Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462
www.cityofrhome.com | citysecretary@cityofrhome.com

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 10, 2022
Executive Session: 6pm
Regular Session: 7pm
Meeting Location: Rhome Community Center, 261 North School Road, Rhome, TX 76078

LIVE Streaming: In an effort to be as accessible as possible, we will be Live Streaming the meeting using GoToMeeting.
Please call 1-571-317-3112 / Access Code 318-257-429

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum – 6pm

Convene into Executive Session – 6pm

Pursuant to the following designated section of the Texas Government Code, Annotated, Chapter 551 (Texas Open Meetings Act), the Council may convene into executive session to discuss the following:

A. Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney - pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer or to seek advice from attorney

B. Section 551.072 Deliberation regarding Real Property - purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have detrimental effect on position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person

C. Section 551.074 Personnel – discuss appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or hear complaint or charge against officer or employee in executive session unless officer or employee requests a public hearing

- Accounting Specialist

D. Section 551.087 – Deliberations regarding Economic Development Negotiations – to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the City has received from a business prospect that the City seeks to locate, stay or expand in or near the City and with which the City is conducting economic development negotiations

Reconvene into Regular Session – 7pm

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag
Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, One state under God, One and indivisible

Public Presentations and Input

The Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any presentations made to the Council at this time concerning an item not listed on the agenda. The Council will hear comments during this designated time.

*If you are attending the meeting via **Live Streaming**, and you would like to make a Public Presentation, you must email the City Secretary at citysecretary@cityofrhome.com prior to **4:00pm on the day of meeting** to be recognized.*

*If you are attending the meeting **in person**, sign up forms will be available at the meeting to fill out and submit to the City Secretary prior to meeting start time.*

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

City of Rhome Announcements:

- February 18, 2022- Last day to file for a place on the May 7, 2022 Ballot
- February 21, 2022- City offices Closed for President's Day
- February 24, 2022 – City Council Meeting

Consent Agenda

All items under this section are recommended for approval for the Consent Agenda. These items are of a routine nature and require only brief deliberation by Council. Council reserves the right to remove any item on the Consent Agenda for further deliberation.

E. Minutes of City Council Regular Session dated January 13, 2022 **(City Secretary)**
F. Minutes of City Council Special Meeting Session dated January 22, 2022 **(City Secretary)**
G. Resolution authorizing continued participation with the Oncor Cities Steering Committee **(City Administrator)**

Monthly Staff Reports and Board Minutes

All items under this section are for informational purposes only; no action will be taken by Council.

H. Departments: Administration, Building & Development, Fire Rescue, Municipal Court, Police, and Public Works (**Department Heads**)
I. Minutes of Regular Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting dated December 6, 2021. (**City Secretary**)

Regular Agenda – Old Business

J. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Waste Water Rates and W/WW Revenue Bond **(City Administrator/Public Works Director)**

K. Discussion and any necessary action regarding a Code of Conduct Ordinance **(Council Member Eason)**

L. Discussion and any necessary actions regarding 2018 IFC, 2018 Building Codes and 2018 COG Amendments and 2017 National Electric Code **(City Administrator)**

Regular Agenda – New Business

M. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Ordinance to lower speed limit on FM 3433 (**City Administrator**)

N. Discussion and any necessary action regarding an Ordinance calling the May 7, 2022 General Election for two-year terms for Council Member – Place 4, Council Member – Place 5, and Mayor, authorizing the City Administrator to sign Joint Contract with Wise County for Election Services, and setting meeting date to Canvass the Election **(City Secretary)**

O. Discussion and any action regarding Animal Ordinance (**Mayor/Council**)

P. Discussion and any action regarding a burn ban within the city limits **(Chief Fitch)**

Q. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the alley between Logan and Russell (**Mayor Wilson**)

R. Discussion of financial checks and balances (**Council Member McCabe**)

S. Discussion and review of recent Citizen Forum on Facilities (**Council Member Priest**)

T. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the structure of the next Citizen Forum (**Council Member McCabe**)

U. Discussion regarding erroneous information regarding City Administrator hiring, duties, experience, employment review/salary (**Council Member Priest**)

V. Review the abuse of procedures from the Town Hall meeting on January 22 **(Council Member Eason)**

W. Discussion regarding the ownership of the Old School property (**Council Member Tye**)

X. Discussion regarding erroneous information on the hiring of the Police Chief (**Council Member Tye**)

Y. Discussion regarding the Comprehensive Development Plan (**Council Member Majors**)

Future Agenda Items
Adjourn

A quorum of Planning & Zoning Commissioners may be present at this meeting and its members may participate in the discussions of the items on the agenda over which they have responsibilities or authority.

