



TARRANT COUNTY FIRE CODE

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TARRANT COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

TARRANT COUNTY FIRE CODE

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PREFACE

The Commissioners Court of Tarrant County, Texas is aware that fires are likely to occur within its jurisdiction in the future, potentially causing damage to property and loss of life. The Commissioners Court desires to prevent or minimize such damages and losses caused by fires. Chapter 233 of the Texas Local Government Code authorizes the Tarrant County Commissioners Court to adopt a fire code and the regulations necessary to administer and enforce the fire code. As the governing body of Tarrant County, the Commissioners Court finds that adopting a fire code, requiring permits for the construction of commercial establishments, public buildings and multi-family residences in the unincorporated areas of Tarrant County, and the conducting of inspections of such structures will serve to help protect the health, safety and welfare of property and life of the general public.

Accordingly, the Commissioner's Court of Tarrant County, Texas, does ordain as follows:

TARRANT COUNTY FIRE CODE

CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.001. Title

These regulations adopted by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court will be known as the Tarrant County Fire Code, hereinafter referred to as the "Code" unless otherwise noted.

1.002. Authority

- a) The Tarrant County Commissioners Court is authorized to adopt this Code under Chapter 233 of the Texas Local Government Code.
- b) Unless otherwise provided herein, the Tarrant County Commissioners Court delegates the powers and duties to direct and enforce this Code to the Tarrant County Fire Marshal's Office. The Fire Marshal and designees, if any, have the authority and function as the Fire Code Officials for the unincorporated areas of Tarrant County. The Code Official or designees are authorized to receive applications, review construction documents and issue permits for construction regulated by this Code, issue permits for operations regulated by this Code, inspect the premises for which such permits have been issued and enforce compliance with the provisions of this Code.
- c) The Fire Marshal or designee may enforce the provisions of the Code by issuance of an order requiring compliance with the Code pursuant to Local Government Code Section 352.016. The Fire Marshal may effect arrests for violation of such an order pursuant to Local Government Code Sections 352.022. Each day that a violation continues after due notice of the order has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.
- d) As part of this Code, the Tarrant County Commissioners Court establishes the Department of Fire Prevention, which is constituted as a division of the Tarrant County Fire Marshal's Office under the direction of the Tarrant County Fire Marshal.

1.003. Definitions

- a) **"Building"** unless otherwise noted, refers to a commercial establishment, a public building, or a multifamily dwelling consisting of four or more units.
- b) **"Certificate of Compliance"** means a certificate issued by the Fire Code Official indicating construction or substantial improvement is in compliance with this Code as of a specific date and for a specific occupancy. The Certificate may be filed in the Official Records of Tarrant County as outlined in Section 5.001 of this Code. A Certificate of Compliance shall not be construed as authorizing the owner or operator

of any building to afterward operate or maintain such building in such a way as to create, cause or allow the existence of a fire or life safety condition, which condition shall be subject to the independent enforcement authority of the Tarrant County Fire Marshal.

- c) **"Fire Code Official"** means the Tarrant County Fire Marshal or a designee of such individual; however, only the duly appointed Tarrant County Fire Marshal has the authority to overrule his or her subordinates or grant variances before applicants for permits or variances may make written objections (appeals) to the Tarrant County Commissioners Court.
- d) **"Tarrant County Fire Marshal"** means the holder of the statutory office of County Fire Marshal for Tarrant County, Texas, or employee(s) designated by the Tarrant County Fire Marshal to perform a task required by this Code.
- e) **"Person"** means any individual or group of individuals, corporation, partnership, association, limited liability company, or any other organized group of persons. "Person" does not include a State Agency that is authorized to prevent and extinguish forest and grass fires.
- f) **"Substantial Improvement"** means:
 - 1) the repair, restoration, reconstruction, improvement, or remodeling of a building for which the cost exceeds 50 percent of the building's value according to the certified tax appraisal roll for the county for the year preceding the year in which the work was begun; or
 - 2) a change in occupancy classification involving a change in the purpose or level of activity in a building, including the renovation of a warehouse into a loft apartment.
- g) For purposes of this Code, a **Substantial Improvement** begins on the date that the repair, restoration, reconstruction, improvement, or remodeling or the change in occupancy classification begins or on the date materials are first delivered for that purpose.
- h) For purposes of this code, **"Construction"** begins on the date that ground is broken for a building, or if no ground is broken, on the date that:
 - 1) the first materials are added to the original property; or
 - 2) foundation pilings are installed on the original property; or
 - 3) a manufactured building or relocated structure is placed on a foundation on the original property.

1.004. Application and Purpose of Code

- a) This Code is intended to provide minimum requirements, with due regard to function, for the design and construction or substantial improvements of a building covered by this Code in order to reduce the risk to life and property from fire and other hazards.
- b) Fire safety in regard to operation and use of buildings and structures after construction, whether or not their construction was subject to this Code, shall be enforced independent of this Code by the Tarrant County Fire Marshal in accordance with applicable law, including but not limited to the Fire Marshal's authority to inspect for the presence of fire and life safety hazards and order their correction under Chapter 352 of the Texas Local Government Code. The Tarrant County Fire Code is intended that such authority be retained to the fullest extent that the law would authorize.

