

# Fire Lane

## **Why do I need a fire lane at my business?**

The Fire Lane provides access to your place of business to Police Fire and EMS. The Fire Trucks normally carry one hundred and fifty feet of hose on them. In order to reach the back sides of the building or the back interior wall the Truck must be within 150'.

## **Why can't I park in the fire lane? Obviously, if the building is on fire, I'll go move my car.**

The fire lane is for fire/police/EMS only. There could be a medical emergency or a police matter that would require the use of the fire lane. If you park in the fire lane, it prevents personnel from doing their job to the best of their ability.

## **Maintaining the Fire Lane**

The Fire Code requires the owner or person in control of the property to maintain the fire apparatus access road/fire lane. Signs or notices and striping shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility.

## **Turning Radius**

The required turning radius of a fire apparatus access road shall be a minimum of 25 feet inner radius and 50 feet exterior radius or shall be determined by the fire code official.

## **Dead-End Fire Apparatus Access Roads**

Dead-end fire apparatus access roads in excess of 150 feet in length shall be provided with an approved area for turning around fire apparatus.

## **Surface**

Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed load of fire apparatus weighing at least 75,000 pounds. The surface shall be constructed of asphalt, concrete, or other approved driving surface and shall provide all-weather driving capabilities.

## **Grade**

Fire apparatus access roads shall not exceed 10 percent in grade.

## **Who paints the fire lane?**

The business owner can hire a company that provides this service or do the work themselves. Keep in mind that the dimensions and markings must meet City Codes and ordinances.

## **What are the requirements for marking the fire lane?**

Striping – Fire apparatus access roads shall be marked by painted lines of red traffic paint six inches (6") in width to show the boundaries of the lane. The words "FIRE LANE TOW AWAY ZONE" shall appear in white letters at least 3 inches tall at intervals not exceeding 35 feet on the red border markings along both sides of the fire lanes. Where no curb and guttering exists, fire apparatus access roads shall be marked with permanent FIRE LANE - TOW AWAY ZONE signs at intervals not exceeding fifty (50) feet. Signs shall have a minimum dimension of 12 inches wide by 18 inches high and have red letters on a white reflective background. Signs shall be posted on one side or both sides of the fire apparatus road as required by Section D103.6.1 or D103.6.2.

## **People completely disregard the fire lanes at my building. What can I do about it?**

Please contact the Lago Vista Police Department police dispatch at [\(512\) 267-7141](tel:5122677141) and Travis County ESD #1 Fire Prevention Bureau at (512)267-2958.

