Sprinklers Overcome Single-Entrance Challenge in Pearland, TX

Problem:
The proposed gated residential development would comprise 88 occupancies. It could not meet the local requirement for two separate and remote fire apparatus access roads. Building a secondary road meant the developer would have to purchase more land, which wasn’t an option. In pre-development meetings, the discussions turned to incentives as a solution.

Solution:
City of Pearland Fire Marshal Jason Shafer meets weekly with city departments and developers to explain fire codes at the plan submittal stage. “Any time there's an opportunity to offer a trade up to a developer with a challenge, we try to do that,” he says. The developer was informed of the fire sprinkler trade up option and in exchange for installing fire sprinklers in all of the houses, a single access road was permitted.

Result:
Adding fire sprinklers to the homes increased life safety, improved their marketability and saved the developer money.

Sprinkler Costs:
The sprinklers cost $2.50 per square foot.

Pearland Home Fire Sprinkler Education:
The Pearland Fire Department was a 2019 recipient of HFSC’s educational stipends. A part of their stipend outreach was production of a new video to educate local stakeholders, including home buyers, developers, builders, fire service, insurance agencies, and real estate professionals. City of Pearland Video