

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

November 12, 2025

TO: Vincent Bertoni, AICP, Director of Planning
Department of City Planning
Attention: planning.valleyprojects@lacity.org

FROM: Los Angeles Fire Department

SUBJECT: **VTT-84453-HCA (12501 W. Ventura Blvd.)**

Submit plot plans for Fire Department approval and review prior to recordation of Tract Map action.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Access for Fire Department apparatus and personnel to and into all structures shall be required.

Address identification. New and existing buildings shall have approved building identification placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property.

One or more Knox Boxes will be required to be installed for LAFD access to project. Location and number to be determined by LAFD Field Inspector. (Refer to FPB Req # 75).

The entrance or exit of all ground dwelling units shall not be more than 150 feet from the edge of a roadway of an improved street, access road, or designated fire lane.

No building or portion of a building shall be constructed more than 150 feet from the edge of a roadway of an improved street, access road, or designated fire lane.

Fire Lane Requirements:

- 1) Fire lane width shall not be less than 20 feet. When a fire lane must accommodate the operation of Fire Department aerial ladder apparatus or where fire hydrants are installed, those portions shall not be less than 28 feet in width.
- 2) The width of private roadways for general access use and fire lanes shall not be less than 20 feet, and the fire lane must be clear to the sky.
- 3) Fire lanes, where required and dead ending streets shall terminate in a cul-de-sac or other approved turning area. No dead ending street or fire lane shall be greater than 700 feet in length or secondary access shall be required.
- 4) Submit plot plans indicating access road and turning area for Fire Department approval.
- 5) All parking restrictions for fire lanes shall be posted and/or painted prior to any Temporary Certificate of Occupancy being issued.
- 6) Plans showing areas to be posted and/or painted, "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" shall be submitted and approved by the Fire Department prior to building permit application sign-off.

- 7) Electric Gates approved by the Fire Department shall be tested by the Fire Department prior to Building and Safety granting a Certificate of Occupancy.
- 8) All public street and fire lane cul-de-sacs shall have the curbs painted red and/or be posted "No Parking at Any Time" prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy or Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for any structures adjacent to the cul-de-sac.
- 9) No framing shall be allowed until the roadway is installed to the satisfaction of the Fire Department.

Construction of public or private roadway in the proposed development shall not exceed 10 percent in grade.

On small lot subdivisions, any lots used for access purposes shall be recorded on the final map as a "Fire Lane".

Private development shall conform to the standard street dimensions shown on Department of Public Works Standard Plan S-470-0.

Standard cut-corners will be used on all turns.

The Fire Department may require additional vehicular access where buildings exceed 30 feet in height.

Where the vertical distance between the grade plane and the highest roof surface exceeds 30 feet, approved aerial fire apparatus access roads shall be provided.

Where above ground floors are used for residential purposes, the access requirement shall be interpreted as being the horizontal travel distance from the street, driveway, alley, or designated fire lane to the main entrance of individual units.

The following recommendations of the Fire Department relative to fire safety shall be incorporated into the building plans, which includes the submittal of a plot plan for approval by the Fire Department either prior to the recordation of a final map or the approval of a building permit. The plot plan shall include the following minimum design features: fire lanes, where required, shall be a minimum of 20 feet in width; all structures must be within 300 feet of an approved fire hydrant, and entrances to any dwelling unit or guest room shall not be more than 150 feet in distance in horizontal travel from the edge of the roadway of an improved street or approved fire lane.

FPB #105

5101.1 Emergency responder radio coverage in new buildings. All new buildings shall have approved radio coverage for emergency responders within the building based upon the existing coverage levels of the public safety communication systems of the jurisdiction at the exterior of the building. This section shall not require improvement of the existing public safety communication systems.

2014 CITY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE CODE, SECTION 503.1.4 (EXCEPTION)

- a. When this exception is applied to a fully fire sprinklered residential building equipped with a wet standpipe outlet inside an exit stairway with at least a 2 hour rating the distance from the wet standpipe outlet in the stairway to the entry door of any dwelling unit or guest room shall not exceed 150 feet of horizontal travel AND the distance from the edge of the roadway of an improved street or approved fire lane to the door into the same exit stairway directly from outside the building shall not exceed 150 feet of horizontal travel.
- b. It is the intent of this policy that in no case will the maximum travel distance exceed 150 feet inside the structure and 150 feet outside the structure. The term "horizontal travel" refers to the actual path of travel to be taken by a person responding to an emergency in the building.
- c. This policy does not apply to single-family dwellings or to non-residential buildings.

Site plans shall include all overhead utility lines adjacent to the site.

Where access for a given development requires accommodation of Fire Department apparatus, overhead clearance shall not be less than 14 feet.

No proposed development utilizing cluster, group, or condominium design of one or two family dwellings shall be more than 150 feet from the edge of the roadway of an improved street, access road, or designated fire lane.

Any roof elevation changes in excess of 3 feet may require the installation of ships ladders.

Building designs for multi-storied residential buildings shall incorporate at least one access stairwell off the main lobby of the building; But, in no case greater than 150ft horizontal travel distance from the edge of the public street, Private Street or Fire Lane. This stairwell shall extend onto the roof.

Entrance to the main lobby shall be located off the address side of the building.

Any required Fire Annunciator panel or Fire Control Room shall be located within 20ft visual line of site of the main entrance stairwell or to the satisfaction of the Fire Department.

Where rescue window access is required, provide conditions and improvements necessary to meet accessibility standards as determined by the Los Angeles Fire Department.

Adequate off-site public and on-site private fire hydrants may be required. Their number and location to be determined after the Fire Department's review of the plot plan.

Any required fire hydrants to be installed shall be fully operational and accepted by the Fire Department prior to any building construction.

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The applicant is further advised that all subsequent contact regarding these conditions must be with the Hydrant and Access Unit. This would include clarification, verification of condition compliance and plans or building permit applications, etc., and shall be accomplished **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**, in order to assure that you receive service with a minimum amount of waiting please call **(213) 482-6543**. You should advise any consultant representing you of this requirement as well.

Ronnie R. Villanueva
Interim Fire Chief

David A. Perez, Fire Marshal
Bureau of Fire Prevention and Public Safety

DP:KC:kc

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