

ORDINANCE NO. 1237

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO PARKING REGULATIONS; AMENDING CHAPTER 10.06 OF THE GIG HARBOR MUNICIPAL CODE BY ADDING THE DEFINITION OF "FIRE LANE" AND A NEW SECTION 10.06.045 PROHIBITING PARKING IN FIRE LANES AND ESTABLISHING A PENALTY FOR SAME; ADDING A NEW SECTION 15.16.097 TO THE GIG HARBOR MUNICIPAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City adopted the International Fire Code (2009 Ed.) under chapter 15.06.020 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, Section 503.4 of the International Fire Code prohibits obstruction of fire lanes, punishable as a gross misdemeanor under GHMC 15.24.080(B); and

WHEREAS, the City desires to handle fire lane parking violations in a manner similar to other parking violations within the City by adding a new section to chapter 10.06 (Parking Regulations) of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code; Now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 10.06.010 - Amended. Section 10.06.010 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code is amended to add, in alphabetical order, the following definition:

"Fire lane" means the area within any public or private property reserved for fire vehicles and other firefighting apparatus and emergency equipment to use, travel upon and/or park.

Section 2. Section 10.06.045 - Added. A new section 10.06.045 is added to the Gig Harbor Municipal Code to read as follows:

10.06.045 Parking in fire lane – prohibited - penalty.

A. No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, within any fire lane except:

1. Momentarily to pick up or discharge a passenger or passengers provided the driver must remain with the vehicle at all times and must immediately vacate the fire lane if a fire truck or other firefighting or emergency vehicle arrives; or
2. When necessary to temporarily avoid conflict with other moving traffic; or

3. In compliance with the direction of a police officer, fire official, traffic control sign, signal or device.

B. Fire lane locations shall be designated by the building official, fire marshal or city engineer and identified either by a red painted curb or appropriate signage prohibiting parking due to the fire lane.

C. Any person in violation of this section shall be guilty of a civil infraction and subject to a monetary penalty in the amount of \$150.

Section 3. Section 15.16.097 - Added. A new section 15.16.097 is added to the Gig Harbor Municipal Code to read as follows:

15.16.097 Amendment to IFC Section 503.4.

Section 503.4 of the IFC is amended to read as follows:

503.4 Obstruction of fire apparatus access roads. Fire apparatus access roads shall not be obstructed in any manner, including the parking of vehicles. Any parking in violation of this section shall be a violation under chapter 10.06 GHMC. The minimum widths and clearances established in Section 503.2.1 shall be maintained at all times.

Section 4. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect five days after passage and publication of an approved summary consisting of the title.

PASSED by the Council and approved by the Mayor of the City of Gig Harbor, this 27th day of March, 2012.

CITY OF GIG HARBOR

Mayor Pro Tem Steven Ekberg

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

Molly M. Towslee, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Office of the City Attorney

Angela S. Belbeck

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 03/07/12
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 03/26/12
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