

## **FIRE LANE REQUIREMENT IS A 20-FOOT WIDTH THROUGHOUT SUNKIST VILLAS**

**Fire Department apparatus requires a "minimum clear roadway width of 20 feet" throughout all driveways of Sunkist Villas at all times.**

An onsite walkthrough inspection by an LAFD Engineering and Hydrant Division officer resulted in specifics to meet City of Los Angeles *Public Safety Code* requirements for fire equipment access to all Sunkist Villas units and hillsides. There have been changes in the *Code's* Division 9. **ACCESS, HYDRANTS, AND FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS.**

The DWP fire outlet on Sunkist Villas property and the nearness of street hydrants and of Fire Station 77 leave Sunkist Villas still within the *Code*, and **no supplemental equipment is required at this time.**

**Fire lanes** (Sunkist Villas' driveways), however, **require maintenance and enforcement.** To bring the fire lanes up to *Code* there will in future be signs installed and enforcement of a "minimum clear roadway width of 20 feet" by towaway.

### **THE BOTTOM LINE\* AT THIS POINT FOR ALL HOMEOWNERS AND RESIDENTS:**

1. If there's a question about parking in front of a garage door, measure the 20 feet of fire lane width from the edge of landscaping (or from the curb or other object, including another vehicle) across the driveway from the garage door.
2. Parking is not allowed along landscaping of driveway (i.e., fire lane) edges.
3. **Responsibility for maintaining and enforcing the "minimum clear roadway width of 20 feet" is that of all owners and residents, according to the Code.** Make sure guests' vehicles are using Guest Parking spaces. Remind neighbors and visiting service vehicles, and report apparent violations to a HOA Board member for enforcement.
4. A hook-and-ladder truck's turning and turning-around space requirements are greater at corners and cul-de-sacs. These areas need to be kept clear.
5. The short driveway for units 67-72 is the **only exception** to the Fire Department's equipment access requirement of a 20-foot width. The HOA Board will consult with owners of these units about the special requirement for these units.

\* Additional measures are being considered by the Board on related matters raised by the onsite inspection. Some additional tree-trimming along the fire lanes, for example, has already been done. Copies of the inspection report and Division 9 of the *Public Safety Code* will be available at future meetings.

**NOTES:** Sunkist Villas Homeowners Association's *Rules and Regulations* will be formally updated to reflect the City of Los Angeles Fire Department's requirement. City and state law take precedence at all times, however. Number to find out where a vehicle has been towed: LAPD Foothill Division 818-756-8861 (or 756-8862 or 756-8863). 6/15/95