

Applying for a Private Fire Service

Effective July 1, 2022



Disclaimer Notice

Applicants will find this information helpful to understand the process of applying for a private fire service. The charges and fees in this brochure are presented only as guidelines for cost estimates. All requests for preliminary cost estimates must include an address and accurate service location. Final quotations will not be issued until a properly completed application is submitted, reviewed and approved by EBMUD. Availability of an existing main, unusual installation conditions and contaminated soil conditions may increase your final cost.

Before Applying

Applicants for commercial and multi-family structures of five or more units must submit a “Fire Service Request for Available Flow and Pressure Information Form” for the property to be served. EBMUD will perform Maximum Day Demand Hydraulic Model Analysis of the water distribution system at the service location and provide you with flow and pressure information to serve as a guideline for designing the fire service. A \$369 water service estimate fee must be paid upon submittal.

Applicant Checklist

In order to process your application for private fire service, you need to provide the following information:

- Water Service Application with:
 - Applicant and/or owner name, mailing address and phone number
 - Address of property to be served
 - Assessor's parcel number
 - Building or grading permit number
 - Fire service contractor's name, address and phone number
 - Size and number of services
- Fire sprinkler plans or underground site plans showing fire service size and location approved by local fire marshal
- Hydrant/Fire Service/Dual Service Requirements form, completed by local fire marshal
- Backflow Survey
- Existing site environmental data (if available)
- EBMUD available flow and pressure data results
- Signed statement of design criteria used for fire sprinkler design.

Application Process

Step	Responsible party	Action
1	Applicant	Submits Fire Service Request for Available Flow and Pressure Information form to the New Business Office. Online form is available at <i>ebmud.com/nbo</i> .
2	EBMUD	Determines available flow and pressure (hydraulics).
3	Applicant	Completes the Water Service Application at <i>wsa.ebmud.com</i> , including Statement of Design Criteria Used for Fire Sprinkler Design; Hydrant/Fire Service/Dual Service Requirements forms and approved fire sprinkler or underground site plan.
4	EBMUD	Calculates the cost of the service(s) and forwards with the Private Fire Service Agreements to Applicant.
5	Applicant	Returns signed agreements and full payment for installation.
6	EBMUD	Prepares work orders and applies for a city/county encroachment permit for street work at the site.
7	EBMUD	Upon receipt of encroachment permit, forwards work orders to the local EBMUD Service Center to schedule installation.
8	Applicant	Contacts local Fire Marshal and EBMUD's Backflow Prevention Unit at 510-287-0874 to arrange for an appointment to turn on fire service.

Fire Sprinkler/Site Plans

The fire sprinkler/site plans you submit should specify the following information:

- Location and size of fire service, showing property lines and street name.
- Approval by local fire marshal (signature required)

Backflow Prevention

A backflow prevention device is required for a fire service if it meets one of the following criteria:

- The property is a waterfront property within 1,700 feet of a lake, stream, bay or ocean
- There is an auxiliary supply of water for fighting fires on the property, e.g. a fire line attached to a swimming pool, a vat, or a tank
- The system is a looped fire system
- There are chemicals injected into the fire line

In the case of a looped system, the backflow prevention device can be a double check valve assembly. In all other cases, an RP backflow device must be used. Please note that if the proposed new service does not require a backflow prevention device, an Underwriter Laboratories (UL) approved single check, wafer check, or pumper check valve is required in line immediately adjacent to the District's detector check valve (on the side between the valve and the building structure). This is to prevent damage to the detector check valve during pressure testing. For assistance with specific technical issues or for help in determining if a backflow prevention device is required, please contact our Backflow Prevention Unit directly by calling 510-287-0874. Also, visit our Backflow Prevention web page at ebmud.com/backflow.

Hydrant/Fire Service/Dual Service Requirements

The local fire marshal may require the installation of a public or private fire hydrant with the new private fire service. A Hydrant/Fire Service/Dual Service Requirements form must be completed by the local fire marshal and submitted with your application package.

Note: If a fire hydrant is required, you should have the fire marshal mark the location of the hydrant on the approved fire sprinkler/site plan.

Dual Service

Dual service allows for one oversized water meter, combining both domestic use and fire protection for single-family residences and some multi-family residences (as approved by the local fire marshal) in lieu of a domestic water meter and dedicated private fire service. The California Building Code requires automatic fire sprinkler systems in all new construction. A dedicated private fire service is required for all commercial buildings and other multi-family residential buildings as determined by your local fire marshal. A dual service may have a larger meter than a standalone domestic service to meet the flow demand for fire protection. The System Capacity Charge (SCC) will be based on the meter size to meet domestic requirements only. A Hydrant/Fire Service/Dual Service Requirements form must be completed and signed by the Fire Marshal before a dual service will be granted.

For additional information about Dual Service, contact the New Business Office at 510-287-1008.

Special Notes

Fire services are installed either inside the curb or in the sidewalk. They are NOT installed at or inside the property line.

If you install piping before the fire service is complete, we recommend staying 10 feet back from the proposed point of connection to facilitate the tie-in.

Appointments

Scheduling appointments in advance will assure a representative will be available to see you and will help avoid unnecessary delays. Appointments to speak in person with a New Business representative may be obtained by calling 510-287-1008.

Installation Time

Process	Duration
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application Review• Cost Calculation• Agreement Preparation	6 to 8 weeks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicant Returns Agreements and Payment	Open
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparation of Work Orders• Acquisition of City/County Encroachment Permit	2 to 6 weeks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Installation of Service	4 to 6 weeks

Note: Installation time is contingent on District workload, project size, and site conditions. During peak season, completion schedule may be impacted.

Fire Service Cost

The cost to install the fire service depends upon its size and the conditions at the site. The total cost will be the sum of the following:

- Installation fee
- Contaminated soils remediation and disposal
- Account fee

Installation Fee

The basic installation fee includes the cost of installing the fire service, meter box, fittings, and connection to existing water main under normal conditions. For services of four inches or larger, the fee also includes installation of a detector check meter. Installation fees are reviewed annually and subject to change.

Service size	Flow (in gallons per minute)	Installed in paved conditions	Installed in unpaved conditions
4"	600	\$28,729	\$18,136
6"	1350	\$29,534	\$18,941
8"	2340	\$29,534	\$18,941

Sample Calculation

The cost to install one four-inch fire service in paved conditions to serve an apartment building might be calculated as follows:

Basic installation fee	\$28,729
Account establishment fee	\$63
TOTAL	\$28,792

Groundwater and Soil Contamination Issues

Before District crews are allowed to excavate for any new service or main extension, an investigation is done to determine if groundwater will be encountered during excavation and whether the soil or groundwater is contaminated. Applicants must submit any known, existing information regarding site soil and groundwater conditions with their application. If the District determines that sampling is necessary to adequately characterize soil and groundwater conditions, the Applicant will be responsible for the actual cost of sampling and analyses unless the job is based on a fixed rate and no evidence of contamination is found. The Applicant will also be responsible for increased disposal costs due to the presence of groundwater. If the contamination poses a threat to drinking water quality, water distribution piping or appurtenances, or worker health and safety, for installation, inspection, and potential future construction and repair, the Applicant may be required to remediate the site before services will be installed.



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