

# Little Elm Fire Department Fire Marshal's Office



## Fire Lane Guidelines

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### GENERAL NOTES:

- Prior to construction, the design of the fire lane shall be submitted to the Fire Marshal's Office for review and approval.
- Fire apparatus roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 24 feet and unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 14 feet. ***These are minimums and may be increased where they are inadequate for fire or rescue operations.***
- Fire Lanes servicing structures **over two stories shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 26 feet.**
- Fire Lanes shall be constructed to meet the Town of Little Elm's Engineering Standards.
- Fire lane grade shall be no greater than 6% with ½ inch per foot cross slope.
- **During construction, all fire lanes servicing the project, shall be installed and permanently marked as per current adopted code, prior to construction progressing past slab elevation. *An inspection is required by the Fire Marshal's Office for compliance to proceed with construction past this point.***
- Maintenance of fire lanes, including preventing the obstruction of by vehicles, equipment, etc., will be enforced during construction. It is the responsibility of the General Contractor or other person(s) in control to maintain fire department access roads. ***Compliance with the Little Elm Fire Department Manual Gate Policy is required for temporary security gates.***
- Fire Lanes shall be located so that access to all points of the building served is a maximum of 150', as measured by hose lay. This can be increased to 250' for building fully equipped with an approved automatic fire suppression system.

### Modification of existing fire lanes

- Modification of any existing or previously approved fire lane requires a permit from the Little Elm Fire Marshal's Office. This includes demolition of a fire lane for construction, placement of speed control devices or termination of a fire lane.

### Security Gates or Access Control Gates

- Please see the Little Elm Fire Department Guide to Automatic and Manual Gate Systems.
- A separate permit is required for the installation of this type of system.

### Turning Radius

- 24 foot fire lanes require a minimum of a 20 foot inside turning radius.
- 30 foot fire lanes require a minimum of a 10 foot inside turning radius.

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### Markings

- Stripping
  - Marked by painting lines of red traffic paint six inches (6") in width at the boundaries of the fire lane as indicated on the plat. The words "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" or "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" shall appear in four inch (4") white letters at 25 feet intervals on the red boarder markings on both sides of the fire lane. **Where a curb is available, the stripping shall be on the vertical face of the curb.**
- Signs (with approval)
  - Shall read "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" or "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" and shall be 12" wide and 18" high. Signs shall be painted on a white background with letters and boarders in red, using not less than 2" lettering. Signs shall be permanently affixed to a stationary post and the bottom of the sign shall be six feet, six inches (6'6") above finished grade. Signs shall not be spaced more than fifty feet (50') apart. Signs may be installed on permanent buildings or walls as approved by the Fire Marshall.

### Dead End Fire Lanes and approved turn-a rounds

- Dead-end fire lanes are not allowed.
- 100' diameter cul-de-sac
- 120' Hammerhead extending 60' from center in both directions

### Speed Control Devices

- A separate permit is required for the installation of speed control devices located in a fire lane.
- These devices shall be constructed of durable molded plastic or of concrete.
- Suggested dimensions of a speed control device are 2' wide and no greater than 6" tall.
- The speed control device shall be a continuous curve.

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### Hydrants / FDC Stripping

Fire hydrants, remote fire department connections or other fire department equipment may require that an area be stripped to prevent obstruction of such by the parking of vehicles or other equipment. In these situations, stripping shall be approved by the Fire Marshal. Example of stripping is provided in the following figure.



Hose Valve Stripping

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### Brick Pavers

In lieu of painting brick pavers that are used for decorative purposes in fire lane, red brick pavers may be used to identify the fire lane and shall have stamped in the pavers "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" in white lettering. No other color scheme will be allowed.



