



Grays Harbor County Building Division  
 100 West Broadway, Suite 31  
 Montesano, WA 98563  
 Ph: 360-249-5579 Fax: (360) 249-5669

Fee: \$110.00

# Fire Equipment Access Driveway Approval

Fire Equipment Access Approval # \_\_\_\_\_ Building Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ Fire District # \_\_\_\_\_

A Fire Equipment Access Driveway Approval shall be required for every building hereafter constructed when any portion of an exterior wall of the first floor is located more than one hundred fifty (150) feet from fire department vehicle access, as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building.

Applicant (if not owner) \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel Number \_\_\_\_\_

Site Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Describe what you plan to do \_\_\_\_\_

Use of Improvement:  Residential  Commercial  Retail  Garage  Storage  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Has this property been the subject of a Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Class I, Class II or Class III Forest Practices Approval (FPA) development moratorium during the past 6 years? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Please provide the following information:

- Show, on your site plan how you will comply with the Fire Equipment Access Driveway requirements of Grays Harbor County Code 15.12 (copy attached).
- Answer the following questions concerning your access:
  - Width \_\_\_\_\_ Turning Radius \_\_\_\_\_
  - Vertical Clearance \_\_\_\_\_ Turnaround \_\_\_\_\_
  - Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Bridges \_\_\_\_\_
  - Surface \_\_\_\_\_

Owner / Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Office Use

- Approved
- Disapproved
- Approved, with the following conditions:

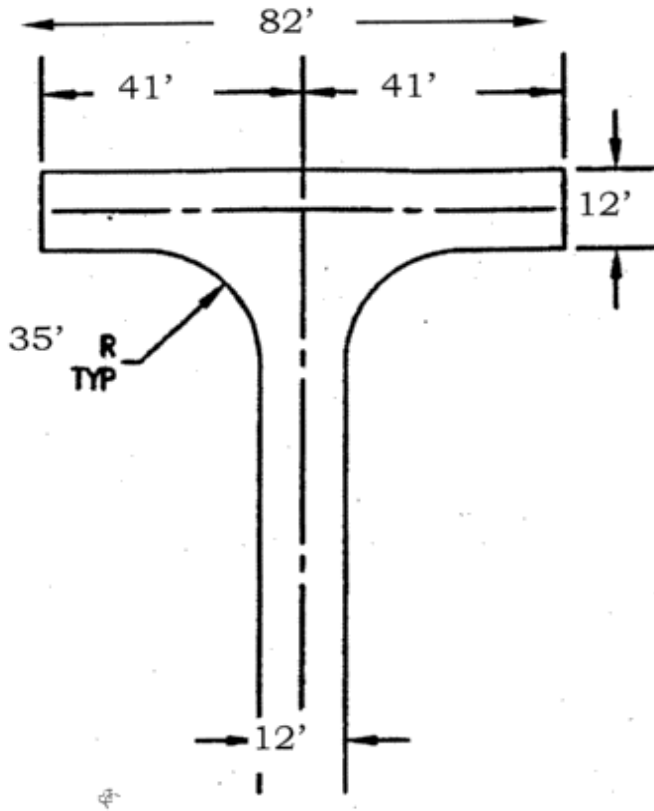
\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

IMPORTANT: This Fire Equipment Access Driveway Approval is not a permit and does not authorize the construction of any or the work required by the Fire Equipment Access Driveway Approval. The construction of any road improvement(s) contained as conditions in the Fire Equipment Access Driveway Approval will require the issuance of either: (A) a building permit, or (B) a grade and fill permit, before you can begin the construction of the fire equipment apparatus access road.

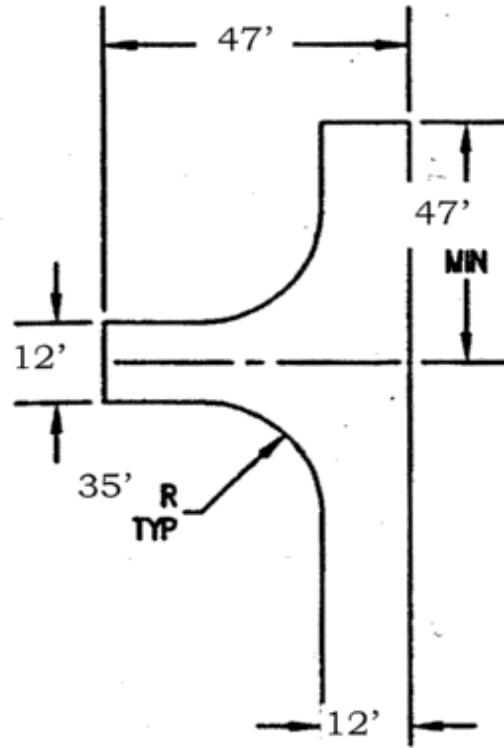
Grays Harbor County Fire Marshal \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Illustration A

