



Clovis Fire Department

Standard #24

ACCESS

Access as defined in this standard refers to private streets and driveways not otherwise defined under the City of Clovis Public Works standards for streets and highways.

1. Every building constructed for commercial, industrial, manufacturing, or institutional uses shall be accessible to Fire Department apparatus by way of an access roadway with an all-weather driving surface of not less than thirty feet (30') of unobstructed width.
2. All other buildings constructed shall be accessible to Fire Department apparatus by way of access roadways with an all-weather driving surface of not less than twenty-six feet (26') of unobstructed width.
3. All access way roads constructed shall be designed with a minimum turning radius capability of forty-five feet (45').
4. All access way roadways shall be constructed to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus.
5. All access roadways shall have a minimum vertical clearance of thirteen feet six inches (13' 6").
6. The Fire Chief may authorize a reduction in unobstructed access way width to no less than twenty feet (20') when, in his opinion, fire fighting or rescue operations would not be impaired. The following guidelines will be used to evaluate whether or not access way width can be reduced:
 - a. The density does not exceed fifteen (15) dwelling units per acre.
 - b. There are no buildings greater than two stories or thirty-five feet (35') in height.
 - c. Buildings are set back from the access way a minimum of twenty feet (20').
 - d. Buildings are constructed using noncombustible roofing materials.
 - e. Access to the development is restricted and not subject to the general traffic patterns of public streets.
 - f. There are twenty-six (26') feet of unobstructed access way around fire hydrants that is twenty-five (25') feet clear in both directions.
 - g. All buildings are to be protected by automatic fire sprinklers.
 - h. There is no backing of vehicles from parking stalls directly into the access way.

In reviewing proposed developments it must be kept in mind that the purpose of fire protection access is to allow our emergency vehicles to approach a building as close as practical in order to employ the tools, equipment, and manpower necessary for fire control and rescue operations.