



Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Roads Policy

Community Life Safety Division
North Las Vegas Fire Department
4040 Losee Rd
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

BACKGROUND

Fire Apparatus Access Roads are required prior to commencing above grade construction or locating combustible material on-site. Generally, it is the preference of the North Las Vegas Fire Department (NVLFD) that permanent roads are constructed prior to construction. The NVLFD recognizes that the installation of the permanent roads may not always be practical and has developed this policy to define Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Roads.

This policy was developed to define Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Road and implement a consistent means of enforcing these requirements at all construction sites and/or developments located within our jurisdictional boundaries to perform fire fighting and emergency medical operations throughout the various stages of construction and/or development. This policy explains in detail what the NVLFD will accept as a Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Road, as well as other temporary issues associated with construction and development, until the permanent roads are constructed.

Acknowledgement

The North Las Vegas Fire Department would like to thank Pardee Homes and Rocky Cochran for providing and preparing the test site and materials needed to validate the method of surfacing for Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Roads and for their feedback in the development of this policy. The North Las Vegas Fire Department would also like to thank Terra Contracting, the Associated General Contractors of Southern Nevada, and the Southern Nevada Home Builders Association for their feedback and participation in the development of this policy.

The NVLFD has established the following criteria for the construction of Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Roads prior to above grade construction or delivery, use, and/or storage of combustible material on-site except those limited amounts used solely for concrete forms or materials utilized for underground utilities. Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Roads and Fire Protection shall be established and maintained in accordance with International Fire Code (IFC) Chapter 14 Section 1410.1 Required Access, Sections 503, 504, 505, and 507.

Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Roads shall meet the following criteria:

REQUIRED ACCESS

- *Approved* vehicle access for fire fighting and emergency medical response shall be provided to all construction or demolition sites. Vehicle access shall be provided to within 100 feet of temporary or permanent fire department connections. Vehicle access shall be provided by either temporary or permanent roads, capable of supporting vehicle loading under all weather conditions. Vehicle access shall be maintained until permanent fire apparatus access roads are available.
- Fire apparatus access roads shall be installed and approved by the Division of Fire Prevention prior to above grade construction or delivery, use, and/or storage of combustible material (wood products (other than foundation form boards), foam board, etc.) on-site.
- Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Roads shall meet all other access requirements outlined by the code (Dimensions, Turning Radius, Grade, and Angles of Approach and Departure) prior to above grade construction or delivery, use, and/or storage of combustible material on-site.
- Open trenches across temporary fire apparatus access roads shall be covered at all times by a steel trench plate capable of maintaining the integrity of the temporary fire apparatus access road until inspection and backfill can be completed. The minimum width across a Temporary Fire Apparatus Access Road where an open trench exists, may be reduced to twenty (20') feet where covered by a trench plate. Open trenches next to building openings or adjacent to fire protection equipment shall be provided with trench plates or approved access to ensure and accommodate ingress to these areas without hindering the operation.
(IFC Sections 1410.1/503.2/503/504.1)

SURFACE

- The surface of temporary fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed load of one hundred thousand (100,000) pound fire apparatus. A temporary surface that can meet this requirement shall be achieved by:
 1. Provide street cuts of the temporary fire apparatus access road to native soil.
 2. Ensure grading of native soil for drainage of standing water.
 3. Provide a layer of Type II material on the scored native soil.
 4. Provide compaction of the Type II material throughout the temporary fire apparatus access road with heavy equipment.

5. Final surface of the wheel compacted layer of Type II material shall provide a minimum roadway thickness of two (2") inches above the native soil.
6. Properly delineate the boundaries of the temporary fire apparatus access road in a manner acceptable to the fire code official.

(IFC Section 503.2.3)

NOTE: This surface shall be maintained at all times and shall have a design life of ninety (90) days. The project superintendent shall inspect the temporary fire apparatus access road on a daily basis.

BUILDINGS and FACILITIES

- Temporary fire apparatus access roads shall extend to within 150 feet 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.

(IFC Section 503.1.1)

ADDITIONAL ACCESS

- Approved secondary access shall be provided for twenty (20) or more dwelling units, road(s) with dead ends or with a single point of access in excess of 600 feet, and for all commercial and industrial developments.