### Brick Paver Fire Lane Example

### "Grasspavers"

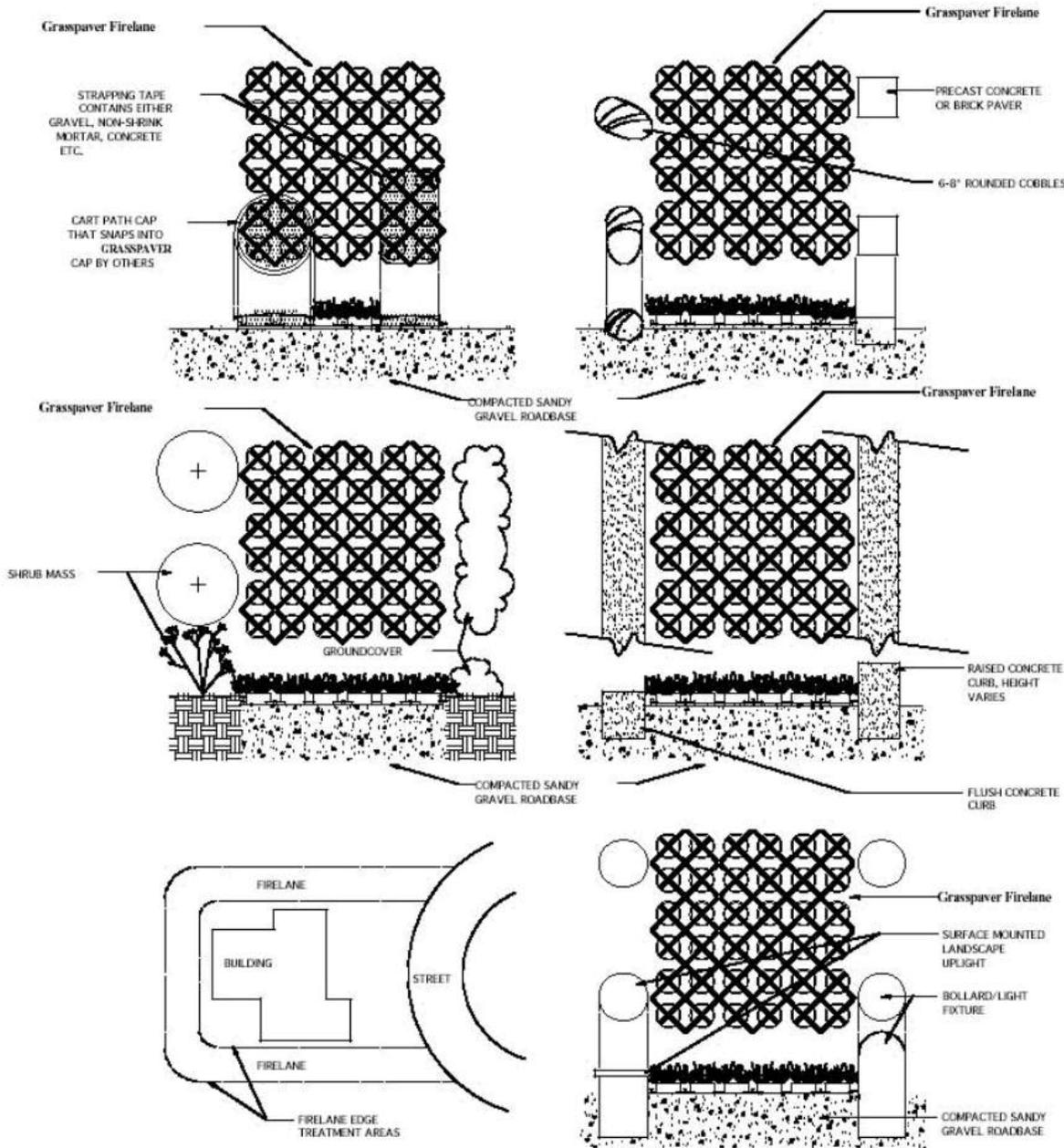
- When approved, 'grasspavers' may be used as an alternative to the standard concrete drive.
- An obvious delineation between the pavers and the non-paved area is required.
- Signage or stripping will be required of entrance and/or along the fire lane to prevent obstruction. Each situation will be unique and should be discussed with the Fire Marshal's Office during development.

*See next page for grasspaver detail...*

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NOTE:  
THIS DETAIL IS SCHEMATIC IN NATURE. DESIGNER SHALL SPECIFY SPACING AND DESIGN OF EDGE TREATMENTS.  
SPACING WILL VARY WITH TURF TYPE, SLOPE, FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS, ETC. -24 FOOT MINIMUM WIDTH/30 FOOT INSIDE RADIUS)

### Grasspaver Firelane Detail

