



EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESS ROADS (IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF STANISLAUS COUNTY)

This document is intended to provide general information about fire and emergency access requirements applied to new construction projects within the unincorporated areas of Stanislaus County. Fire access requirements are found in Appendix D of the California Fire Code. Some fire districts may have different requirements. Contact Stanislaus County Fire Prevention Bureau at 209-552-3700 or your local fire department if you have questions or need additional information.

Access Roadways

Generally, newly constructed buildings are required to have fire access roadways within 150' of all portions of the building. However, this distance may be increased if the building is equipped with automatic fire sprinklers or some other approved means of fire protection or there are no more than two R-3 or U occupancies served. Access roadways must meet the following criteria:

- Must have an unobstructed width of at least 20'.
- Must have an unobstructed height of at least 13' 6".
- Must be an approved access road with an asphalt, concrete or other approved driving surface capable of supporting the imposed load of fire apparatus weighing up to 75,000 pounds.
- May not exceed 10% grade unless approved by the Fire Chief.
- Dead end roadways longer than 750' (250 yards) are not permitted unless approved by the local Fire Chief of the projects location.
- Dead end roadways longer than 150' must have approved turnarounds. The minimum turning radius for a turnaround is 50' outside radius and 30' inside radius measured from the center of the roadway.
- Must include KNOX key boxes or other approved means for entering gated areas.
- KNOX key box applications must be obtained from your local fire department. Or on-line at knoxbox.com for an electronic application and e-approval.
- 2 fire access roads will be required for: buildings exceeding three stories or 30 feet in height and building exceeding 62,000 square feet in area.
- Remoteness: where 2 fire apparatus access roads are required, they shall be placed a distance apart equal to not less than one half of the length of the maximum overall diagonal dimension of the lot or area to be served, measured in a straight line between access.
- Please refer to Appendix D of the California Fire Code for additional requirements.

Building Identification

Address and building numbers shall be visible from the street or road fronting the building and be at least 4" high with a stroke of .5 inch (1/2"). For locations with multiple buildings and residences, address numbers shall be installed on the exterior of each building and directional address shall be posted for fire and emergency response.