Plan Submittal Standards for Gated Fire Lanes

The Vancouver Fire Department reviews plans and details of proposed fire lane gates for compliance with current development standards. In addition to the Vancouver Transportation Department's review of gates, the Fire Department checks for the following:

Temporary access restrictions during construction.

• Temporary gates on required fire lane access roadways may be provided with a chain and lock. The chain link will be severed in the event of needed use by the Fire Department.

Permanent access restricting gates.

- Clear unobstructed minimum access width of automatic gates shall be 20'0" on a single gated roadway when fully opened; or 15'0" on each side of a divided entry gated roadway when fully opened. Gates shall be designed to remain fully open once activated by the Fire Department until closed by the Fire Department (unless staffed 24 hours/day, 365 days/year).
- Swinging gates shall swing in the direction of travel and shall not interfere with minimum emergency vehicle turning radius.
- Permanent automatic unattended gates on required fire lane access roadways shall be provided with a Knox key switch unless provided with an opticom compatible strobe activated opening device.
- An opticom compatible strobe activated gate switch may be required where there are one hundred (100) or more units and secondary access is required. The photo eye assembly shall be installed per the product listing for emergency vehicles and shall be aimed to be activated from the approach side to the gated community.
- Any failures of required gate switches shall result in the requirement that the gate remain in the open position until repairs are completed.
- Electrically operated gates shall be manually operable in the event of power failure unless supplied with backup emergency power.
- Plans and specifications of gate assembly and location shall be submitted for review, approval, and inspection prior to construction. In the event that a conflict exists in access requirements from the City's Department of Transportation or from any department in the City, the more restrictive requirement shall prevail. Approval of a gate plan by the Fire Department does not guarantee approval by the City's Department of Transportation or by other City departments.
- Final approval of gate is contingent on Fire Department testing and acceptance. Deputy Fire Marshal will arrange for emergency apparatus testing prior to approval.

