



CITY OF TUMWATER
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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FIRE DEPARTMENT
ACCESS ROAD REQUIRED
POLICY 96-02
(REVISED MARCH 8, 2016)

FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS ROAD REQUIRED:

- ◆ Fire department access roads shall be provided for every facility, building, or portion of a building when located more than 150 feet from fire department access as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building or facility. Exceptions listed in the Fire Code will be considered when applicable.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS ROAD SPECIFICATIONS:

- ◆ Access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire department equipment.
- ◆ Access roads shall be designed to meet the City of Tumwater's private road standards and shall be paved with asphalt, concrete, or turf stone.
- ◆ Asphalt or concrete access roads shall not exceed 10 percent grades. Turf stone access roads shall not exceed 4 percent grades.
- ◆ Access roads shall have an unobstructed paved width of not less than 20 feet, exclusive of shoulders, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of 13 feet 6 inches.
- ◆ Turns in access roads shall have a minimum 35 foot radius and the required width will not be reduced.
- ◆ Dead-end roads in excess of 150 feet, or dead-end roads with grades exceeding 8 percent or dead-end roads in excess of 50 feet directly adjacent to a structure or structures shall be provided with approved turnarounds. NOTE: For approved turnarounds, see Detail #1.
- ◆ Fire lanes connecting to public streets, roadways, or private streets shall be provided with curb cuts extending at least 2 feet beyond each edge of the fire lane.
- ◆ Where fire department access roads are designed in conjunction with parking lots or on private roads that allow parking along the roadway, parking will not be permitted that will lessen the required access road width.
- ◆ Parking along any access road will not be permitted within 15 feet of fire hydrants, sprinkler or stand pipe connections. Parking shall not obstruct required access to a building or facility.
- ◆ Structures exceeding 1,000 square feet in area shall not be set back more than 50 feet, or less than 10 feet, from an approved fire lane.
- ◆ Fire access roads may be provided with a gate or other means of secured entry, if approval of the building safety official in concurrence with the fire chief, is obtained prior to placing such gate or barricade.
- ◆ Gates shall swing in the direction of apparatus travel upon entry, or shall be a sliding type gate.
- ◆ All gates shall be provided with a Knox Padlock (Knoxbox.com). Electric gates shall also be provided with a manual override and be equipped with an Opticom device.
- ◆ Landscaping, storm drainage facilities, parking or other obstructions shall not be placed around structures, fire department equipment or access roads in a manner so as to impair or impede accessibility for the fire department.
- ◆ "No Parking Fire Lane" signs shall be mounted at the beginning of the required fire lane with signs posted thereafter being spaced at not more than 50 foot intervals or as determined by the building & fire safety official.
- ◆ "No Parking Fire Lane" signs shall be placed on the shoulders of the access road, or attached to the wall of a structure where the access road runs parallel to it.
- ◆ Access gates shall have "No Parking Fire Lane" signs posted at each required fire lane entrance and/or exit.
- ◆ "No Parking Fire Lane" signs shall be mounted at a minimum of 7 feet in height and be oriented perpendicular to the direction of travel.

CONTINUED ON BACK

- ◆ The face shall measure at least 12 inches wide by 18 inches high with a white reflective background with red lettering proportional to the sign size stating “NO PARKING FIRE LANE”. Variations to this standard must be approved by the building official prior to installation. NOTE: For approved sign specifications, see Detail #2 and Table #1.
- ◆ Fire lane striping painted on the surface of access roads or curb may also be required in addition to fire lane signs. NOTE: See Table #1 for requirements.
- ◆ All striping shall be a minimum of 6 inches wide and colored *fire hydrant yellow*.
- ◆ When the words “NO PARKING FIRE LANE” are painted on the surface of the access road they are also required to be fire hydrant yellow with a minimum letter height of 12 inches and stroke no less than 2 inches.
- ◆ Diagonal striping across roads shall consist of a set of 6 lines a minimum of 6 inches wide spaced 24 inches on center at 50 foot intervals. Diagonal striping shall be at 30° angles and extend across the full width of the road.

TABLE #1

USE	STRIPING BOTH SIDES	30° DIAGONAL STRIPING ACROSS ROADS	FIRE LANE PAINTED ON ROAD	CURBS PAINTED	FIRE LANE SIGN	GATES ³ REQ'D	GATE PRMT'D	KNOX PAD-LOCK REQ'D
Private Roads (Res.)					x			
Industrial Buildings	x	x	x	x	x ²	x	x	x
Commercial Buildings	x ¹			x	x ²		x	x
School Buildings	x	x ²	x ²	x	x	x	x	x
Public Buildings	x ¹			x	x ²		x	x

1. Except in parking areas.
2. When required by Building Official or Fire Chief.
3. Where access road is designed solely for Fire Department use.

