

## Single Family Residential Driveway Requirements

Driveways accessing Knox County rights-of-way shall comply with the following requirements (see referenced documents for further details). If you are unsure about how to apply these requirements please consult a traffic engineering professional.

### How many driveways can I have?

- A. **Number of driveways** – Only one driveway will be permitted when the roadway to be accessed is functionally classified as a Collector or Arterial in the approved Major Road Plan. Two driveways will be permitted on local streets when the frontage is adequate to meet spacing requirements (see next section) or when the property is a corner lot with frontage on two local streets. In the latter case two driveways may be permitted as long as each driveway has a corner clearance (see section C) at least two times the minimum.

### Where should I locate my driveway(s)?

- B. **Spacing** – The distance between the ends of the curb returns or limits of the curb cut for ramp type driveways of adjacent driveways serving the same property shall be at least two times the average *effective width\** of the adjacent driveways.
- C. **Corner Clearance\*** – For lots at the intersection of two streets, the table below indicates the minimum distance from the nearest edge of the driveway to the road right-of-way line (from Knox County Zoning Ordinance, Section 3.51.02, Table 3).

For Lots of Record <u>On or Before</u> the Adopted Date of the Driveway Policy (09/23/1996)			
Classification of Intersecting Street	Functional Classification of Street to be Accessed		
	Arterial	Collector	Local
Arterial	100 ft. or "a"	75 ft. or "b"	50 ft. or "c"
Collector	75 ft. or "a"	50 ft. or "b"	25 ft. or "c"
Local	50 ft. or "a"	25 ft. or "b"	25 ft. or "c"
"a" - Lot frontage / 2 whichever is greater but not to exceed 200 feet "b" - Lot frontage / 3 whichever is greater but not to exceed 200 feet "c" - Lot frontage / 4 whichever is greater but not to exceed 200 feet			
For Lots Recorded <u>After</u> the Adopted Date of the Driveway Policy (09/23/1996)			
Classification of Intersecting Street	Functional Classification of Street to be Accessed		
	Arterial	Collector	Local
Arterial	200 ft.	150 ft.	100 ft.
Collector	150 ft.	100 ft.	50 ft.
Local	100 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.

- D. **Edge Clearance\*** – Except where a joint access agreement provides otherwise, all driveways shall be located to provide at least five feet of edge clearance from an interior property line as measured at the street right-of-way line.
- E. **Sight Distance** – Clear sight distance in both directions from a point 3 ½ feet above the driveway surface and 15 feet from the roadway pavement to a point 3 ½ feet above the roadway pavement shall be at least 10 times the posted speed limit but in no case less than 250 feet.

## How wide should my driveway(s) be?

- F. **Width** – *Nominal driveway width\** as measured at the street right-of-way line shall be 10 feet (minimum) to 20 feet (maximum) with *flare\** or *radius\** between 3 feet and 5 feet.

## Do I have to pave my driveway(s)?

- G. **Surface** – Gravel surfaces will be permitted for single family driveways providing access to streets functionally classified as Local. All other driveways must be paved with concrete or bituminous material from the edge of the roadway pavement to the back of the ditch line, or 10 feet from the outer edge of the shoulder or curb line, or to the right-of-way line, whichever is greatest. The pavement thickness must match that of the road being accessed.

## Other things to consider

- H. **Grade** – For driveways in or within 25 feet of the public right-of-way:
- No break in pavement grade shall exceed 8%.
  - The distance between successive breaks in grade shall be at least 10 ft.
  - The total change in grade from the slope of the pavement of the closest traffic lane shall not exceed 15%.
  - When the algebraic difference in grade between any two succeeding tangent grades exceeds 8%, the change shall be accomplished through the use of vertical curves with a “K” of at least 1.
- I. **Street Classification** – When frontage is on two streets, access will only be allowed to the street with the lower classification.
- J. **Median Offsets** – Driveways shall be located in line with median openings. If it is not possible to align the driveway with the median opening, then the distance between the end of the median and the nearest edge of the driveway as measured parallel to the street right-of-way line shall be as follows (from Table 2 of Access Control and Driveway Design Policy):

Status of Lot as of Effective Date of This Policy (9/23/1996)	Functional Classification of Street to be Accessed		
	Arterial	Collector	Local
Lot of Record	100 ft. or “d”	75 ft. or “d”	50 ft. or “d”
Not Recorded	200 ft.	150 ft.	100 ft.
“d” – Maximum distance possible based on physical constraints of lot size and spacing to other points of access, whichever is less.			

