CRR POLICY 1328: Security Gates On Fire Apparatus Access Roads

Created: December 10, 2020 Revised: February 3, 2021 Effective Date: Immediate
Community Risk Reduction Division – 928-204-8926

This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2012 International Fire Code (IFC) and is an official interpretation of Section 503.6 of the 2012 IFC.

Definitions

Approved – Acceptable to the fire code official.

Applicable Code Sections

503.6 Security gates. The installation of security gates across a fire apparatus access road shall be *approved* by the fire chief. 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. 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 F 2200.

Interpretation

This section does not require that security gates be installed, but since they can affect fire department operations, their installation must be approved by the fire chief. Where installed, security gates must be operable in an emergency by the emergency response units and the means of operation must be acceptable to the fire chief. Electrically operated gates should also include a manual method of operation.
This section requires on-going maintenance of security gates so that ready access to the roadway may be accomplished. If gates are not maintained in a manner that prevents appreciable delay of emergency response, the fire code official has the authority to have gates removed because they would then be considered to constitute an obstruction of the required roadway width as regulated in Section 503.4.

Sedona Fire District requirements for security gates are as follows;

Gates serving only one single family property or domicile;

- Minimum width 16 feet.
- Property owners not wishing to provide access to Sedona Fire District, do so at their own peril.

Gates serving two or three single family properties or domiciles (multi-family dwellings not included) or any combination thereof;

- Minimum width 16 feet
- Manually operated gates that are locked shall require the installation of a KNOX® padlock keyed to the type presently employed by Sedona Fire District. This lock is available for purchase from www.knoxbox.com
- A KNOX® padlock is not required for manually operated gates that are not locked
- Electronically operated security gates shall be equipped with a Sedona Fire District key over-ride cylinder available at www.knoxbox.com. This cylinder shall be keyed to the type presently employed by the Sedona Fire District

Gates serving four or more single family residential properties or domiciles, multi-family dwellings (triplex or larger) and/or commercial developments or properties or any combination thereof;

- Minimum width 20 feet
- Manually operated gates that are locked shall require the installation of a KNOX® padlock keyed to the type currently used by Sedona Fire District. This lock is available for purchase from www.knoxbox.com
- An KNOX® padlock is not required for manually operated gates that are not locked
- Electronically operated security gates shall be equipped with a Sedona Fire District key over-ride cylinder available at www.knoxbox.com. This cylinder shall be keyed to the type presently employed by the Sedona Fire District
- In addition to key operation, a TOMAR (TOMAR Industries, http://TOMAR.com) optical sensor 2091-SD or similar, shall be installed.

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All electronically operated gates require a battery backup system capable of operating the gate during a power outage.

All electronically operated gates shall be equipped with a ground loop activation system or; TOMAR optical sensor **and** key over-ride cylinder along the path of egress.

All gates equipped with a TOMAR optical sensor shall be programmed to remain open for as long as the signal is being transmitted by the emergency apparatus and for a period of not less than 60 seconds after the signal ceases to be sent.

Key over-ride sensors shall be programmed to keep the gate open for a period of not less than 60 seconds after the cylinder has been returned to the momentary operation setting.

Gates with multiple fire department approach directions may require multiple TOMAR sensors on the approach side of the gate.

Plans shall be submitted to this office for review to ensure compliance with the fire code prior to a permit being issued for the installation of the gate. Please contact this office if you have any questions or concerns regarding this issue.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:
Community Risk Reduction Division
Sedona Fire District
2860 Southwest Drive
Sedona, AZ 86336

928-204-8926

crm@sedonafire.org