CHAPTER 2. CODE ADOPTION AND CONTENT

2.001. Code Adoption

- a) The Tarrant County Fire Code applies to the unincorporated areas of Tarrant County, Texas as of the date the Code is adopted by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court.
- b) The Tarrant County Fire Code is comprised of the provisions contained in:
 - 1) this document titled the “Tarrant County Fire Code” as adopted by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court and any subsequent amendments to this document that may be made from time-to-time by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court;
 - 2) the provisions of the *International Fire Code*, 2015 Edition, including Chapter 47 Referenced Standards, and Appendices B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I and J as published by the International Code Council, except for the portions that have been made as additions, insertions, deletions or changes in the Amendments to the *International Fire Code* and any other referenced codes and standards that apply to unincorporated areas; and
 - 3) this code recognizes the *International Building Code*, 2015 Edition, as the standard for establishing the minimum requirements on design and construction through structural strength, means of egress facilities and stability of new buildings to safeguard for fire and life safety and other hazards attributed to the built environment and provide safety to firefighters and emergency responders during emergency operations, therefore the *International Building Code*, 2015 Edition is made part of this code in full volume and reference including Chapter 35 Referenced Standards and Appendices C,E,F,G,H,J, and K.
 - 4) the National Fire Protection Association’s *NFPA 101 Life Safety Code*, most current, with respect to existing structures.
- c) To the extent any differences occur between the terms, conditions, or provisions contained in this Order and any terms, conditions, or provisions contained in the various codes identified in Subsection (b) of this Section, the provisions of this Order apply.

- d) Any references contained in the *International Fire Code*, 2015 Edition, to the International Code Council's *International Electric Code* are hereby replaced by the Tarrant County Fire Code with the National Fire Protection Association's *NFPA 70 Electric Code*® that has been adopted by the State of Texas and is recognized as a part of this code.

CHAPTER 3. PERMITS FOR AND INSPECTIONS OF NEW BUILDINGS AND SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS MADE TO EXISTING BUILDINGS

3.001. Building Permit Required

No person may begin construction or make substantial improvements to a building as defined in Section 1.003 of this Code in the unincorporated area of Tarrant County unless and until that person obtains a Building / Construction permit issued in accordance with this Code.

3.002. Application for Building Permit

- a) To obtain a Building / Construction permit for the construction or substantial improvement of a building in the unincorporated area of Tarrant County the applicant must:
- (1) complete an application on a form prescribed by the Fire Code Official.
 - (2) provide the Fire Code Official with construction documents and/or plans of the proposed building or substantial improvement, either of which must contain the following information:
 - I. the proposed access for fire apparatus.
 - II. the location of fire lanes, if applicable.
 - III. the types of construction, including fire-resistance rated construction.
 - IV. the location of fire hydrants, fire protection systems, and the hydraulic calculations for fire hydrant systems and fire protection systems; and identification of fire hazards and the means of egress; and
 - (3) pay an application fee in the amount set by the Fee Schedule of this Code.
- b) Within thirty (30) days after the date the Fire Code Official receives an application, construction documents and/or plans, and the application fee in accordance with this Chapter, the Fire Code Official must:
- (1) Issue the Building / Construction permit if the application and required attachments comply with the Fire Code; or
 - (2) Deny the Building / Construction permit because of noncompliance with the Fire Code.
- c) If the Fire Code Official receives the required application, documents and fee in accordance with Subsection (a) and the Fire Code Official does not issue the building permit or deny the application within thirty (30) days after receiving the required

items, the construction or substantial improvement of the building that is the subject of the application is approved for the purposes of this Code.

- d) The applicant may submit the construction documents and/or plans to a third party for review that is licensed in the State of Texas, specializing in fire protection plan review services that are not associated with the applicant or the applicant's designer, architect or contractor. One (1) copy that has been reviewed by a third party must be submitted to the Fire Code Official for final review and approval prior to construction. This part does not waive or exempt any fees or charges that are associated with the Fee Schedule of this Code.
- e) The provisions of this Code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any method of construction not specifically prescribed by this Code, provided that any such alteration has been approved by the Fire Code Official. The Fire Code Official is authorized to approve an alternative material or method of construction where the Fire Code Official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this Code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this Code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety. *See Section 104.9 of the International Fire Code, 2021.*

3.003 Term of Permits

Construction of a building or a substantial improvement must be started within 180 days of the date the Building / Construction permit is issued or approved in accordance with Section 3.002 (c). Otherwise, the Building/Construction permit shall be null and void and a new Building / Construction permit is required.

3.004. Inspections

- a) The Fire Code Official is authorized to inspect a building subject to this Code to determine whether the building complies with this Code.
- b) The Fire Code Official may enter and perform the inspection of a building at a reasonable time at any stage of the building's construction or substantial improvement and after completion of the building. On or before the date that construction or substantial improvement of a building subject to this Code is completed, the owner of the building shall request that the Fire Code Official inspect the building for compliance with the Fire Code.
- c) The Fire Code Official shall begin the inspection of the building within (5) five business days after the date of the receipt of the written inspection request. If the Fire Code Official is properly requested and the Fire Code Official does not begin the inspection within the time permitted by this subsection, the building that is the subject of the request is considered approved for the purposes of this subchapter.

- d) The Fire Code Official shall issue a final Certificate of Compliance to the owner of a building inspected under this section if the inspector determines, after an inspection of the completed building, that the building complies with the Fire Code.
- e) If the Fire Code Official determines, after an inspection of the completed building, that the building does not comply with the Fire Code, the Fire Code Official may:
 - 1) deny the Certificate of Compliance; or
 - 2) issue a Conditional Certificate of Compliance and allow the building to be occupied.
- f) Both a building constructed prior to the effective date of this Code and a building constructed after the effective date of this Code may be inspected by the Fire Code Official for fire and life safety hazards. The inspection of the structure will be for any conditions that endanger the safety of the structure or its occupants and promote or cause fire or combustion, which shall include:
 - (1) the presence of a flammable substance.
 - (2) a dangerous or dilapidated wall, ceiling, or other structural element.
 - (3) improper electrical components, heating or other building services or facilities.
 - (4) the presence of a dangerous chimney, flue, pipe, main, or stove, or of dangerous wiring.
 - (5) dangerous storage, including storage or use of hazardous substances or;
 - (6) inappropriate means of egress, fire protection, or other fire-related safeguards.

The inspection of a building will be subject to a fee as prescribed by the fee schedule that is a part of this Code.

