



MARYSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT

REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY

Fire Marshal's Office

1635 Grove St. Marysville, WA 98270 - (360) 363-8500
MFInspectors@MFDRA.org - www.marysvillefiredistrict.org



MARYSVILLE
WASHINGTON

Standard for Fire Department Access Gates

1. SCOPE

Required fire department access roads and/or fire lanes shall be maintained, unobstructed, and in good condition for vehicular usage at all times. The Fire District may allow closure by approved gates that comply with the standards outlined within this document.

No gate or other barrier may be installed across a required fire department access road or driveway without first applying for a permit and receiving approval from the Fire Code Official. Installations shall meet the requirements of these codes and standards, unless specifically amended or noted otherwise, and as approved by the AHJ:

- The International Fire Code (IFC) as amended by the city and state.
- The Marysville Municipal Code (MMC) [Fire Code Chapter 9.04](#).

2. PERMITTING

IFC 105.6.11 Gates and barricades across fire apparatus access roads.

A construction permit is required for the installation of or modification to a gate or barricade across a fire apparatus access road. The application for a fire construction permit is available at [City of Marysville Permit Services \(marysvillewa.gov\)](http://CityofMarysvillePermitServices(marysvillewa.gov)). Please provide detailed plans demonstrating code compliance for review.

3. WIDTH

Gate width shall be a minimum of 20 feet unobstructed (12 feet for divided roadways). When open, gates shall not obstruct any portion of the required width of the driveway or access road. For residential gates serving less than three homes, the gate width shall not be less than the required driveway approved for the project.

4. ELECTRONICALLY OPERATED GATES

Gates that are electronically controlled shall have an approved fire department override Knox key switch. For residential communities, a strobe activating device is also required per MMC 503.6 (see image on page 4 for example and link). Activation shall open the gate(s) to the fully open position within 10 seconds and remain in the open position until reset by MFD personnel.

- Fail Safe Operation Requirements:** In the event of a power failure, including battery back-up, the gate(s) shall automatically open, by spring tension or other non-electrical method, or the gate must be capable of being pushed open without additional steps having to be performed.
- Required Knox Key Switch Type:** A Knox Key Switch Model 3502 "Single Lock on Plate" will be required to provide fire access for any gates that block access to the property. <https://www.knoxbox.com/> See image on last page for ordering details.

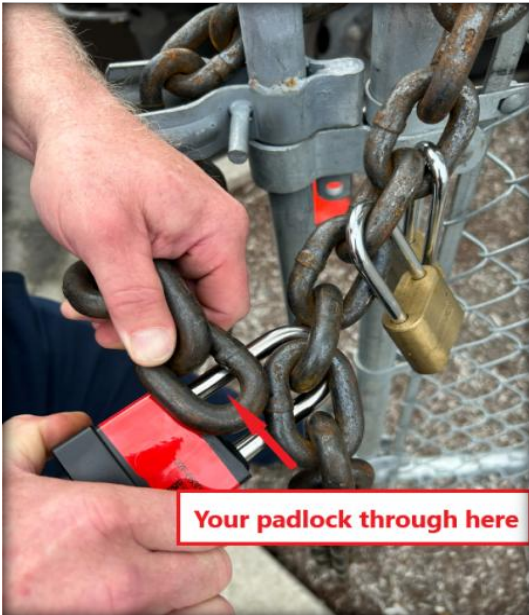
- c. **Electrified Gates and Fences** also require a Knox Key Switch (3502) for emergency power shut off. The installer shall place a visual indicator near the key switch which is illuminated when the fence is energized and goes off when de-energized. A placard with red background and white lettering shall be placed at the key switch stating “ELECTRIC FENCE SHUTOFF”.

