



JAMES GASPARINI
MAYOR

TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD

230 FAIRFIELD ROAD, FAIRFIELD, NJ 07004

PHONE: 973-882-2700 DEPT. EXT. 2506

FAX: 973-244-0178

FIRE PREVENTION/OEM

SECTION: 503

05 FIRE SERVICE FEATURES

0503. FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS

SECTION 503 FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS

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

503.1.1. The fire official may require and designate public or private fire lanes as deemed necessary for the efficient and effective operation of fire apparatus, access to building openings by fire fighters or egress of occupants.

503.1.1.1. Proposed fire lanes shall not conflict with prior approvals issued by the planning and/or zoning boards unless the administrative authority for the planning and/or zoning board grants approval of the creation of the fire lane in writing.

503.1.2 Deleted.

503.1.3 Deleted.

503.2 Specifications. Fire apparatus access roads shall be installed and arranged in accordance with Sections 503.2.1 through 503.2.7.

503.2.1 Dimensions. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet (6096 mm), except for approved security gates in accordance with Section 503.6, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13 feet 6 inches (4115 mm).

503.2.2 Authority. The fire code official shall have the authority to require an increase in the minimum access widths where they are inadequate for fire or rescue operations.

503.2.3 Surface. Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus and shall be surfaced so as to provide all weather driving capabilities.

503.2.4 Turning radius. The required inside turning radius of a fire apparatus access road shall be a minimum of 25 feet (7620 mm)

503.2.5 Dead ends. Dead-end fire apparatus access roads in excess of 150 feet (45 720 mm) in length shall be provided with an approved area for turning around fire apparatus.

503.2.6 Bridges and elevated surfaces. Where a bridge or

an elevated surface is part of a fire apparatus access road, the bridge shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with I-SHTO HB-17. Bridges and elevated surfaces shall be designed for a live load sufficient to carry the imposed loads of fire apparatus. Vehicle load limits shall be posted at both entrances to bridges when required by the fire code Official. Where elevated surfaces designed for emergency vehicle use are adjacent to surfaces which are not designed for such use, approved barriers, approved signs or both shall be installed and maintained when required by the fire code official.

503.2.7 Grade. The grade of the fire apparatus access road shall be within the limits established by the fire code official based on the fire department's apparatus.

503.3 Marking. Where required by the fire code official, approved signs or other approved notices shall be provided for fire apparatus access roads to identify such roads or prohibit the obstruction thereof. Signs or notices shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility.

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 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 access ways, not including public streets, alleys or highways.

503.5.1 Secured gates and barricades. When required, gates and barricades shall be secured in an approved manner. Roads, trails and other access ways 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 officials 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 official. Where security gates are installed, they shall have an approved means of emergency operation. The security gates and the emergency operation shall be maintained operational at all times.