

FIRE LANE REQUIREMENTS

Signs and markings. Where required by the fire code official, fire apparatus access roads shall be marked, at the expense of the owner, with permanent **NO PARKING AT ANY TIME -- FIRE LANE -- TOW AWAY ZONE** signage. Such signs shall be of standard size, color, lettering and mounting. Placement of fire lane signage shall meet the following:

1. One sign shall be posted at each end of an official fire lane. Each sign shall have a single head arrow showing the appropriate direction of the fire lane. Signs shall have a minimum dimension of 12-inches wide by 18-inches high and have red letters on a white reflective background.
2. A fire lane longer than 100 ft. shall have intermediate signs posted at even intervals. Intermediate signs shall have a double headed arrow indicating the fire lane is continuous. The intermediate signs may be posted as necessary, but in no case shall the interval between fire lane signs be greater than 100 feet.
3. The fire lane sign shall be securely fastened to a suitable pole or support with a minimum vertical clearance above the sidewalk of 7 feet.
4. When poles are used to mount fire lane signs, the signs shall be placed 2 ft. 6 in. behind the face of the curb. No pole or obstruction may be placed within 5 ft. of a fire hydrant.
5. Fire lane signs shall be posted parallel to the lane or curb to which they apply.
6. When the distance between the curb and a building, light standard or other structure is 8 ft. or less, the fire lane signs may be posted on the face of the building, light standard or other structure. The bottom of the sign shall be located 7 ft. above the adjacent sidewalk.

When required by the fire official, the owner shall also cause curbs to be painted red (if no curbs are present, then the pavement / roadway shall be painted with a **6-inch red line**) and be conspicuously and legibly marked with the warning statement: **NO PARKING – FIRE LANE -- TOW AWAY ZONE** in white letters at least **three inches tall**, at intervals not exceeding 50 feet. It is unlawful for any person, without lawful authority, to remove any signs designating a fire lane. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, maintain or display any unauthorized fire lane, or use the color red for the marking of a no parking zone that purports to be, imitates or resembles official signage or marking of a fire lane.

Roads. Roads 20-feet minimum width. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet, except for approved security gates in accordance with Section 503.6, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13 feet 6 inches (4115 mm). **Roads 20-feet to 26-feet in width.** Fire apparatus access roads 20 to 26 feet wide shall be posted on both sides as a fire lane. **Roads more than 26-feet in width.** Fire apparatus access roads 26 feet wide and less than 32 feet wide shall be posted on one side of the road as a fire lane.

Responsibility. The owner or his representative of a building which is adjacent to the fire lane shall be responsible for keeping the fire lane free of obstructions. It is unlawful to park any vehicle other than an authorized emergency vehicle in any fire lane. Unauthorized vehicles parked in designated fire lanes that block fire department or other emergency vehicle access may be towed to a designated storage facility by the authority of the fire official.

Records. The official records of the designation and location of any such fire lanes shall be kept by the fire official. The fire official shall require the property owner to submit site plans for determining and recording fire lanes on the property.

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Enforcement. The *fire code official* is empowered to enforce all fire lane violations when a designated fire lane is properly identified by signs, painted curbs, painted pavement, and or by combination thereof.

Maintenance. The *fire code official* is empowered to enforce the required maintenance of the designated fire lane for the property. The fire lane shall be re-painted and re-stenciled **every 2-years** or as required by the fire code official, based on his/her assessment. The fire code official shall keep records of the fire lanes within the jurisdiction. The owner or his/her representative of the property shall forward the maintenance report (invoice, pictures, etc.) to the fire code official upon completion of the required maintenance. Maintenance may include, but not limited to, the following: replacement of signage; re-painting curbs; re-painting pavement (roadway); documentation of the fire lane; extension of fire lane (as designated by the fire code official), etc.

EXAMPLES



Starting



Intermediate



Ending



** See Ch. 5 and Appendix "D" of the International Fire Code (2021 edition) for additional requirements. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns; please contact the EPC ESD #1 -- Fire Marshal's Office.