A quorum of Parks & Recreation Board Members may be present at this meeting and its members may participate in the discussions of the items on the agenda over which they have responsibilities or authority.

**Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the Council may convene into executive session at any time during the meeting if a need rises for the City Council to seek advice from the City Attorney concerning any item on this agenda, to discuss pending and contemplated litigation, or a settlement offer, or to discuss a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Board of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551.*

The Council may vote and / or act upon each of the items listed in this Agenda. Except for Public Presentation and Input and items in the agenda designated as public hearing or otherwise designated for public input, there will be no public input during the course of this meeting without express authorization from the presiding officer.

This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please contact City Hall at 817-636-2462 for further information.

CERTIFICATION: I do hereby certify that the above City Council Agenda was posted on the designated bulletin board located at City Hall, 501 South Main Street, Rhome, Texas by 6pm on February 7, 2022.

_____
Shaina Odom, City Secretary

I certify that the attached notice and agenda of items to be considered by the Rhome City Council was removed by me from the designated bulletin board located at City Hall, 501 South Main Street, Rhome, Texas, on the _____ day of _____, 2022.

_____, Title: _____

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758
www.cityofrhome.com cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com

CONSENT AGENDA

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462
www.cityofrhome.com | citysecretary@cityofrhome.com

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL
Meeting Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022
Executive Session: 6pm
Regular Session: 7pm
Meeting Location: Rhome Community Center, 261 North School Road, Rhome, TX 76078
LIVE Streaming: In an effort to be as accessible as possible, we will be Live Streaming the meeting using GoToMeeting.
Please call 1-(224) 501-3412 / Access Code 418-651-557

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum – 6pm

Convene into Executive Session – 6pm

Pursuant to the following designated section of the Texas Government Code, Annotated, Chapter 551 (Texas Open Meetings Act), the Council may convene into executive session to discuss the following:

A. Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney - pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offer or to seek advice from attorney
   - Taco Casa

B. Section 551.072 Deliberation regarding Real Property - purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have detrimental effect on position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person
   - Old School Appraisal

C. Section 551.074 Personnel – discuss appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or hear complaint or charge against officer or employee in executive session unless officer or employee requests a public hearing

D. Section 551.087 – Deliberations regarding Economic Development Negotiations – to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the City has received from a business prospect that the City seeks to locate, stay or expand in or near the City and with which the City is conducting economic development negotiations

Reconvene into Regular Session – 7pm or immediately following the Executive Session

E. Discussion and any necessary action as a result of Executive Session

Following Executive Session, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe, Seconded by Council Member Eason to authorize the City Administrator to enter into agreement with the lowest bidder for the appraisal of the old school property. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Invocation

City Administrator Cynthia Northrop gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag
Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, One state under God, One and indivisible

Public Presentations and Input

The Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any presentations made to the Council at this time concerning an item not listed on the agenda. The Council will hear comments during this designated time.

*If you are attending the meeting via **Live Streaming**, and you would like to make a Public Presentation, you must email the City Secretary at citysecretary@cityofrhome.com prior to **4:00pm on the day of meeting** to be recognized.*

*If you are attending the meeting **in person**, sign up forms will be available at the meeting to fill out and submit to the City Secretary prior to meeting start time.*

Announcements from Mayor and Council Members

City of Rhome Events:

- Monday, January 17, 2022 – City offices closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Saturday, January 22, 2022 – Citizen's Forum on Facilities, 9 am – 11 am
- Thursday, January 27, 2022 – City Council Meeting

Consent Agenda

All items under this section are recommended for approval for the Consent Agenda. These items are of a routine nature and require only brief deliberation by Council. Council reserves the right to remove any item on the Consent Agenda for further deliberation.

F. Minutes of City Council Regular Session dated December 9, 2021 (City Secretary)

Motion was made by Council Member Tye, seconded by Council Member Priest to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Monthly Staff Reports and Board Minutes

All items under this section are for informational purposes only; no action will be taken by Council.

G. Departments: Administration, Building & Development, Fire Rescue, Municipal Court, Police, and Public Works (Department Heads)

Regular Agenda – New Business

H. Discussion and any necessary action regarding future Dumpster Days (City Administrator)

Discussion deciding whether to discontinue or reduce the number of days to one time in the Spring, and one time in the Fall.
Motion made by Council Member Priest, Seconded by Council Member Tye, to reduce number of dumpster days to one day in the Spring and one day in the Fall.

Motion carried unanimously.

I. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Recycle container in front of Fire Station (City Administrator)

Recycle dumpster is not being used correctly, therefore it is contaminated and is no longer being recycled. Waste Connections representative was present to verify that recycle is not actually being recycled and has not been for several months.

Motion made by Council Member Eason, Seconded by Council Member Priest, to remove the recycle container in front of the Fire Station since it is no longer being recycled due to contamination.

Motion carried unanimously.

J. Notification regarding increase in solid waste fees as provided for in the Contract (City Administrator)

Per the contract with Waste Connections, the cost of service will increase according to the CPI of the previous 12 months, which is 7.5%. WC notified of the increase to 7%, not the full 7.5% possible.

No action needed as the item was information only.

K. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Carport Ordinance Update (City Administrator)

Discussion regarding removing the Carport SUP process from Chapter 14 and processing Carport permits similar to Accessory Structures; handling them administratively and keeping the current requirements noted in Chapter 3 the same. Because the SUP process is in Chapter 14 – Zoning Ordinance, it will require a Public Hearing in both P&Z and Council, so that item will come back to the Council for consideration.

Motion made by Council Member Eason, Seconded by Council Member McCabe, to keep the current Chapter 3.03.056 ordinance verbiage the same and move under the Municipal Code from the Zoning code.

Motion carried unanimously.

L. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Updating Sign Ordinance (Council Member Majors)

Council Member Majors brought this item to the agenda. Discussion addressing dilapidated signs through the city as well as political signs and clarifying when signs can be put out prior to the election day. Direction to look into how other cities handle their sign ordinance and bring back to the Council at a later date.

M. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Citizen Forum on Facilities Agenda (Council Member Priest)

Discussion about rules of meeting. City Attorney advised that meeting should follow the rules and laws like any other Public Meeting.

No Action Taken.

N. Resolution naming the official newspaper of the City of Rhome for the 2022 calendar year (City Administrator)

Cities are required to annually designate the Official Newspaper for the City of Rhome, primarily to promote transparency so citizens know where to look for any required public notices.

Motion made by Council Member McCabe to accept Wise County Messenger as the Official Newspaper of the City of Rhome. Motion seconded by Council Member Eason.

Motion carried unanimously.

O. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Updating Ordinances referencing City Secretary (City Administrator)

Making a comment that the change was ministerial in nature, motion made by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe to approve changes as recommended by staff, motion seconded by Council Member Tye.

Motion carried unanimously.

P. Discussion and any necessary action regarding updating Finance Ordinance to be in compliance with federal law as applicable (City Administrator)

City Administrator explained this was a ministerial action as current ordinance states it will be in compliance with state law, but the motion would update to be in compliance with federal law as well.
Motion by Mayor Pro Tem McCabe to update Finance Ordinance to be in compliance with federal law as recommended by staff. Seconded by Council Member Eason.

Motion carried unanimously.

Q. Discussion and any necessary action on a Code of Conduct Ordinance (Council Member Eason)

Council Member Eason made a motion to create the Ordinance and bring it back to the next Council meeting for action. Motion Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem.

Motion carried 4-1-0, with Council member Majors voting against.

R. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the update of International Building Codes from 2014/2015 to 2018 and COG Amendments (Council Member Eason)

Staff advised Council that they have been working on updating the Ordinances to the 2018 Building Codes, 2017 National Electrical Code and the 2018 COG Amendments and will be ready for Council action on a subsequent Council agenda.

No formal action taken.

Future Agenda Items

Adjourn

A quorum of Planning & Zoning Commissioners may be present at this meeting and its members may participate in the discussions of the items on the agenda over which they have responsibilities or authority.

A quorum of Parks & Recreation Board Members may be present at this meeting and its members may participate in the discussions of the items on the agenda over which they have responsibilities or authority.

**Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, the Council may convene into executive session at any time during the meeting if a need rises for the City Council to seek advice from the City Attorney concerning any item on this agenda, to discuss pending and contemplated litigation, or a settlement offer, or to discuss a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Board of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551.*

The Council may vote and / or act upon each of the items listed in this Agenda. Except for Public Presentation and Input and items in the agenda designated as public hearing or otherwise designated for public input, there will be no public input during the course of this meeting without express authorization from the presiding officer.

This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please contact City Hall at 817-636-2462 for further information.

CERTIFICATION: I do hereby certify that the above City Council Agenda was posted on the designated bulletin board located at City Hall, 501 South Main Street, Rhome, Texas by 6:00 pm on the 10th day of January 2022.

