FIRE CODE REVIEW

As an integral component of development in Brenham, the Fire Marshal's Office reviews all new/redevelopment commercial sites, subdivisions, and special project sites for compliance. Areas such as fire hydrant placement, underground piping for fire protection systems, approach and departure angles, overhead obstructions, and apparatus access to buildings are some of the areas that are reviewed.

General Requirements
1. Provide fire hydrants for all new developments; 300' residential // 500' commercial spacing.
2. Fire hydrants in a commercial complex shall face the street or apparatus access route.
3. Fire hydrants shall be located within 400' non-sprinklered // 600' sprinklered of all exterior portions of a building at grade. Measured "as the hose lays".
4. Maximum 10% approach/departure angle.
5. Minimum 25 foot radius for all drive aisles with Fire Lanes.
6. Apparatus turn-around to be in compliance with IFC 2012 Appendix D103.4
   • Cul-de-sac within a right-of-way shall require a 60 foot radius

7. Apparatus access routes to be located within 150' of the building to provide hose lay access.
8. Apparatus access routes (fire lanes) to be 24' wide, except
    1. When a fire hydrant is located along the route - lanes shall be 26' wide.
    2. When building height exceeds 30' - lanes shall be 26' wide.
9. Any overhang or horizontal obstructions shall have a clearance height of 14' when located along the access route.
10. Overhead wires shall not be installed when aerial access is required from a fire lane.
11. Plans shall indicate location of underground piping used for fire protection. Include location of post indicator valve, and remote FDC - Fire Department Connection.
12. FDC to be located within 100' of a fire hydrant on the same side of an approved route.
13. Knox Box required for all commercial buildings.
14. Gates located along the fire lane shall be equipped with a Knox key switch or Knox padlock.
15. Backflow preventers for fire sprinklers systems shall be located inside the building on the riser. No underground vaults allowed.
16. No landscaping to be proposed within 3' radius of FDC, fire hydrants and other fire service valves.