This handout is intended only as a guide to the subject matter covered herein and is based on the City of Lawrence Ordinances and Standards. While every attempt has been made to ensure the correctness of this handout, no guarantees are made to its accuracy or completeness. Responsibility for compliance with applicable codes and ordinances falls on the owner or contractor. For specific questions regarding code requirements, refer to the City Ordinance or contact your local Building Department.

DEFINITIONS

Class I Residential Entrance – A driveway by which a street with a raised curb is connected to a one or two-family residential facility and which is ordinarily used only by the owner or occupant of the premises, such as a residence, garage, barn or other improved property.

Class II Residential Entrance – A driveway by which a street without a raised curb but only shoulder is connected to a one or two-family residential facility and which is ordinarily used only by the owner or occupant of the premises, such as a residence, garage, barn or other improved property.

Driveway - A private drive to an off-street destination such as a garage or parking lot providing access for vehicles from a public way or driveway approach.

Driveway approach - An area, between the curb or pavement edge of a public street and the private property line intended to provide access for vehicles from a roadway or a public street to a driveway on private property.

PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS

A driveway permit is not required for overlay or replacement of a residential driveway, off-drive parking or turnaround area. New driveway will require a detailed drawing of the proposed work and include the following:
• A plot or site plan, to scale, of the entire tract of land as recorded in the office of the County Recorder with property dimensions indicating the proposed improvements, location and intended use, interior drives and existing and proposed topographical or drainage arrows;

• The plot plan or additional attached detailed plans, to scale, shall depict the following:
  o Property lines
  o Right of way lines
  o Intersection roads, streets, railroads or crossovers within 500 feet in each direction on both sides, with distance indicated;
  o Distance to and design of all existing driveway entrances, approaches and, in the case of a median, crossovers on both sides of all roadways affected in both directions for a distance of 500 feet;
  o Width of right of way and width and type of road surface;
  o Necessary and existing pipe, tile or other drains, stating the size and kind
  o Existing utilities;
  o Proposed and existing driveways and approaches;
  o Distance from right of ways line to proposed and existing structures, including landscaping
  o Proposed type of surface, width and construction (base and surface) of driveways and depth in compliance with standards;
  o Proposed type of surface, width and construction (base and surface) of approaches and depth in compliance with standards;
  o Proposed radii;
  o Proposed rate of slope or grade of approaches, driveways and roadway centerline elevation
  o The plot plan must include all pertinent topography to scale and properly dimensioned for at least 150 feet in each direction of the subject property.

If your project includes the expansion of an existing approach, installation of concrete or decorative materials within the approach, a Right-of-Way permit will be required in addition to the driveway permit.

Any applications requesting encroachment near or over public utilities must be reviewed by the Department of Public Works and receive approval from the Utility being affected.

SPECIFICATIONS:
• Two entrances may be permitted with a minimum of 300 feet frontage, based on anticipated traffic generation provided the distance from any driveway approach to an adjacent property line or alley way is a minimum of ten (10) feet. Minimum distance between driveways shall be 40 feet.
• For corner lots, when two curb cuts are present, each curb cut must be to a separate street unless the site has at least 300 feet frontage along a single public street.

SURFACE MATERIALS:
Acceptable materials to pave driveways, off-drive parking, turnaround areas and approach areas include:
• Portland cement concrete;
• Plant bituminous surface (i.e. asphalt);
• Stone, brick or concrete pavers that are placed with gaps not exceeding one quarter inch;
• Gravel is not permitted within the driveway approach

Concrete must be 3900 PSI Strength, 4 to 6 percent air entrainment, 3-inch maximum slump. Concrete must not be placed when the air temperature is below 40°F and falling or on any foundation whose temp is 32°F or less or upon frozen sub-grade. Concrete depth must be 6 inches for approach, apron and sidewalk within driveway or driveway approach. Reinforcement bars or welded wire fabric are not allowed in the right-of-way.