



Fire Department Connections

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

FIRE-9-7

City of San Diego
Development Services Department

January 2020

The purpose of this Technical Bulletin is to establish the requirements for Fire Department Connections (FDCs) for standpipe and sprinkler systems in non-high-rise buildings. In addition to the requirements contained in this bulletin, FDCs shall comply with the California Fire Code (CFC), National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 13, NFPA 13R, NFPA 14 and NFPA 24. For high-rise buildings, see Technical Bulletin FIRE-9-1, Sprinklers, Standpipes, Fire Pumps and Secondary Water Supply for High-Rises.

I. LOCATION

- A. General.** The FDC shall be located on the address side of the building and be fully visible from the street or nearest point of the fire department vehicle access. The FDC shall be located, to the greatest extent possible, away from windows, balconies or overhangs. Fences, bushes, trees, walls, and other fixed or movable obstructions shall not impair access to the FDC. A 36-inch clear space around the FDC shall be provided to a height of 78 inches.
- B. Backflow Prevention Assemblies.** FDCs may be located on backflow prevention assemblies when the assembly serves only one building.
- C. Height.** FDCs shall be installed between 18 and 48 inches above the grade surface.

II. SIZE AND NUMBER OF INLETS

- A. Sprinkler System.** FDCs serving only fire sprinkler systems shall be sized and provided with inlets in accordance with NFPA 13 or NFPA 13R.
- B. Standpipe or Combined Systems.** FDCs serving standpipe or combined systems shall be sized and provided with the number of inlets in accordance with NFPA 14.

III. REMOTE FDC

Piping between an FDC remote from a building shall have no control valves installed between the FDC and fire service main.

IV. FDCs SERVING MORE THAN ONE BUILDING

FDCs may serve multiple buildings if it is readily apparent to the Fire Department which buildings are served. Proper signage shall be required and the details for the signage shall be provided on the plans.

V. SIGNAGE

Signage shall be as required by NFPA 13, NFPA 14 and the CFC. Plans shall include details and language of the proposed signs.

Documents referenced in this Technical Bulletin

- **California Fire Code (CFC)**
- **Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems, (NFPA 13)**
- **Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Low-Rise Residential Occupancies, (NFPA 13R)**
- **Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems, (NFPA 14)**
- **Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances (NFPA 24)**
- **Technical Bulletin FIRE-9-1, Sprinklers, Standpipes, Fire Pumps, and Secondary Water Supply for**