



These guidelines are to be followed when a building, facility, residential subdivision, or multi-family dwelling units, within the City of Rockwall, is provided with an approved, entry and exit access control/security gate for vehicular traffic and/or pedestrian traffic.

All access control criteria for the purposes of these guidelines and any other guidelines or requirements of the Fire Marshal Division shall conform to the 2015 International Fire Code, as adopted and amended by the City of Rockwall.

These guidelines do not replace, nor supersede any codes and/or ordinances adopted by the City of Rockwall, or determinations and positions of the Rockwall Fire Marshal Division.

General Requirements for Manually Operated Security Gates

- 1) Gates shall not obstruct fire apparatus access roads in any manner. The minimum widths and clearances established shall be maintained at all times.
- 2) Manual gates shall open utilizing the Knox padlock that conforms to the Rockwall Fire Department Knox security key.

Power Operated Security Gate

- 3) Gates shall not obstruct fire apparatus access roads in any manner. The minimum widths and clearances established shall be maintained at all times.
- 4) Gates shall open electromechanically using the Overhead Door Company Emergency Ingress System radio receiver.
- 5) The radio receiver must meet the following criteria:
 - a) Consist of a 6-channel modular receiver having 400+ MHZ frequency with an external antenna. Each digital channel module to be preset to a specified digital code designated by the chief.
 - b) Equipped with one external, weather tight, antenna assembly.
 - c) Equipped with on external lamp assembly with a red globe and one flasher unit to be mounted to top of enclosure and wired to 115 volts and clearly visible from the entry side of the gate.
 - d) Located so that it will receive a clear signal from the apparatus door opener when operated from inside the apparatus at a distance of at least 100 feet from the receiver.
 - e) Shall override all other opening systems.
 - f) Protected from weather and physical damage.
- 6) When activated by the radio signal, the gate shall operate at a minimum of one foot per second and remain open.
- 7) A manual back-up system shall be accessible on the entry side of the gate to allow access through the gate in the event of a power failure, or other failure of the electromechanical system.
 - a) On swing gates and barrier arms, this system shall be designed:
 - i) To open manually by one person removing the Knox padlock and/or pin that is secured in the gate arm.
 - ii) Knox padlock shall be clearly visible and easily accessible from the entry side of the gate.
 - b) On slide gate, this system shall be designed:
 - i) Open manually by one person utilizing an approved single manual release device.
 - ii) The manual release device shall be within 10 feet of the gate in a location that is clearly visible and is easily accessible from the entry side of the gate.
 - iii) Manual release device shall be located in a fire department approved weatherproof Box. See Weatherproof Box requirements below.



Pedestrian Walkway Security Gates. Any security gates that interfere with fire department access around the perimeter of a structure shall comply with the following.

- 8) Security gates may be installed across pedestrian walkways provided they are designed to comply with one of the following:
 - a) Open electromechanically with the use of a manually operated Knox key switch. In the event of a power failure, or other failure of the electromechanical system, a fail-safe system must automatically unlock the gate to allow free entry and exit.
 - b) Open manually using a Knox padlock.
 - c) Open manually utilizing an approved manual switch.

General Requirements Weatherproof Box

- 9) Weatherproof box shall comply with the following:
 - a) Red in color and at least 5 inches high, 5 inches wide and 1-1/2 inches deep.
 - b) Clearly labeled "Fire Dept." in white block letters one inch tall with a one-quarter inch stroke.
 - c) Located within 10 feet of the gate, clearly visible and easily accessible.
 - d) Designed to accept the Knox padlock, when used with the manual release device.

Submittal Requirements

- 10) A minimum of two (2) sets of plans and minimum of one (1) set of specifications/cut sheets shall be submitted. Plans shall contain sufficient detail to enable the plan reviewer to accomplish a complete review.
- 11) Each submittal shall have a completed Rockwall Fire Marshal Division Permit Application.
- 12) Provide a written description of the operation of the access control/security gates in normal and manual modes.
- 13) Site plan drawings of the installation location and layout, including primary and emergency power hookups. Include equipment location of the actual configuration of the access gate(s).
- 14) A full equipment listing with manufacturer documentation for materials used in the project.

Additional Information

- 15) Plans approved by the City of Rockwall Fire Marshal Division give authorization for construction and/or operation. Final approvals are subject to field verification. Any approval issued by the Fire Marshal Division does not release the contractor or property owner from the responsibility of full compliance with all applicable codes and ordinances relating to the construction project.
- 16) Installation, fabrication or otherwise construction of the system is prohibited without approved plans and permit.
- 17) All installations and/or operations must concur with the approved plans. Any deviation from the approved plans requires a re-submittal to the Fire Marshal Division.

Inspection Requirements

- 18) Fire Lane Unobstructed. The fire lane shall have a clear width of 24-feet.
- 19) Manual mode Verified.
- 20) Emergency Ingress System tested.