



LAS VEGAS FIRE & RESCUE

FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING DIVISION

Emergency Access Gate Regulations

The intent of this regulation is to provide necessary information and specifications related to the installation and operation of access gates across required fire apparatus access road in accordance with City of Las Vegas adopted fire code.

Unless otherwise noted, the provisions contained in this document are mandatory for both new and existing locations.

Definitions.

Gates and Barriers – shall mean a gate, crossbar, door or other obstructive device which is utilized for the purpose of restricting, controlling or obstructing entry or exit by motor vehicles or pedestrians to or from a private roadway and which is not manned on a twenty-four hour, seven day per week basis by a person capable of providing immediate access to a police or fire safety vehicle or person.

Manual “crash” gates are defined as non-motorized gates across required emergency access roadways.

Automatic Gates are defined as a motorized gate across required emergency access roadways. Gate(s) are operated by means of an installed ground loop detector or radio operated controller (Click 2 Enter).

Private Street or Roadway is defined as any roadway (not dedicated as public right-of-way) that is owned and maintained by abutting property owners, or association of property owners that is utilized for the purpose of providing vehicular or pedestrian access to a subdivision, apartment complex, condominiums or other residential development or wild land, excluding off-street parking areas, driveways, and driveways to off-street parking areas.

Private Driveway is defined as a private way for vehicular travel that provides access from an off-street parking area to a public or private drive.

Construction permits in accordance with Section 105 of the adopted fire code shall be obtained for the applicable scope of work. A general building permit will be required, electrical and a permit will be required for electrically operated gates.

Submittals. Three sets of plans and specifications for fire apparatus access road gates shall be submitted for review and approval prior to construction. The plans and specification shall indicate or showing the following information where applicable:

1. Civil plans shall be included in the submittal. The civil plans shall be approved by the Fire Department, Planning, and Engineering, and shall have been approved through the civil plan review process.
2. Installing contractor(s) shall stamp their respective plans for the installation of the gate(s).
3. All structural plans and calculations for gates over 6 ft. (1.83 m.) in height shall bear the stamp of a structural engineer.
4. Contractor’s business name, address, phone number and contact person.
5. Assessor’s Parcel Number (located on the property owners tax bill);

6. Proposed fence, pedestrian gates, vehicle gates;
7. Existing vehicular access;
8. Proposed location of KNOX key switch/KNOX box(s); (if applicable)
9. The exact physical street address of the gated entry, or property, as assigned by the Planning Dept.
10. Location of pavement loops

Product specifications. Specifications shall be provided that include:

1. Method of operation;
2. UL listing numbers of equipment used and;
3. Manufacturers specifications sheets for all equipment.

Minimum Design Requirements

1. Gates shall not be installed within a required turning radius of a fire access roadway;
2. Access Width for single- and bi-direction traffic shall be unobstructed 20 ft. (6.1 m.) wide and 13.5 ft. (4.1 m.) high.
3. Swinging gates for single direction traffic shall swing in the direction of vehicle travel.
4. Swing gates for bi-directional traffic shall swing into the property being entered;
5. Gated entry designs shall be in accordance with Clark County Area Standard Drawing #222A.
6. All gates shall be accessible from the driving lane nearest the edge of the street by turning radii of at least 28ft. (18.5 m.) inside and 52 ft. (15.85 m.) outside.
7. After passing through a gate, the nearest curb of any cross street shall be no less than 40 feet;
8. Access roadway throat length from the public road shall be approved by Public works/Traffic Engineering.

Operation of Gates

1. All gates shall be electrically operated for entry and exit by an approved fire department method;
 - 1.1 Key override switch (KNOX); and
 - 1.2 Ground loop gate operator or
 - 1.3 Radio operated controller (Click 2 Enter or other approved equipment).

Exception: Radio controlled exit may be waived by installation of a "Free exit" loop.

2. Gates installed utilizing a radio-controlled exit shall be provided with an approved 2 in. (50.8 mm) by 2 in. (50.8 mm), blue, reflective marker visible to the exiting traffic. It shall be located in the center of the exit gate.
3. Where applicable, KNOX Company authorization forms are required for orders of key switches, boxes and padlocks. The forms may be obtained by calling the LVF&R or items can be ordered via the Internet at www.KNOXbox.com.
4. Electrically operated gates shall fail to the full open position upon the loss of power. They shall remain fully open until such time the power is restored.
5. Gates shall reverse direction to full open position upon contact with an obstruction.

Manual gates, barriers, or Crash-Gates. Such may be approved on a case-by-case basis for nighttime security of business property, or gated communities.

1. They shall be constructed in a manner that reflects good construction practices acceptable to the Fire Department.
2. They shall be accessible by means of an approved fire department padlock where applicable

- (KNOX) or by the installation of an approved key box (KNOX).
3. Approved manual gates or barriers across emergency access roadways shall be provided with an 18-gauge metal sign in the center of and on both sides of the gate that shall read, "FIRE LANE - NO PARKING". Letters shall be red on a white background and be a minimum of 4 in. (76 mm) high with a ½ in. (12.7 mm) stroke.
 4. Gates to close off a fire lane behind strip malls/stores in order to minimize dumping and vandalism shall be approved with (KNOX) padlock access.

Prohibitions

1. No gate shall be installed where access requires the use of a proximity reader or card, unless a "turn-out" is provided for its use;
2. Direction-limiting devices, such as fixed tire spikes, are prohibited;
3. Direction-limiting protrusions on any gate are prohibited;
4. The total number of vehicle access control devices or systems, through which emergency vehicles must pass to reach any address shall **not** exceed one.
5. No commercial property owner shall install fences and gates where more than one gate must be opened in order to reach within 150 ft. (46 m.) of the rear portion of any building.

Pedestrian Gates. All vehicle gates obstructing pedestrian access to a public way (street) shall have an approved pedestrian gate installed within 10 ft. (3.05 m.) of the vehicle gate.

1. Gates shall be handicap accessible and comply with exit door requirements of the building code as adopted by the City of Las Vegas.
2. An approved key box (KNOX) shall be installed at least 4 ft. (1.22 m.) above grade on the outside of the gate. It shall be provided with a key to open the pedestrian gate.
3. No pedestrian gate shall be located in the median between two vehicle gates.

Exception: Private driveways serving one single-family residence are exempt from this requirement.

Maintenance. Emergency access gates and barriers shall be maintained to assure proper and continuous operation.

Installation Approval. The Fire Code Official shall conduct inspections on all gates and barriers for proper installation and operation prior to activation or use.

Additional Requirements

1. Because of the delays caused by vehicle access control devices or systems, additional fire protection requirements may be applied based on other access limitations, such as narrow or winding streets or dead-end streets without an approved turnaround available for fire apparatus.
2. Other than the obstruction and the reduced width controlled within this standard, no other requirement of the fire authority having jurisdiction shall be adversely affected by the placement of any vehicle access control device or system in any required fire apparatus access road.
3. Fire department approval does not waive any requirement by other authorities having jurisdiction