(IFC Section 503.1.2)

STREET or ROAD SIGNS

- Temporary street and road signs shall be provided at each street intersection.
- Temporary address identification shall be provided in accordance with IFC Section 505.1 and maintained throughout all phases of construction.

(IFC Section 505.1)

FIRE PROTECTION WATER SUPPLIES

- Public and/or Private Fire Mains and fire hydrants shall be installed, operational and capable of providing the minimum required fire flow for the building(s) or sites prior to above grade construction or delivery, use, and/or storage of combustible material on-site.

NOTE: All hydrants designated for use shall be installed, tested, and flushed prior to being designated as a viable water supply. Hydrants shall also be readily accessible by level grade.

(IFC Section 507)

OBSTRUCTION of FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS

- Parking procedures shall be established and approved by the fire code official. Parking procedures will be monitored throughout the work day by the project superintendent to ensure that Fire Apparatus Access Road widths are adhered to and maintained. Failure to maintain required road widths may result in strict enforcement of Fire Lane requirements to include signs and patrols by the fire code official. Project superintendents shall remove vehicles which are parked or stopped on the access road.
(IFC Section 503.4)

TEMPORARY SIGN REQUIREMENTS

CRITERIA for TEMPORARY STREET/ROAD SIGNS

Temporary Street/Road Signs shall meet the following criteria and be provided as required for the project.

Sign Wording: Street Direction, Name, and Suffix

Signs Size: Minimum 24" wide by 12" high

Sign Background: White

Sign Lettering Size: Four (4") inches in height one-half (0.5") inch stroke width

Sign Lettering Color: Red

Signs shall be securely stood (minimum 4" X 4" post) a minimum of 72"-84" above finished grade adjacent to the roadway served.

CRITERIA for TEMPORARY ADDRESS SIGNS

Temporary Address signs shall be placed on the building represented in the upper most corner of the building. In not attached directly to the building, see directions below for each type of construction.

One- and Two-Family Residential Structures

No addressing will be required, if less than twenty (20) buildings or units are under construction on a single street at any given time.

If twenty (20) or more buildings or units are under construction on a single street at any given time, they shall be temporarily marked in the following manner:

Signs Size: Minimum 6" wide by 4" high

Sign Wording: Street Number

Sign Background: White

Sign Lettering Size: Arabic numerals, three and one-half (3.5") inches in height one-half

(0.5") inch stroke width
Sign Lettering Color: Red

If not attached directly to the building, the sign shall be securely stood (minimum 1" X 2" post) a minimum of 48"-60" above finished grade in front of the building served.

Multi-Family Dwellings

Signs Size: Minimum 36" wide by 24" high
Sign Wording: Street Number, Direction, Name, and Suffix **OR** Building Number
Sign Background: White
Sign Lettering Size: Twelve (12") inches in height one (1") inch stroke width
Sign Lettering Color: Red

If not attached directly to the building, the sign shall be securely stood (minimum 4" X 4" post) a minimum of 72"-84" above finished grade in front of the building served.

Commercial Structures

Signs Size: Minimum 36" wide by 24" high
Sign Wording: Street Number, Direction, Name, and Suffix
Sign Background: White
Sign Lettering Size: Twelve (12") inches in height one (1") inch stroke width
Sign Lettering Color: Red

If not attached directly to the building, the sign shall be securely stood (minimum 4" X 4" post) a minimum of 72"-84" above finished grade in front of the building served.

CRITERIA for TEMPORARY FIRE LANE/ACCESS SIGNS

Where required, Temporary Fire Lane/Access Signs shall meet the following criteria and be installed at the entrance to the construction site/development and every 100 feet along the access road. A sign shall also be placed at the end of the access.

Sign Wording: FIRE ACCESS
Signs Size: Minimum 36" wide by 24" high
Sign Background: White
Sign Lettering Size: Eight (8") inches in height one (1") inch stroke width
Sign Lettering Color: Red

Signs shall be securely stood (minimum 4" X 4" post) a minimum of 84" above finished grade adjacent to the roadway served.