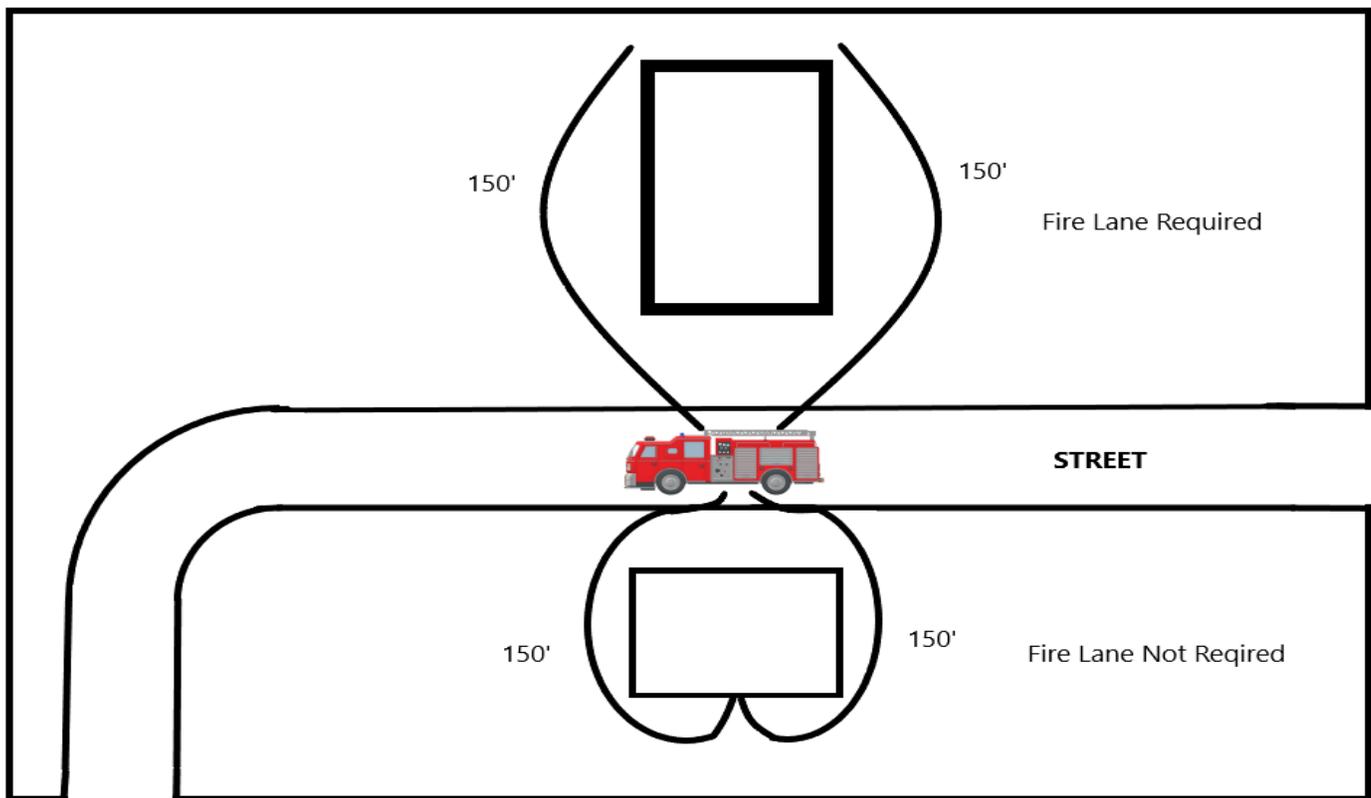


# FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS ROAD REQUIREMENTS

## (Section 503, 2015 International Fire Code)

**General.** Fire Lanes are required to be installed and maintained in accordance with the Fire Code. All fire lanes shall be approved by the Fire Department and plans shall be submitted for approval prior to starting construction of any building where fire lanes are required.

**Where Required.** All buildings or structures shall be constructed in such a way that all ground level, exterior sides of the building are within one hundred fifty feet (150') of the dedicated street or fire lane, measured by the route necessary to extend firefighting hose lines around the building. If the one hundred fifty feet (150') cannot be reached from a public street, a fire lane will be required on site.



Exceptions: The Fire Code Official is authorized to increase the dimension of 150 feet where:

1. The building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system.
2. Fire lanes cannot be installed due to topography, waterways, non-negotiable grades or other similar conditions, and an approved alternative means of fire protection is provided.
3. There are not more than two (2) Group R-3 or Group U occupancies.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS ROAD REQUIREMENTS

**Surface.** Fire lanes shall be provided with a concrete or asphalt surface to provide all- weather driving capabilities and shall be constructed to support the imposed weight of a 75,000 pound vehicle.