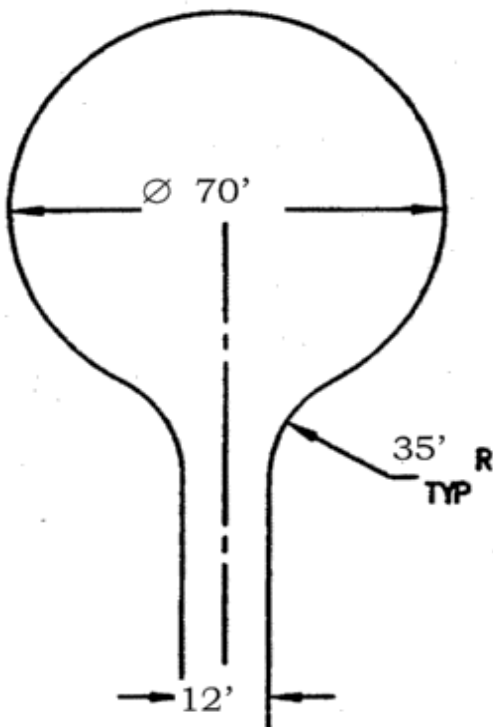
Examples of 12' Wide Fire Equipment Driveway Turnarounds



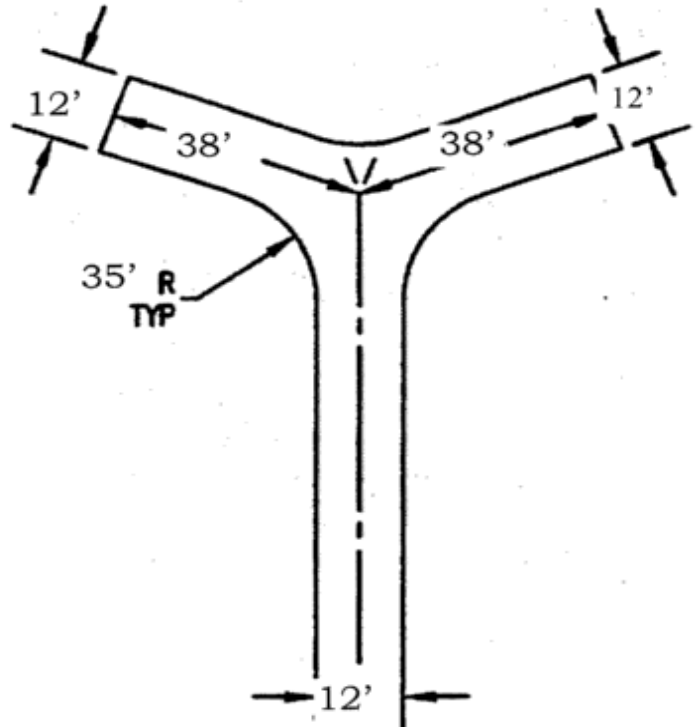
**HAMMERHEAD**



**3-POINT SIDE**

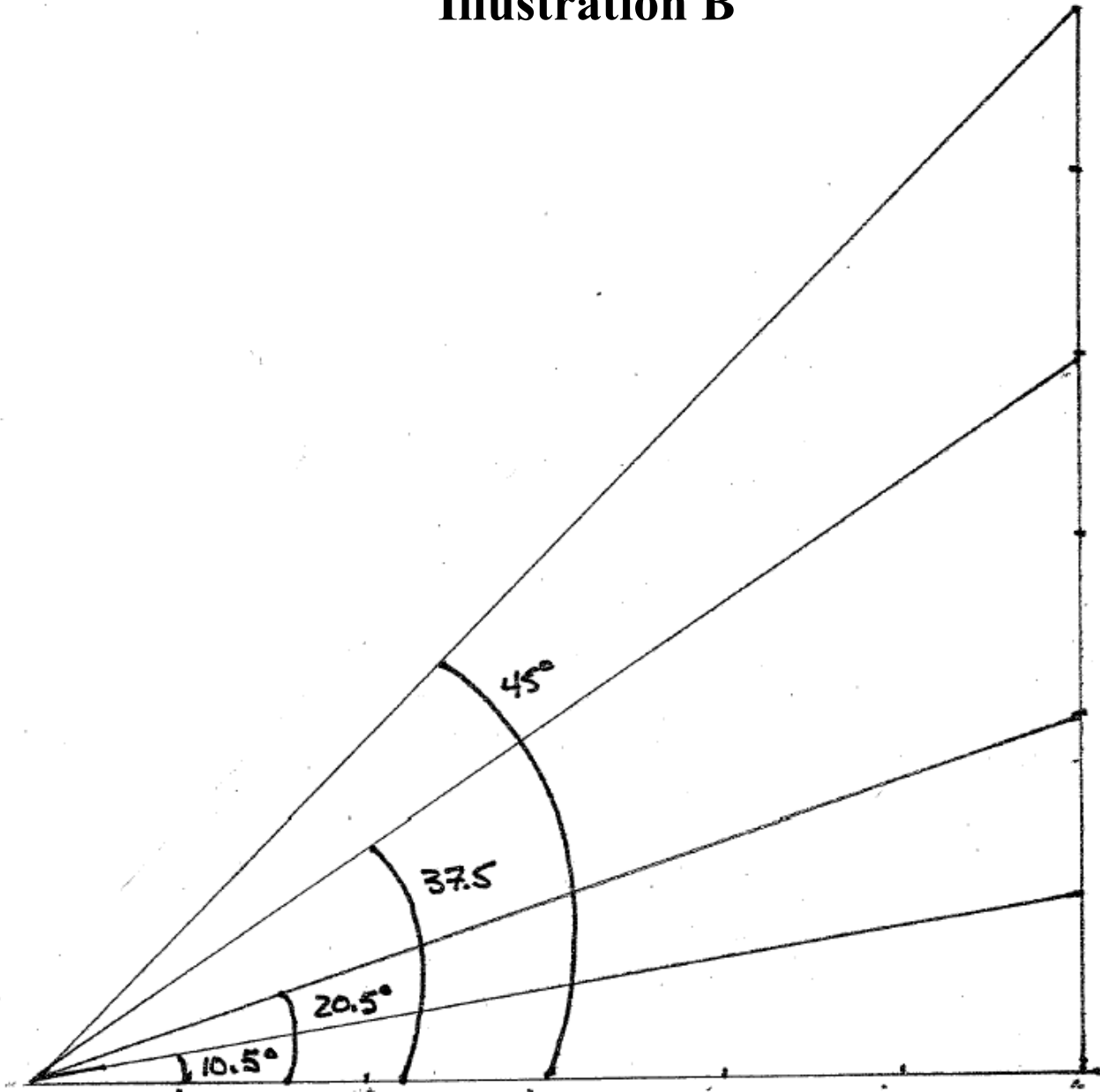


**CUL-DE-SAC**



**3-POINT WYE**

# Illustration B



Ratio		Angle (Degree)		Percent (of Grade)		Pitch (in Inches)
1:1 [3:3]	=	45°	=	100%	=	12:12
2:3	=	37.5°	=	66.7%	=	8:12
1:3	=	20.5°	=	33.3%	=	4:12
½:3	=	10.5°	=	16.6%	=	2:12
.425:3	=	9°	=	14%	=	1.7:12
.35:3	=	8°	=	12%	=	1.4:12

## Chapter 15.12

### FIRE EQUIPMENT ACCESS DRIVEWAYS

#### Sections:

- 15.12.010 Definitions
- 15.12.020 Fire equipment access driveway required
- 15.12.030 Inspection
- 15.12.040 Specifications
- 15.12.050 Modifications
- 15.12.060 Appeals of decisions

#### 15.12.010 Definitions.

As used in this chapter.

“Fire equipment access driveway” means a privately-maintained vehicle access serving a maximum of two single-family residences available for use by an emergency service provider.

“Director” means the Grays Harbor County planning and building director.

“Road standards” means the Grays Harbor County minimum road standards set forth in Chapter 12.02.

#### 15.12.020 Fire equipment access driveway required.

Fire equipment access driveways shall be required for every building hereafter constructed when any portion of an exterior wall of the first floor is located more than one hundred fifty (150) feet from fire department vehicle access as provided by a private lane or public road conforming to the County minimum road standards set forth in Chapter 12.12.

Exception: Agricultural buildings, including but not limited to barns, loafing sheds, and hay storage; detached private garages, carports, or structures accessory to a single-family dwelling.

Every building hereafter constructed or moved shall be located on a lot which is adjacent to or has direct access over a dedicated private road or access easement providing the minimum fire equipment access driveway. A dedicated private road shall have the meanings understood under Chapter 64.04 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

#### 15.12.030 Inspection.

Fire equipment access driveways shall be inspected and approved by the director, or designee, prior to issuance of a building permit. This inspection and approval process shall be completed within one hundred twenty (120) working days from the date of building permit application. The director, or designee, shall conduct a final inspection of the fire equipment access driveway before a final inspection is completed for the associated building by the planning and building division.

#### 15.12.040 Specifications.

Fire equipment access driveways shall be constructed in accordance with the following standards:

- A. Width: Fire equipment access driveways shall not be less than twelve (12) feet in width.
- B. Vertical Clearance: Fire equipment access driveways shall be unobstructed by overhanging branches and other obstructions to a height of thirteen feet six inches (13'-6").