- g) substantial improvements made after the effective date of this Code will be subject to the requirements of the *International Fire Code*, and any adopted amendments of this Code when:
 - (1) there is a change in the occupancy status;
 - (2) there is a change in the design or construction of the structure due to restoration, reconstruction, improvements, or remodeling for which the cost exceeds 50 percent of the building's value according to the certified tax appraisal roll for the county for the year preceding the year in which the work was begun;
 - (3) the structure undergoes any alteration, movement or enlargement due to construction or renovation, horizontal or vertical, that increases the size of the structure in net square footage from the original construction of the structure; or
 - (4) there is a condition that constitutes a hazard to life safety or danger to property.
- h) If Fire Code Official issues a Conditional Certificate of Compliance under

Subsection (e) (2), the Fire Code Official shall notify the owner of the building of the violation(s) of the Fire Code and establish a reasonable time for the owner to remedy the violation(s). The Fire Code Official may revoke a Conditional Certificate of Compliance if the owner does not remedy the violation(s) within the time specified on the Conditional Certificate of Compliance.

- i) A building may not be occupied until the Fire Code Official issues a Certificate of Compliance or a Conditional Certificate of Compliance for the building.
- j) The issuance of a building permit or Certificate of Compliance does not imply that the building can be insured for fire coverage.

3.005. FEES

Fees for permits and inspections are set by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court. Fees must be paid by **a method approved by the department. ~~business check, exact cash, cashier's check, or money order.~~** Fees shall be paid at the time plans are submitted for review unless other arrangements have been made and approved by the County Auditor. The County shall deposit all fees received under this section in a special fund in the County treasury, pursuant to Section 233.065 (c) of the Texas Local Government Code, and money in that fund may only be used for the administration and enforcement of this Code.

CHAPTER 4. APPEALS AND HEARING PROCEDURES

4.001. APPEALS

- a) If a permit applicant is denied a permit, the applicant may appeal the denial as provided in this Section. The term "appellant" is used to refer to the appealing party. An appellant must seek a remedy or relief under this procedure before seeking a remedy or relief in a court of law. Application for a permit is deemed to be a waiver by the Applicant of the right to challenge this Code in a court of law before exhausting the relief or remedies provided for in this Code.
- b) To appeal the denial of a permit application by an appointee of the Tarrant County Fire Marshal, an appellant must submit a written statement to the Tarrant County Fire Marshal within 10 days of the denial setting forth the reasons why the permit application should be approved. If the Tarrant County Fire Marshal sustains the appointee's denial of the permit and the appellant desires an appeal, the appellant must seek review of the decision by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court pursuant to Section 4.002.
- c) If the permit application is denied by the Tarrant County Fire Marshal personally, an appellant must seek review of the decision by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court pursuant to Section 4.002.

4.002. REVIEW BY COMMISSIONERS COURT

If an appellant wishes to appeal the Tarrant County Fire Marshal's decision to deny a permit application, a written objection (appeal) must be filed with the Commissioners Court Administrator within ten (10) days of the date the Tarrant County Fire Marshal, not an appointee, provides the appellant with a written denial of the permit. The Commissioners Court Administrator will place the matter on the Agenda of the Commissioners Court for review at a regularly scheduled meeting of Commissioners Court within thirty (30) days of receiving the written objection (appeal). Notice that the matter is on the agenda will be sent to the appellant by regular First Class U.S. mail at the appellant's address shown on the permit, application or written objection (appeal). The Commissioners court will review the matter. The Commissioners Court may either affirm or reverse the decision of the Tarrant County Fire Marshal. The decision of the Tarrant County Fire Marshal shall remain in full force and effect pending review and action by the Commissioners Court.

CHAPTER 5. ENFORCEMENT

5.001. Enforcement

If any person violates any provision of this Code, the Fire Code Official may notify the Criminal District Attorney and request that the Criminal District Attorney take whatever action is necessary to remedy the violation, including but not limited to filing suit to enjoin the violation and/or seek a civil penalty under Sections 233.066 or 233.067 of the Texas Local Government Code of up to \$200.00 for each day that a violation exists. If a violation continues, the Fire Code Official may file a Certificate of Non-Compliance in the Real Property Records of Tarrant County. Once the violation has been resolved, any individual may request that a Certificate of Compliance be filed in the Real Property Records of Tarrant County. A fee for this action will be charged in accordance with Section 3.005 of this Code. The violator will bear this and all other costs of effecting compliance. Should the building be occupied without final occupancy inspection as required under this Code, or in violation of an order of the Fire Marshal under Section 352.016 of the Texas Local Government Code, the County Fire Marshal may submit a case for review to the Criminal District Attorney's Office of alleged violations punishable under Section 352.022 of the Texas Local Government Code.

5.002. Disclaimer of Liability

This Code does not imply that any building or the uses permitted within any building will be free from a fire or other hazards. This Code shall not create liability on the part of Tarrant County or any officer or employee thereof for any damages that result from reliance on this Code or any administrative decision lawfully made based on this Code. The granting of a permit or issuance of a Certificate of Compliance does not imply that the building can be insured for fire coverage.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Order is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Order. The Commissioners Court of Tarrant County hereby declares that it would have passed this Order, and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional.

ADDENDUM 1

Tarrant County Fire Code Amendments to *International Fire Code*

The Tarrant County Fire Code includes the following additions, insertions, and deletions and changes to the *International Fire Code*, 2021 Edition. All other provisions of the *International Fire Code*, 2021 Edition apply as stated.

CHAPTER 1. ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 101.1 Title.

These regulations shall be known as the Tarrant County Fire code, hereinafter may be referred to as “this code”.

102.5 Application of residential code. Deleted in its entirety.

SECTION 112 Violations.

