

Santa Clara Fire Department

FIRE PREVENTION AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION



1675 Lincoln Street, Santa Clara, CA 95050
PHONE: (408) 615-4970

NON-HIGHRISE ELEVATOR LOBBIES ACCESS-CONTROLLED EGRESS DOORS

When approved, exit doors from elevator lobbies may be locked when equipped with an approved unlocking system. Requests to utilize this alternative method will be considered on a case-by-case basis. In no case will an elevator lobby be allowed to be locked if one of the required means of egress for the floor passes through the elevator lobby. Plans must be reviewed and approved by both the City of Santa Clara Fire and Building Departments prior to installation of any security hardware. The alternative compliance methodology outlined below is an alternative to only Item #1 of Section 1008.1.9.8 of the California Fire and Building Codes:

- A. The lobby door does not serve an Assembly Occupancy.
- B. The entire building is equipped with an automatic sprinkler system.
- C. A monitored fire alarm system capable of alerting all occupants is installed throughout the building:
- D. Smoke detectors are provided within 5 feet of the door on both the inside and the outside of the door, or smoke detectors are part of an open area protection system covering the room, corridor, elevator lobby, or enclosed space on each side of the door and are located and spaced according to their listing.
- E. An illuminated exit sign is installed at each doorway of the lobby.
- F. An approved listed, momentary mushroom-shaped palm button, releasing device is provided:
 - 1. This device shall be located so that the center line is between 40" and 48" above the floor and within 6" of the frame. The device shall be installed on the wall adjacent to the latch outside the door. Where there is no space on the latch side, including double leaf doors, devices shall be placed on the nearest adjacent wall, preferably on the right side.
 - 2. A sign shall be provided above each releasing device. The sign shall have appropriate instructions, depending on the type of device. EXAMPLE: "PUSH BUTTON BELOW FOR EMERGENCY EXIT". In addition, it may add, "ALARM WILL SOUND". The color of the lettering shall be in high contrast with the background. The words shall be in sans-serif upper case letters, raised 1/32" minimum, and shall be a minimum 5/8" in height.
 - 3. Written characters shall be accompanied by Braille symbols. The symbols shall be contracted Grade 2 Braille. Dots shall be 1/10" on center in each cell with 2/10" space between cells. Dots shall be raised a minimum of 1/40" above the background.
 - 4. The sign shall be located directly above the EXIT releasing device at 60" above the floor to the centerline of the sign.
- Note:** See CBC §11B-703 for additional information concerning signage.
- G. The door shall unlock immediately and automatically on any of the following conditions:
 - 1. Loss of power to the lock circuit, or access control system;
 - 2. Activation of the manual releasing device;
 - 3. Activation of building fire alarm system;
 - 4. Activation of building fire sprinkler system.