



Santa Barbara County Fire Department Guide for ADU Plan Submittal

Fire Apparatus Access

Accessways shall conform with the Santa Barbara County Fire Development Standard #1, Fire Apparatus Access.

- Full access from the public way to the end of the access point shall be provided.
- A minimum four feet unobstructed pedestrian access around the structure shall be provided.
- Fire apparatus access ways shall extend to within 150 feet of all portions of the exterior walls of the first story as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the structure.
 - This can be extended to 200 feet if the ADU is equipped with fire sprinklers.
- Fire apparatus access way widths and clearances.
 - Roadways shall provide a minimum of 20 feet width. (Roadways serve more than two residential parcels or more than four dwelling units.)
 - Driveways shall provide a minimum of 12 feet wide traffic lane with 16 feet unobstructed horizontal clearance.
 - All accessways shall provide a minimum of thirteen feet, six inches of unobstructed vertical clearance for the entire width and length of the accessway.
- Driveway lengths.
 - Driveways exceeding 150 feet in length, but less than 500 feet in length shall provide a turnout near the midpoint.
 - Driveways exceeding 500 feet in length shall provide turnouts every 250 feet apart.
 - An approved turnaround shall be provided on driveways over 150 feet in length. Turnarounds shall not exceed 5% in slope. When access is off a high traffic roadway or backing onto roadway might be a safety concern, a fire apparatus turnaround might be required even on driveways less than 150 feet in length.
 - Driveways exceeding 750 feet in length require extra review and approval by the Fire Department.
- Driveway grades and surfacing.
 - Driveways 0-10% in grade may be of all-weather construction and surfacing. Interlocking pavers are not allowed above 5% in grade.
 - Driveways 10.1-15% in grade shall require A/C paving or equivalent at minimum.
 - Driveways 15.1-20% in grade require approval of the Fire Chief and shall require structural engineered concrete.
 - Driveway accessways and shoulders, shall support a minimum of 40,000 LBS.
 - Access angle of approach and departure shall not exceed 12 degrees combined.



- Driveway Gates.
 - A Knox key gate entry system shall be required on all vehicle access gates.
 - Gate operations shall not impede the use of firefighting appliances.
 - Gated entrances for one twelve-foot traffic lane shall have a minimum width of fourteen feet unobstructed horizontal clearance.
 - Gates for private driveways shall be setback to provide a minimum of 30 feet from the nearest curb line of any public or private street.

Fire Water Supply

Fire hydrants and stored water systems shall conform with Santa Barbara County Fire Development Standard #2, Fire Hydrant Location, Spacing, and Flow, and Development Standard #3, Stored Water for Fire Protection.

- Provide information detailing if fire water will be from a public or private system.
 - If water is supplied by a public water district, the name of the district shall be provided in the plans.
 - Flow rates shall provide a minimum of 500 GPM.
 - Provided fire hydrants shall be a minimum of residential and consist of one 4 inch and one 2 ½ inch national fire standard outlets.
 - A minimum of three feet clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of the hydrant.
- If the fire water is from a private system, complete plans of the system shall be provided.
 - If fire water is supplied by a stored water tank, complete plans of the system shall be provided.
- Distance to the closest fire hydrant shall be included in the plans.
 - Fire hydrants shall be no more than 400 feet from all portions of the exterior of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior. If building is not equipped with fire sprinklers.
 - Fire hydrants shall be no more than 600 feet from all portions of the exterior of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior. If equipped with fire sprinklers.
 - If the distance from the fire hydrant is greater than 600 feet, a new fire hydrant shall be installed.

Fire Sprinklers

If fire sprinklers are installed, they shall conform to Santa Barbara County Fire Department Development Standard #4a, One- and Two-Family Dwellings Fire Sprinkler System Standard.

- If the primary dwelling is equipped with a fire sprinkler system, the ADU will require fire sprinklers.



- If Fire apparatus access way is between 150 feet to 200 feet of all portions of the exterior walls of the first story as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the structure. The ADU will require fire sprinklers.
- If the closest fire hydrant is between 400 feet and 600 feet from all portions of the exterior of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior. Either fire sprinklers will need to be installed, or a fire hydrant will need to be installed.

Defensible Space Requirements

If your project is located within a designated Fire Hazard Severity Zone, defensible space requirements will apply. These maps can be found on the SBCFD webpage or the following link

<https://sbc->

[gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Styler/index.html?appid=2f1213412d54470c88721daa2a43daf0](https://sbc-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Styler/index.html?appid=2f1213412d54470c88721daa2a43daf0)

Defensible space and vegetation management shall comply with Santa Barbara County Fire Department Development Standard #6, Defensible Space

- The minimum amount of defensible space is one hundred (100) feet or to the property line, whichever is nearer.
- Zone 0: is the five (5) feet immediately surrounding a structure.
- Zone 1: is five (5) feet from the structure to thirty feet from the structure on a horizontal plane.
- Zone 2: is thirty (30) feet to one hundred feet surrounding the structure on a horizontal plane.
- Zone 3 (Access Zone): is intended to protect roadways and measured ten (10) feet from both sides of the roadway on a horizontal plane.
- Landscaped areas shall use fire-smart vegetation in accordance with the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code.

Address Required

All ADUs require a recorded address issued from the Fire Department.

- Address numbers shall be a minimum height of four inches with a stroke width of not less than ½ inch.
- Address numbers shall be a color contrasting to the background color
- Numbers shall be visible from the access road when traveling in either direction.
- If the driveway is over 150 feet in length or the building is obstructed from view at the access road and/or driveway, numbers shall be posted at all road and driveway intersections as necessary.