



Welcome to the Dover Fire Department

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How Street Width Effects EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- To understand why street width is so important you must first understand the mission of the Fire Department when responding to a residential property within the City of Dover and functions our fire apparatus performs on the scene of an incident.

The Dover Fire Department Operates the Following Fire Apparatus

- 5 Engine Companies



The 1st arriving Engine Company is responsible for establishing a water supply from a hydrant, and deploying hose lines to the area involved in fire.



The 2nd arriving Engine Company is responsible for locating a second fire hydrant and supplying the Ladder Truck.



- 2 Ladder Companies



The first due Ladder Company is responsible for venting heat and smoke from the structure and the immediate search for victims.



The second responding Ladder Truck will be assigned the same duties as the first depending on the severity of the fire.



- 1 Rescue Company



The Rescue Company primarily handles the following types of incidents.

- Serious vehicle accidents.
- High Angle & Confined Space Rescues.
- Provides additional staffing at structural fires when needed.

The additional responding units back up the firefighters on scene with multiple other fire ground responsibilities.



Most residential structure fires require at least 4 major pieces of fire apparatus and 21 firefighters. All of the equipment is normally needed within 150 foot of the residence.

Why are we so concerned about using a Ladder Truck on a 2 or 3 story residence?

- The answer is simple, today's construction is more dangerous to the occupants and the firefighters.
- During the past several years we have responded to several fires involving new construction, the Ladder Truck was needed quickly on each of those incidents.

- On August 25, 2002 at 11pm Four Engine Company's, Ladder 2 and Rescue 1 responded to Sweetgum Drive in West Dover for a reported house fire. The first Engine arrived in six minutes, the Ladder in seven minutes.

This photo was taken *6 minutes* after the resident called 911

- Because of the 36 foot street width firefighters were able to quickly set up the Ladder Truck saving the homes on each side which had already been damaged upon arrival.



**What fire apparatus is
affected most by street size?**

LADDER TRUCKS

Because of their job on the fire ground they must be directly in front of the structure on fire.

- Ladder 1 requires 18 feet of street width to setup and is 57 feet long.



- Ladder 2 requires 24 feet of street width to setup and is 43 feet long.



How different street width's effect emergency response.

- **36-38** foot streets with parking on both sides of the street has no effect on response time or space requirements needed to effectively battle a fire in a residential property.

An Example of this is Bradford Street



- **32-35** foot streets with parking on both sides of the street does not reduce response time, it does however effect the placement of fire apparatus under certain conditions when there are several vehicles are parked on the street.

An example of this is Matterhorn Drive in Four Seasons.





- **24-31** foot streets with parking can make the placement of a Ladder Truck difficult and greatly effects the ability of the fire department to perform a rescue quickly from above ground level.

An example of this is Four Seasons



- The initial entrance to the street is 16 feet as seen here.

- As you enter the circle the street increases to 24 feet.
- It is nearly impossible for any fire department vehicle to drive through here without stopping and backing up.
- Parked cars are a constant problem.



- No Parking should be allowed on streets below 28 feet because it presents a severe danger to the public. Firefighting operations would be greatly effected in these area's.

Entrances to Developments & Complex's

- A growing issue today has to do with the entrances from the street into apartment complex's and housing developments.
- Many of these entrances have been built at 12 feet with a "drivable" curb or flower bed in the center of them. This is not a problem with a 36 foot entrance but it creates a major problem with reduced entrances.

- At the entrance to Four Seasons both the Engines and Ladder Trucks must drive over the curb in order to enter the development.





At the entrance to Silver Mill Apartments a 12 foot entrance is split by landscaping.





Why is this an issue now.

- This has been an issue for years and as each new complex builds it seems to worsen.
- Examples of this are Four Seasons, The Overlook at Silver Lake and the Silver Mill Apartments.

What do we propose?

- If street size is wavered between 32 and 35 feet then no parking shall be allowed on one side of the street.
- If street size is wavered below 32 feet then a residential sprinkler system must be installed.
- Street width no smaller than 36 feet.

How will this make a difference?

- This will ensure the needed width for fire apparatus.
- In situations where narrow streets are a must the public's safety will be ensured and the loss of property will be greatly reduced.



- The Officers & Firefighters of this Department take your safety seriously.

- Thank-You

