# City of Grand Prairie Fire Department
# Code Regulations

**Fire Apparatus Access Roads - Fire Lanes**

As required by the 2009 International Fire Code, adopted amendments, and City Ordinances.

A fire lane is an access roadway, which provides an unobstructed passage for fire department apparatus responding to or engaged in any emergency operation.

When fire apparatus access roads are required, they must be approved by the Fire Department and shall be in-service prior to construction proceeding beyond the foundation.

Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus, approximately 60,000 pounds, and shall be provided with a surface so as to provide all-weather driving capabilities.

The design and specifications must be developed, signed and sealed by a registered professional engineer taking into account the soil and/or subgrade conditions on location for said project.

Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided adjacent to and around any building when any portion of the exterior wall is located more than one hundred fifty (150) feet from fire apparatus access as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building or facility. If the one hundred fifty feet (150') cannot be reached from a public street, a fire lane will be required on site.

A fire lane shall be provided within fifty (50) feet of the fire department hose connection (FDC) for the fire sprinkler system.

The fire lane shall have a minimum unobstructed width of twenty-four (24) feet, an unobstructed height of fourteen (14) feet and an inside turning radius of fifteen (15) feet.

Fire lanes that contain ninety (90) degree, or straight in parking, shall have a minimum unobstructed width of twenty-four (24) feet. A twenty-four (24) foot fire lane shall have a minimum inside turning radius of fifteen (15) feet.

The gradient for a fire lane access roadway shall not exceed six percent (6%).

Dead-end fire lanes in excess of one hundred fifty (150) feet shall be provided with a one hundred (100) foot diameter cul-de-sac or a one hundred-twenty (120) foot hammerhead turnaround.

Fire apparatus access roads shall be marked with a continuous six-inch red stripe with four-inch white letters stating “FIRE LANE NO PARKING” at intervals no greater than twenty (20) feet.

The words “Fire Lane - No Parking” shall be stenciled in red letters between the parallel stripes and shall measure thirty-six (36) inches high by four (4) inches wide and spaced as necessary to plainly identify the fire lane, but no greater than fifty (50) feet.

Appropriate signs may be used in lieu of stripes when approved by the fire chief or his designee.

Multi-family developments shall contain security gates at all entrances to the complex. Provision for a turnaround must be provided prior to the gate. All gates shall be installed with an Opticom device or similar entry device approved by the Fire Department to facilitate emergency access.

Security gates, which obstruct fire lanes, shall be provided with Knox access capabilities. Knox forms are available from the fire marshal’s office to obtain the special key-operated switches, key boxes, or padlocks.

The owner or person in control of the property upon which a fire lane exists shall maintain the entire required width and height of the fire lane free and clear of any parked vehicles or other obstructions at all times.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or person in control of property on which a fire lane has been designated or exists to fail to maintain the fire lane in accordance with the code.