



**City of Phoenix
Water Services Department**

Policy Governing Applications for Fire Hydrant Construction Meters and the Providing of Water to Developers for Construction

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide developers access to fire hydrant water required for construction purposes, and at the same time ensure that fire hydrants and fire hydrant meters are properly used upon payment to the City of Phoenix for the permit application.

Policy

Fire hydrants are provided for the primary purpose of extinguishing fires and shall be opened and used only by the Water Services Department, the Fire Department, or persons authorized by the Water Services Director. No permit will be issued and existing permits will be cancelled when any authorized person is delinquent on payment for water used or there is damage to a hydrant. Every person authorized to open fire hydrants will be required to replace the caps on all outlets when not in use, and keep hose connections in good repair. Failure to do so will be sufficient cause to prohibit further use of fire hydrants and deny subsequent permits for their further use.

It will be unlawful for any person to obstruct access to any fire hydrant by placing any stone, brick, lumber, dirt, rubbish or other material within twenty feet of the hydrant, or to willfully or carelessly cause damage to a hydrant.

When water for construction is required by a contractor, it will be supplied through a meter where possible. When an existing service connection is not available, or is of insufficient size, the contractor may apply for a fire hydrant construction meter through the City's technical support staff of the Development Services Department or the Water Services Department for a fire hydrant meter. Such applications may be approved subject to the applicant's compliance with all rules and regulations established by the Water Services Department pertaining to the use of construction water from fire hydrants and the payment of prevailing fees and applicable charges.

Backflow Requirements

A reduced pressure principle backflow prevention (RP) assembly is required for all connections to a fire hydrant as required by City Code Chapter 37 and State Plumbing Code Section 603.4. The RP assembly shall be installed and supported per the City Standard Detail P1356 or an approved alternate support detail where MAG is not practical.

Deposit and Charges

When a contractor makes application for a fire hydrant construction meter, a deposit must be posted to cover the following costs:

- a. Installation and removal of the meter

- b. Relocation of the meter
- c. Failure to return the fire hydrant key
- d. The unanticipated cost of repairing the hydrant meter or connection, if damaged.
- e. The contractor is responsible for the meter and connections while the permit is in force. In the event the meter is not returned, there will be an additional charge to the contractor for the replacement cost.
- f. The contractor will be required to post an additional deposit when the charges exceed the amount of the deposit.
- g. If the total charges are less than the original deposit, the balance will be refunded after the meter is returned.
- h. Monthly service charges and water consumption rates (plus applicable taxes) will be based on current rates established by the Phoenix City Code.

The balance of any deposit remaining after all unpaid charges have been deducted shall be returned to the permittee after the service is terminated.

All charges are due and payable when billing is rendered and shall be delinquent 15 days after that date. After the date of delinquency, the meter is subject to removal, the service may be terminated and the deposit forfeited.

Fees for Illegal Use of Fire Hydrant Construction Water

If a contractor/customer uses water from an unmetered fire hydrant or from the unmetered side of a metered fire hydrant, this shall result in an illegal use fee of \$600 (plus applicable taxes).

If a contractor/customer moves a fire hydrant meter without proper authority, this shall constitute illegal use of a fire hydrant per Article I, Section 37-12 of the Phoenix City Code, resulting in a fee of \$100.00 (plus applicable taxes). Also, if the meter has been located as a result of an illegal move, the contractor/customer will be subject to revocation of the fire hydrant meter permit and forfeiture of deposit.

If a contractor/customer tampers with or willfully damages a fire hydrant or fire hydrant meter, this shall constitute illegal use of a fire hydrant, Article I, Section 37-12, Phoenix City Code. A fee of \$100.00 (plus applicable taxes) in addition to subsequent charges for damages and/or repairs, will be assessed.



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