



San Diego County Fire Protection District

FDC'S and PIV Detail

FDC AND PIV REQUIREMENTS:

- FDC's shall be located on the address side of the building and located immediately adjacent to the approved fire department access road. The FDC shall be in a position allowing hose lines to be readily and conveniently attached. The FDC shall contain a minimum of *two* 2½ inch inlets. When the sprinkler demand is 500 gpm or greater (including the interior hose stream demand) or a standpipe system is included, *four* 2½ inch inlets shall be provided. The FDC shall be a listed assembly, i.e. Potter-Roemer FDC Models 5761-5764, 5775, 5776, 5780, 5781, 5785, 5786, Guardian FDC Models 6224, 6226, 6242, 6244, or similar listed devices. *Note: These are just examples of the models that would be accepted by SDCFPD. SDCFPD does not endorse any specific manufacturer.*
- FDCs shall be no more than 100 feet from a public hydrant
- FDCs, PIVs, and backflow assemblies shall be readily visible and accessible from the fire lane. Vegetation may be used to screen backflow assemblies on the side that does not face the fire department access roadway.
- FDC caps shall be metal or locking type as approved by SDCFPD.
- FDCs and PIVs, shall be painted OSHA safety red. The closest upstream indicating valve to the riser shall be painted OSHA safety red.
- FDCs, PIVs, and DDCs, shall have durable, legible signs clearly indicating the address of the facility they serve or, where appropriate, their function (e.g., “Sectional Valve 1 of 2”). Signs must be metal, secured with a chain or wire, and the letters must be contrasting. Signs shall be securely attached to the device.
 - A metal sign with raised letters not less than 1 inch (25 mm) in size shall be mounted on all fire department connections serving automatic sprinklers, standpipes or fire pump connections. Such signs shall read: AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS or STANDPIPES or TEST CONNECTION or a combination thereof as applicable. Where the fire department connection does not serve the entire building, a sign shall be provided indicating the portions of the building served.
- Large private fire service mains shall have post indicating type sectional control valves at appropriate points to permit isolation of the system in the event of a break or during repair or extension. *Note: A large system is considered one with more than 6 connections including fire hydrants.*
- Remote FDC's in Industrial /Commercial complexes may be required by SDCFPD.



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- PIVs, or other approved indicating valves, serving buildings 40 feet or more in height shall be located a minimum of 40 feet from the building. For buildings less than 40 feet tall, the valve shall be located no closer than the height of the building. Where it is *impractical* to locate control valve(s) at these minimum distances, they may be located closer using one of the following methods:
 - Approved wall mount indicating valves: Located on exterior walls without openings within 15 feet of the valve(s).
 - A backflow preventer with at least one indicating valve not less than 40 ft (12 m) from the building.
 - For buildings less than 40 ft (12 m) in height, a backflow preventer with at least one indicating valve shall be permitted to be installed closer than 40 ft (12 m) but at least as far from the building as the height of the wall facing the backflow preventer.
 - Valve room or exit stair enclosure: When the valve is placed in a room separated from the building by a minimum one-hour fire barrier, and the room is accessible from outside.
 - Exterior risers: The valve may be placed in locations adjacent to exterior walls without openings within 15 feet of the valve.
 - An approved manner acceptable to SDCFPD.
- Immediate access to fire department connections shall be always maintained and without obstruction by fences, bushes, trees, walls or any other fixed or moveable object.
- A working space of not less than 36 inches (914 mm) in width, 36 inches (914 mm) in depth and 78 inches (1981 mm) in height shall be provided and maintained in front of and to the sides of wall-mounted fire department connections and around the circumference of free-standing fire department connections, except as otherwise required or approved by SDCFPD.
- Where fire department connections are subject to impact by a motor vehicle, vehicle impact protection shall be provided by referenced detail (CFA 502)
- The potable water supply to automatic sprinkler and standpipe systems shall be protected against backflow as required by the Health and Safety Code Section 13114.7.