5. MANUALLY (NON-AUTOMATIC) OPENING GATES

All manually operated gates shall be designed to remain in the open position when left unattended. Manual locking mechanisms, such as padlocks, shall be Knox brand only. Manual gates are subject to the same opening width and plan approval process as automatic gates. Manual gates shall be provided with an approved method for emergency access. Approved methods shall consist of one of the following:

- a. High security padlock (Knox Brand) keyed to MFD Emergency access keyway.
- b. Installation of a Knox rapid access 3200 Series key box containing the gate key.

If a key box is used, it shall be installed on a gate support pillar or post adjacent to the gate. The box must be visible to anyone approaching the gate at all times. If a padlock is to be used, it must be interlocked with the property owner’s padlock so that either one may be used. Please see images below for details.



6. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING GATES

Key switch and gate maintenance: whenever equipment to be used for fire department access are damaged or missing, please notify Marysville Fire District as soon as possible for assistance. Call the Help Line at 360-363-8525 and leave a voicemail. You may also make a request by emailing MFInspectors@mfdrrfa.org.

7. **FIRE INSPECTION**

Anytime a new gate is installed, modifications are made to an existing gate, or an electric fence is installed, MFD shall be notified to inspect the gate and test the opening mechanism or lock a padlock. Please provide at least 24 hours advance notice. Scheduling instructions will be provided with permit issuance and is via the city's permitting portal. Call 360-363-8223 for assistance as needed.

8. **FIRE CODE**

503.5 Required gates or barricades.

The fire code official is authorized to require the installation and maintenance of gates or other approved barricades across fire apparatus access roads, trails or other accessways, not including public streets, alleys or highways. Electric gate operators, where provided, shall be listed in accordance with UL 325. Gates intended for automatic operation shall be designed, constructed and installed to comply with the requirements of ASTM F2200.

MMC: Section 503.5 is amended by adding: Entrances to roads, trails or other access ways which have been closed with gates and barriers shall not be obstructed by parked vehicles.

503.5.1 Secured gates and barricades.

Where required, gates and barricades shall be secured in an approved manner. Roads, trails and other accessways that have been closed and obstructed in the manner prescribed by Section 503.5 shall not be trespassed on or used unless authorized by the owner and the fire code official. Exception: The restriction on use shall not apply to public officers acting within the scope of duty.


503.6 Security gates.

The installation of security gates across a fire apparatus access road shall be approved by the fire code official. Where security gates are installed, they shall have an approved means of emergency operation. The security gates and the emergency operation shall be maintained operational at all times. Electric gate operators, where provided, shall be listed in accordance with UL 325. Gates intended for automatic operation shall be designed, constructed and installed to comply with the requirements of ASTM F2200.

MMC: Section 503.6 is amended by adding: Gates installed in a residential community shall be equipped with a strobe activating device. Minimum gate width opening shall be 20 feet. The gate is required to open automatically with the approach of emergency vehicles. In the event of a loss of power, the gate shall open automatically and remain in the open position until power is restored. The gate shall remain in the open position until such time that the power is restored. Exemption: 5 or fewer dwelling units. (Ord. 2875 § 2, 2011).

Required Knox Key Switch: Model 3502. <https://www.knoxbox.com/>

Model 3502 – Knox Gate & Key Switch on Mounting Plate



Gate & Key Switches
Gate & Key Switches
Model: 3502

1. Lock & Mounting Type

- Dust Cover
- Single Lock on Plate
- Dual Lock on Plate

2. Switch Type

- Toggle (2-Position)
- Hold to Activate (Momentary)

3. Signals

- One Signal per Lock (SPDT)
- Two Simultaneous Signals per Lock (DPDT)

For Ordering Support
Call: 800-552-5669
6:00 AM - 4:00 PM MST

Installation Address ?
The installation address is where this product will be installed. Do not enter the shipping address here.

Available for:
Marysville Fire Dist - Marysville, WA

Strobe Activating Device: <https://www.tomar.com/products/traffic-control/strobeswitch/>

Browse STROBESWITCH™ Detectors



Strobeswitch™ Detector



Low Current Strobeswitch™ Detector For Solar/Battery Powered Installations