Ordinance No. 2296
(Amending or Repealing Ordinances)

CFN=122 – Police & Fire Departments
Passed – 5/18/1981
Uniform Fire Code – 1979 Edition

Amended by Ord. 3410

Repeal Ch 13.02 by Ord. 3691

Amended by Ord. 3963,3974 (Sec. 9.38.030)
AN ORDINANCE of the City of Kent, Washington, amending Section 10 of the Uniform Fire Code-1979 Edition by deleting Section 10.207 and adding a new section to be designated 10.209-Fire Lanes, providing for enforcement and for penalties for violation of the section.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT, WASHINGTON, DO HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 10.207 of the Uniform Fire Code-1979 Edition, adopted by Ordinance 2212 of the City of Kent, be and the same hereby is deleted.

Section 2. There is hereby added to the Uniform Fire Code-1979 Edition, previously adopted by Ordinance 2212 a new section to be designated "Section 10.209 Fire Lanes" which reads as follows:

"Section 10.209 Fire Lanes.

Section 1. Definitions: The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this ordinance.

A. Fire Lane: That area within any public right of way, easement, or private property designated for the purpose of permitting fire trucks and other fire fighting or emergency equipment to use, travel upon or park.

B. Park, Parking, Stop, Stand or Standing: Means the halting of any vehicle, other than an emergency vehicle, whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or fire official, traffic control sign or signal.

C. Vehicle: A machine propelled by power other than human power designed to travel along the ground or rail by use of wheels, treads, runners or slides and transport persons or property, or pull machinery, and shall include, but not be limited to, automobile, truck, trailer, motorcycle, tractor, buggy, wagon and locomotive.

Section 2. Requirements/Standards: When required by the Fire Department, hard surfaces driving lanes
(Fire Lanes) shall be provided around facilities which by their size, location, design, or contents warrant access which exceeds that normally provided by the proximity of city streets.

A. Lanes shall provide a minimum, unobstructed width of 20 feet and vertical clearance of 13 feet, 6 inches.

B. Lanes shall be identified by a 4 inch wide line and block letters 2 feet high, painted in the lane, at 50 foot intervals stating "Fire Lane-No Parking", color to be bright yellow, or by posting of signs stating "Fire Lane - No Parking". Signs shall be posted on or immediately next to the curb line, or on the building. Signs shall be 12" x 18" and shall have letters and background of contrasting colors, readily readable from at least a 50 foot distance. Signs shall be posted no further than 50 feet apart, nor shall they be more than 4 feet from the ground.

C. Fire lanes shall be either asphalt or reinforced concrete, 2 inches thick, minimum, or other material as authorized by the fire department.

D. Where fire lanes connect to city streets or parking lots, adequate clearances and turning radii shall be provided. All proposed plans shall have fire department approval.

Section 3. Parking Prohibited: Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the direction of a police officer or fire official or traffic control sign, signal, or device, no person shall:

A. Stop, stand or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not at any place where official fire lane signs are posted, except:
   1) Momentarily to pick-up or discharge a passenger or passengers; or
   2) Temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading property.

Section 4. Fire Lanes as Part of Driveways and or Parking Areas. The fire department may require that areas specified for use as driveways or private
throughfares shall not be used for parking. These areas when specified, shall be marked or identified by one of the two means detailed in Section 2(B).

Section 5. Existing Buildings. When the fire department determines that a hazard due to inaccessibility of fire apparatus exists around existing buildings, they may require fire lanes to be constructed and maintained as detailed in Section 2 and 4.

Section 6. Enforcement. It shall be the duty of the Kent Fire Chief and/or his authorized designee(s) who shall be members of the Fire Prevention Bureau to enforce this Section.

Section 7. Penalties. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be subject to a fine of not more than twenty-five ($25.00) dollars or by imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days, or both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 8. Impound of Illegally Parked Vehicles. In addition to the penalties provided for in Section 7, any vehicle improperly parked in violation of any of the provisions of this Section shall be subject to impound; provided, however, that other than in the event of an immediate emergency, no such vehicle shall be impounded unless the area where the improper parking occurs shall be adequately and suitably posted with signs advising that improperly parked vehicles are subject to impound.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force five (5) days from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

/Isabel Hogan, Mayor

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I hereby certify that this is a true copy of Ordinance No. []., passed by the City Council of the City of Kent, Washington, and approved by the Mayor of the City of Kent as hereon indicated.

MARIE JENSEN, CITY CLERK (SEAL)