



## **FIRE PREVENTION MANUAL**

### **DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

#### **403.005 REQUIREMENTS FOR MARKING FIRE LANES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

**EFFECTIVE: JUNE 2008**

## SCOPE

This policy clarifies the Fresno Fire Department (FFD or Department) requirements for fire lane marking requirements for private property.

## PURPOSE

This policy has been established to provide direction for the requirements for marking fire lanes on private property to ensure that approved emergency access is provided.

## BACKGROUND

The *California Fire Code (CFC)* requires fire apparatus access roads be provided on private property. Access roads on private property are generally designed to a lesser standard than public streets, often making it difficult for fire apparatus to maneuver at the site. On private property, it is the responsibility of the owner or common interest development associations to ensure access is available.

## REQUIREMENTS

The following fire lane designations and entrance signage guidelines will allow a property owner or agent to have a vehicle towed from a fire apparatus access lane without first having a citation issued by the City of Fresno Police Department. It is the responsibility of the property owner or agent to notify a towing company to have a vehicle removed subject to the provisions of the *California Vehicle Code (CVC)*. The police department may issue a citation for illegal parking; however, the police department will not have illegally parked vehicles removed from private property unless the vehicle meets certain police department criteria for removal.

If a vehicle is towed at the request of the property owner or agent, the provisions of the *CVC* must be adhered to. It is a requirement for the property owner or agent to notify the police department of the vehicle's status prior to its removal.

## Fire Lane Marking

Required fire lanes shall be designated by painting the curb red (top and side) and stenciling "Fire Lane No Parking" in 3-inch white letters on the most vertical curb, at least every 50 feet. If no curb is present, a minimum 6-inch wide red stripe shall be painted along the edge of the roadway with "Fire Lane" in 3-inch white letters at least every 50 feet.

Signs may be used in conjunction with, or in lieu of, curb painting. The curbside signs shall be at a minimum:

1. The sign shall be at a minimum 12 x 18 inch sign with a white reflective background.
2. The sign shall read "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" in minimum 3-inch red letters.
3. Signs shall be placed at the beginning and end of the designated fire lane and be at 50 foot intervals. Directional arrows shall be placed on the signs to indicate the extent and direction of the fire lanes (----->, <----->, <-----).
4. Signs shall be set at least 18 inches but not more than 24 inches from the curb and must have a finished height of 7 feet to the bottom of the sign when adjacent to sidewalks.
5. Signs shall not be obstructed by landscaping or street fixtures and shall be readily visible from a vehicle.

## Entrance Signs

In order to comply with the CVC requirements allowing towing from private property, signs shall be installed at all public entrance driveways that comply with CVC 22658.

## Emergency Access Only Gate Signs

Emergency access gates across entrances that have been designed only for use by fire and police personnel is designated on the properties site plan prior to construction of the complex. The sign below is required on both sides of the gate:

"FIRE LANE" (in 6 inch letters)  
"VEHICLES REMOVED AT OWNER'S EXPENSE" (in 2 inch letters)  
"FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT @ (559) 621-7000" (in 1 inch letters)

## Common Access Road Gates

Common access roads are used by both the occupants and emergency personnel. Gates across these roadways must be designated on the approved site plan. Gates

installed across these roadways after completion of a project must be reviewed with a revised land use entitlement submittal to the Development and Resource Management Department (DARM). This revised site plan will be routed to Traffic Engineering and the Fire Department. Once all involved Departments have reviewed and all corrections have been made to the submittal, it will be approved by DARM.

## REFERENCES

*California Fire Code*  
*California Vehicle Code*