

**CITY OF SAN MARCOS**  
**ENGINEERING DIVISION**

**CUL-DE-SAC & SINGLE ACCESS POLICY  
RESOLUTION**

RESOLUTION NO. 90-3568

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF SAN MARCOS DEFINING AND ADOPTING A CUL-DE-  
SAC AND SINGLE ACCESS POLICY

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City Council to provide a clarification of existing city policy regarding access standards for a cul-de-sac or single access situation; and

WHEREAS, a policy setting guidelines for cul-de-sac and single access is necessary in order to ensure an adequate level of public safety; and

WHEREAS, alternate access routes to proposed developments minimize the impacts of traffic loading and provide improved inter-community linkage;

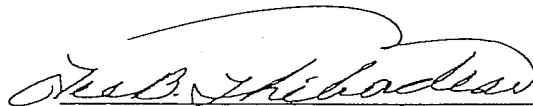
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the "Cul-de-sac and Single Access Policy" is described in Exhibit "A" hereto attached, and is hereby

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of San Marcos at a regular meeting thereof this 23rd day of October by the following roll call:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: HARRIS, PRESTON, SMITH, THIBADEAU

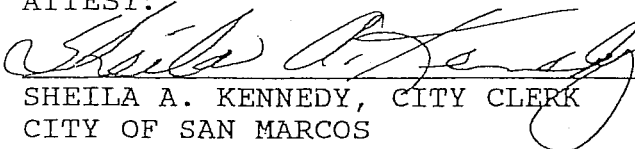
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: NONE

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: LOSCHER



LEE B. THIBADEAU, MAYOR  
CITY OF SAN MARCOS

ATTEST:



SHEILA A. KENNEDY, CITY CLERK  
CITY OF SAN MARCOS

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## CITY OF SAN MARCOS, CALIFORNIA

## CITY COUNCIL POLICY

<u>Subject</u>	Policy Number	Page
Cul-de-sac & Single Access Policy		1 of 3

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the minimum requirements for access necessary to ensure an adequate level of public safety; provide the community benefits associated with inter-community linkage; and to minimize the impacts of traffic loading by augmenting the available access routes. This policy will supplement and clarify the requirements of the Subdivision Ordinance and the Fire Code of the City of San Marcos.

Background

The City Council desires to have a user friendly policy on cul-de-sac and single access related issues; it is the intent of this policy to give guidelines to the development community, and remove confusion which exists in the current policy.

Policy

It is the policy of the City Council and San Marcos Fire Department that all cul-de-sac, dead-end roads in excess of 150 feet meet the following standards.

- I. CUL-DE-SAC (OR DEAD-END) STREET
  - A. Public or Private streets (as defined).
    1. Width of street shall be a minimum of 40 feet curb-to-curb.
    - \*2. Length of street shall not exceed 600 feet.
    3. Traffic volume shall not exceed 500 A.D.T.
    4. Number of dwelling units shall not exceed 50.
    5. Cul-de-sacs shall have a minimum curb radius of 50 feet.

\* Length may be increased from 600 feet with special permission by the City of San Marcos Development Review Committee.

## CITY OF SAN MARCOS, CALIFORNIA

## CITY COUNCIL POLICY

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Policy Number</u>	<u>Page</u>
Cul-de-sac & Single Access Policy		2 of 3

## B. Fire Department Access

When access to a cul-de-sac is for Fire Department access only, not a public or private street, it shall meet the following standards:

1. Width shall be a minimum of 24 feet when serving two or more single family dwellings or parcels.
2. Width shall be a minimum of 24 feet when serving multi-family dwellings or commercial occupancies.
3. Width shall be a minimum of 16 feet when serving one single family dwelling on a single parcel.

NOTE: All required access roadways, streets, driveways etc., shall be constructed of an all weather surface capable of supporting the imposed loads of fire apparatus, and as approved by the City Engineer.

## II. SINGLE ACCESS TO RESIDENTIAL AREAS:

Single access may be permitted in the following situations only:

- A. Permanent single access is permitted when serving up to 50 single family residences.
- B. Temporary single access may be permitted to serve up to 100 single family residences provided:
  1. A second public access road into the affected area has been assured by the recordation of a final subdivision map or similar or instrument; and

## CITY OF SAN MARCOS, CALIFORNIA

## CITY COUNCIL POLICY

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Policy Number</u>	<u>Page</u>
Cul-de-sac & Single Access Policy		3 of 3

2. A temporary emergency access is provided for the affected area to the satisfaction of the Fire Chief and City Engineer.

NOTE: Streets shall meet all City Engineering Standards.

DEFINITIONS

DRIVEWAY - a private road giving access from another private road or a public road to a building or buildings on abutting ground.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS ROAD - a road constructed with an all weather surface capable of supporting the imposed loads of Fire Department apparatus.

Note: May include but not limited to driveways, private street, public street.

SURFACED - a constructed street, road or driveway, with an all-weather surface adequate to provide for anticipated loading requirements. This may include Decomposed Granite (D.G.), Asphalt Concrete (A.C.) or Portland Cement Concrete (P.C.C.).

PRIVATE STREET - A surfaced private road where the ownership is by a non-public agency used by persons who share ownership, or have the right to use by agreement.

PUBLIC STREET - A surfaced public road, where the ownership and maintenance of the street is by a public agency.

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