112.4 Violations penalties

- a) Unlawful Acts. It shall be unlawful for a person, firm or corporation to erect, construct, alter, repair, remove, demolish or utilize a building, occupancy, premises or system regulated by this Code, or cause same to be done, in conflict with or in violation of any of the provisions of this Code.
- b) Owner / Occupant responsibility. Correction and abatement of violations of this Code shall be the responsibility of the owner or the owner's authorized agent. Where an occupant creates, or allows to be created, hazardous conditions in violation of this Code, the occupant shall be held responsible for the abatement of such hazardous conditions.
- c) Notice of violation. Where the fire code official finds a building, premises, vehicle, storage facility or outdoor area that is in violation of this Code, the fire code official is authorized to prepare a written notice of violation describing the conditions deemed unsafe and, where compliance is not immediate, specifying a time for reinspection.
- d) Service. A notice of violation issued pursuant to this Code shall be served on the owner, the owner's authorized agent, operator, occupant or other person responsible for the condition or violation, either by personal service, mail or by delivering the same to, and leaving it with, some person or responsibility on the premises. For unattended or abandoned locations, a copy of such notice of violation shall be posted on the premises in a conspicuous place at or near the entrance to such premises and the notice of violation shall be mailed by certified mail with return receipt requested of a certificate of mailing, to the last known address of the owner, the owner's authorized agent, or occupant.

- e) Compliance with orders and notices. A notice of violation issued or served as provided by this Code shall be complied with by the owner's authorized agent, operator, occupant or other person responsible for the condition or violation to which the notice of violation pertains.
- f) Prosecution of violations. If the notice of violation is not complied with promptly, the fire code official is authorized to request the District Attorney of Tarrant County to institute the appropriate legal proceedings at law or in equity to restrain, correct or abate such violation or to require removal or termination of the unlawful occupancy of the structure in violation of the provisions of this Code or the order or direction made pursuant hereto.
- g) Unauthorized tampering. Signs, tags or seals posted or affixed by the fire code official shall not be mutilated, destroyed or tampered with, or removed, without authorization from the fire code official.
- h) Civil penalties. Persons who violate a provision of this Code or fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code official, or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this code, shall be subject to a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$200 for each day on which the violation exists.
- i) Abatement of violations. In addition to the imposition of the penalties herein described, the fire code official is authorized to institute appropriate action through the Tarrant County District Attorney to prevent unlawful construction or to restrain, correct or abate a violation; or to prevent illegal occupancy of a structure or premises; or to stop an illegal act, conduct of business or occupancy of a structure on or about any premises.

CHAPTER 2. DEFINITIONS

SECTION 202 General Definitions

- a) **“Approved Container”** Any non-combustible receptacle of sufficient integrity to maintain contents and fire in a controlled state.
- b) **“Building”** Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.
- c) **“Cul-de-sac”** A dead-end street with a turnaround at the closed end.
- d) **“Dead -Ends”** A street or alley that has no regular exit or outlet. A closed end street.
- e) **“Defend In Place”** A method of emergency response that engages building components and trained staff to provide occupant safety during an emergency. Emergency response involves remaining in place, relocating within the building, or both, without evacuating the building.
- f) **“Fire Watch”** A temporary measure intended to ensure continuous and systematic surveillance of a building or portion thereof by one or more qualified individuals or *standby personal* when required by the *fire code official*, for purposes of identifying and controlling fire hazards, detecting early signs of unwanted fire, raising an alarm of fire, and notifying

and controlling fire hazards, detecting early signs of unwanted fire, raising an alarm of fire and notifying the fire department.

- g) **“High-Rise Building”** A building having any floors used for human occupancy located more than 55-feet (16 764 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.
- h) **“High-piled Combustible Storage”** Storage of combustible materials in closely packed piles or combustible materials on pallets, in racks or on shelves where the top of storage is greater than 12-feet (3658 mm) in height. When required by the *fire code official*, *high-piled combustible storage* also includes certain high-hazard commodities, such as rubber tires, Group A plastics, flammable liquids, idle pallets and similar commodities, where the top of storage is greater than 6 feet (1829 mm) in height.

Any building classified as a group S Occupancy or Speculative Building exceeding 12,000 sq. ft. that has a clear height in excess of 14-feet, making it possible to be used for storage in excess of 12-feet, shall be considered to be high-piled storage. When a specific product cannot be identified, a fire protection system and life safety features shall be installed as Class IV commodities, to maximum pile height.

- i) **“No Burn Day”** When atmospheric and/or ground conditions are unfavorable for controlled burning, for 24-hour period beginning at sunrise, as determined by the Tarrant County Fire Marshal’s Office or a duly authorized agency.
- j) **“Order Of Restricting Outdoor Burning”** When the Tarrant County Commissioner’s Court has determined that the circumstances present in the unincorporated area of Tarrant County create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning, The Order bans all outdoor burning in unincorporated area of the county for ninety (90) days from the date of adoption. Thereafter, the burn ban order is reviewed every ninety days for consideration of continuing the burn ban or ceasing burning restrictions. This order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for (1) firefighter training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; or (3) harvesting of agricultural crops.

105.6.25 Electronic Access Control System

Construction permits are required to install or modify an electronic access control system, as specified in Chapter 10. A separate construction permit is required to install or modify a fire alarm system that may be connected to access control system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this Code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

SECTION 307.4.3

Exceptions:

1. Where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an approved sprinkler system.

SECTION 308.1.4

308.1.4 Open-Flame Cooking Device.

Open-flame cooking devices, charcoal grills and other similar devices used for cooking shall not be located or used on combustible balconies, decks, or within 10-feet (3048 mm) of combustible construction.

