

2009 FIRE PREVENTION CODE CHAPTER 5

March 2011

CODE REVIEW

Code Quick Review -
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Topics

Fire Apparatus Access Roads 503.2 Specifications Part II

References:

North Carolina Fire
Prevention Code, 2009
Edition; Section 503.2, pg 42

**NC Department of
Insurance, Office of the State
Fire Marshal, Interpretation.*

503.2.4 Turning radius. The required turning radius of a fire apparatus access road shall be determined by the fire code official.

- The turning radius of the access road should be based upon the turning radius of the apparatus anticipated to respond to an incident. This radius must be approved by the fire code official.



503.2.5 Dead ends. Dead-end fire apparatus access roads in excess of 150 feet (45 720 mm) in length shall be provided with an approved area for turning around fire apparatus.

- The intent of the turnaround is to minimize the inherent hazards associated with backing large fire apparatus down a long access road.



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503.2.6 Bridges and elevated surfaces. Where a bridge or an elevated surface is part of a fire apparatus access road, the bridge shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with AASHTO HB-17. Bridges and elevated surfaces shall be designed for a live load sufficient to carry the imposed loads of fire apparatus. Vehicle load limits shall be posted at both entrances to bridges when required by the fire code official. Where elevated surfaces designed for emergency vehicle use are adjacent to surfaces which are not designed for such use, approved barriers, approved signs or both shall be installed and maintained when required by the fire code official.



503.2.7 Grade. The grade of the fire apparatus access road shall be within the limits established by the fire code official based on the fire department's apparatus.

- Typically any grade greater than 10% requires the approval of the fire code official.