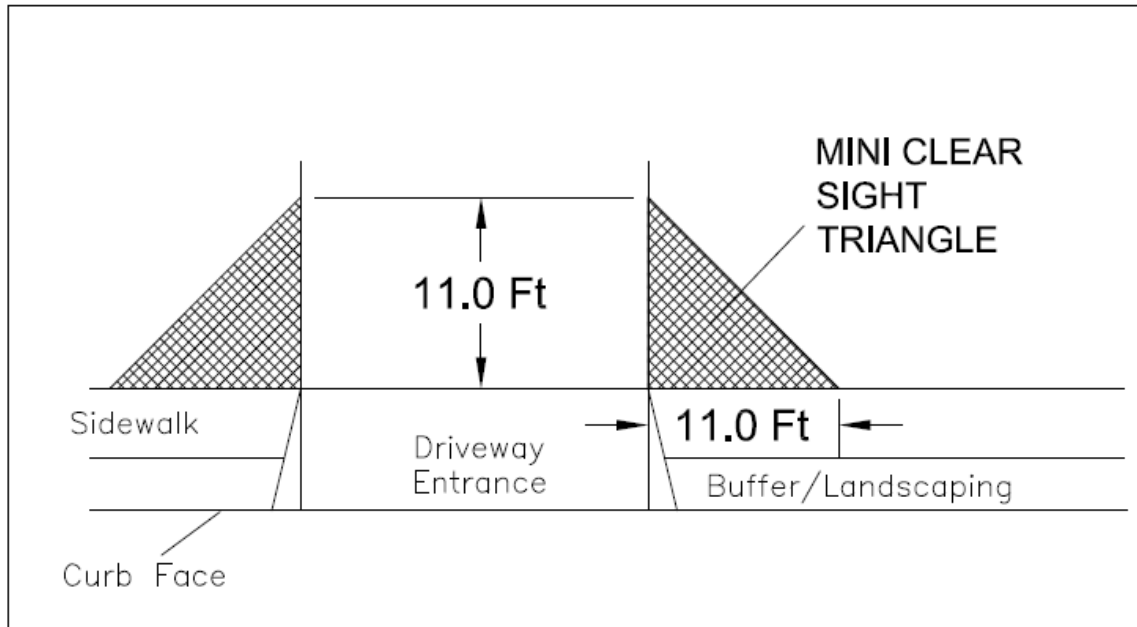


**Clear Sight Triangle Evaluations**  
by Department of Municipal Development, Traffic Engineering

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**Mini Clear Sight Triangle for Driveways on Residential Streets:**



**Figure 1. Mini Clear Sight Triangle**

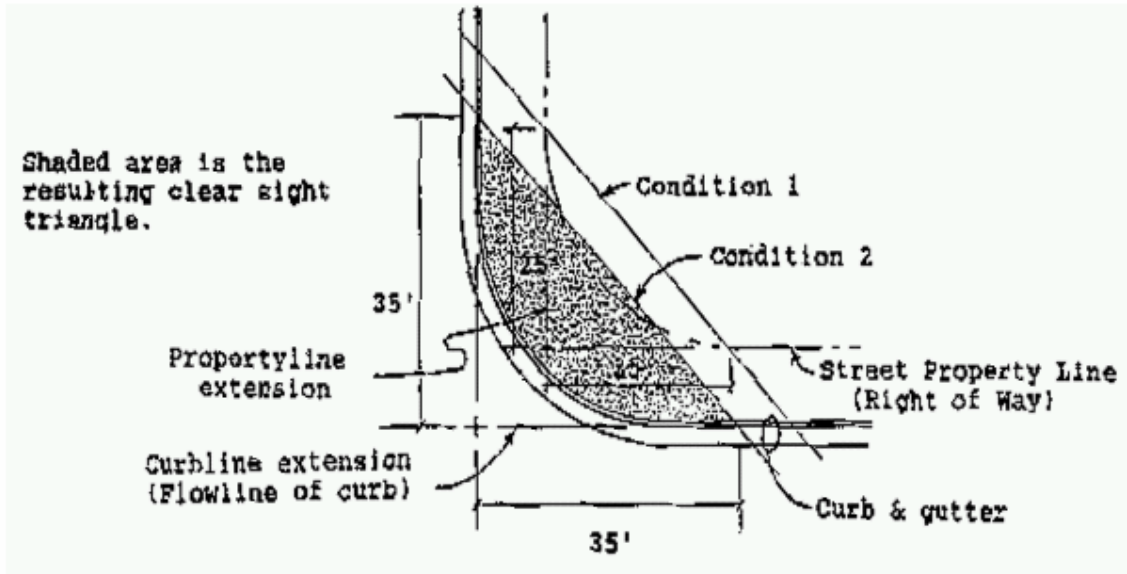
Things to consider regarding mini clear sight triangle evaluations:

1. Does the proposed wall\structure impact the person's ability to see oncoming pedestrians and vehicular traffic?
2. Does the proposed wall\structure impact the adjacent neighbor's driveway entrance clear sight?
3. Is the driveway entrance to a major road with greater than normal residential volumes? This could derive a much larger clear sight triangle; see intersection clear sight triangles for examples.
4. Where is the property boundary? Walls that are extending into the public right-of-way may require a revocable permit with the Planning Department, Design Review Committee.