**Vertical Clearance.** All fire lanes shall have a vertical clearance of not less than fourteen feet (14'). This height is required for a fire truck to pass under.

**Width.** The minimum unobstructed width of a fire lane shall be not less than twenty-four feet (24'). This is required for two fire trucks to pass in case of an emergency.

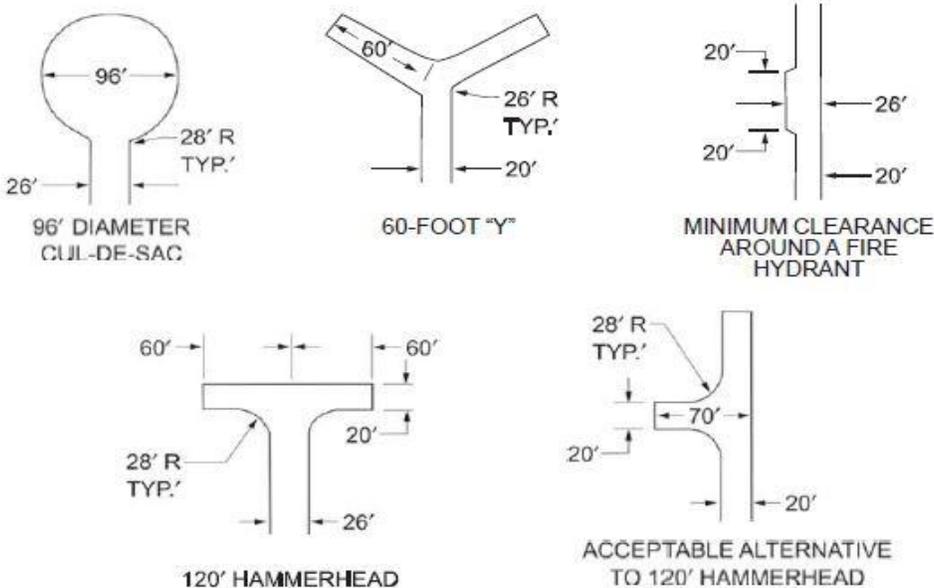
**Turning Radius.** All fire lanes shall have at least a twenty-six foot (26') inside turning radius and at least a fifty foot (50') outside turning radius.

**Grade.** The gradient for a fire lane serving a building not protected throughout by a complete automatic sprinkler system shall not exceed ten percent (10%).

**Bridges and elevated surfaces.** Where a bridge or an elevated surface is part of a fire apparatus access road, the bridge shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with AASHTO Standard Specification for Highway Bridges.

**Gates.** All gates across streets or fire lane access must be approved by the Fire Department. Security gates shall be maintained, and an approved means of emergency operation shall be provided and maintained.

**Turn-Around Areas.** When it is not possible to connect a fire lane at both ends to a dedicated street, an approved turn-around shall be provided. Dead-end fire lanes shall not exceed one hundred fifty feet (150') in length. Illustrations of approved turn-around arrangements are as follows:



2015 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE  
FIGURE D103.1  
DEAD-END FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROAD TURNAROUND

# FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS ROAD REQUIREMENTS

**Obstruction.** The required fire lane width shall not be obstructed by the parking of vehicles, or in any other manner.

**Striping.** All required fire lanes shall be provided and maintained with fire lane striping that consists of a six inch (6") wide red background stripe with four inch (4") high white letters stating "No Parking Fire Lane" to be painted upon the red stripe every fifteen feet (15') along the entire length of the fire lane showing the exact boundary of the fire lane. Fire lane markings shall be upon the vertical surface of the curb, unless otherwise approved by the Fire Marshal or authorized representative. Illustration of approved fire lane markings is as follows:

1. **NO PARKING FIRE LANE** TO BE PAINTED ENTIRE LENGTH OF DEDICATED FIRE LANE.
2. FIRE LANE MARKINGS SHALL BE PLACED UPON THE VERTICAL SURFACE OF CURBS WHERE APPLICABLE.
3. WHERE THE ABOVE FIRE LANE MARKINGS ARE DETERMINED TO BE INADEQUATE IN CONTROLLING TRAFFIC, THE PROPERTY OWNER WILL BE REQUIRED TO POST FIRE LANE SIGNS IN ADDITION TO OTHER MARKINGS.
4. WHEN RESTRIPING, ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS TO THE EXISTING FIRE LANES ARE NOT ALLOWED WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

**Maintenance.** All designated fire lanes **shall be maintained and kept in a state of good repair at all times** by the owner or person in control of the premises.