

FULLERTON FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION STANDARDS

APPLICATION:

FIRE LANES

JUSTIFICATION:

2016 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE (CFC), CHAPTER 5, SECTION 503 AND
APPENDIX D
CALIFORNIA STATE VEHICLE CODE, SECTION 22500.1, AND SECTION 22658

STANDARDS:

- I. DESIGNATED FIRE LANES (Designated by the City). Areas on private property may be designated as Fire Lanes for the following reasons:
 - A. Chronic parking of vehicles reduces fire access roads to less than 20 ft. in width.
 - B. Vehicle parking blocks a means of exiting.
 - C. Chronic vehicle parking blocks access to a fire hydrant.
 1. A property owner or his/her representative may request that certain areas meeting one or more of the above criteria be designated as Fire Lanes by following this procedure:
 - a. Draw a plot plan of the property showing parking areas, fire hydrants, means of exiting, widths of alleys, driveways and access roads. Show areas in question.
 - b. Send a formal letter and two copies of the plot plan to the Fire Marshal requesting that the areas shown on the plot plan be designated as Fire Lanes.
 - c. Call the Fire Prevention Division (714) 738-6500 to set a date and time for an Inspector and a property representative to tour the property.
 - d. Upon Fire Department approval, property owner/representative will be advised that sign work or painting may begin.
 - e. When work is completed the representative will call the Fire Prevention Division to request a final inspection.
 - f. If sign work/painting is done correctly, the Fire Department will notify Fullerton Police Department that the property has

designated Fire Lanes. When called by property representative, the Fullerton Police Department will cite vehicles parked in legally designated and posted Fire Lanes. Towing of vehicles will take place only at the request of the Fire Department during an emergency.

II. REQUIRED FIRE LANES:

A homeowners association or property owner designated as the primary enforcement representative is responsible to provide, install, and maintain the required signs and red curbs on approved access roads and fire lanes. Property owners or managers may have illegally parked vehicles towed from fire lanes in accordance with CVC 22658(a). **Note:** It is not the Fire Department's responsibility to intervene between homeowners and associations or property management on matters of civil dispute including HOA rules or CCR's.

III. SIGNS, CURB AND FIRE LANE PAINTING:

- A. When signs are used to designate a fire lane, said signs must be posted immediately adjacent to and visible from the designated lane. Signs are required within 3 feet of the end of each fire lane and spaced a minimum of 100 feet along the entire fire lane. A fire lane entrance sign is required at entrances to commercial or residential areas that have fire lanes. California Vehicle Code Section 22500.1 states that the designation shall be indicated (1) by a sign posted immediately adjacent to, and visible from, the designated place clearly stating in letters not less than one inch in height that the place is a fire lane, (2) by outlining or painting the place in red and, in contrasting color, marking the place with the words, "FIRE LANE", which are clearly visible from a vehicle, or (3) by a red curb or red paint on the edge of the roadway upon which is clearly marked the words "FIRE LANE".
- B. Curbs along access roads and fire lanes shall be painted OSHA Safety Red. The words "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" shall be painted on top of curb in white lettering 3 inches high and shall be spaced 50 feet on center or portion thereof.
- C. Where large areas with no curbs and poor visibility exist, the following method shall be used:
 1. The edge of the required fire lane shall be painted with a 6 inch wide red stripe and the words "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" shall be painted in 4 inch tall white letters every 50 feet. Lettering shall face the inside of the fire lane area. Appropriate signage shall be placed at the beginning of the fire lane.

- D. **SIGN MATERIAL:** The base metal shall be new sheet aluminum, .080 gauge thickness, of alloys 6061-T6, or 5052-H38 conforming to the requirements of ASTM Designation: B209. The white reflective background sheeting shall be FHWA FP-85, Type IIA, Super Engineering Grade. With red lettering not less than one inch in height, ink shall be solvent resistant. See pages 3 and 4 for example signs. Approved manufacturer for white reflective background sheeting and red ink: Nippon Carbide Industries, Inc., 3M Company, or approved equivalent.
- E. **SIGN MOUNTING:** Height of sign in sidewalk or pedestrian areas shall be 7'-0" and 5'-0" in all other areas. Depth of sign shall be 18 inches from standard curb and 24 inches with rolled curb to center of post. Bury depth shall be a minimum of 24 inches. NOTE: Signs may be mounted on existing posts or buildings if centerline of sign is no more than 24 inches from the edge of the roadway.

EXAMPLE: FIRE LANE ENTRANCE SIGN
Minimum size 18" X 30"



EXAMPLE: FIRE LANE SIGN
Minimum size 12" X 18"



EXAMPLE:
ALTERNATE FIRE LANE SIGN FOR RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS
Minimum size 18" X 30"



IV. DEFINITIONS:

- A. **FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROAD.** A road that provides fire apparatus access from a fire station to a facility, building or portion thereof. This is a general term inclusive of all other terms such as fire lane, public street, private street, parking lot lane and access roadway.
- B. **FIRE LANE.** A road or other passageway developed to allow the passage of fire apparatus. A fire lane is not necessarily intended for vehicular traffic other than fire apparatus.