

### 29.12.010 Access Management

Access management is a means to protect the safety, traffic operations, and the assigned functional purpose of the street system while considering the access needs of the various elements of the system. Access management addresses the problems of congestion, capacity loss, and accidents. Providing access to land development while simultaneously preserving the flow of traffic, bicycles, and pedestrians on the surrounding road system in terms of safety, capacity needs, and speed is the goal of access management. Access is defined as any driveway or other point of ingress/egress such as a driveway, alley, street, road, or highway that connects to the public street system.

The street system provides mobility to the traveling public. This travel may serve one of two distinct purposes. The first is to provide throughput, allowing travelers to move efficiently. The second is to provide direct access to properties. Arterial streets are traditionally designed to prioritize throughput for motor vehicles by intentionally limiting access. In contrast, local streets provide direct access to properties, but do not provide high throughput for motor vehicles. To accommodate throughput for motor vehicles on city streets, access on collectors and arterials must be intentionally managed.

However, limiting access on collector and arterial streets can also limit mobility of non-motorized and mass transit modes along those corridors. Therefore, the design of streets should consider the impacts to active transportation and transit users and how they may use the system differently. The Active Transportation Corridors defined in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan are along a mix of arterial, collector, and local streets, but are effectively the arterial street network for people walking and biking. Thus, travel for these users should be prioritized on these corridors. In some cases limiting access for motor vehicles can improve throughput for both motor vehicles and active transportation users, such as limiting driveways and turning movement conflicts along an arterial street. However, in other cases they may conflict. For example, long gaps in an arterial road without a traffic signal can improve throughput for motor vehicles along that corridor, but can decrease mobility for active transportation users trying to cross the street. Therefore, access control measures must be sensitive to the mobility needs of all modes of transportation.

The existing and future function of each street is critical in determining the number, location, and design of access points and access control. Access management extends beyond simply specifying the number and separation of driveways and access points. Included are roadway design, such as auxiliary lanes, medians, stopping sight distance, channelization, and land development issues such as sign standards, internal site circulation, driveway layout, and alternative travel modes.

Appropriate access management strikes a balance in preserving the functional integrity of the street and providing access. Speed, capacity, and safety are the significant reasons for instituting access management. With proper access management, the speed differential between vehicles can be minimized or separated and proper access management will reduce the number of conflict points, resulting in fewer accidents. When the traffic on the street system can travel safely and efficiently, capacity is preserved. Access management recognizes the interests of both landowners and roadway users in providing a transportation system that better meets the needs of all interests.

### **29.12.020 State Highways**

Refer to the current edition of [The State Highway Access Code](#). Under that code, all accesses constructed on a State Highway require an access permit approved by the State. The Access Code requires owners of land adjacent to a State Highway that is being developed or redeveloped to apply for an Access Permit for each access to the State Highway if the use of the property is being changed or the existing access modified. The definition of property change is included in Section 2.6 of the Code.

### **29.12.030 City or County Streets**

Local jurisdictions approve the design, number, and location of access points. When changes in land use occur which result in changes in the type or nature of access operation, the access shall be approved with the development plans and constructed to meet current standards.

### **29.12.040 Backing Into the Right-of-Way**

Parking pods that require backing maneuvers **into** a public street will be allowed only on streets posted at 25 mph or less and with an ADT of 3000 vehicles or less. Parking pods shall be privately owned, or a revocable permit obtained if in public right of way, and privately maintained. Landscape islands shall be required every 8 spaces.

Backing into alleys will be allowed from normal parking stalls, regardless of land use, under the following conditions:

- (a) The parking is designed so the parking stall and aisle meet the requirements of section 21.06.090 of the Zoning and Development Code. The needed aisle width can include the existing alley.

(b) A maximum of four spaces in a row will be allowed. This standard is designed for perpendicular parking spaces and a 50' wide lot. Wider lots can create more spaces, up to a maximum of 8 spaces. Angle parking will be addressed on a case-by-case basis to achieve the intent of this standard.

### **29.12.050 Provision of Access**

If a property has frontage on more than one street, access will be permitted only on those street frontages where design and safety standards can be met. The primary access shall be on the lower-order street. Refer to the current edition of the [State Highway Access Code](#) for access requirements off a state highway.

### **29.12.060 Restriction of Turning Movements**

Turning movements may be limited where necessary for the safe and efficient movement of traffic, both on and off-site.

### **29.12.070 Number of Access Points and Joint Access**

Each development applying for access to a collector or arterial street shall analyze its own internal circulation system and access points, as well as impacts to the surrounding properties and street system as part of the required TIS.

Cross-access connections and/or stub streets to abutting properties will be required between commercial and residential properties unless it can be shown that this won't facilitate better circulation or it creates safety hazards. The project site design shall include a circulation and access system that will safely and efficiently accommodate traffic from adjacent properties.

One access point per property ownership will be permitted, unless an approved site plan or TIS shows that additional access points are required to adequately handle driveway volumes and that the additional access points will not be detrimental to safety, traffic flow, and pedestrian and bicycle travel on adjacent public streets. Additional access points may also be allowed at the discretion of the director. Temporary access may be granted to accommodate phased development of a site. Temporary accesses are subject to removal, relocation, redesign or reconstruction after permanent approved access is constructed.

### **29.12.080 Cross-Access Corridors**

Cross-access corridors shall be designed to provide common access and circulation among parcels, to assist in local traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle movement. Cross access should be designed to include the following elements:

- (a) Sufficient separation between the public street and the cross-access corridor to allow storage and circulation to occur within the site.
- (b) Sufficient width to accommodate **two-way travel** aisles designed to accommodate automobiles, service and delivery vehicles.
- (c) Stub-outs to the abutting properties that will be tied in to provide cross-access.
- (d) Linkage to other cross-access corridors in the area, if applicable.
- (e) Sidewalks and/or trails to connect pedestrians and bicycles from existing facilities to, or through, the parcel to surrounding properties that will develop in the future and/or to existing facilities in a nearby location.

Wherever a cross-access corridor is designated on a subdivision plat, site plan or other development application, the property owner shall grant and record an easement allowing cross-access to and from the other properties in the area.

### **29.12.090 Stub Streets**

A stub street is an existing or planned street that is or will be extended to the property line(s) of a development for the purpose of future extension onto adjacent property. A stub street may be for access and/or as a part of the comprehensive circulation system.

### **29.12.100 Abandoned Accesses**

Existing driveways shall not be abandoned, relocated, altered, or reconstructed without a permit from the appropriate agency..

### **29.12.110 Exclusive Turn Lanes**

Exclusive turn lanes are described in detail in the [CDOT State Highway Access Code](#) and in Chapter 29.28.

### **29.12.120 Field Access**

Field access is defined as access used solely for agricultural purposes and traffic generation does not exceed one vehicle (two trip ends) per day when averaged over one calendar year. When an agricultural property changes to a new or more intensive land use, all field accesses to the property shall be considered abandoned and access points for the new or more intensive use will be determined by the standards contained within this document.

### **29.12.130 Access Exceptions**

Exceptions to these standards shall be allowed only as set forth in Chapter 29.64.