_____
Shaina Odom, City Secretary

I certify that the attached notice and agenda of items to be considered by the Rhome City Council was removed by me from the designated bulletin board located at City Hall, 501 South Main Street, Rhome, Texas, on the _____ day of _____, 2022.

_____, Title: _____

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462
www.cityofrhome.com | citysecretary@cityofrhome.com

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RHOME CITY COUNCIL
Meeting Date: Saturday, January 22, 2022
Special Meeting: 9 am – 11 am
Meeting Location: Rhome Community Center, 261 North School Road, Rhome, TX 76078

LIVE Streaming: In an effort to be as accessible as possible, we will be Live Streaming the meeting using GoToMeeting.
You can dial in using your phone: United States: +1 (571) 317-3112
Access Code: 694-768-373

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum – 9am

Meeting started at 9am

Invocation

Rachel Barnard did the Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag
Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, One state under God, One and indivisible

Sam Eason led the pledges

Public Presentations and Input

The Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any presentations made to the Council at this time concerning an item not listed on the agenda

*If you are attending the meeting via **Live Streaming**, and you would like to submit written comments for any agenda item not on the agenda or for Agenda item A., you must email the City Secretary at citysecretary@cityofrhome.com prior to noon, Friday, January 21, 2022, to be recognized.*

*If you are attending the meeting **in person**, sign up forms will be available at the meeting to fill out and submit to the City Secretary prior to meeting start time.*

The following voiced their comments or asked the City Secretary to read their comments:

A. Discussion and input regarding the City of Rhome Facilities and the Future of Rhome
   - Louis Godfrey – 300 South Main Street – submitted to the Mayor: Read
   - Lisa Ann Wilson – 240 West First Street – submitted to the Mayor: Read
   - Ramah Burns – 300 South Main Street – submitted to the Mayor: Read
   - Randall Loftis – 315 West Morris Street – in person
   - Tim Robison – 1110 Sunrise Avenue – in person
   - Shirly Mize – 170 Russell Street – in person
   - Gerry Lobdell – 709 Troxell Boulevard – in person

- Deborah BeCraft – 360 West Second Street – in person
- Cathy Coffee – 1102 Mount Lane – in person
- Tommie Eason – 1107 Mount Lane – in person
- Patricia Mitchell – 389 South Old Mill Road – in person
- Donna DeGarmo – 104 Kensington Court – in person
- Joe Henderson – 105 School Road – in person
- Candance Fitch – 155 North School Road – in person
- *Lisa Ann Wilson – 240 West Front Street – online, additional comments*

Regular Agenda – Citizen Forum on Facilities and the Future of Rhome

Each Council Member took turns providing general feedback on comments received. Some of the comments included:

- Discussion about facilities to be renovated and what other options are available.
- Wastewater and infostructure has been ignored for several years, and we have to raise the rates. We still need money to renovate or build.
- Someone mentioned a Certificate of Obligation, but with CO, taxes would go up without a vote.
- Private ownership for facilities was mentioned, so the property still generates taxes.
- Renovations for the school, many surveys took place while masterplan was developed, a lot of residents voiced wanting to keep the old school building, but when voting it has been shot down. We tried twice to follow the Citizen request, and bonds failed. City Council is wanting to hear again from the Citizens for direction on how to move forward.
- Plans and drawings are available to view at City Hall.
- The city is required to get the grant money before we can go out for competitive bids.
- Money was spent to reach requirements for state law.
- Revitalization depended on how we wanted to look.
- What other alternative money could be used other than tax payers' money, researching, community facility grant program, according to 2010 census the income exceeded 90% of the income of the State of Texas, which disqualified us from using this. The 2020 Census is still showing 90%, discussing to find out if we will qualify for this. Grants are far and few between for city facilities. Texas Community Block Grant Program, would have been the next step if the bond passed.
- Senior building is no longer safe, and we need to come up with another idea.
- Earmarking dollars for particular funds, is done within the Budget.
- Dilapidated signs are being addressed.
- W Morris at highway 287 is to be looked at by TxDOT.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 11:26 am

_____

Jo Ann Wilson,

Mayor

ATTEST:

_____

Shaina Odom
City Secretary

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758
www.cityofrhome.com cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com

AGENDA ITEM G

MEMORANDUM

TO: Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor
FROM: Paige Mims, Chair
DATE: January, 2022
RE: **Action Needed – 2022 Membership Assessment Invoice**

Enclosed please find the 2022 Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor ("Steering Committee") membership assessment invoice and draft resolution. These items are discussed below. We ask that your city please take action on the membership assessment as soon as possible.