- C. Grade: The gradient for a fire equipment access driveway shall comply with county minimum road standards set forth in Chapter 12.02 (see Illustration “B”).
- D. Surface: Fire equipment access driveways shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the Private Roadway Section “A” standards set forth in Chapter 12.02.
- E. Turning Radius: The turning radius of any portion of a fire equipment access driveway shall not be less than one hundred (100) feet.
- F. Turnarounds and Turnouts: A dead-end fire equipment access driveway shall include a turnaround at the end of the driveway of a size and configuration that permits the turning of the firefighting equipment. The turnaround shall have a minimum turning radius of thirty five (35) feet and shall be constructed to conform to one of the turnaround designs noted in Illustration “A”.
- G. Bridges: Bridges located within a fire equipment access driveway shall be certified by an engineer, licensed to practice in the state of Washington, as being capable of supporting the loads imposed by the firefighting apparatus of the applicable fire protection district.

**15.20.050 Administrative modifications.**

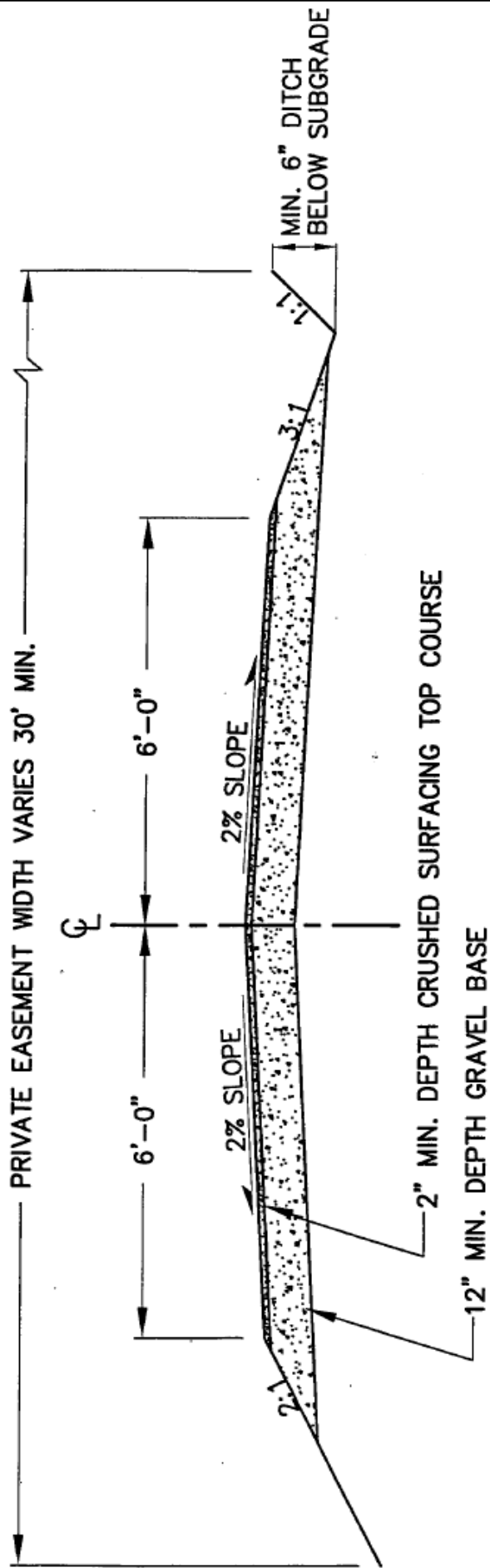
Administrative modifications from fire equipment access driveway standards may be approved by the director based upon the following decision criteria:

1. The fire protection district in which the residence is located provides written documentation that the modification affords the minimum necessary to provide emergency services to the residence(s) accessed by the driveway.
2. Special circumstances applicable to the subject property, including size, shape, topography, location, or surroundings where the strict application of the fire equipment access driveway standards is found to deprive the subject property of the rights and privileges enjoyed by other properties in the vicinity that are served by the fire protection district noted in the previous subsection (1) above.
3. The granting of the administrative modification will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to the property or improvements in the vicinity in which the subject property is located.
4. The modification request contains modifications to the fire equipment access driveway standards that provide an equivalent level of access for use by the fire protection district.
5. The modification request results in permit conditions that address the fire protection district’s ability to provide emergency services to the residence(s) served by the driveway.

The director shall prepare written findings documenting the administrative modification’s conformance with the decision criteria set for in this section, with a copy of the findings placed in the record for the residence(s) served by the fire equipment driveway.

**15.12.060 Appeals of decisions.**

Appeals of decisions of the director issued under the authority of this chapter shall be made to the building codes advisory council in the manner provided in Chapter 15.16 of this code.



PRIVATE ROADWAY SECTION E