

County of Santa Barbara, Public Works

Encroachment Permits - Policies

The County of Santa Barbara's Road Commissioner hereby approves and sets the following policies; for conflicting requirement, the most stringent shall govern:

General:

1. All encroachments shall be in conformance with applicable portions of the Comprehensive Plan, including the Local Coastal and community plans, as well as with current ADA requirements.
2. The Commissioner may take into account, factors such as aesthetics, in reviewing all encroachment permits. Above grade facilities shall be set back as far as possible and provide landscape or other approved screening to minimize the visual effect of the encroachment.

Clear Zone and Pedestrian access:

3. Road Encroachment Permits shall not be issued unless the Permittee agrees to assure a clear zone from the curb face and/or edge of pavement to the proposed encroachment. The clear zone is necessary to maintain an adequate safety zone that will provide adequate sight distance, adequate access, and safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians, when applicable, along County roadways.

Retaining Walls, Block Walls, Garden Walls, Fences, etc.:

4. Shall be set back a minimum distance from the curb face or edge of pavement as follows:
 - Up to and including a 25 mph posted speed: 7 feet minimum,
 - Over 25 mph posted speed: 10 feet minimum,
5. May require conditions including additional setbacks beyond the above minimums, at intersections, curves, driveways or where determined necessary for sight distance, safety issues, including Fixed Object Criteria and to provide for pedestrian, bicyclist.

Landscaping and Irrigation:

6. For landscaping, a clear zone, set back from the curb face or edge of pavement shall be established as follows:
 - Up to and including a 25 mph posted speed: 7 feet
 - Over a 25mph posted speed: 10 feet
7. Landscaping shall be designed to provide sight distance clearance, pedestrian access; as well as bicyclist and equestrian access when applicable. (new or future).
8. Street trees shall be selected only from the Board of Supervisors Approved street tree list and root barriers installed within the drip line.
9. Irrigation shall be drip and emitter and not spray type irrigation to avoid overspray pavement/sidewalk.

Other Fixed Objects:

10. Mailboxes shall be constructed and/or located to meet County of Santa Barbara Engineering Standards' criteria for Fixed Objects and US Post Office standards. Road Shoulder construction and encroachments shall provide room for a mail truck to pull out of the travel lane wherever possible.


County of Santa Barbara, Public Works Encroachment Permits - Policies


11. Fixed Objects, (i.e., rocks , new proposed trees) shall be required to be set back based on current engineering standards from the edge of pavement not less than the following, providing adequate recovery zone for the traveling public:
 - Up to and including 25 mph – 7 feet minimum
 - Over 25mph - 10 feet minimum
12. Fixed objects shall be designed to provide sight distance clearance, pedestrian access; as well as bicyclist and equestrian access when applicable. (existing, new or future).

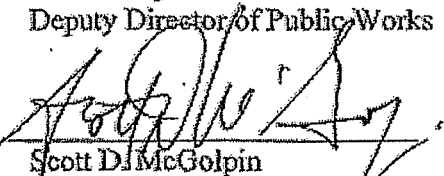
Entry Gates:

13. Where gates for vehicular entry are included as part of the encroachment, the clear zone shall be adequate to store a vehicle waiting to enter the site without overhanging onto the paved roadway/shoulder. A minimum of 25 feet from edge of pavement to the gate shall be provided.

These revisions shall be accepted as current policy for the Department of Public Works and shall be implemented immediately.

Approved:  Date: 4/9/08
Eric Pearson
Manager, Encroachment and Construction

Approved:  Date: 4/9/08
Dacé Morgan
Deputy Director of Public Works

Approved:  Date: 4/10/08
Scott D. McGolpin
Road Commissioner and Director of Public Works