

DRIVEWAYS AND CURB CUTS

**Public Works Agency
Roads & Transportation**
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009-1620



WHY WAS THIS DRIVEWAY PROCEDURE DEVELOPED?

The County's driveway and curb-cut procedure was developed to regulate the location, spacing, width, alignment, number, and design of driveways accessing county-maintained roads. This procedure does not apply to privately owned roads and alleys, or any portion of a driveway on private property. Privately owned driveways are not under the jurisdiction of the Public Works Agency Roads & Transportation Department (VCPWA-RT).

HOW MANY DRIVEWAYS ARE ALLOWED PER PROPERTY?

Residential: For residential properties, one driveway is allowed. Additional driveways may be considered based upon site-specific conditions. Driveways may be no closer than 28 feet on the same property.

Commercial: For commercial properties, one driveway is allowed, unless a development or circulation plan is provided to the VCPWA-RT that supports the need for more than one driveway. For properties fronting more than one county-maintained road, the driveway should access the lowest volume road.

WHERE CAN DRIVEWAYS BE LOCATED?

The driveway location must be approved by the VCPWA-RT. The edge of the driveway may not be closer than one (1) foot from a property line, or two (2) feet from an obstruction such as a fire hydrant, utility pole, streetlight, sign, or mailbox. At an intersection refer to County Road Standards (CRS).

WHAT DRIVEWAY WIDTHS ARE ALLOWED?

Residential: The allowable driveway width is between 10 and 27 feet. The total width of all driveways on a property cannot exceed 40% of the property frontage.

Commercial: The minimum driveway width is 10 feet. The maximum widths are 20 feet for a frontage less than 100 feet, 30 feet for a frontage of 100 to 150 feet, and 60 feet for a frontage greater than 150 feet. The total width of all driveways on a property cannot exceed 60% of the property frontage.

WHAT STANDARDS APPLY TO DRIVEWAYS?

All driveways shall be constructed in accordance with the CRS and Standard Plans for Public Works Construction (SPPWC). The following plates apply:

- CRS Residential: E-2

- CRS Commercial: E-2a
- CRS Rural (ADT ≤ 1,000): E-7
- CRS Rural (ADT > 1,000): E-6
- SPPWC: 110-2
- SPPWC: 113-2

The CRS may be found at:

<http://pwportal.ventura.org/ESD/ESD/StandardsandManuals/docs/roadstds.pdf>

Sight Distance: Sight Distance (SD) is the distance needed to see oncoming traffic. The driveways shall be located along the property frontage where optimal SD can be achieved.

Drainage: Historical drainage patterns must be maintained. Drainage must be addressed so the driveway does not block the natural drainage flow.

Length: Driveways must accommodate an 18-foot-long vehicle. The vehicle shall not extend into the public right-of-way.

DO I NEED A PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT OR REPAIR A DRIVEWAY?

Any work in the road ROW requires an Encroachment Permit including the construction of a new driveway, repair or replacement of an existing driveway.

A permit is required for that portion of the driveway within the road ROW. The ROW may include more than the area covered by asphalt or concrete. To find out the width of ROW, use the county's link located here:

<https://maps.ventura.org/pwagisviewer/>.

Any object to be placed in the road right-of-way as part of the driveway construction, including, but not limited to, pilasters and large mailboxes must be approved by the VCPWA-RT.

REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

If you have questions, contact the Permits Section.

Phone: (805) 654-2055

Email: PWA.TransPermits@ventura.org.

vcpublicworks.org/rt/