SCOPE

This policy clarifies the Fresno Fire Department’s (FFD or Department) requirement for emergency services bypass lock installation for secured access developments.

PURPOSE

This policy has been established to outline the requirements for installation of emergency services bypass locks for secured access locations.

BACKGROUND

It is common for apartment, condominium, and private residential or commercial locations to provide for property security in the form of locked access gates at each entrance to a location. This practice severely restricts the ability of emergency services agencies to provide their services to these locations in a timely manner. Installation of unapproved locked access gates may be a violation of the California Fire Code (CFC) and Fresno Municipal Code (FMC).

The City of Fresno has developed a bypass system which allows entry to secured properties by emergency services. This system consists of dedicated locks of which only emergency services have operating keys. The locking devices may be obtained as cylinder locks for use with electrically-operated gates, or as padlocks for use in other applications.

DEFINITIONS

**Construction Core Padlock** – A construction core padlock is used during the construction phase of a new development. A common construction core key is available to any contractor.

**Electric Switch Box with Padlock** – An electric switch box that operates an electric gate that has an X1 keyed padlock installed. Unlocking of the padlock and opening the door to the box opens the electric gate.
**Key box with X1 Cylinder Core** – A key box with an X1 keyed cylinder core installed. A key to the development is placed inside the key box.

**X1 Cylinder Core on Electric Gate keypad** – A cylinder core installed on the keypad that opens an electric gate when the X1 key is inserted and turned.

**X1 Key** – A key used by emergency services to gain access to a secured development.

**X1 Padlock** – A padlock with a core keyed to the X1 key.

**REQUIREMENTS**

Any installed bypass lock, electric switch lock, cylinder, or padlock shall be a City of Fresno approved lock.

**SOURCES**

City of Fresno emergency services X1 cores are currently available only through Sierra Lock & Glass, 1560 N. Palm Avenue, Fresno, CA 93728.

**INSTALLATION**

**General Requirements**

For identification purposes, a one-inch red band shall be painted around the body of the padlock. For a cylinder core located on an electric gate keypad, a one inch red band shall be placed around the core or a durable sign stating FFD shall be placed directly next to the core.

A single emergency services padlock may be installed on gates used solely for emergency access or it may be used in conjunction with other locking devices.

The cylinder lock should be mounted in plain view on the control panel or immediately adjacent to the access gate.

After construction has been completed, the construction core must be replaced with a permanent X1 core.

**Construction Core**
A construction core lock may be purchased by the owner or contractor. The purchaser must specify the lock is a “City of Fresno Emergency Services Construction Core Padlock.”

**Emergency Services Bypass Lock**

The emergency services bypass lock shall be purchased by the owner or contractor. The purchaser must specify the lock is a “City of Fresno Emergency Services Bypass Lock.”

**Options**

For electric gates, an electrical switchbox with padlock or a X1 cylinder may be installed.

For manual gates, a X1 padlock or a key box with X1 core may be installed. If a padlock is installed with another lock, they must be locked in such a way that unlocking either lock will open the gate.

**REFERENCES**

*California Fire Code*
*Fresno Municipal Code*