

FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS AND FIRE LANES

Information



Tucson Fire Department
300 S. Fire Central Pl.
Tucson, AZ. 85701
(520) 791-4502



503.1 Where required. Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided and maintained in accordance with Sections 503.1.1 through 503.1.3.

503.1.1 Buildings and facilities. 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 access road shall comply with the requirements of this section and shall extend to within 150 feet of all portions 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.

Exceptions:

1. The fire code official is authorized to increase the dimension of 150 feet where any of the following conditions occur:
 - 1.1 The building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, 903.3.1.2 or 903.3.1.3.
 - 1.2 Fire apparatus access roads cannot be installed because of location on property, topography, waterways, nonnegotiable grades or other similar conditions, and an approved alternative means of fire protection is provided.
 - 1.3 There are not more than two Group R-3 or Group U occupancies.
2. Where *approved* by the *fire code official*, fire apparatus access roads shall be permitted to be exempted or modified for solar photovoltaic power generation facilities.

503.1.2 Additional access. The fire code official is authorized to require more than one fire apparatus access road based on the potential for impairment of a single road by vehicle congestion, condition of terrain, climatic conditions or other factors that could limit access.

503.1.3 High-piled storage. Fire department vehicle access to buildings used for high piled combustible storage shall comply with the applicable provisions of Chapter 32.

503.2 Specifications. Fire apparatus access roads shall be installed and arranged in accordance with Sections 503.2.1 through 503.2.8.

503.2.1 Dimensions. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet, except for approved security gates in accordance with Section 503.6, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 15 feet (TFD amendment).

503.2.2 Authority. The fire code official shall have the authority to require or permit modifications to the required access widths where they are inadequate for fire rescue operations or where necessary to meet the public safety objectives of the jurisdiction.

503.2.3 Surface. Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus and shall be paved with structural sections designed in accordance with City of Tucson Development Standards (TFD amendment).

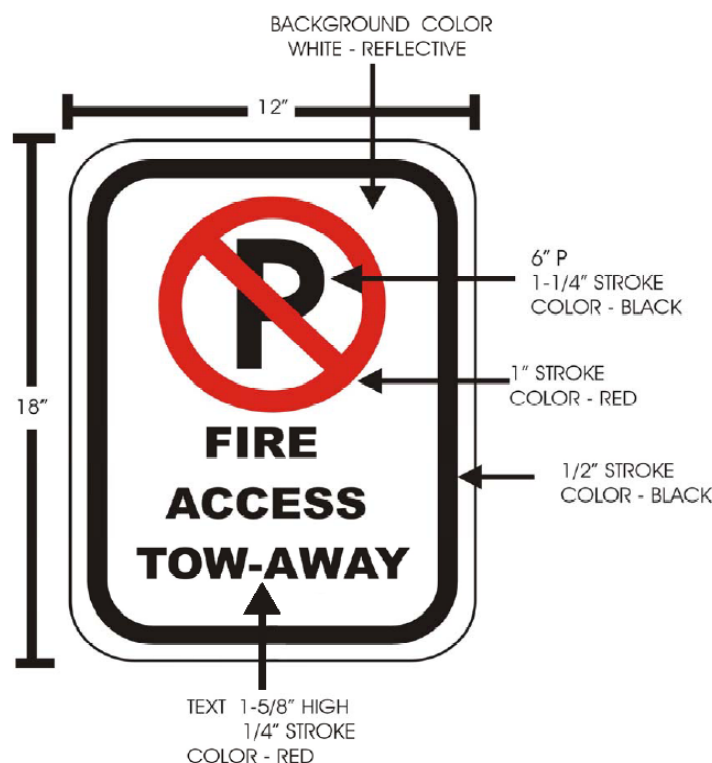
503.2.4 Turning radius. The required turning radius of a fire apparatus access road shall be determined by the fire code official.

503.2.5 Dead ends. Dead-end fire apparatus access roads in excess of 150 feet in length shall be provided with an approved area for turning around fire apparatus.

503.2.7 Grade. The grade of the fire apparatus access road shall be in accordance with City of Tucson Development Standards (TFD amendment).

Section 503.3 Marking. Every fire apparatus access roadway required under the authority of this section shall be posted with signs installed at points not more than one hundred (100) feet apart along the length of the required fire apparatus access roadway. The bottom of every such sign shall not be less than seven (7) feet or more than ten (10) feet from the ground surface level. Signs shall be posted to face the direction of travel. Construction, installation, and maintenance of the signs shall be done at no expense to the City. Materials and locations of each sign shall be indicated in the plans submitted to the Fire Department.

