

RICHLAND COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE



Richland County Emergency Services Department *Secondary Access Policy*

I. MISSION

To ensure safe and timely access into planned residential and commercial develops for emergency response vehicles in the event of an emergency.

II. SCOPE

The fire code official is authorized to require more than one fire apparatus access road based on the potential for impairment of a single road by vehicle congestion, condition of terrain, climatic conditions or other factors that could limit access as promulgated in the International Fire Code.

III. POLICY

Some justifying factors in determining the necessity of a secondary access are the number of proposed lots that could potentially increase vehicle congestion and current traffic patterns, as well as other extenuating circumstances.

1. All major subdivisions as defined by the Richland County Land Development Code shall be required to install a secondary access road. (Exception: All dwelling units are protected by approved residential sprinkler systems).
2. Multi-family dwelling units of 200 or more.
3. Fire access roads shall be remote from one another so that the possibility of impairment of one does not affect the other. No less than 500 ft. within an access on the same road

(Where topography or land lock issues create a challenge to comply with a secondary access, the developer shall attempt to make reasonable trade offs allowed by code as mitigation for potential road impairment.)

Projects not in compliance with this policy and/or other IFC requirements at sketch phase shall be disapproved.

Exception: This policy shall not apply to existing subdivisions or subdivisions with un-constructed phases approved by the Planning Commission prior to January 1, 2004.