Exceptions:

1. One and two-family dwellings where LP- gas containers are limited to a water capacity not greater than 50-pounds (22.68 kg) [nominal 20-pounds (9.08 kg) LP-gas capacity] with an aggregate LP-gas capacity not to exceed 100-pounds (5 containers). All LP-gas capacity not to exceed 40-pounds. (2 containers). All LP-gas containers shall be stored outside, as per Chapter 61.
2. Where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an approved *automatic sprinkler system*, and LP-gas containers are limited to a water capacity not greater than 50-pounds (22.68 kg) [nominal 20-pounds (9.08 kg) LP-gas capacity], with an aggregate LP-gas capacity not to exceed 40-pounds (2 containers). All LP-gas containers shall be stored outside, as per Chapter 61.
3. LP-gas cooking devices having LP-gas container with a water capacity not greater than 2-1/2 pounds [nominal 1-pound (0.454 kg) LP-gas capacity].

SECTION 308.1.6.3**308.1.6.3 Sky Lanterns.**

A person shall not release or cause to be released an unmanned free-floating device containing an open flame or other heat source, such as, but not limited to, a sky lantern.

SECTION 503.2.1**503.2.1 Dimensions.**

Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 24-feet (7315 mm), exclusive of shoulders, except for approved security gates in accordance with section 503.6, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 14-feet (4267 mm).

Exception:

1. Vertical clearance may be reduced; provided such reduction does not impair access by fire apparatus and *approved* signs are installed and maintained indicating the established vertical clearance when approved.

SECTION 503.2.3**503.2.3 Surface.**

Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support imposed loads 85,000 pounds for fire apparatus and shall be surfaced so as to provide all-weather driving capabilities.

SECTION 503.3**503.3 Marking.**

Striping, signs, or other markings, when approved by the *fire code official*, shall be provided for fire apparatus access roads to identify such roads, or prohibit the obstruction thereof. Striping,

signs, and other markings shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility.

1. **Striping-** Fire apparatus access roads shall be continuously marked by painted lines of red traffic paint 6-inches (6”) in width to show the boundaries of the lane. The words “NO PARKING FIRE LANE” or “FIRE LANE NO PARKING” shall appear in 4-inches (4”) white letters at 25-foot intervals on the red border marking along both sides of the fire lanes. Where a curb is available, the striping shall be on the vertical face of the curb.
2. **Signs-** Signs shall read “NO PARKING FIRE LANE” or FIRE LANE NO PARKING” and shall be 12-inches (12”) wide and 18-inches (18”) high. Signs shall be painted on a white background with letters and borders in red, using not less than 2-inches (2”) lettering. Signs shall be permanently affixed to a stationary post and the bottom of the sign shall be six-feet by 6-inches (6’6”) above a finished grade. Signs shall be spaced not more than Fifty feet (50’) apart along both sides of the fire lane. Signs may be installed on permanent buildings or walls or as approved by the *fire code official*.

SECTION 505.1

505.1 Address Identification.

New and existing buildings shall be provided with approved address identification. The address identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property. Address identification characters shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. Numbers shall not be spelled out. Each character shall be not less than 6-inches (152.4 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of ½-inch (12.7 mm). Where required by the *fire code official*, address numbers shall be provided in additional approved locations to facilitate emergency response. Where access is by means of a private road, buildings do not immediately front a street, and/or the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole or other sign with approved 6-inch (152.4 mm) height building numerals or addresses and 4-inch (101.6 mm) height suite/apartment numerals of a color contrasting with the background of the building or other approved means shall be used to identify the structure. Numerals or addresses shall be posted on a minimum 20-inch (508 MM) by 30-inch (762 mm) background on border. Address identification shall be maintained.

Exception:

1. R-3 Single Family occupancies shall have approved numerals of a minimum 3 1/2 inches (88.9 mm) in height and a color contrasting with the background clearly visible and legible from the street fronting the property and rear alleyway exits.

SECTION 807

SECTION 807.5.5.2-5.5.3

807.5.2.2 Artwork in Corridors.

Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls of corridors to not more than 20 percent of the wall area. Such materials shall not be continuous from floor to ceiling or wall to wall. Curtains, draperies, wall hangings, and other decorative material suspended from the walls or ceilings shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 in accordance with section 807 or be noncombustible.

Exception:

1. Corridors Protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with section 903.3.1.1 shall be limited to 50 percent of the wall area.

807.5.2.3 Artwork in Classrooms.

Artwork and teaching material shall be limited on walls of classrooms to not more than 50 percent of specific wall area to which they are attached. Curtains, draperies, wall hangings and other decorative material suspended from the walls or ceilings shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 in accordance with section 807 or be noncombustible.

Section 901.6.4

901.6.4. False Alarms and Nuisance Alarms.

False alarms and nuisance alarms shall not be given, signaled, or transmitted or caused or permitted to be given, signaled, or transmitted in any manner.

Section 903 Automatic Sprinkler Systems

903.2 Where required.

Approved automatic sprinkler systems in new buildings and structures shall be provided in the locations described in Sections 903.2.1 through 903.2.12.

For the purpose of this provision, fire walls shall not define separate buildings.

903.2.11.3 Buildings 35 feet or more in height.

An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout buildings with a floor level, other than penthouses in compliance with Section 1510 or the *International Building Code*, that is located 35 feet (10 668 mm) or more above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.

Exception:

1. Open parking structures in compliance with section 406.3 of the *International Building Code*

903.2.11.7 Spray Booths and Rooms.

New and existing spray booths and spraying rooms shall be protected by an approved automatic fire-extinguishing system.

Section 905.4 Location of Class 1 standpipe hose connection.

Class 1 standpipe hose connections shall be provided in all of the following locations.

1. In every required exit stairway, a hose connection shall be provided for each story above and below grade plane. Hose connections shall be located at an intermediate landing between stories, unless otherwise approved by the *fire code official*.

Exception:

1. A single hose connection shall be permitted to be installed in the open corridor or open breezeway between open stairs that are not greater than 75 feet apart.
2. On each side of the wall adjacent to the exits opening of a horizontal exit.
3. In every exit passageway, at entrance from the exit passageway to other areas of a building.

