



OCEAN CITY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
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MEMORANDUM

Subject: Aerial Fire Apparatus Access	Memo #: 2021-001
	Effective: January 22, 2021
Authority: Deputy Chief Josh Bunting, Fire Marshal 	Internal (FMO Staff)

This memorandum serves to provide staff clarification for what constitutes the “suitable access and fire lanes” required for all premises, as outlined in Ocean City Fire Prevention Code (34-48), and should be applied to new construction:

1. For all detached One and Two-Family Dwellings, as well as all other buildings 30 feet and under in height, the Fire Department Access (*Fire Lane*) requirements of the Ocean City Fire Prevention Code and NFPA 1 (*Fire Code*), as adopted and amended by the State of Maryland, shall be applied.
2. For structures exceeding 30 feet in height, approved aerial fire apparatus access shall be provided, in addition to the basic requirements outlined above.
3. For structures exceeding 50 feet in height, approved aerial fire apparatus access shall be provided to not less than two (2) sides of the structure, in addition to the basic requirements outlined above.
4. For the purposes of this memorandum, the height of the structure shall be measured from the lowest point of Fire Department access to the floor surface of the highest occupiable floor.
5. Where aerial fire apparatus access is required, overhead utility lines shall not be located above or adjacent to the aerial fire apparatus access road (fire lane), between the aerial fire apparatus access road and the structure, or in any location determined to otherwise impede the unrestricted use of the Fire Department aerial apparatus to access the structure. Other obstructions may be permitted to be placed with the approval of the Office of the Fire Marshal where it is determined that they will not inhibit Fire Department operations.