Clark-Cowlitz FIRE RESCUE	Fire Code Standard Access and Fire Protection During Construction	
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ACCESS AND FIRE PROTECTION DURING CONSTRUCTION

Buildings under construction shall meet the requirements of Chapter 33*, Fire Safety During Construction and Demolition* as well as the sections detailed in this standard.

Fire Apparatus Access Roads During Construction.

Utilities.

All utilities within the required width of fire apparatus access roads shall be installed prior to introducing combustible materials to a site or commencing vertical construction. Any excavation in the required fire department access roadway after combustible materials are on site shall be performed in a manner to maintain access to the site and shall be coordinated with the Fire Marshal.

Residential Driveways for One and Two-Family Dwellings During Construction.

Prior to and throughout vertical construction, driveways, inclusive of turnarounds, required for fire apparatus access shall have base material capable of supporting a 20-ton vehicle, during most-weather conditions, installed and compacted to 95% relative compaction at a minimum of 12 feet wide.

Roads During Construction.

Prior to introducing combustible materials or starting vertical construction fire apparatus access roads shall be installed in accordance with the following:

Width.

Fire apparatus access roads shall be a minimum un-obstructed width of 20 feet. Roads within 10 feet either side of required fire hydrants shall be 26 feet in width.

Surface.

At minimum, the surface of fire apparatus access roads shall be as follows:

1. First lift of AC pavement with required aggregate base in accordance with public road standards or registered engineers design requirements.

OR

2. Minimum 6 inches of native soil compacted to 95 percent relative compaction.

and

Minimum 4 inches of aggregate base compacted to 100 percent relative compaction.

The Fire Marshal prefers Method 1 above but may consider Method 2 after review and consultation.

Fire Protection Systems.

Accessible.

Fire protection systems shall remain clear and unobstructed. Temporary signage shall be provided to alert employees that no obstructions of fire protection equipment shall be permitted.

Standpipes.

In buildings required to have standpipes by Section 905.3.1, Washington State Fire Code, not less than one standpipe shall be provided for use during construction. Such standpipes shall be installed prior to construction exceeding 40 feet in height above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access. Such standpipes shall be provided with fire department hose connections at locations adjacent to stairways. As construction progresses, such standpipes shall be extended to within one floor of the highest point of construction having secured decking or flooring.

Portable Fire Extinguishers.

Not less than one approved portable fire extinguisher in accordance with Section 906 and sized for not less than ordinary hazard as follows:

1. At each stairway on all floor levels where combustible materials have accumulated.
2. In every storage and construction shed.
3. Additional portable fire extinguishers shall be provided where special hazards exist including, but not limited to, the storage and use of flammable and combustible liquids.

Fire Hydrants.

If fire hydrants are required for the construction project, the number and location of fire hydrants shall be approved by the Fire Marshal. These fire hydrants shall be operational and unobstructed prior to combustible construction materials arriving on site.