



SCDF
The Life Saving Force
... for a safer Singapore

Building and Construction Authority

SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE



Date : 1 Mar 2024

Our Ref: CD/FSSD/12/02/03/01
APPBCA-2024-05

Registrar, Board of Architects
Registrar, Professional Engineers Board
President, Singapore Institute of Architects
President, Institution of Engineers, Singapore
President, Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore

Dear Sir/ Mdm,

ADVISORY ON AMBULANCE ACCESS TO BUILDINGS

With the increase in ambulance calls that SCDF has seen in recent years, there is growing concern about ambulance access into buildings (especially non-landed residential), particularly for patients who require urgent medical attention. Some building designs and layouts make it difficult for ambulances and emergency crew to reach patients in a timely manner. It is also important that the patient should be sheltered during conveyance, especially during adverse weather conditions.

To address this issue, it is important to provide sheltered access to ambulances. Additionally, providing sheltered access/walkways at ground level should be considered, taking into account the shortest route from the driveway to any building in a development.

2 This circular serves to provide recommendations to building industry stakeholders to incorporate the following guidelines:

a. Access via basement

The current LTA/BCA headroom requirements to basement carpark is 2.2m. Over and above such minimum headroom requirements, many developments also choose to increase the carpark clearance height at selected locations to allow larger vehicles access to facilitate loading/unloading. Similarly, developments are advised to increase the clearance height of basement carparks at selected locations to accommodate SCDF ambulances, so that access to patients who require medical emergency attention can be through the basement carparks. (Refer to Annex A for ambulance dimensions)

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b. Access on ground level

Alternatively sheltered access/walkways at ground level should be provided, considering the shortest route from the driveway to any building in a development.

3. Please convey the contents of this circular to members of your Board/ Institution/ Association. This circular is also available in CORENET's e-Info: <http://www.corenet.gov.sg/einfo>.
4. For any inquiry or clarification, please contact CPT Rafidah Binte Ibrahim at 68483561 or email address Rafidah_IBRAHIM@scdf.gov.sg.

Yours faithfully

(transmitted via email)

LTC TAN CHUNG YEE
for COMMISSIONER
SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE

JANE ONG
DIRECTOR
for COMMISSIONER OF BUILDING CONTROL
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY

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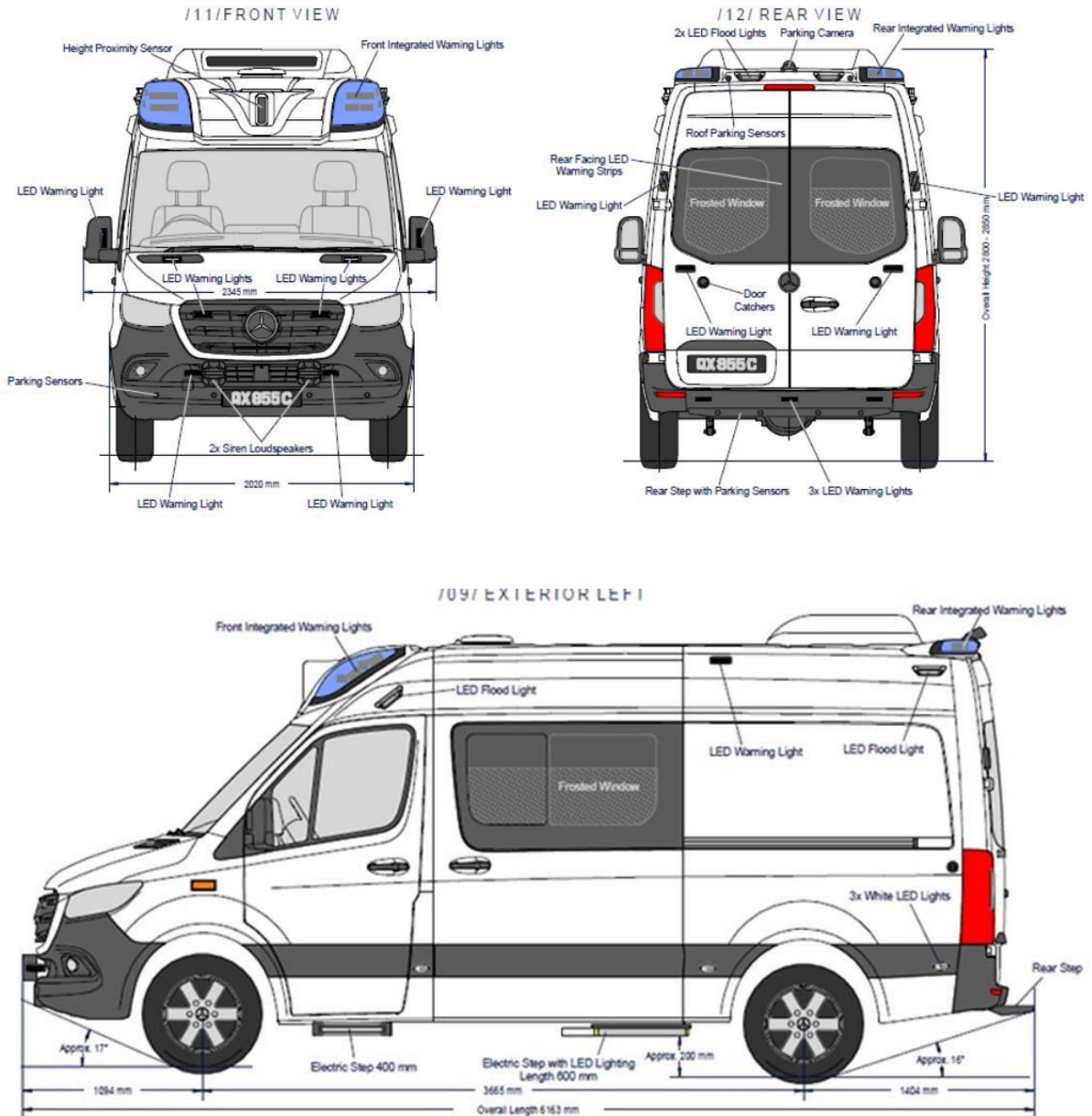
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SCDF Ambulance Dimensions

Minimum height clearance for SCDF ambulances is **3 metres**.



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