

CHAPTER 16.36  
FIRE CODE

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16.36.010 Fire Apparatus Access Roads: In addition to the requirements set forth in Section 503 of the 2009 State Fire Code, fire apparatus access roads shall meet the following requirements:

- A. Surface: Fire apparatus access roads for commercial or industrial buildings or developments shall have an unobstructed width of twenty feet (20'), be designed and engineered to withstand heavy traffic loads, and be provided with an all weather driving surface. Unless otherwise approved by the Fire Chief, an all weather surface shall mean an asphaltic or Portland cement concrete hard surface or pavement which can be well maintained. Additionally, access roads serving one and two family residences may be surfaced as approved by the Fire Chief.
- B. Turning Radius:
  - 1. The turning radius for any turn around or cul-de-sac that is greater than 220 feet long, measured from the intersection of the streets to the center of the cul-de-sac, on a required fire apparatus access roadway within city street right-of-way or on private property shall not be less than forty-six feet (46'). The forty-six foot (46') radius shall be measured from the center point of the cul-de-sac or turn around and extend to the back of the curb, or on private access roads to the edge of asphalt if no curb is installed.
  - 2. The turning radius for any turn around or cul-de-sac that is equal or less than 220 feet long, measured from the intersection of the streets to the center of the cul-de-sac, on a required fire apparatus access roadway within City street right-of-way shall not be less than thirty feet (30'). The thirty foot (30') radius shall be measured from the center point of the cul-de-sac or turn around and extend to the back of the curb.
  - 3. Turn arounds or cul-de-sacs installed on required private fire apparatus access roadways shall be hard surfaced capable of withstanding heavy vehicle traffic. Alternate methods of creating private access road turn arounds may be approved by the Fire Chief. Approved temporary turn arounds may include hammerhead arrangement designs or a graveled surface ninety-two feet (92') in diameter.
- C. Grade: The gradient for a private fire apparatus access road shall not exceed fifteen percent (15%), except that fire apparatus access roads leading to buildings fully protected by automatic sprinkler systems may exceed fifteen percent (15%) when, in the opinion of the Fire Chief, fire fighting or rescue operations would not be impaired.

- D. Closure of Access Roads: When approved by the Fire Chief, gates and barricades may be placed across fire apparatus access roads, provided that they can be opened by the Fire Department with the provision of an approved "key box". For gates controlled electronically, the gate shall be equipped with an approved key switch override, and a manual release mechanism shall be accessible to firefighters through a "man-gate" installed no further than fifty feet (50') from the roadway gate.
  - E. Access Identification: When required by the Fire Chief, fire apparatus access roads shall be posted with signs reading "No Parking - Fire Lane". Signs shall have three inch (3") reflective red lettering on a white background. The top of the sign shall not be less than four feet (4') nor more six feet (6') from the ground. Vertical curbs shall be painted yellow or red on the top and side. Rolled curbs or surfaces without curbs shall have a yellow or red six inch (6") wide painted stripe. The paint or striping shall extend the length of the designated fire lane.
  - F. Aerial Fire Apparatus Access Roads: Buildings or portions of buildings, or facilities exceeding thirty feet (30') in height above the lowest level of Fire Department access shall be provided with a roadway that complies with Section D105 of the 2009 State Fire Code as currently adopted or as amended in the future.
  - G. Residential Developments: Access shall be provided to new residential developments in accordance with Sections D106 and D107 of the 2009 State Fire Code as currently adopted or as amended in the future.
  - H. Commercial and Industrial Developments: Fire apparatus access for commercial and industrial developments shall comply with Section D104 of the 2009 State Fire Code as currently adopted or as amended in the future. (Ord. 2706, 3/11/14; Ord. 2559, 4/27/10; Ord. 2476, 6/23/09; Ord. 2283, 12/12/06; Ord. 2082, 7/23/02)
- 16.36.015 Variance: The City Council may grant variances from the standards set forth in this chapter upon the finding that the grant of a variance is in the best interest and welfare of the community and that fire protection will not be compromised. The Fire Chief shall provide a recommendation to the City Council on whether or not in his opinion fire protection would be compromised. (Ord. 2007, 2/27/01)
- 16.36.020 Above Ground Storage Tanks for Motor Vehicle Fuel - Dispensing Stations: Appendix II-F to the 1997 State Fire Code entitled "Aboveground Storage Tanks for Motor Vehicle Fuel - Dispensing Stations" is adopted by reference in its entirety. (Ord. 2476, 6/23/09; Ord. 2082, 7/23/02; Ord. 1544, 1992; Ord. 983, 1980; Ord. 792, 1976)
- 16.36.030 Key Box Required: On all new construction and in buildings retro-fitted with required automatic fire sprinkler systems, or fire alarm systems, a Fire Department approved key box is required to be installed on the exterior of the building at a location specified by the Fire Marshal. (Ord. 2082, 7/23/02)
- 16.36.070 Commercial Kitchen Defined: Kitchens in Occupancy Groups A, B, E, I, M, & R-1 (hotels) shall be defined as commercial kitchens. In all commercial kitchens, food processing equipment which produces grease laden vapors shall be protected by an approved hood and ventilation system that is equipped with an automatic fire suppression system which complies with U. L. Standard 300. Ventilation fans shall be connected to the fire suppression system in accordance with the fire suppression system manufacturers instructions. A single residential cooking unit shall be exempt from this requirement. A facility with two (2) or more residential cooking units installed in the same room shall be inspected by the Fire Department and a determination shall be made on whether or not a fire suppression system will be required. (Ord. 2082, 7/23/02)

