

INFORMATION
BULLETIN

180

March 2022

Hydrant Flow Data

This information bulletin describes the procedure for obtaining the available water flow and pressure at a fire hydrant for projects in the City of San Diego. This information is required when applying for fire sprinkler or standpipe permits requiring hydraulic calculations within the City's jurisdiction. The City of San Diego utilizes a computer model to track and display the flow and pressure of fire hydrants within the City of San Diego water district.

I. Completing Form DS-160

Print/type all necessary information for the desired fire hydrant flow and pressure location on the Hydrant Flow Request form (DS-160). At a minimum, include the name of the company requesting the hydrant flow data, the project address, the location of the nearest hydrants, and nearest cross streets to the project address.

On the bottom of the form, draw or insert an accurate site map of the area. The site map must show the location of the fire hydrant for which the hydrant flow data is being requested, the project street name and address, the general location of the project, the nearest cross street and name, and a north arrow. The map must be drawn or inserted to a size or scale sufficient to clearly show all elements described above.

II. Submitting Form DS-160

To request available hydrant flow data, complete form DS-160 and e-mail the request to DSDHydrantFlow@sandiego.gov. The request may also be mailed to:

City of San Diego Development Services
Attention: Hydrant Flow Request
1222 First Avenue, MS401
San Diego, CA 92101-4101

III. Locations Without Water Model Data

- A. For existing private fire service mains or fire hydrants where water model data is not available, a hydrant flow request must be submitted for the off-site public fire hydrant that is closest to the point of connection for the on-site private fire main. Flow testing of public or private fire hydrants will not be witnessed by Development Services or Fire Department personnel, and data from such test will not be accepted for the design of fire suppression systems. Any hydraulic calculations must be carried back through the private on-site system to the point of connection to the City water distribution system.
- B. For new developments without current fire hydrants or where water model data is not available, the project's water study or a hydraulic analysis prepared by a registered professional engineer shall be provided with the fire sprinkler plans in lieu of hydrant flow data.
- C. For projects located outside the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department Water District, water supply information obtained from the applicable water purveyor shall be used.

IV. Using Hydrant Flow Data

A signed copy of the Hydrant Flow Request form complete within 6 months of the Permit application date shall be electronically affixed to the fire suppression system plans uploaded for the permit submittal. Note that a safety factor equal to 10% of the water supply system static pressure will be deducted from the hydrant flow data that is provided, so no additional safety factors need to be applied to the data that is provided.

Visit our web site: sandiego.gov/dsd.

Upon request, this information is available in alternative formats for persons with disabilities.

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V. Contractor's Responsibility

It is the contractor's responsibility to confirm the available static pressure at the system point of connection prior to beginning design of the system(s) and to report any discrepancies to DSDHydrantFlow@sanidiego.gov as soon as possible.

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Reference Table

- How to Obtain a Permit for Fire Sprinkler Systems ([Information Bulletin 139](#))
- Fire Permit Fees, [Information Bulletin 506](#)
- Hydrant Flow Request ([Form DS-160](#))

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