



## FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS ROADWAY DESIGN

CITY OF LACONIA FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION  
848 NORTH MAIN STREET, LACONIA, NH 03246  
Call (603) 524-6881 for appointments and information

**FIRE  
PREVENTION**  
Fire Department  
Access and Water  
Supply

**800-4**

May 2025

The City of Laconia expects the design and construction of all roadways to comply with code to aid in the effectiveness of emergency response and firefighting/rescue operations. The following regulation is pulled from NFPA 1: Fire Code to aid in ensuring this effectiveness. Note: This is not an all-encompassing list of requirements. To ensure all requirements are met, refer to NFPA 1 Chapter 18.

### **APPARATUS CLEARANCE:**

1. Fire and rescue apparatus access roadway shall have an unobstructed width of 20 feet.
  - a. The minimum width of a fire access roadway is 20 feet.
  - b. If a center median is included, the required width shall be provided on both sides of the median.
  - c. Reference: NFPA 1: 18.2.3.5.1.1
2. Fire and rescue apparatus access roadway shall have an unobstructed vertical clearance of 13 feet 6 inches.
  - a. Reference: NFPA 1: 18.2.3.5.1.2

### **DEAD-END FIRE AND RESCUE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADWAYS:**

1. Dead-end roadways in excess of 150 feet shall be provided with an approved turnaround.
  - a. Reference: NFPA 1: 18.2.3.5.4

### **APPARATUS LOAD:**

1. Fire and rescue apparatus roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus and shall be provided with an all-weather driving surface.
  - a. Reference: NFPA 1: 18.2.3.5.2

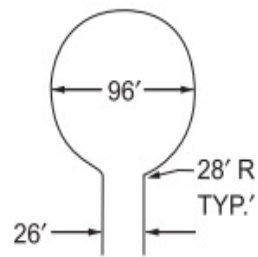
### **TURNING RADIUS**

2. The turning radius of the fire and rescue apparatus access road shall be as approved by the AHJ
  - a. Reference: NFPA1: 18.2.3.5.3.1

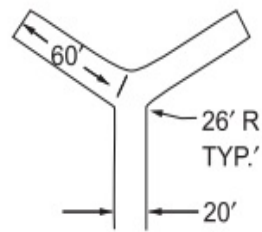
### **FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROAD GRADE**

1. The grade for access roads shall not exceed 10%.
  - a. Reference: NFPA 1: 18.2.3.5.6.1.
    - i. Turnarounds shall comply with Laconia Fire Prevention Regulation governing dead-end roads and turn arounds.

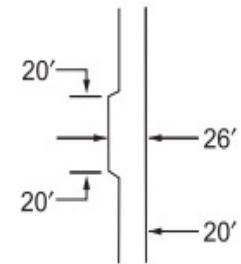
## Examples of Fire Apparatus Turnarounds



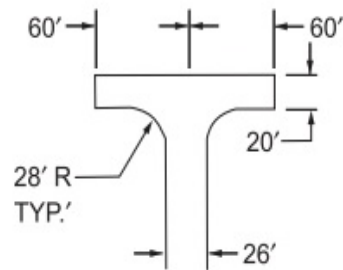
96' DIAMETER  
CUL-DE-SAC



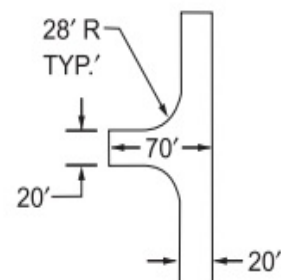
60-FOOT "Y"



MINIMUM CLEARANCE  
AROUND A FIRE  
HYDRANT



120' HAMMERHEAD



ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE  
TO 120' HAMMERHEAD