Exception:

1. Where floor areas adjacent to an exit passageway are reachable from an exit stairway hose connection by a 30 foot (9144 mm) hose stream from a nozzle attached to 100 feet (30 480 mm) of hose, a hose connection shall not be required at the entrance from the exit passageway to other areas of the building.
2. In covered mall buildings, adjacent to each exterior public entrance to the mall and adjacent to each entrance from an exit passageway or exit corridor to the mall. In open mall buildings, adjacent to public entrance to the mall at the perimeter line and adjacent to each entrance from an exit passageway or exit corridor to the mall.
3. Where the roof has a slope less than 4 units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33.3-percent slope), each standpipe shall be provided with a two-way hose connection located to serve the roof or at the highest landing of an exit stairway with stair access to the roof provided in accordance with section 1011.12.
4. Where the most remote portions of a non-sprinklered floor or story is more than 150 feet (45 720 mm) from a hose connection or the most remote portion of a sprinklered floor or story is more than 2000 feet (60 960 mm) from a hose connection, the *fire code official* is authorized to require that additional hose connections be provided in approved locations.
5. When required by this chapter, standpipe connections shall be placed adjacent to all required exits to the structure and at two hundred feet (200') intervals along major corridors thereafter, or as otherwise approved by the *fire code official*.

Section 906.1(1) (Exception 3) Delete

Section 907.1.4

907.1.4 Design Standards.

Where a new fire alarm system is installed, the devices shall be addressable.

Occupant notification is required for all fire alarm systems.

Section 907.2.3

907.2.3 Group E.

A manual fire alarm system that initiates the occupant notification signal utilizing an emergency voice/alarm communication system meeting the requirements of section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6 shall be installed in Group E educational occupancies. When *automatic sprinkler systems or smoke detectors* are installed, such systems or detectors shall be connected to the building fire alarm system. An approved smoke detection system shall be installed in Group E Day care occupancies. Unless separated by a minimum of 100' open space, all buildings, whether portable buildings or the main building, will be considered one building for alarm occupant load consideration and interconnection of alarm systems.

Section 907.6.1.1

907.6.1.1 Wiring Installation.

All fire alarm systems shall be installed in such a manner that a failure of any single initiating device or single open in an initiating circuit conductor will not interfere with the normal operation of other such devices. All signaling line circuits (SLC) shall be installed in such a way that a single open will not interfere with operation of an addressable device (Class A). Outgoing and return SLC conductors shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72 requirements for Class A circuits and shall have a minimum of four feet separation horizontal and one foot vertical between supply and return circuit conductors. The initiating device circuit (IDC) from signaling line circuit interface device may be wired Class B, provided the distance from the interface device to the initiating device is ten feet or less.

Section 907.6.3 Delete all 4 Exceptions.

Section 910 Smoke and Heat Removal.

Section 910.2 Where Required.

1. Only manual smoke and heat removal shall be required in area of buildings equipped with early suppression fast-response (ESFR) sprinklers. Automatic smoke and heat removal is prohibited.
2. Only manual smoke and heat removal shall be required in areas of buildings equipped with control mode special application sprinklers with a response time index of $50(m \cdot S)^{1/2}$ or less that are listed to control a fire in stored commodities with 12 or fewer sprinklers. Automatic smoke and heat removal is prohibited.

Section 910.2.3

910.2.3 Group H.

Buildings and portions thereof used as a Group H occupancy as follows:

1. In occupancies classified as Group H-2 or H-3, any of which are more than 15,000 square feet (1394 m²) in single floor area.

Exception:

1. Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.
2. In areas of building in Group H used for storing Class 2,3, and 4 liquid and solid oxidizers, Class 1 and unclassified detonable organic peroxides, Class 3 and 4 unstable (reactive) materials, Class 2 or 3 water- reactive materials as required for high-hazard commodity classification.

Exception:

1. Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.

Section 910.4.3.1

910.4.3.1 Makeup Air.

Makeup air openings shall be provided within 6 feet (1829 mm) of the floor level. Operation of makeup air openings shall be automatic. The minimum gross area of makeup air inlets shall be 8 square feet per 1,000 cubic feet per minute (0.74 m² per 0.4719 m³/s) of smoke exhaust.

Section 912.2.3

912.2.3 Hydrant Distance.

An approved fire hydrant shall be located within 100 feet of the fire department connection as the fire hose lays along an unobstructed path.

Section 913.2.1

913.2.1 Fire Pump Room.

When located on ground level at an exterior wall, the fire pump room shall be provided with an exterior fire department access door that is not less than 3 ft. in width and 6 ft.- 8 in. in height, regardless of any interior door that are provided. A key box shall be provided at this door, as required by Section 506.1

Exception:

1. When it is necessary to locate the fire pump room on other levels or not at an exterior wall, the corridor leading to the fire pump room access from the exterior of the building shall be provided with equivalent fire resistance as that required for the pump room, or as approved by the *Fire Code Official*. Access keys shall be provided in the key box as required by Section 506.1.

Section 1006.2.1

1006.2.1 Egress based on occupant load and common path egress travel distance.

Two exits or exit doorways from any space shall be provided where the design occupant load or the common path of egress travel distance exceeds the values listed in Table 1006.2.1. The cumulative occupant load from adjacent rooms, areas or space shall be determined in accordance with Section 1004.2.

Exception:

1. The number of exits from foyers, lobbies, vestibules, or similar spaces need not be based on cumulative occupant loads for areas discharging through such spaces, but the capacity of the exits from such space shall be based on applicable cumulative occupant loads.
2. Care suites in Group I-2 occupancies comply with Section 407.4 of the International Building Code.
3. Unoccupied rooftop mechanical rooms and penthouse are not required to comply with the common path of egress travel distance measurements.

