Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue

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"Striving to Preserve Life and Property"

Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue – Fire Lane Designation & Installation Requirements

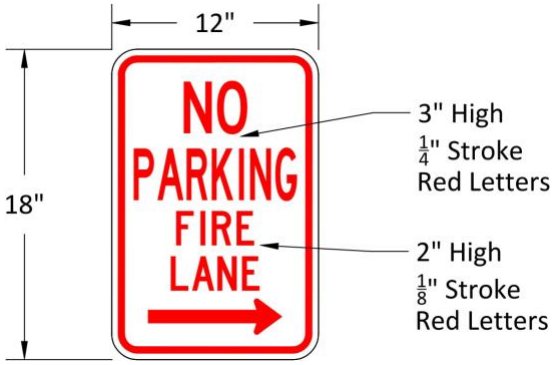
Overview:

This document pertains to the Fire District requirements for all designated fire lanes within the Bennett-Watkins Fire Rescue (BWFR) jurisdiction. These requirements are applied District-wide and are based on several factors including fire code requirements, operational firefighting considerations, and other governmental agency input. Clear and proper signage is a cornerstone of ensuring that firefighters can safely position at emergency scenes in order to provide life safety-related services to the public. Proper signage also ensures that the public receives proper notice of areas of prohibited parking that are subject to summons or other enforcement activities.

Requirements:

Where the posting of designated "Fire Lane" signage is required, the following information shall serve as the guideline for said installation and shall be in accordance with the International Fire Code and or the traffic code adopted by the local city or county.

Fire Lane Sign Dimensions: NO PARKING FIRE LANE signs shall have minimum dimensions of 12 inches wide and 18 inches high, with red letters on a white reflective background. Lettering shall not be less than 2".



Fire Lane Sign Characteristics: Signs shall be engineering-grade reflective sheeting on 0.80 aluminum with red lettering on a white background. Signs shall be permanent bearing the words "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" in plain text, no symbols.

IFC Section 503.3: Fire lanes shall be designated on site design documents along with sign locations and details. Fire apparatus access roads shall be signed "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" as follows:

1. On both sides of roads less than 26 feet wide.
2. On one side of roads at least 26 feet wide and less than 32 feet wide.
3. Roads at least 32 feet wide do not need fire lane signs.
4. Other locations as determined by the fire department.

Fire Lane Sign Installation. NO PARKING FIRE LANE signs shall be installed as follows:

1. The fire lane sign shall be securely fastened to a suitable pole or support. The bottom edge of the signs shall be 7 feet above the surface (sidewalk) and the post shall be placed 24 inches from the flow line (curb).
2. One sign at the beginning of the restriction (one arrow pointing towards the restriction zone).
3. One sign at the end of the restriction (one arrow pointing back into the restricted zone).
4. One sign at least every 75-100 ft. within the restricted area (double arrow pointing in each direction, to indicate the continuing restriction). At no point should intervals between fire lane signs be greater than 100 ft.
5. Signs should be spaced evenly within the restriction (for straight curbs/zones).
6. Signs should be spaced so that at least one readable sign is visible in front of a parked vehicle from any point along the restriction (for curved curbs/zones and areas that may present visual obstacles.)
7. Signs shall be Set at an angle of no fewer than 30 degrees and no more than 45 degrees with the lane of traffic flow, visible to approaching traffic.
8. Signs shall be provided within 20 feet of each fire hydrant; however, no pole or obstruction may be placed within 3 ft. of a fire hydrant.
9. Some areas may need additional fire lane signs. Contact the Life Safety Division for any additional requirements or if you have any questions about sign placement.

Fire Lane Sign Types. The diagrams below indicate the types of signs that MUST be used, and the recommended placement. Other alternative sign designs not conforming to the format below are not approved for use within BWFR's jurisdiction.



Questions and Additional Information:

All questions shall be directed to the District Community Risk Reduction Division at 303-644-3572 or CRRDivision@BennettFireRescue.org