



## CHULA VISTA FIRE DEPARTMENT

### FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

## Construction Site Policy for Compliance with Fire Safety Provisions

California has adopted a statewide uniform building code, codified in title 24 of the California Code of Regulations. The code imposes a mandatory duty on local jurisdictions to adopt rules and regulations which include the same building code requirements as those contained in the statewide building codes. Pursuant to that requirement, the City of Chula Vista Municipal Code section 15.36.010 adopts and incorporates by reference the California Fire Code, 2001 Edition.

California Fire Code section 8704 establishes fire safety standards for sites during the construction phase. Section 8704.2 requires that access roads sufficient to accommodate fire department apparatus be established and maintained. Section 8704.3 requires the installation of operational water supplies. Temporary access roads and water supplies may be permitted during the construction period upon approval by the Fire Department. These provisions are incorporated in Chula Vista Fire Department policies 2916.00 and 2916.01. The policies apply to residential and commercial construction projects and mandate that approved water supplies and access roads be in place prior to the delivery of combustible materials on any construction site. For purposes of compliance with the policies the following definitions apply:

- Water Supply means a fully operational and tested fire service utility system serving the permanent hydrant system.
- Access means a fully improved street section (private or public); a first layer of asphalt is also acceptable to allow for access to within 150 feet of all combustibles.
- When approved by the Fire Marshal, temporary access roadways and temporary water services may be substituted for permanent road and water supplies.

Requests for temporary roadways must be submitted in writing for review and approval by the Fire Marshal. Requests must include a site plan, geotechnical information, and a time frame indicating how long the temporary roadways will be in place (for the specific requirements, please see CVFD Policy 2916.03). The phasing of improvements and/or the point at which the temporary road extends is at the discretion of the Fire Marshal. Temporary access roads are to be constructed of an asphalt concrete pavement (of a suitable thickness), on top of an appropriate native soil or base as approved.

Requests to install temporary water services must be submitted in writing for review and approval by the Fire Marshal. Requests must include a site plan, and a time frame indicating how long the temporary water services will be in place.

Street Signs – California Fire Code section 901.4.5 requires street signs at all construction sites. Street signs may be permanent signs as approved for installation by City staff or temporary signs approved by the Fire Marshal. Street signs must indicate the street name and the hundred block.

The following California Fire Code sections apply to construction site safety provisions covered by this document.

- Section 103.3.1.1 authorizes the Fire Marshal to inspect construction sites, as often as necessary, to ensure compliance with these requirements.
- Section 103.3.1.3 authorizes the Fire Marshal to stop work at any site found to be in violation of these requirements.
- Section 103.4.1.1 authorizes the Fire Marshal to issue corrective notices.
- Section 103.4.4 authorizes the Fire Marshal to issue citations to persons who fail to take immediate corrective action for violations under this policy.

Chula Vista Municipal Code provides for penalties for violations of the California Fire Code. Administrative penalties of up to \$500.00 per day and civil penalties of up to \$1000.00 per day may be assessed. See CVMC sections 1.40.100 (D) (1) and 1.40.110(A). Finally, pursuant to Government Code section 38773, costs and penalties may be recovered for violations of the fire code.

If any of the above requirements are not in place in accordance with Fire Department and state regulations, the construction project will be shut down and all inspections will be temporarily stopped until provisions have been made to provide compliance. The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she has read the terms and conditions of this Policy and acknowledges that he/she understands such terms and conditions. Failure to comply with a cease and desist order is a misdemeanor and may subject the person signing this document to criminal prosecution.

The person signing this document is hereby responsible for ensuring compliance with provisions of this policy and must notify all responsible parties as to these requirements.

Name (Print)\_\_\_\_\_ Name (Signature)\_\_\_\_\_

Title\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Once signed and dated, this form shall be reproduced on the final permitted set of plans.