Although the Steering Committee does not require that your city take action by resolution to approve the assessment, some members have requested a resolution authorizing payment of the 2022 membership assessment. Payment of the membership assessment fee shall be deemed to be in agreement with the terms of the Steering Committee participation agreement.

Please forward the membership assessment fee and, if applicable, the signed resolution to Brandi Stigler, Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor, c/o City Attorney's Office, Mail Stop 63-0300, 101 S. Mesquite St., Suite 300, Arlington, Texas 76010. Checks should be made payable to: *Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor*. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (972/941-7125) or Thomas Brocato (tbrocato@lglawfirm.com, (512/914-5061).

Membership Assessment Invoice and Resolution

The Steering Committee is the most active consumer group advocating the interests of cities and residential and small commercial customers within the cities to keep electric transmission and distribution (*i.e.,* wires) rates reasonable. Steering Committee activities protect the authority of municipalities over the regulated wires service and rates charged by Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC ("Oncor").

The work undertaken by the Steering Committee has saved cities and ratepayers millions of dollars in unreasonable charges. In order to continue to be an effective voice before the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission" or "PUC"), ERCOT, the Legislature, and in the courts, the Steering Committee must have your support. The membership assessment is deposited in an account which funds Steering Committee activities.

Currently, the Steering Committee is involved in numerous rulemakings and projects at the PUC. The Steering Committee expects to participate in Oncor's Rate Case and Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Factor ("EECRF") proceedings later this year.

On December 9, 2021, the Steering Committee approved the 2022 assessment for Steering Committee membership. Based upon the population-based assessment protocol previously adopted by the Steering Committee, the assessment for 2022 is a per capita fee of $0.10 based upon the population figures for each city shown in the latest TML Directory of City Officials. The enclosed invoice represents your city's assessment amount.

To assist you in the assessment process, we have attached several documents to this memorandum for your use:

- OCSC December 2021 Newsletter
- Model resolution approving the 2022 assessment (optional, provided for those cities that have requested a resolution to authorize payment)
- Model staff report supporting the resolution
- List of Steering Committee members
- 2022 Assessment invoice
- 2021 Assessment invoice and statement (only if not yet paid)
- Blank member contact form to update distribution lists

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTINUED PARTICIPATION WITH THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF CITIES SERVED BY ONCOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF TEN CENTS PER CAPITA TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE TO FUND REGULATORY AND LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AND ACTIVITIES RELATED TO ONCOR ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY, LLC.

WHEREAS, the City of _____ is a regulatory authority under the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) and has exclusive original jurisdiction over the rates and services of Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC (Oncor) within the municipal boundaries of the city; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of Cities Served By Oncor (Steering Committee) has historically intervened in Oncor rate proceedings and electric utility related rulemakings to protect the interests of municipalities and electric customers residing within municipal boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee is participating in Public Utility Commission dockets and projects, as well as court proceedings, and legislative activity, affecting transmission and distribution utility rates; and

WHEREAS, the City is a member of the Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee functions under the direction of an Executive Committee which sets an annual budget and directs interventions before state and federal agencies, courts and legislatures, subject to the right of any member to request and cause its party status to be withdrawn from such activities; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee at its December 2021 meeting set a budget for 2022 that compels an assessment of ten cents ($0.10) per capita; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Steering Committee to continue its participation in these activities which affects the provision of electric utility service and the rates to be charged, it must assess its members for such costs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____, TEXAS:

I.

That the City is authorized to continue its membership with the Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor to protect the interests of the City of _____ and protect the interests of the customers of Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC residing and conducting business within the City limits.

II.

The City is further authorized to pay its assessment to the Steering Committee of ten cents ($0.10) per capita based on the population figures for the City shown in the latest TML Directory of City Officials.

III.

A copy of this Resolution and the assessment payment check made payable to *"Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor"* shall be sent to Brandi Stigler, Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor, c/o City Attorney's Office, Mail Stop 63-0300, 101 S. Mesquite St., Suite 300, Arlington, Texas 76010.

PRESENTED AND PASSED on this the _____ day of _____, 2022, by a vote of _____ ayes and _____ nays at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of _____, Texas.

