



**COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION BUREAU MANUAL  
DEVELOPMENT POLICIES  
425.13 FIRE HYDRANT SPACING AND FIRE FLOW  
REQUIREMENTS  
EFFECTIVE: APRIL 1, 2016  
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## **SCOPE**

This policy establishes fire hydrant spacing and water flow requirements.

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish the requirements for fire hydrant spacing, along with minimum water flows and pressures for firefighting.

## **BACKGROUND**

Fire hydrant placement is a critical part of the firefighting system employed by the District. Fire hydrants and draft connection outlets are placed to allow District staff to approach a building as close as practical in order to deploy fire hose and other equipment necessary for fire control, suppression and rescue operations.

Fire hydrants are required to be placed as noted by the District, per the authority found in California Fire Code (CFC), Chapter 5. Unusual designs or conditions may require additional fire hydrants to be installed, rather than the code required minimums.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

Based upon the need for uniformity in application across the District's diverse service delivery area, and after careful deliberation of the applicable codes and standards, the District has determined the following:

1. Every hydrant location shall be approved by the District, prior to installation.

2. Hydrants with more than 90psi shall be a “Clow 850” or “Clow 865”. Hydrants with less than 90psi shall be a “Jones 3770” or “Jones 3740” and shall be American Water Works Association approved.
3. Fire hydrant shape, size, outlets, number, location, or style (i.e., wet or dry) may be required to be altered at the discretion of the Fire Marshal (or designee).
4. When required, fire hydrants shall be protected from vehicular damage in accordance with the CFC.
5. All plumbing shall be in accordance with the California Building Code, California Plumbing Code, and all other laws, codes, ordinances and standards.

### **RESPONSIBILITY OF CONTRACTOR, OWNER, ETC.**

The amount of water storage for fire flow required shall be determined by the needed fire flow of the structure in accordance with the California Fire Code.

Several additional permits are required from other agencies which may include the County of Marin, etc. It is the responsibility of the contractor, owner, etc., to obtain all other applicable permits. Work initiated without the requisite approved plans and permits may result in significant cost and unnecessary delay to a project.

### **CROSS REFERENCES**

California Fire Code