This policy is effective October 1, 1996; subject to review as the International Fire Code is revised. This policy is also subject to review as Fire Department access needs change.

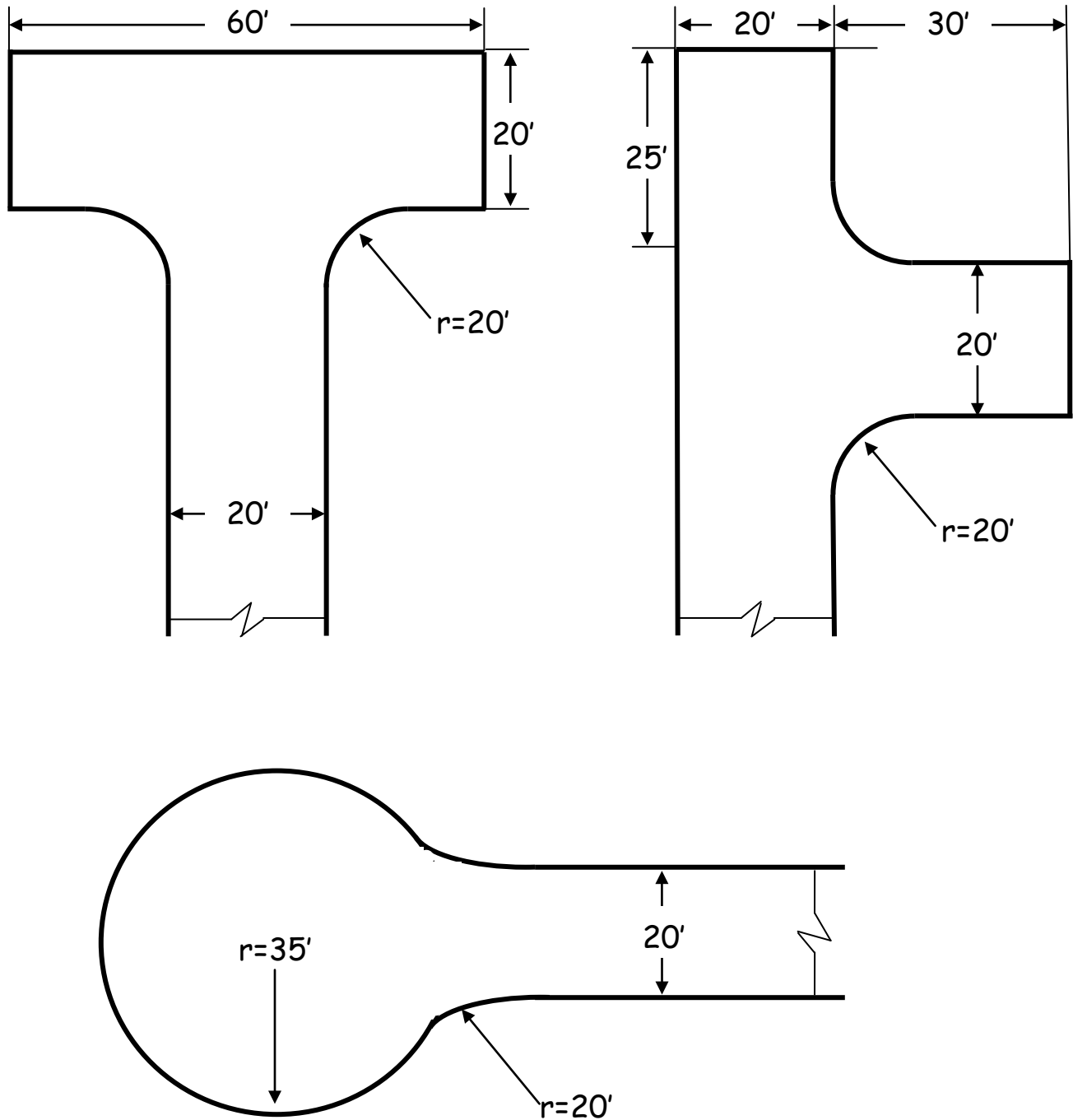
Code references:

- ◆ International Fire Code, Chapter 5 and Appendix D
- ◆ NFPA Standard #1141
- ◆ Tumwater Municipal Code Chapter 15.16

John Darnall, CBO
Building and Fire Safety Official

This policy is subject to re-review during normal code update cycles.

