



MANHATTAN BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Memorandum

Date: October 27, 2013
To: David N. Carmany, City Manager
From: Robert D. Espinosa, Fire Chief *Robert D. Espinosa*
Subject: **PARKING ON PLACE STREETS**

At my request, the Fire Marshal went to the 217 4th Place location to give me an opinion on the placement of a street parking spot in front of the location and fire code specifications. The Manhattan Beach Fire Code (adoption of the 2010 California Fire Code with local amendments) requires fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet (curb-to-curb paved width).

The Fire Marshal's concerns in this particular instance is a fire engine could not make a right-hand turn from north bound Bayview Drive to east bound 4th Place. His concern is valid. Nearly every left or right turn from Bayview Drive onto a Place street is challenging and time consuming.

Each Place street in this area has barriers such as private property easements, telephone poles, bollards, fixed signage, and impediments that make it difficult to impassable for fire apparatus. This situation will not be resolved based upon the placement of one parking spot.

The ability to navigate through Bayview Drive is our greatest concern in this area. North and south travel on this road is imperative for fire units to access the Place streets from the east or west below Highland Avenue. We often find it difficult, if not impossible, to maneuver this street for either fire or medical emergencies due to narrow paths creating by vehicle parking.

I recommend that the Fire Marshal be involved in all future planning and modifications of streets and access roads. In addition, we support continued enforcement of parking ordinances along Bayview Drive and other areas identified as challenges to fire department access.