_____
Signature
JoAnn Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Signature
Shaina Odom, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Signature
Carvan Adkins, City Attorney

City of Arlington, c/o Oncor Cities
Steering Committee
Attn: Brandi Stigler
101 S. Mesquite St., Ste. 300
MS # 63-0300
Arlington, TX 76010

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/12/2022	22-113

Bill To
City of Rhome

Item	Population	Per Capita	Amount
2022 Membership Assessment	1,580	0.10	158.00

Please make check payable to: Oncor Cities Steering Committee and mail to Oncor Cities Steering Committee, Attn: Brandi Stigler, Arlington City Attorney's Office, 101 S. Mesquite St., Ste. 300, MS #63-0300, Arlington, Texas 76010

Total $158.00

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758
www.cityofrhome.com cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com

AGENDA ITEM H

RHOME
"Crossroads to the Metroplex"

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462
www.cityofrhome.com | citysecretary@cityofrhome.com

Administration by the Numbers – January 2022

Bank Statement Balances

Account Name	Balances as of January 2021	Balances as of January 2022
2019 Bond Checking	$642.79	$1,121.56
Fire Dept Checking	$109,421.53	$87,123.66
Fire Dept Savings - Quarterly Statement	$40,591.35	$51,807.85
General Fund Checking	$193,681.44	$645,387.26
General Fund Savings	$270,836.41	$270,899.11
Hotel Motel Tax	$74,654.03	$87,502.83
Interest & Sinking	$452,987.60	$395,824.20
LOGIC	$1,149,255.75	$625,494.08
MC Building Security	$32,426.79	$35,360.80
MC Technology Fund	$19,122.02	$2,459.03
Meter Deposits	$93,889.84	$109,699.65
Parks & Recreation Checking	$26,961.87	$41,629.29
Payroll ZBA Account	$0.00	$0.00
Police Grant Account	$2,835.88	$2,836.53
Police Seizure Funds	$100.448	$12,082.80
Rhome Beautification Fund	$120.00	$451.00
Rolling V	$27,578.54	$25,366.00
TEXSTAR	$1,144,688.24	CLOSED
Water & Sewer Checking	$181,250.11	$1,170,062.99
TOTAL	$3,848,732.38	$ 2,369,679.65

Per Council's previous direction to reduce costs and to streamline processes, Staff is moving towards cutting the number of bank accounts, thus reducing bank fees and staff time.

During the month of September 2021, the following account was closed:

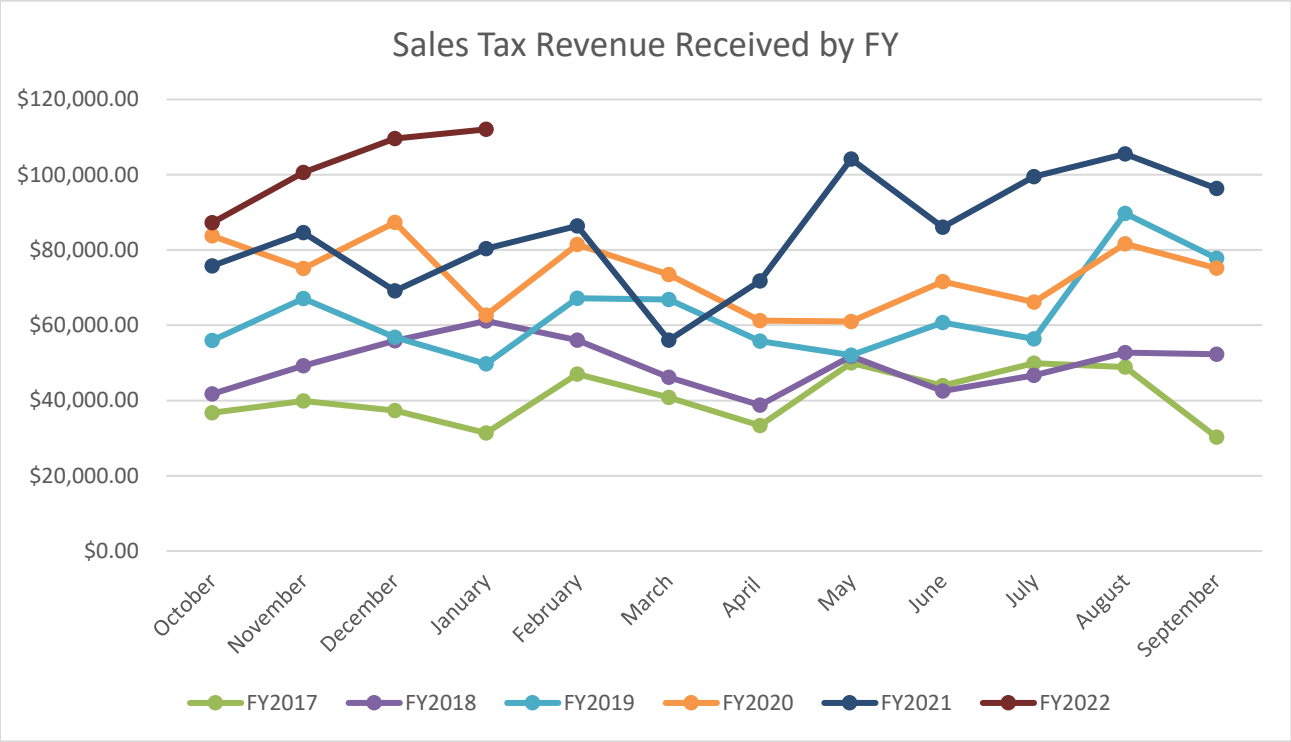
- **TexSTAR Investment** – One of the two investment accounts opened to hold proceeds from the 2019 Bond Election for the EWWTP Expansion Project. Funds have been drained from this account for payment of construction costs. LOGIC Investment Account is still active and will be used to continue paying construction costs through completion of project.

