

Speed bumps should be conspicuously painted, and signs indicating their location should be posted in climates subject to accumulation of snow and ice. Load limits should be posted conspicuously on both ends of bridges or elevated surfaces.

Considerations – Fire Apparatus Access Fire Lane Sign

- Extent of Access: Within 150 feet of the farthest exterior point; can be farther in sprinklered buildings.
- Perimeter Access: As many sides of the building and as much of the perimeter as possible; take advantage of frontage increases.
- Number of Fire Lanes: More than one when dictated by code official or AHJ.
- Turnarounds: Provided for on all dead-ends more than 150 feet long.
- ✱ • Clear Width (excluding parking): Minimum 20 feet; preferably, 24 feet to allow passing and 26 feet in the vicinity of fire hydrants or points of aerial access.
- Clear Height: Minimum 13 feet 6 inches; higher where subject to accumulations of snow and ice.
- Obstructions: Avoid overhead wires and other obstructions.
- Proximity to Buildings for Aerial Operations: If parallel to buildings more than 30 feet high, locate near edge 15-30 feet away.
- Turn Radius: Minimum 25 feet inside and 50 feet outside.
- Curb Cut: If provided, extend 2 feet beyond on each side of intersecting fire lane.
- Grade (slope): Maximum 5 percent; least grade possible for aerial operation areas.
- Load: Access routes, both on grade and elevated, designed for the largest possible apparatus load.
- Materials: Design access routes for all-weather use.

- **Security Measures:** To minimize delays, specify that keys, electronic access cards, or remote access controls are provided to the fire department.
 - **Barricades:** Use non-destructive gates or posts rather than breakaway bollards.
 - **Gate Size:** At least 2 feet wider than fire lanes.
 - **Gate Location:** At least 30 feet from public right-of-way.
 - **Gate Swing:** Away from direction of fire apparatus travel.
 - **Speed Bumps:** Avoid them, or design them for fire apparatus.
 - **Signage:** Provide for no-parking areas, and for load limits.
 - **Special Apparatus:** May require more stringent criteria than above.
-

[Previous](#)

[Next](#)