

Fire Prevention Division

Guideline No. 10.003

January 7, 1992

SECURITY GATES ON FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS ROADS FOR COMMERCIAL OCCUPANCIES

A. Scope and Purpose

Gates installed across designated fire apparatus access roads are an obstruction and are prohibited except when such gates are installed and maintained in accordance with the following:

B. Code Authority

International Fire Code sections 102 and 503.

C. Special Provisions

Gates when installed across fire apparatus access roads shall be approved by the Fire Prevention Division and shall comply with the following:

1. Gates, when fully opened shall not reduce the required twenty (20') foot width of the fire apparatus access road.
2. Locking or securing of gates shall be in a manner so as not to unduly hinder fire department access.

Acceptable methods are:

- a. Fire district padlock on a malleable chain.
 - b. Padlock with a Knox and/or Supra Box.
 - c. Keycard or electronic locking system with a Knox and/or Supra Box.
 - d. Any mechanical means where a full-time security guard is present at the gate site and can open such gate.
 - e. Electronic sensing devices that are compatible with "Opticom" sending units used by South King Fire & Rescue.
3. Gates shall be located at least thirty (30') feet from the intersecting roadway.
 4. Plans and specifications shall be submitted for review and approval prior to construction of the gates and/or installation of the sensing devices.
 5. A manual override or magnetic spring-loaded opening device shall be provided in the event of a power failure to allow the gate to open.
 6. The approval of gate(s) across fire apparatus access roads may be withdrawn where such gate(s) are not maintained in accordance with the conditions of approval.