**Intersection Clear Sight Triangles:**

*City Ordinance( §8-2-2-15) Specifies:*

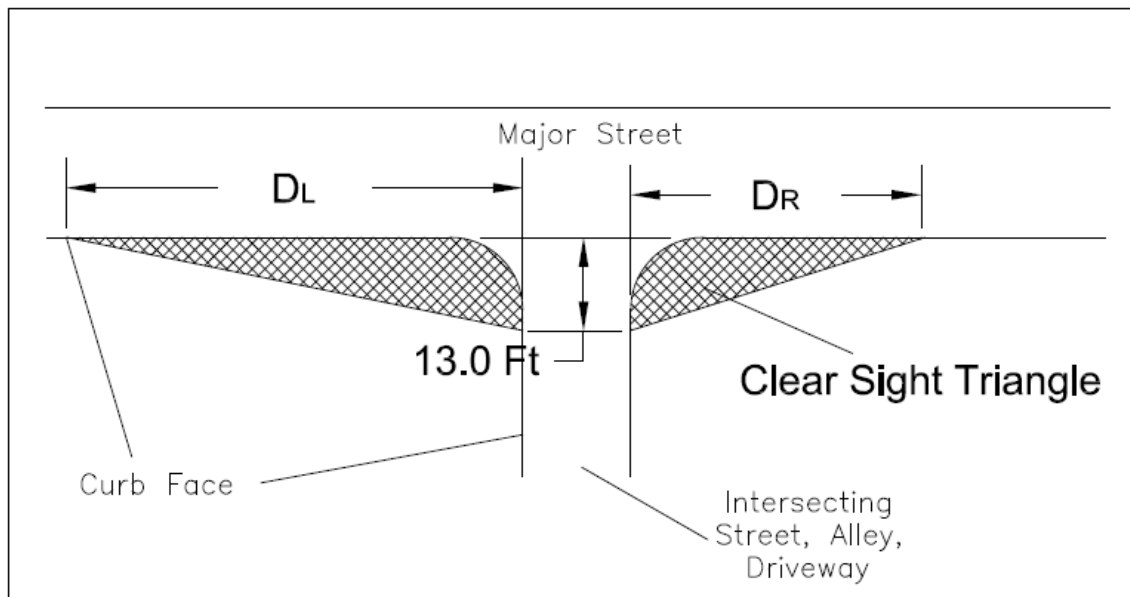
City Ordinance specifies a triangle 35 ft by 35 ft measured from the face of curb, or 25 ft by 25 ft measured from the property boundary. See Figure 2 below. It also specifies vertically that “No such obstruction to view between three and eight feet above the gutter line shall be placed or maintained within a triangular area at the street corner.”



**Figure 2. Ordinance Defined Clear Sight Triangle**

**Intersection Clear Sight Triangles (continued):**

*Traffic Engineering Specifies:*



**Figure 3. Intersection Clear Sight Triangles**

**Table 1. Distance To Right ( $D_R$ )<sup>1</sup>**  
Speed Limit, MPH

Width of Major Street (ft)	Typical Description <sup>2</sup>	25	30	35	40	45	50
18-32	LUR	100	-	-	-	-	-
18-32	LU	130	160	190	250	290	370
40-48	4LU	110	130	160	200	250	310
66	4LD	70	90	110	140	180	220
86	6LD	60	70	90	120	150	190

**Table 2. Distance To Left ( $D_L$ )<sup>1</sup>**  
Speed Limit, MPH

Width of Major Street (ft)	Typical Description <sup>2</sup>	25	30	35	40	45	50
18-32	LUR	130	-	-	-	-	-
All Others	-	210	260	350	460	560	690

<sup>1</sup> Note:  $D_R$  and  $D_L$  not to be used as sight distance

<sup>2</sup> Typical Description defined:

LUR - Local, Undivided, Single Family Residential

LU - Local, Undivided, All Other Uses

4LU - 2 or 4 Lanes, Undivided

4LD - 4 Lanes, Divided with Raised or Painted Median

6LD - 6 Lanes, Divided with Raised or Painted Median

## Clear Sight Triangle Evaluation (continued)

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Things to consider regarding intersection clear sight triangle evaluations:

1. Is the proposed wall\structure in the clear sight triangle?
2. Is the proposed wall\structure on the inside of a horizontal curve? If so, it could warrant a larger clear sight triangle.
3. Is the proposed on or near a hill or a dip? If so, it could warrant a different sight triangle.

### **References:**

Fosnaugh, Bob, "Proposed Clear Sight Triangle Ordinance," 1989.

City of Albuquerque, *Design Process Manual*, "Visibility for Driveways," Chapter 23, Section 6, Part B, 12.

City of Albuquerque, *Design Process Manual*, "Intersection Sight Distance," Chapter 23, Section 3, Part D, 5.

City of Albuquerque, New Mexico Code of Ordinances, "Clear Sight Triangle," Chapter 8, Article 2, Part 2, §8-2-2-15

### **Traffic Engineering Contacts Regarding Clear Sight Triangles:**

Bryan Wolfe, [bwolfe@cabq.gov](mailto:bwolfe@cabq.gov), 857-8691

Martin Carrasco, [mcarrasco@cabq.gov](mailto:mcarrasco@cabq.gov), 857-8684