With the pending upgrade of our financial software, Staff will be able to continue to reduce the number of bank accounts over the next several months. Staff will continue to update Council as the project moves forward.

Fiscal Year Sales Tax Revenue Received

January 2022 – $100,616.96

Month Received	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022
October	$36,761.46	$41,715.19	$55,994.48	$83,748.34	$75,745.64	$87,240.35
November	$39,909.64	$49,257.27	$67,076.39	$75,077.06	$84,636.19	$100,616.96
December	$37,325.73	$55,857.75	$56,827.29	$87,313.44	$69,183.69	109,601.99
January	$31,401.41	$61,139.42	$49,719.73	$62,703.14	$80,355.58	112,070.99
February	$47,000.93	$56,030.60	$67,180.35	$81,459.72	$86,432.78	
March	$40,837.42	$46,156.35	$66,853.76	$73,488.63	$56,025.15	
April	$33,361.07	$38,766.96	$55,814.51	$61,205.25	$71,816.35	
May	$49,987.00	$51,754.08	$52,022.35	$61,014.98	$104,222.79	
June	$43,940.94	$42,538.20	$60,712.41	$71,595.88	$86,028.11	
July	$49,928.81	$46,649.99	$56,382.32	$66,189.23	$99,504.10	
August	$48,878.03	$52,698.74	$89,739.58	$81,658.50	$105,530.55	
September	$30,263.17	$52,300.18	$77,788.90	$75,181.40	$96,366.36	
Total	**$489,595.61**	**$594,864.73**	**$756,112.07**	**$880,635.57**	**$1,015,847.29**	**$409,530.29**



Ordinances Passed:

2022-01	AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1.10.071 "REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN PROCUREMENTS; PROCEDURES; EXEMPTIONS" OF ARTICLE 1.10 'FINANCES" OF CHAPTER 1 "GENERAL PROVISIONS" THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS TO ADD THE REQUIREMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH APPCLICABLE REDERAL LAW; PROVIDING A SERVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE	1/13/2022	**APPROVED**
2022-01	A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS DESIGNATING THE WISE COUNTY MESSENGER AS THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE CITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE	1/13/2022	**APPROVED**

ORR Number	Requestor	Date Rec'd	Due Date	Request Description	Time in Mins	Release Date
2022-001	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/4**	**1/19**	**Please provide a list of monthly legal fees beginning January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 incurred by the city of Rhome; please include total amount expended in legal fees for 2021**		**1/20**
2022-002	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/4**	**1/19**	**Please provide a list of monthly engineering fees beginning January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 incurred by the city of Rhome; please include total amount expended in engineering fees for 2021**		**1/20**
2022-003	**Daniel Miller**	**1/4**	**1/19**	**I am Requesting all properties with any code violations in the city of Rhome from July 1, 2021 to October 1st, 2021. If you need to reach me further or have questions feel free to email me at the address Posted.**		**1/6**

2022-004	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/5**	**1/20**	**Please provide the starting and ending dates that interim City Secretary, Leeann Gallman, was contracted by the city of Rhome.**		**1/20**
2022-005	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/5**	**1/20**	**Please provide copy of documentation related to the costs of Mrs. Gallman's tenure as interim/temporary City Secretary; please include staffing agency fees, wages, meals, mileage, overnight accommodations, per diem (if any), electronic access costs as well as any other incidental costs that were incurred by the city of Rhome.**		**1/20**
2022-006	**Chris Parrott**	**1/6**	**1/21**	**I would like to receive information from permits for residential new construction. I am interested in: address, permit number, builder/contractor name, subdivision, date permit was issued, and any value, square footage information or floor plan name or number for permits issued for residential new construction from December 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021. If you do not have a permit report readily available I would like to request a digital copy of each permit application for permits issued within the given time frame.**		**1/6**

