



ONTARIO FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PROTECTION STANDARD

ACCESS INTO GATED FACILITIES
STANDARD #B-003 EFFECTIVE 10-25-05 PAGES 3

PURPOSE

It is the intent of this standard to provide for quick and easy access of emergency response fire apparatus into gated facilities.

SCOPE

This standard shall apply to all facilities installing access control devices or systems after the effective date of this standard.

AUTHORITY

The 2007 California Fire Code (CFC) Section 503.6, requires that fire apparatus access roads shall be provided with security gates which have an approved means of emergency operation.

BACKGROUND

Since security is becoming an important issue in developments, many are installing gate security systems. The intent of the system is to restrict access in and out of a development. Access to emergency responders, however, must be provided without unnecessarily compromising the security concerns of the residents.

PROCEDURE

General: Vehicle access control devices or systems installed in residential developments, including existing developments, shall conform to the requirements of this standard.

Approval and Inspection: Detailed plans shall be submitted to the Ontario Fire Prevention Bureau and Planning/Building Departments, as appropriate, for approval prior to the installation of any vehicle access control device or system. Once approved for installation, all completed work shall be inspected by the Ontario Fire Prevention Bureau and any other appropriate City department prior to the device or system being placed in the working, "closed," operating position.

Direction of Travel: Installed access control gates shall either slide open horizontally or swing in the direction of vehicle travel to open.

EXCEPTION: Where a swing in the direction of vehicle travel is not possible due to the site configuration, a swing against vehicle travel may be approved with certain signage requirements intended to prevent damage to property and/or vehicles and personal injury.

Speed of Travel: All vehicle access control devices or systems must reach the fully open position within a total time not to exceed one second for each one foot of required width.

Prohibited Devices: All required vehicle access openings shall provide both ingress and egress. Direction-limiting devices (tire spikes, ect.) with an override provision may be allowed. No other device may be used which will delay the ingress or egress of emergency responders. The total number of vehicle access control devices or systems, through which emergency responders must pass through to reach any address, shall not exceed one.

Minimum Access Width: Any gate or arm controlling a single vehicle access opening shall provide a minimum width of twenty feet of clearance when fully open. When multiple vehicle access openings are utilized, the gate or arm may provide a minimum of twelve feet of clearance when fully open.

EXCEPTION: Gated facilities existing prior to the adoption of this standard, whose gates or arms are less than twenty feet in width when fully open, but equal to or greater than twelve feet, shall not be required to comply with the width requirement of this standard.

Operation: The normal operating mode of all vehicle access control devices or systems shall be power assisted. All must be accessible to emergency responders and provided with an approved (KNOX) keyed entry system.

EXCEPTION: Fire apparatus access roads provided and designated for “EMERGENCY SERVICES USE ONLY” may be gated with manually opening gates or arms that meet the 2007 California Fire Code, Section 503.6 and are secured with a KNOX device.

Manual Override: All vehicle access control devices, or systems requiring electrical, hydraulic, or pneumatic power/force for normal operation, shall have an approved means for manual override. This override feature shall be accessible to emergency responders for use in case of a malfunction of the normal operating system. In the manual override mode, all barriers shall be capable of being mechanically held in the fully open position.

Additional Requirements: Because of the delays caused by vehicle access control devices or systems, additional fire apparatus access road requirements may be applied to a gated facility based on other access limitations, such as narrow or winding streets, or dead-end streets without a turnaround area available for fire apparatus.

Maintenance: In order to ensure that a vehicle access control device or system is properly maintained, proof of a maintenance contract for the device or system is required to be supplied, if requested, to the Ontario Fire Prevention Bureau. If applicable, the property owner and/or property owners' association shall amend and maintain the CC&R's to provide the proper maintenance and operation of the vehicle access control device or system.