

Regulation No. 11

Fire Service

Adopted: July 19, 2004

Approved with changes on: June 16, 2025

A. Condition of Service

The District will provide water service for fire hydrants and other facilities used for fire protection at such pressures and at such rates of flow as are available from time to time from the operation of the District Water System. The District shall not be liable for any damage in any manner arising out of the unavailability of water or water pressure at any hydrant or facility used for fire protection.

B. Public Fire Hydrants

1. A public fire hydrant will be installed and connected to the District's mains when requested by the public fire protection agency having jurisdiction, or when required as a condition of a building permit or subdivision.
2. When a hydrant is installed on an existing main at the request of a public fire protection agency, the work may be performed by the District and the agency will reimburse the District the actual cost of labor, materials, engineering, inspection, and usual overhead expenses in the installation of the hydrant assembly, hydrant lateral, Control Valve, and the connection of the hydrant to the District Water System.
3. When a hydrant is installed as a condition to the issuance of a building permit or subdivision approval, the District's cost of materials, labor, engineering, inspection, and usual overhead expenses in the installation of the hydrant assembly, hydrant lateral, Control Valve, and the connection to the District Water System shall be paid by the holder of the building permit or the developer of the subdivision.
4. The type of hydrant and site location of public fire hydrants will be jointly determined by the District and the responsible public fire protection agency, excluding those hydrants that are installed by the District for the District's sole use as a means of flushing the District's water mains.
5. All installed fire hydrants shall be for use by public fire protection agencies for fire protection and suppression purposes for the protection of the public. The only exception to this rule is the permitted use, granted by the District, to contractors for construction water in accordance with Regulation 3, Section Q and Regulation 12.

6. The District will not charge public fire protection agencies for water utilized within the District service area exclusively for fire protection and suppression purposes for the protection of the public.
7. Fire hydrants installed under the preceding provisions shall be owned by the District. The District shall bear the expense of performing hydrant maintenance resulting from normal wear and tear when such conditions are reported by the responsible agency or when otherwise brought to the attention of the District.
8. The hydrant design, corrected for inlet and outlet velocity head, shall not exceed the permissible head loss based on the following AWWA Standards: ANSI/AWWA C503-97 for wet-barrel fire hydrant Table 3. The District reserves the right to install a different style of fire hydrant as necessitate by site conditions and other considerations.
9. For hydrants designed or intended to deliver more than 1,000 GPM, the permissible head loss shall not exceed 5 PSI when discharging at the design or intended rate of flow. Design of hydrants for delivery greater than 1,000 GPM shall be submitted to District for approval prior to installation.
10. A hydrant installed within an easement abutting a street or right-of-way and for the sole and exclusive use of an Applicant will be considered a public hydrant. Public hydrants shall be installed within a permanent easement granted to the District by the Applicant and shall be maintained by the District.
11. Existing fire hydrants within an improvement project shall be upgraded at the developer's expense if those hydrants do not meet District standards requiring a 5-1/4 inch valve opening steamer design.
12. At all times, unobstructed access and visibility from the street shall be provided for all fire hydrants. A three (3) foot clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of the fire hydrant. (Reference - 2010 California Fire Code Sections 503.4, 503.2.1, 503.3, 507.5.4 and 507.5.5.) A Customer is responsible for maintaining clear space around any hydrant located on his, her or its Premises.
13. Blue reflective markers shall be installed for all fire hydrants in accordance to the local fire department requirements.

C. Private Fire Protection Systems

A Private Fire Protection system is a Private System that is located totally within a Parcel or Parcels under an Applicant's common ownership and which is constructed to service an in-building fire sprinkler system or a private fire hydrant. In order to connect such a system to existing water mains of the District, the following conditions must be met:

1. The Parcel or Parcels to be served are located within the service territory of the District or will be annexed into the District's territory upon approval by the LAFCO under a pending application for annexation, including assumption of that Parcel(s) fair share of the bonded indebtedness of the District, if any.
2. The District possesses an Adequate and Reserve Capacity capable of serving the Private System.
3. In applying for such service, the Applicant has complied with all of the applicable requirements of Regulation 7.
4. The Private System is for the exclusive benefit and use of the Applicant and is located entirely within the Applicant's Parcel or Parcels.
5. The Private System will be used exclusively for the suppression of fire and for the testing of the fire suppression system.
6. The design and location of the Private System for fire suppression has been approved by the responsible fire protection agency.
7. Except as otherwise provided in these Regulations, the Applicant assumes full responsibility for the operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of the Private System from the outlet side of the District's Control Valve.
8. Hydrants that are not installed within an easement abutting a street or right-of-way that are for the sole and exclusive use of an Applicant will be considered Non-Responsible Facilities. Such hydrants will not be maintained by the District.
9. The size and design of the Service Connection and cold-water fire service meter shall all be determined by the District, taking into consideration such factors as the applicable California Fire Code (edition 2013, or latest edition) and AWWA requirements.
10. A Backflow Prevention Assembly commensurate with the degree of hazard shall be required by the District and furnished by the Applicant or Landowner and installed in accordance with the requirements of the public fire protection agency having jurisdiction. No water service will be provided to the system until it has been finally reviewed and approved by the District.
11. The District reserves the right to disconnect a Private System for fire protection or to require installation of a cold-water/fire service type meter as defined in AWWA Standards C703-79 in lieu of an existing meter of another type in the event that the subject water service is also used for any purposes other than fire suppression.