

**CITY OF WAHPETON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
POLICY FOR DESIGN AND PLACEMENT OF RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAYS**

Purpose: Establish design standards for residential driveways for new and replacement construction including their geometry and placement in relation to street intersections, adjacent driveways, and property boundaries; and for parking pads, including their geometry and surfacing.

Basis: City Ordinance 14-300

Adopted by Council: 12-5-11

Revised: 11-29-11

Effective Date: 12-6-11

1. Number of Openings

- a. One access point for lots with 100 ft. or less of frontage and for all lots on collector or arterial streets.
- b. Two access points may be permitted for lots on local or residential streets if no traffic operation or safety problems result and if the following conditions are met:
  - i. Corner lot with 200 ft. or more of combined frontage on two residential streets;
  - ii. Mid-block lot with more than 100 ft. of frontage where the second access is for a circular driveway which meets standards listed in Section 7 below.

2. Width of Curb Opening & Driveway in Right-of-Way

- a. Single family, single access:
  - i. One and two stall garage: 24 ft. maximum, 16 ft. minimum throat opening and driveway in ROW plus 3-5 ft. tapers;
  - ii. Three stall garage: 36 ft. maximum including tapers at curb, 16 ft. minimum throat opening and driveway in ROW.
- b. Single family, two accesses: 16 ft. maximum throat opening and driveway in ROW plus 3-5 ft. tapers.
- c. Townhouses and duplexes with shared driveway and adjoining garages: 40 ft. maximum throat opening and driveway in ROW plus 3-5 ft. tapers.
- d. On cul-de-sac bulbs: 30 ft. maximum including tapers at curb, 16 ft. minimum throat opening and driveway in ROW.

3. Minimum Spacing, measured from driveway throat to:

- a. Side lot line: 5 ft.
- b. Adjacent driveways: twice the taper length;
- c. Street corner: 50 ft., measured from extension of curb line; requirements for driveways located on or adjacent to collector and arterial streets shall be determined by City Engineer based on site specific issues and Institute of Transportation Engineers guidelines.

4. Depth of Driveway: Shall be a minimum of 20 ft. from the property line to prevent parked vehicles from encroaching into the public right-of-way.
5. Driveway Surfaces: Shall be paved a minimum of 35 ft. from the street.
6. Parking Pads: Shall not be located in the front yard setback areas, shall have a maximum width of 20% of the lot frontage not to exceed 24 ft., and shall be paved with concrete or asphalt.
7. Circular Driveways may be permitted in order to provide a second entrance from the street to a driveway that leads directly to a garage if the following conditions are met:
  - a. The lot has more than 100 ft. of frontage;
  - b. The garage is set back at least 30 ft. from the right of way;
  - c. Inside radius of driveway is no less than 18 ft. and radius point is located at or inside the property line;
  - d. Minimum acute angle, measured from edge of pavement to centerline of driveway, is 80 degrees;
  - e. Width of curb openings and driveways in ROW: 16 ft. maximum plus 3-5 ft. tapers.
8. Exceptions:
  - a. Exceptions to the maximum or minimum dimensions contained in this Policy may be granted or made by the Public Works Director because of unnecessary hardship or unacceptable compromise to public safety. Before any exception is granted or made all the following conditions must be present:
    - i. Conditions and circumstances are peculiar to the land, structure, or street and do not apply to neighboring lands, structures, or streets in the same neighborhood;
    - ii. Strict application of the standards would deprive the property owner of the reasonable use the land or structure, or would create an unnecessary or unacceptable threat to the safety of pedestrians or vehicles using public right-of-way in the vicinity of the driveway, or would result in a driveway geometry not in general harmony with surrounding visible neighborhood; and
    - iii. The peculiar conditions and circumstances are not the result of actions taken by the property owner subsequent to adoption of this Policy;
  - b. Appeal of Director's Decisions: A decision by the Director may be appealed to the City Council. The appeal must be filed with the City Auditor within 15 days after notice of the decision by the Director. The City Council shall fix a time, with 30 days, for the hearing of the appeal and shall give due notice of the hearing to the parties. The City Council shall decide the appeal with a reasonable time. The Council may reverse or affirm the decision of the Director, in whole or in part, or may modify the decision appealed.