



FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS (2020 MSFC)

Code Reference – MSFC Section 503 – Fire Apparatus Access Roads

503.1 Where required. Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided and maintained in accordance with Sections 503.1.1 through 503.1.3.

503.1.1 Buildings and facilities. *Approved* fire apparatus access roads shall be provided for every facility, building, or portion of a building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction. The fire apparatus access road shall comply with the requirements of this section and shall extend to within 150 feet (45 720 mm) of all portions of the facility and all portions of the exterior walls of the first story of the building as measured by an *approved* route around the exterior of the building or facility.

Exception: Fire apparatus access roads need not be provided where there are two or fewer Group R-3 or Group U occupancy buildings.

503.1.1.1 Increases allowed. The 150-foot distance shall be permitted to be increased for the following:

1. When the building is equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, 903.3.1.2, or 903.3.1.3.
2. For Group R occupancies equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, 903.3.1.2, or 903.3.1.3, the fire apparatus access road shall extend to within 600 feet (183 m).
3. Where fire apparatus access roads cannot be installed because of location on property, topography, waterways, nonnegotiable grades, or other similar conditions, and an approved alternative means of fire protection is provided, the fire apparatus access road shall extend to within 300 feet (91.4 m).

503.1.2 Additional access. The *fire code official* is authorized to require more than one fire apparatus access road based on the potential for impairment of a single road by vehicle congestion, condition of terrain, climatic conditions or other factors that could limit access.

503.1.3 High-piled storage. Fire department vehicle access to buildings used for *high-piled combustible storage* shall comply with the applicable provisions of Chapter 32.

See MSFC 503 Sections 503.2 through 503.6 for additional requirements.

General Requirements

1. Apparatus access roads shall be provided with all-weather driving surface. Construction shall include 8 inches of class 5 material over a stable base. The access road shall be inspected and approved by the City of Shakopee Engineering Department.
2. Access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet.
3. Access roads shall have a driving surface width of not less than 16 feet.
Exception: Where there are two or fewer Group R-3 or Group U occupancy buildings, the minimum driving width may be reduced to 12 feet.
4. The minimum turning radius shall accommodate an aerial platform apparatus. Refer to the handout for Apparatus Specifications.
5. Refer to International Fire Code Appendix D for additional requirements.

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