



SUTTER COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

1130 Civic Center Blvd., Suite E

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FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS ROADS - Commercial Occupancy

California Fire Code, Section 503 requires all fire apparatus access roads to be all-weather hard surfaces right away not less than 20 feet in width and unobstructed. For new construction, requirements shall be shown on the plot plan and detailed on plans submitted for approval before a building permit is issued. Graded access for emergency vehicles shall be provided at start of construction and the work completed prior to calling for a final inspection.

ACCESS ROAD LENGTH / WIDTH:

- Width of road: Distance from the structure O to 150 Feet in Length – 20 feet width.
- The Fire code official is authorized to increase the dimension of 150 feet where the following is met:
 - The building is equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system.
 - The fire apparatus roads cannot be installed because of location, topography, waterways, nonnegotiable grades or other similar conditions, and an alternative means of protection is provided.
 - There are no more than two R-3 or U occupancies on the property

NOTE: Access road length is measured from edge of primary thru road to furthest corner of an existing or proposed structure. Driveway connections to a County maintained road require an Encroachment Permit and inspection by the Public Works Department.

TURNAROUNDS:

- At or above 150 feet from a County Maintained road a Hammerhead-T, Circle drive, or Loop turnaround is required within 150 feet of all portions of the structure.
- Driveways between 300 feet and 900 feet in length require a turnout near the midpoint of the driveway.
- Over 900 feet turnouts shall be provided every 400 feet.

DRIVEWAY CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS:

- Entire driveway including turnouts and turnarounds surfaces to provide a minimum 6 inches of class 2 aggregate compacted to 95%.
- Paved surfaces if required shall be: 2 ½ inches of Asphalt or 4 inches of concrete over base.
- Maximum grade 10%. (Steeper grades require approval from the Sutter County Fire Chief).
- Turns require a minimum 25 feet radius (R=25')
- Curves require a minimum 50 feet radius (R=50').
- Overhead vertical clearance – Minimum 13 feet 6 inches.

GATES:

- Opening must be a minimum 16 feet wide.
- Gates shall be set back from the edge of the through road a minimum of 30 feet.
- Shall have emergency access by either Knox Box or approved entry system (requires approval from the Sutter County Fire Chief).