Section 1010.2.5

1010.2.5 Bolt Locks.

Manually operated flush bolts or surface bolts are not permitted.

Exception:

1. On doors not required for egress in individual dwelling units or sleeping units.
2. Where a pair of doors serves a storage or equipment room, manually operated edge or surface mounted bolts.
3. Where a pair of doors serves an occupant load of less than 50 persons in a Group B, F, M, or S occupancy, manually operated edge or surface mounted bolts are permitted on the inactive leaf. The inactive leaf shall not contain doorknobs, panic bars or similar operating hardware.
4. Where a pair of doors serves a Group A, B, F, M, or S occupancy, manual operated edge or surface mounted bolts are permitted on

inactive leaf provided that such inactive leaf is not needed to meet egress capacity requirements and the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, the inactive leaf shall not contain doorknobs, panic bars or similar operating hardware.

5. Where a pair of doors serves patient care rooms on Group I-2 occupancies, self-latching edges or surface mounted bolts are permitted on the inactive leaf shall not contain doorknobs, panic bars or similar operating hardware.

Section 1032.2

1032.2 Reliability.

Required exit access, exits and exit discharges shall be continuously maintained free from obstructions or impediments to full instant use in case of fire or other emergency. An exit or exit passageway shall not be used for any purpose that interferes with a means of egress.

Section 1103.5.6

1103.5.6 Spray Booths and Rooms.

Existing spray booths and spray rooms shall be protected by an approved automatic fire-extinguishing system in accordance with Section 2404.

Section 1103.7.7

1103.7.7 Fire Alarm System Design Standards.

Where an existing fire alarm system is upgraded or replaced, the devices shall be addressable.

Exception:

1. Existing systems need not comply unless the total building, or fire alarm system, remodel or expansion exceeds 30% of the building. When cumulative building, or fire alarm system, remodel or expansion initiated after the date of original fire alarm panel installation exceeds 50% of the building, or fire alarm system.

Section 1103.7.7.1

1103.7.7.1 Communication Requirements.

Refer to section 907.6.6 for applicable requirements.

Section 1203.1.10

1203.1.10 Critical Operations Power System (COPS).

For Critical Operations Power Systems necessary to maintain continuous power supply to facilities or parts of facilities that require continuous operation for the reasons of public safety, emergency management, national security, or business continuity, see NFPA 70.

Section 2304.1

2304.1 Supervision of Dispensing.

The dispensing of fuel at motor fuel-dispensing facilities shall be in accordance with the following:

1. Conducted by qualified attendant; and/or
2. Shall be under the supervision of a qualified attendant; and/or
3. Shall be unattended self-service facility in accordance with Section 2304.3.

At any time the qualified attendant of item Number 1 or 2 above is not present, such operations shall be considered as an unattended self-service facility and shall also comply with Section 2304.3.

Section 2401.2; Delete.

Section 3103.3.1; Delete.

Table 3206.2 Footnote h;

- h. Where storage areas are protected by either early suppression fast response (ESFR) sprinkler systems or control mode special application sprinklers with a response time index of 50 (m•s)^{1/2} or less that are listed to control a fire in the stored commodities with 12 or fewer sprinklers, installed in accordance with NFPA 13, manual smoke and heat vents or manually activated engineered mechanical smoke exhaust systems shall be required within these areas.

Table 3206.2; add footnote j to row titled ‘High Hazard’ and ‘Greater than 300,000’ to read as follows:

- j. High hazard high-piled storage areas shall not exceed 500,000 square feet. A 2-hour firewall constructed in accordance with Section 706 of International Building Code shall be used to divide high-piled storage exceeding 500,000 square feet in area.

Section 3311.1

3311.1 Required Access.

Approved vehicle access for firefighting and emergency response shall be provided to all construction or demolition sites. Vehicle access shall be provided to within 100 feet (15 240 mm) of temporary or permanent fire department connections. Vehicle access shall be provided by either temporary or permanent roads, capable of supporting vehicle loading under all weather conditions. Vehicle access shall be maintained until permanent fire apparatus access roads are available. When fire apparatus access roads are required to be installed for any structure or development, access

shall be approved prior to the time which construction has progressed beyond completion of foundation of any structure. Whenever the connection is not visible to approaching fire apparatus, the fire department connection shall be indicated by an approved sign.

Section 5703.6

5703.6 Piping Systems.

Piping systems, and their components parts for flammable and combustible liquids shall be in accordance with Section 5703.6.1 through 5703.6.11. An approved method of secondary containment shall be provided for underground tank and piping systems.

Section 5704.2.11.4

5704.2.11.4 Leak Prevention.

Leak prevention for underground tanks shall comply with section 5704.2.11.4.1 through 5704.2.11.4.3. An approved method of secondary containment shall be provided for underground tank and piping systems.

Section 5704.2.11.4.2

5704.2.11.4.2 Leak Detection.

Underground storage tank systems shall be provided with an approved method of leak detection from any component of the system that is designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 30 and as specified in Section 5704.2.11.4.3.

Section 5704.2.11.4.3

5704.2.11.4.3 Observation Wells.

Approved sampling tubes of a minimum 4 inches in diameter shall be installed in the backfill material of each underground flammable or combustible liquid storage tank. The tubes shall extend from a point 12 inches below the average grade of the excavation to ground level and shall be provided with suitable surface access caps. Each tank site shall provide a sampling tube at the corners of the excavation with minimum of 4 tubes. Sampling tubes shall be placed in the product line excavation within 10 feet of the tank excavation and one in every 50 feet routed along product lines towards the dispensers, a minimum of two are required.

Section 5707.4

5707.4 Mobile Fueling Areas.

Mobile fueling sites shall be restricted to commercial, industrial, governmental, or manufacturing, where the parking area having such operations is primarily intended for employee vehicles. Mobile fueling shall be conducted for fleet fueling or employee vehicles only, not the general public. Commercial sites shall be restricted to office-type or similar occupancies that are not primarily intended for use by the public.

