

**KING COUNTY PUBLIC RULES
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

Chapter 17-04
Rules and Regulations of the
Department of Development and Environmental Services

Alternative Fire Apparatus Access Turnarounds on Fire Access Roads
Which Are Not Designed and Constructed to the King County Road
Standards (KCRS)

Effective Date: January 22, 1999

Document No. _____

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17-04-010 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to these rules and regulations:

A. Department. "Department" means the Department of Development and Environmental Services of King County.

B. Fire apparatus access road. "Fire apparatus access road" means a road constructed and maintained as required by the Uniform Fire Code Article 9, Sections 901 and 902, as amended by K.C.C. 17.04, for the purpose of providing access by fire apparatus to buildings and facilities.

C. Fire apparatus. "Fire apparatus" means a vehicle such as a fire pumper, aerial ladder truck, elevated platform, rescue squad or similar firefighting or rescue equipment.

D. Fire marshal. "Fire marshal" means the director of the King County department of development and environmental services or his or her designee.

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17-04-011 Purpose. It is the purpose of these rules to establish design standards for alternative fire apparatus access turnarounds on fire access roads that are not designed and constructed to the King County Road Standards (KCRS) in lieu of the required 80 foot (24.38 m) cul-de-sac, as authorized by K.C.C. 17.04.01020. Alternative fire apparatus access turnarounds designed in accordance with this Public Rule shall be considered an equivalent standard to the 80 foot (24.38 m) cul-de-sac.

17-04-012 Applicability. This alternative fire apparatus access turnaround applies only to fire apparatus access roads which are not designed and constructed to the King County Road Standards (KCRS). Any fire apparatus access road which is required to be designed to the King County Road Standards may request an alternative to the widened "bulb" required by KCRS Section 2.08 through the Road Standards variance process.

17-04-013 Design Criteria.

A. All legs of the turnaround shall be a minimum of 20 feet (6.10 m) of unobstructed width.

B. There shall be a minimum 20 feet (6.10 m) inside radius between the fire access road and the legs.

C. There shall be a minimum of 55 feet (16.76 m) from the intersection of the centerline of the fire apparatus access road and the centerline of the leg to the end of all legs.

D. The alternative fire apparatus access turnaround shall be marked as a fire lane in accordance with K.C.C. 17.04.070.

E. The alternative fire apparatus access turnaround shall meet the same grade and surfacing standards applied to fire access roads.

F. The maximum cross slope on an alternative fire apparatus access turnaround shall not exceed six percent.

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G. Alternative designs that do not meet the criteria established in this section may be approved by the King County Fire Marshal.

17-04-014 Drawings. Alternative fire apparatus access turnarounds shall be designed generally in accordance with the designs illustrated in Attachment A. Any variation on these designs is acceptable, such as various angles of "Y" turnarounds, provided the design meets the criteria established in Section 17-04-013. Alternative designs not meeting the criteria established in Section 17-04-013 may be approved by the King County Fire Marshal.

17.04.015 Review Process. A request for an alternative fire apparatus fire turnaround shall be reviewed by the King County department of development and environmental services, building services division, concurrently with the associated building permit.

17.04.016 Effect. An alternative fire apparatus turnaround designed in conformance with this rule shall be considered in compliance with K.C.C. 17.04.01020, fire department access - dead ends, and an automatic sprinkler system shall not be required based on inadequate fire apparatus access turnaround facilities. Approval by the King County Fire Marshal is not required for alternative fire apparatus roads designed in accordance with this rule.

17-04-017 Severability. If a provision of the rules contained herein or its applicability to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the provisions of these rules or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Attachment: A. Alternative Fire Apparatus Access
 Turnarounds