

# CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

## Fire Marshal's Office

3030 78<sup>th</sup> Ave SE | MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040

PHONE: 206.275.7966 | [www.mercerisland.gov](http://www.mercerisland.gov)



## Auto Security Gates

**Gates securing the fire apparatus access roads shall comply with all of the following criteria:**

**105.7.9 Gates and barricades across fire apparatus access roads. 2015 IFC**

A construction permit is required for the installation of or modification to a gate or barricade across a fire apparatus access road.

**D103.5 Fire apparatus access road gates. 2015 IFC**

Gates securing the fire apparatus access roads shall comply with all of the following criteria:

1. Where a single gate is provided, the gate width shall be not less than 20 feet (6096 mm). Where a fire apparatus road consists of a divided roadway, the gate width shall be not less than 12 feet (3658 mm). *A gate less than 20-feet in width may be approved if only serving a single residence, provided it is protected by a fire sprinkler system or additional Fire Protection measures are added.*
2. Gates shall be of the swinging or sliding type.
3. Construction of gates shall be of materials that allow manual operation by one person.
4. Gate components shall be maintained in an operative condition at all times and replaced or repaired when defective.
5. Electric gates shall be equipped with a means of opening the gate by fire department personnel for emergency access. Emergency opening devices shall be approved by the fire code official. *A Knox Key Switch, Knox Box, or Click 2 Enter system is required.*
6. Methods of locking shall be submitted for approval by the fire code official.
7. Electric gate operators, where provided, shall be listed in accordance with UL 325.
8. Gates intended for automatic operation shall be designed, constructed and installed to comply with the requirements of ASTM F 2200.

**Submit Plans and Specification Sheets for Permit Review**

1. Two sets of construction documents and supporting data shall be submitted. 105.4.1
2. Construction documents shall be drawn to scale and may be provided in paper format or using electronic media. For more information on electronic plan submittal visit: <https://www.mercerisland.gov/cpd/page/electronic-plan-review-mieplan>.
3. Plans shall clearly show gate location, driveway paved area all the way to the access road, access easement width if applicable, control pedestal, and any access obstructions in the area.

**Permit Review and Inspection**

The target Fire Review date for Auto Security Gates is 3 weeks. Two inspections will be performed. A City of Mercer Island electrical inspector will conduct an electrical safety inspection. A Mercer Island Fire Department inspector will perform the final inspection including the Knox Box/Switch or Click 2 Enter. To request your **electrical** inspection use the Inspection Request Line **206.275.7979** or [mybuildingpermit.com](http://mybuildingpermit.com). To request your **Fire Department** inspection use the Fire Department Inspection Request Line **206.275.7979** or [mybuildingpermit.com](http://mybuildingpermit.com). **Please allow 48 hours notice for your Fire Department Inspection.**

**Click 2 Enter vs Knox Box/Key Switch**

Click 2 Enter uses a radio frequency device to provide emergency access. This provides access to all authorized fire and police agencies in the event of an emergency. Knox access is only available to the Mercer Island Fire Department. We very strongly recommend the use of Click 2 Enter since it also provides access to police and other responding Fire Departments. We frequently get automatic Aid from Bellevue and Seattle Fire, aid, and paramedic units. While there is a cost increase, this system will provide a much higher level of access in the event of a medical or fire emergency.