

CHAPTER 137

DRIVEWAYS AND CURB CUTS

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137.01 DEFINITIONS. For use in this chapter, the following terms are defined:

1. “Driveway” means, and is limited to, that part of any approach for motor vehicles to private property that lies between the property line and the roadway of the public street.
2. “Parking area” means the area from the back of curb to the property line. Normally this is the area between the roadway and the sidewalk.
3. “Paving” means Portland cement concrete, or asphalt, with the necessary base. “Paving” does not include surfacing with oil, gravel, oil and gravel or chloride.

137.02 PERMIT. Before any person constructs or repairs a driveway, a building permit must be submitted and approved. No curb shall be cut or changed and no parking area or public property shall be used for a driveway without an approved permit. Permits are also required for curb cuts to drain sump pumps and roof drains.

137.03 CURB CUTS. Curb cuts shall be made at the request and expense of the property owner after approval of the City. Curb cuts for driveways will be done by grinding down the curb only. The maximum length of curb cuts shall be thirty (30) feet measured at the back of curb. Properties should be limited to one curb cut per property side. Exceptions can be made where a property has a circular drive, in which case two curb cuts may be permitted. However, in these cases, the curb cuts should be limited to a length of fifteen (15) feet each. All construction joints must be saw cuts. Curb cuts for sump pumps and roof drains shall be made with saw cuts and the openings neatly grouted.

137.04 DRIVEWAYS. All driveways that are constructed or repaired shall be paved. “Repaired” does not include maintaining a gravel driveway in existence before September 1, 2001, by adding gravel upon and within the boundaries of the existing driveway. However, extending the boundaries of an existing driveway after September 1, 2001, will require the entire driveway to be paved. The number of driveways accessing private property shall be kept to a minimum.

137.05 VARIANCES. Whenever there is an advantage to acting contrary to this chapter, the owner of the property may appeal to the Council for a variance. The Council is authorized to modify application of the provisions of this chapter so that the owner will be allowed reasonable use of the existing property. When granting a variance, consideration will be given to the safety of motorists and pedestrians, and the best interests of the City.

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