- 16.36.080 Non-Complying Commercial Kitchens: In commercial kitchens with required automatic fire suppression systems which do not comply with U. L. Standard 300, fire suppression systems shall be retrofitted at the next six (6) year system maintenance, or upon discharge of the system in response to a fire. (Ord. 2082, 7/23/02)
- 16.36.090 Type K Extinguishers: Type K extinguishers of at least a 40 B rating shall be installed in lieu of potassium bicarbonate or sodium bicarbonate fire extinguishers in all new commercial kitchens which require automatic fire suppression systems. (Ord. 2082, 7/23/02)
- 16.36.100 Interconnection of Duct Detectors: Air moving systems mounted as roof top units (RTU) which require the installation of duct smoke detectors shall have such smoke detectors interconnected to the building fire alarm system on a supervisory circuit only. (Ord. 2082, 7/23/02)
- 16.36.110 Interconnection of Alarm Systems: Fire alarm systems shall not be interconnected to intrusion, burglar, or robbery alarms, nor shall they share common components or circuits; except: non-required fire alarm systems may share common components with other alarm systems provided all components are listed and approved for multiple-system operation. (Ord. 2082, 7/23/02)
- 16.36.120 Alarm Monitoring: Fire protection systems that are required to be monitored as identified in the currently adopted state fire code, or where required by Moses Lake Municipal Code, shall be monitored by an alarm monitoring system that complies with National Fire Protection Association Standard 72. Required monitoring systems shall be hard wired with a minimum of one dedicated phone line and one shared line. When utilizing shared phone lines the dialer must have the capability of "seizing" the phone line for immediate use in reporting an alarm. Voice over internet protocol (VOIP) or cellular dialers may be utilized as a back-up system in lieu of a second phone line, but are not allowed to be utilized as the primary means of communication between the alarm dialer and the alarm monitoring station. (Ord 2905, 7/10/18)
- 16.36.130 Maintenance and Testing of Hood Systems: Hood systems that are required by this code, or other code adopted under state law, shall be required to undergo maintenance and testing in accordance with the currently adopted state fire code. Records of maintenance and testing shall be reported to the reporting service currently in use by the fire department within 14 days of service. (Ord 2905, 7/10/18)
- 16.36.140 Maintenance and testing of Fire Alarm Systems: Fire alarm systems required by this code, or other code adopted under state law, shall be required to be maintained and tested in accordance with the most recent edition of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 72, and the currently adopted state fire code. Records of maintenance and testing shall be reported to the reporting service currently in use by the fire department within 14 days of service. (Ord 2905, 7/10/18)