FIRE DEPARTMENT APPARATUS TURN-AROUND
POLICY 96.02 – DETAIL NO. 1

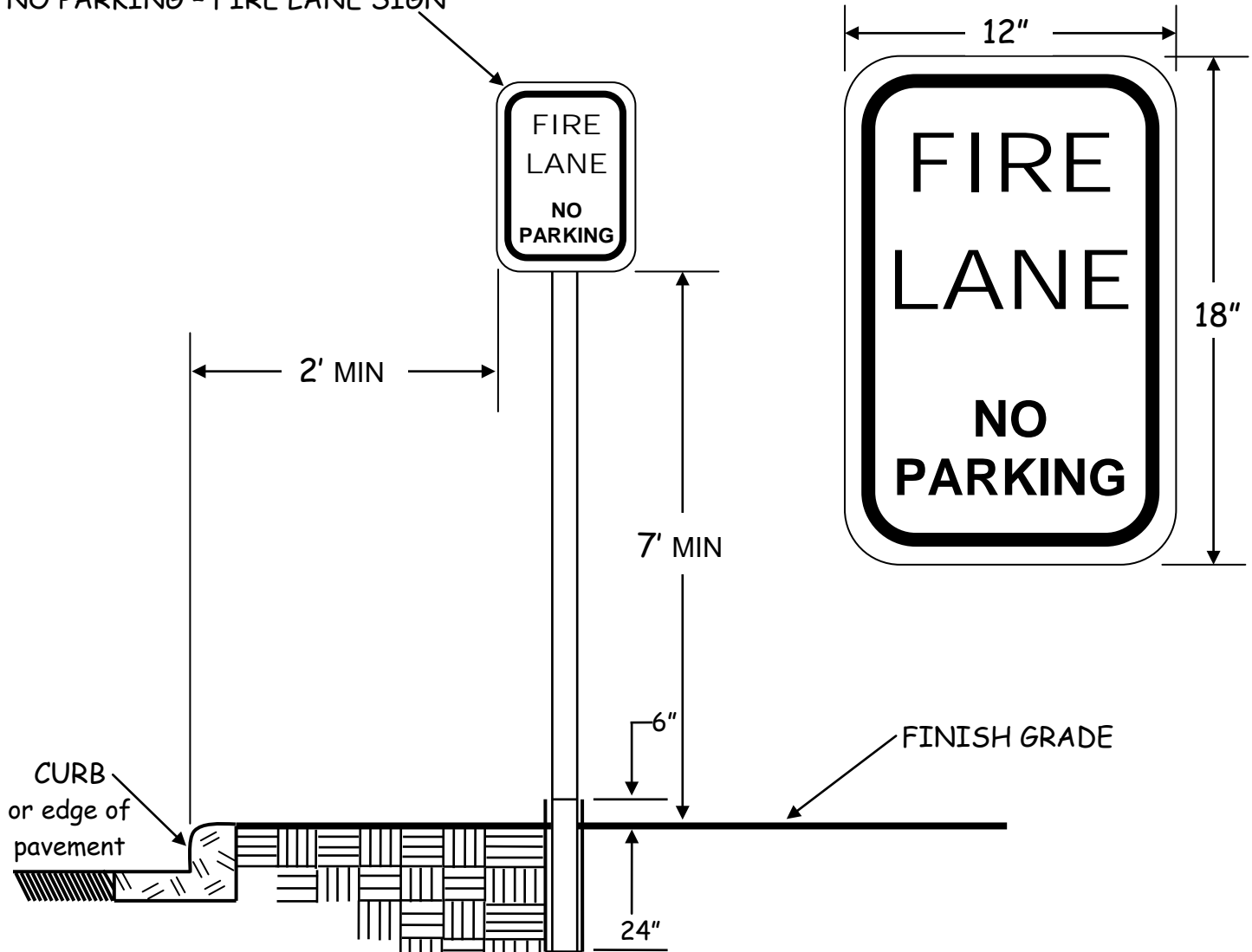


NO PARKING – FIRE LANE SIGN

POLICY 96.02 – DETAIL NO. 2

ALL SIGNS SHALL MEET REQUIREMENTS OF THE MUTCD. LATEST EDITION.

NO PARKING - FIRE LANE SIGN



ALL POSTS SHALL BE 2" SQUARE QWIK PUNCH WITH HOT DIPPED GALVANIZED FINISH, 10' LONG. BASE POST SHALL BE 2 1/4" SQUARE, QWIK PUNCH, HOT DIPPED GALVANIZED FINISH, 24" LONG. BASE POST SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED WITH 8" DIAM X 18" LONG SONOTUBE FILLED FLUSH WITH CLASS 'B' CONCRETE FASTENERS FOR SIGN TO POST AND POST TO BASE POST MAY BE SCR 3/8" DRIVE RIVETS

Sign shall be a minimum of 12 inches x 18 inches
 Sign shall be a white reflective background with red lettering and lines