Fire access signs shall conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The required sign shall be the international **NO PARKING** sign with a standard sign size (width and height) of 12 x 18 inches (300 x 450 mm), on a white reflective background. The international **NO PARKING** symbol shall be a black P, six inches high. Underneath the **NO PARKING** symbol, in one-and-five-eighths inch high and one-quarter inch stroke, in red lettering it shall read:



Only fire apparatus access roadways required under the authority of this section or as approved by the chief may be posted or identified with the approved sign shown above. Unauthorized signs shall be removed.

503.4 Obstruction of fire apparatus access roads. Fire apparatus access roads shall not be obstructed in any manner, including the parking of vehicles. The minimum widths and clearances established in Section 503.2.1 and 503.2.2 shall be maintained at all times.

503.5 Required gates or barricades. The *fire code official* is authorized to require the installation and maintenance of gates or other *approved* barricades across fire apparatus access roads, trails or other accessways, not including public streets, alleys, or highways. Electric gate operators, where provided, shall be *listed* in accordance with **UL 325**. Gates intended for automatic operation shall be designed, constructed, and installed to comply with the requirements of **ASTM F2200**.

503.5.1 Secured gates and barricades. Where required, gates and barricades shall be secured in an *approved* manner. Roads, trails and other accessways that have been closed and obstructed in the manner prescribed by **Section 503.5** shall not be trespassed on or used unless authorized by the *owner* and the *fire code official*.

Exception: The restriction on use shall not apply to public officers acting within the scope of duty.

503.6 Security gates. The installation of security gates across a fire apparatus access road shall be *approved* by the *fire code official*. Where security gates are installed, they shall have an *approved* means of emergency operation. Electronic operated gates shall have an approved Knox (brand) key switch installed. The security gates and the emergency operation shall be maintained operational at all times. Electric gate operators, where provided, shall be *listed* in accordance with **UL 325**. Gates intended for automatic operation shall be designed, constructed, and installed to comply with the requirements of **ASTM F2200**.

NOTE: The person(s) in possession of the premises on and into which a fire apparatus access roadway is required shall be solely responsible for the maintenance of such roadways and all required signs. No owner, manager or other person(s) in charge of premises served by a required fire apparatus access roadway shall abandon or close the fire apparatus roadway or any part thereof without permission of the fire code official." The person(s) in possession of the premises shall be responsible for ensuring that fire apparatus roadways are clear at all times.

***Provided For Illustrative Purposes Only**

Minimum Road Widths

Measured from top face of curb to top face of curb or outside wedge curb.



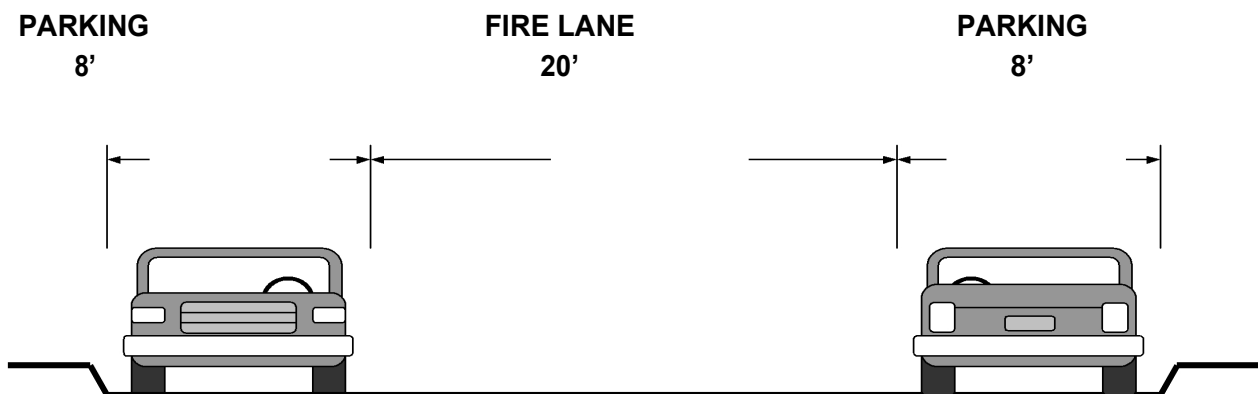
IF ROADWAY LESS THAN 28'
ALL Parking prohibited.

*Roadway is required posted a fire lane on both sides.



IF ROADWAY AT LEAST 28', BUT LESS THAN 36'
Parking prohibited (one side).

*Roadway is required posted a fire lane on one side



IF ROADWAY 36' OR WIDER
Parking allowed (both sides)