

# **SKAGIT COUNTY ACCESS ROAD STANDARDS FOR ISSUANCE OF BUILDING PERMIT**

BASIS: INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE SECTION 503 FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS

AS AMENDED BY SKAGIT COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 020040013

## **A. DRIVEWAYS (Private Access Roads) – Roads serving one or two residential lots.**

1. Driveways where building is less than 150 feet from approved access road have no specific requirements.
2. Driveway over 150 feet long serving one or two residential lots.
  - a. Width – 12 foot driving surface with turnouts located every 300 feet. To create a turnout, the road shall be widened to 20 feet for a distance of 30 feet to allow vehicle to pull over and allow emergency vehicle to proceed.
  - b. Vertical clearance – 13 foot 6 inches unobstructed overhead clearance.
  - c. Surfacing – 6 inches of gravel.
  - d. Turning radius for turns along the length of the driveway – 20 feet inside, 50 feet outside radius. (Note: This is not a cul-de-sac standard).
  - e. An acceptable means of turning around a fire apparatus must be provided. This does not necessarily require a cul-de-sac for a driveway serving one or two residential lots. Means of turning apparatus must be acceptable.
  - f. Bridges – must meet Skagit County Road Standards ( See Public Works).
  - g. Grade – short plate standards – 12% gravel or 14% with approved hard surfacing.

## **B. FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE ACCESS ROADS - Roads serving other than one or two single family dwellings.**

1. Width – 20 foot driving surface.
2. Vertical clearance – 13 foot 6 inches unobstructed overhead clearance.
3. Surface – Private Road Standards.
4. Turning radius – 20 feet inside, 50 feet outside radius
5. Turnarounds – 70 foot cul-de-sac or as approved by Fire Marshal.
6. Bridges – must meet Skagit County Road Standards (See Public Works).
7. Grade – short plate standards – 12% gravel or 14% paved.

### **NOTE:**

1. These standards apply to all building permits and are minimums for building permit purposes. County platting standards may exceed these standards, and these standards are in no way intended to eliminate the need for full compliance with platting and short platting requirements.
2. International Fire Code 503.1.1 allows the Fire Marshal to make modifications in these standards if the road is not build able because of topography waterways, non-negotiable grades, or similar conditions. These modifications are based on:
  - a. The building being protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system.
  - b. Additional fire protection as required by the Fire Marshal.
3. For roads accepted as platted or short platted by Skagit County prior to June 11, 1990, these standards may be modified by the Fire Marshal provided that, in his opinion, fire fighting or rescue operation would not be impaired.

ACCESSRD. CFM/ 09-17-90

Last revision effective 7-1-2004