Section 6103.2.1.8

6103.2.1.8 Jewelry Repair, Dental Labs, and Similar Occupancies.

Where natural gas service is not available, portable LP-Gas containers are allowed to be used to supply approved torch assemblies or similar appliances. Such containers shall not exceed 20-pound (9.0 kg) water capacity. Aggregate capacity shall not exceed 60-pound (27.2 kg) water capacity. Each device shall be separated from other containers by a distance of not less than 20 feet.

Section 6107.4 and 6109.13

6107.4 Protecting containers from vehicles.

Where exposed to vehicular damage due to proximity to alleys, driveways or parking areas, LP-gas containers, regulators, and piping shall be protected in accordance with Section 312.

6109.13 Protection of Containers.

LP-gas containers shall be stored within a suitable enclosure or otherwise protected against tampering. Vehicle impact protection shall be provided as required by Section 6107.4.

Section 80

NFPA 1194 RV Parks

APPENDIX D

Section D102.1

D102.1 Access and loading.

Facilities, buildings, or portions of buildings hereafter constructed shall be accessible to fire department apparatus by way of an approved fire apparatus access road with an asphalt, concrete, or other approved driving surface capable of supporting the imposed load of fire apparatus weighing up to 85,000 pounds (38 556 kg).

Section D103.5

D103.5 Fire Apparatus Access Road Gates.

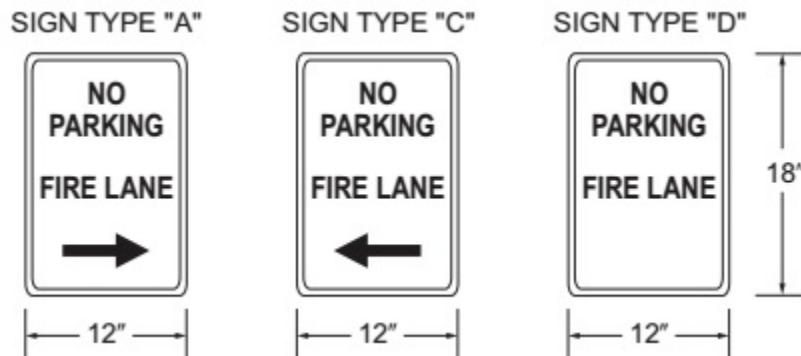
Gates securing fire apparatus access roads shall comply with all of the following criteria: Where a single gate is provided, the gate width shall be not less than 24 feet (7315.2 mm). Where a fire apparatus road consists of a divided roadway, the gate width shall be not less than 12 feet (3658 mm).

Section D103.6

D103.6 Marking.

Striping, signs, or other markings, when approved by the *fire code official*, shall be provided for fire apparatus access roads to identify such roads, or prohibit the obstruction thereof. Striping, signs, and other markings shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility.

1. **Striping-** Fire apparatus access roads shall be continuously marked by painted lines of red traffic paint six inches (6") in width to show the boundaries of the lane. 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 border markings along both sides of the fire lanes. Where a curb is available, the striping shall be on the vertical face curb.
2. **Signs-** Signs shall read "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" or FIRE LANE NO PARKING" and shall be 12" wide and 18" high (see figure D). Signs shall have red letters on a white reflective background, 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 be spaced not more than fifty feet (50') apart along both sides of the fire lane. Signs may be installed on permanent buildings or walls or as approved by the *fire code official*.



Section D104.3

D104.3 Remoteness.

Where two fire apparatus access roads are required, they shall be placed a distance apart equal to not less than one half of the length of the maximum overall diagonal dimensions of the lot or area to be served, measured in a straight line between accesses, or as approved by the *fire code official*.

Section D105.3

D105.3 Proximity to building.

Unless otherwise approved by the *fire code official*, one or more of the required access routes meeting this condition shall be located not less than 15 feet (4572 mm) and not greater than 30 feet (9144 mm) from the building and shall be positioned parallel to one entire side of the building. The side of the building on which the aerial fire apparatus access road positioned shall be approved by the *fire code official*.

Section D106.3

D106.3 Remoteness.

Where two fire apparatus access roads are required, they shall be placed a distance apart equal to not less than one-half of the length of the maximum overall diagonal dimension of the property or area to be served, measured in a straight line between accesses, or as approved by the *fire code official*.

Section D107.2

D107.2 Remoteness.

Where two fire apparatus access roads are required, they shall be placed a distance apart equal to not less than one-half of the length of the maximum overall diagonal dimension of the property or area to be served, measured in a straight line between accesses, or as approved by the *fire code official*.

Section L101.1

L101.1 Scope.

Fire Fighter air replenishment system (FARS) shall be provided in accordance with this appendix in new buildings when any of the following conditions occur:

1. Any new building 5 or more stories in height.
2. Any new building with 2 or more floors below grade.
3. Any new building 500,000 square feet or more in size.

Each Stairwell shall have a supply riser. SCBA fill panels shall be located on odd numbered floors commencing at the first level in the primary stairwell and on even numbered floors commencing at level 2 in the remaining stairwells. Fill panels in building over 500,000 square feet shall be located adjacent to each standpipe connection.

Section L104.13.1; Delete.

Section L104.14

L104.14; External Mobile Air Connection.

An External mobile air connection shall be provided for fire department mobile air apparatus where required by Section L104.5 to supply the system with breathing air. The external mobile air connection shall be located with approved separation from the Fire Department Connection (FDC) to allow functionality of both devices by first responders; shall be visible from and within 50 ft. of a fire apparatus access road along an unobstructed path; and shall be located in an approved signed, secured cabinet.

[END OF AMENDMENTS TO INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE]