



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** DSD Associates  
**FROM:** Roderick J. Sanchez, Director and Code Official  
**DATE:** March 14, 2014 (revised August 27, 2014)

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**INTERPRETATION NUMBER: CI2014-003**

**TITLE:** Gravel Requirements for Front & Side Yard Parking

**CODE EDITION:** City Code Chapter 19 Motor Vehicles and Traffic

**SECTION:** Sec. 19-194. Parking of certain vehicles prohibited on certain streets, and parking of certain motor vehicles prohibited on front lawns of residential zones.

**QUESTION 1:** Are gravel driveways permitted in residential zoned lots?

**ANSWER 1:** Yes. Per San Antonio City Code Section 19-194(d), motor vehicles, watercrafts on trailers, campers and other trailers may be parked only on the side yard setback or front yard with all wheels on permanently maintained parking areas constructed of 1) Gravel with barriers or permanent curbing to define the driveway; 2) concrete; 3) brick; or 4) Asphalt.

**QUESTION 2:** What is the minimum amount of gravel (i.e., depth of gravel) required for an approved gravel driveway?

**ANSWER 2:** Minimum depth is three (3) inches.

**QUESTION 3:** What are acceptable approved materials to be used as barriers or permanent curbing to define a gravel driveway?

**ANSWER 3:** Allowed barriers or permanent barriers include cement curb, brick, landscaping timbers and metal borders. Note that plastic or rubber landscaping border/edging materials are not permitted. In all cases, the barrier is required to be maintained to ensure that the gravel driveway adequately and neatly defines the driveway system. The photos below show general examples of these acceptable borders.



Gravel with Barrier Design



Concrete Pad Design



Brick Pad Design



Asphalt Pad Design



Note: Parking ribbons or strips constructed of the approved materials is an allowed design.



Allowed Concrete Blocks Curb



Allowed Concrete Curb



Allowed Brick Border



Allowed Timber Border



Allowed Metal Landscaping Border



**Roderick J. Sanchez, AICP, C.B.O.**  
**Director and Code Official**  
**Development Services Department**