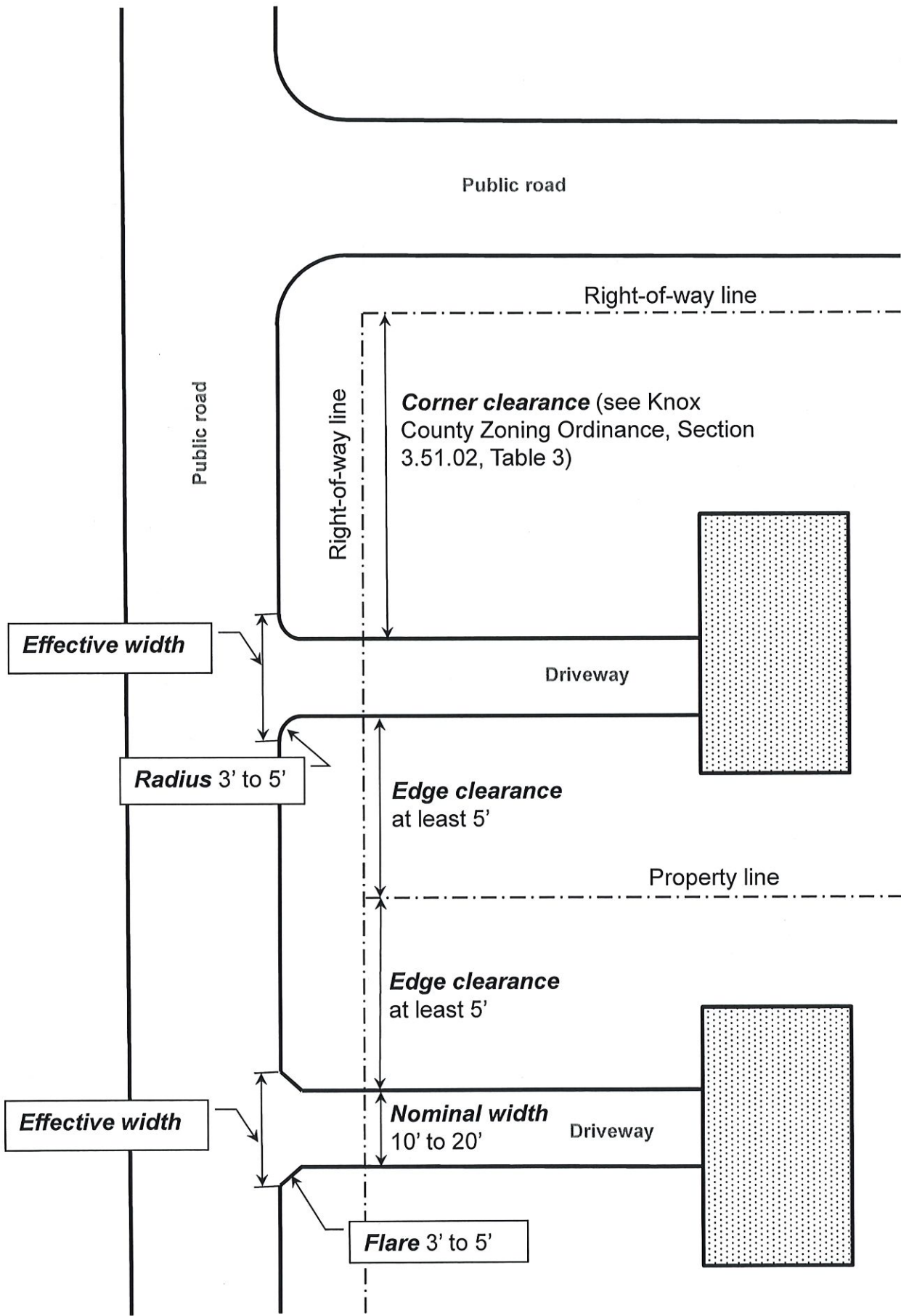
\*Items in *italics* are shown in the attached figure

Referenced documents:

Knox County Zoning Ordinance, Section 3.51.02

Knoxville-Knox County Minimum Subdivision Regulations, Section 3.04.J.6

Knox County Access Control and Driveway Design Policy, adopted November 1996



Public road

Right-of-way line

**Corner clearance** (see Knox County Zoning Ordinance, Section 3.51.02, Table 3)

Right-of-way line

Effective width

Driveway

Radius 3' to 5'

Edge clearance at least 5'

Property line

Edge clearance at least 5'

Effective width

Nominal width 10' to 20'

Driveway

Flare 3' to 5'