



## Tomball Fire Department Fire Prevention Division

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# Procedures for Fire Lane

All fire lanes shall be reviewed and approved by the Fire Prevention Officer prior to installation. All fire lanes shall be installed in accordance to the below listed items.

1. All new and existing buildings within the city shall have adequate access for the Fire Department apparatus. The Fire Prevention Officer and Building Owner/Tenant shall designate fire lanes. Fire lanes shall be twenty (24) feet in width and have a vertical clearance of fourteen (14) feet. All fire lanes shall be marked on both sides as a travel lane, including behind parking spaces and dead-end drives.
2. All fire lanes shall extend to within one hundred-fifty (150) feet of all exterior portions of the facility and exterior walls of the first story of the building as measured by an approved route.
3. All fire lanes shall be posted and marked, and shall be designated as tow away zones by the building owner/tenant. All fire lanes within the City shall be marked using signs, pavement markings or curb markings with the following specifications:
  - a. **Pavement Markings** – All pavement markings shall be installed using red and white traffic paint. The boundaries of the fire lane shall be identified by red stripes at least six (6) inches wide. The words “FIRE LANE – NO PARKING – TOW AWAY ZONE” shall appear in four (4) inch white letters on the red border markings.
  - b. **Curb Markings** – Curb markings shall be painted in red traffic paint from the top seam of the curb to a point even with the driving surface. The words “FIRE LANE – NO PARKING – TOW AWAY ZONE” shall appear in four-inch letters along the curbs.

### Permanent Signs

Signs may be used in lieu pavement markings, *as approved*. Signs shall conform to the standards listed below and in accordance to City of Tomball ordinance Sec. 34-74 a) Signs shall read "NO PARKING FIRE LANE TOW-AWAY ZONE". Signs shall be 12" wide and 18" high. Signs shall be on a white background with letters and borders in red, using not less than 2" lettering. Signs shall be permanently affixed to a stationary post. The bottom of the sign shall be six feet, six inches (6'6") above finished grade. Signs shall be spaced not more than thirty feet (30') apart. Signs may be installed on permanent buildings or walls or as approved by the Fire Marshal.



### International Fire Code

*Section 503.4 – Obstructions of Fire Apparatus Access Roads.* Fire apparatus access roads shall not be obstructed in any manner, including the parking of vehicles.