle) equals the square root of the sum of the other two sides. When an aerial ladder is elevated, the ladder is the hypotenuse of a triangle of which the ground and the vertical wall of the building at the point to be reached represent the other two sides. Thus, the distance a given length of ladder will reach depends upon the other two sides of the triangle."

The square of the length of the hypotenuse of a right triangle equals the sum of the squares of the lengths of the other two sides. $\mathrm{A}^{2}+\mathrm{B}^{2}=\mathrm{C}^{2}$


In this illustration, "A" equals the height of the building (use 12 feet per floor for commercial and multi-family structures), "B' equals the distance from the building to the turntable and " $C$ " is the required distance to reach the building.

## Example 1:

$\mathrm{A}^{2}(36 \times 36)+\mathrm{B}^{2}(50 \times 50)=\mathrm{C}^{2}$ $1296+2500=3796$
(Calculate the square root of $\mathrm{C}^{2}$ )
The square root of 3796 is 62 .
In this example the required reach is 62 feet or 54 degrees.

## Example 2:

$\mathrm{A}^{2}(75 \times 75)+\mathrm{B}^{2}(25 \times 25)=\mathrm{C}^{2}$
$5625+625=6250$
(Calculate the square root of $\mathrm{C}^{2}$ )
The square root of 6250 is 79 .
In this example the required reach is 79 feet or 18 degrees.

NEWPORT BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT TRUCK SPECIFICATIONS

| 100 FOOT STEEL AERIAL LADDER LOAD CHART 500\# RATED TIP CAPACITY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WATERWAY DRY 50 MPH Wind Condition |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Aerial Elevation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $-8^{\circ}$ to $9^{\circ}$ | $10^{\circ}$ to $19^{\circ}$ | $20^{\circ}$ to $29^{\circ}$ | $30^{\circ}$ to $39^{\circ}$ | $40^{\circ}$ to $49^{\circ}$ | $50^{\circ}$ to $59^{\circ}$ | $60^{\circ}$ to $69^{\circ}$ | $70^{\circ}$ to $75^{\circ}$ |
| Egress | 500\# | 500\# | 500* | 500\# | 500* | 500\# | 500\# | 500\# |
| Fly | - | - | - | - | 250* | 250* | 750\% | 1000\# |
| Upper Mid | - | - | - | 250\# | 250* | 500\# | 1000\# | 1000\# |
| Lower Mid | - | - | 250* | 250\# | 500\# | 750\# | 1000\# | 1000\# |
| Base | - | 250\# | 500* | 500\# | 750\# | 1000* | 1000\# | 1000\# |
| WATERWAY CHARGED 50 MPH Wind Condition |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Aerial Elevation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $-8^{\circ}$ to $9^{\circ}$ | $10^{\circ}$ to $19^{\circ}$ | $20^{\circ}$ to $29^{\circ}$ | $30^{\circ}$ to $39^{\circ}$ | $40^{\circ}$ to $49^{\circ}$ | $50^{\circ}$ to $59^{\circ}$ | $60^{\circ}$ to $69^{\circ}$ | $70^{\circ}$ to $75^{\circ}$ |
| Egress | 500* | 500\# | 500* | 500\# | 500* | 500\# | 500* | 500\# |
| Fly | - | - | - | - | - | 250\# | 500\# | 750\# |
| Upper Mid | - | - | - | - | 250\# | 500\# | 750\% | 1000\# |
| Lower Mid | - | - | - | 250\# | 500\# | 750\# | 1000\# | 1000\# |
| Base | - | - | 250\# | 500\# | 750\% | 1000* | 1000\# | 1000\# |
| Capacities are based on the following, conditions: <br> * Apparatus is set up according to the operator's manual and leveled to within safe operating limits. <br> * The ladder is fully extended and unsupported, $360^{\circ}$ continuous rotation. <br> * For icing conditions, refer to the operator's manual. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ```Rated vertical height: }100\mathrm{ feet Rated horizontal reach at: 00 = 95 feet-1 inch UnLimited monitor nozzle positions 45 = 66 feet-9 inches while flowing up to }1000\mathrm{ GPM 75 P/N 2354863``` |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