2022-007	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/10**	**1/25**	**Under provisions of the Public Information Act: 1. Please provide a copy of Eric Debus employment application with the City of Rhome. *Presumably, confidential information is redacted; SS#, telephone #s, residential and email addresses in addition to emergency contact information.**		**1/25**
2022-008	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/10**	**1/25**	**Referring to Council minutes, Item F, April 8, 2021, under provisions of the Public Information Act: 1. Please provide a copy of the developers agreement executed by City Administrator Cynthia Northrop with Shawn Shahahi, agents or representatives, related to the Holly Parkway Planned Development project.**		**1/25**
2022-009	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/10**	**1/25**	**Under provisions of the Public Information Act: 1. Please provide a copy of the Texas Comptroller's Annual Local Debt Report for Rhome 2021.**		**1/25**
2022-010	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/11**	**1/26**	**1. Please provide a copy of the letter that was sent out on or about November 8, 2021 from City Hall to Rhome businesses.**		**1/26**
2022-011	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/11**	**1/26**	**1. Please provide a copy of each response that was received.**		**1/26**
2022-012	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/18**	**2/1**	**1. Please provide copy of all emails from Mayor JoAnn Wilson to City Admin Cynthia Northrop between November 1, 2021 and January 15, 2022.**		**1/31**
2022-013	**Patricia Mitchell**	**1/18**	**2/1**	**1. Please provide a copy of the contract between the City Admin Cynthia Northrop [or other city agent] and QT.**		**1/31**

Requests for Information:

Calendar YTD Requests for Information

Requests Received	11
Pending / Open	0
Sent for Attorney General Opinion (RFO)	0
Complete / Closed	11
Requestor Fees – *in an effort to streamline, responses less than 50 pages will be emailed to the requestor to reduce supply costs and staff time*	0
Approximate Staff Time	10 HRS
Approximate Supply Cost	0
Approximate Staff Cost	$250

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462
www.cityofrhome.com | permits@cityofrhome.com

Building and Development

January 2022		FY 2021-2022
Permits Issued:	15	70
Building Permit	3	13
Certificate of Occupancy		
Electrical Permit:	3	7
Plumbing Permit:	1	2
Lights on Inspection		
Mechanical	1	1
Moving Structure	1	16
Irrigation Permit		
Demolition		
Final Plat		
Right of Way		
Concrete		
Solicitor		
Fire Alarm		
Fire Sprinkler		
Specific Use		
Health Permit	6	18
Zoning Change		
Liquid Waste		
Backflow		
Sign		
Event		
Type:	**Address:**	**Assoc. Permits:**
Plumbing	1216 Alliance	
Mechanical	1216 Alliance	
Moving Structure	6550 E Hwy 114	
Electrical	170 Virginia	
Electrical	279 W. Morris	
Electrical	1216 Alliance	
Health	4800 Hwy 114	Alcohol Chesters, Loves=3
Health	201 N. School	Health Taco Casa
Health	105 Hwy 287 Ste A	
Health	10326 hwy 287 ste A	

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462
www.cityofrhome.com | permits@cityofrhome.com

Building	1216 Alliance	
Building	400 Randall	
Building	279 W. Morris	

Code compliance report

January 2022

Case Detail Report

1/1/2022 - 1/31/2022

Case #	Case Date	Main Status	Description	End Date	Parcel Address
131	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1116 MOUNT LANE
130	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1112 MOUNT LANE
129	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1111 MOUNT LANE
128	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1121 MOUNT LANE
127	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1315 ROE HELM CIRCLE
126	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1104 BROWN CIRCLE
125	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1312 PRAIRIE POINT
124	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1302 PRAIRIE POINT DRIVE
123	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1107 ELLIS LANE
122	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1109 ELLIS LANE
121	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1113 ELLIS LANE
120	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1112 ELLIS LANE
119	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1110 ELLIS LANE
118	1/20/2022	Active	parking	1/30/2022	1104 ELLIS LANE
117	1/20/2022	Active	Parking	1/30/2022	214 CLEAR FORK TRAIL
113	1/11/2022	Active	parking		204 CLEAR FORK TRAIL
112	1/11/2022	Active	Parking		217 CHEYENNE TRAIL

RHOME MUNICIPAL COURT

COURT ACTIVITY	OCT. 2021	NOV. 2021	DEC. 2021	JAN. 2022	FEB. 2022	MAR. 2022
Monthly Violation Activity						
Violations issued:	60	111	78	140		
Average speed over posted limit:	20.20	21.31	20.58	18.85		
Fines/Fees/Costs Assessed (for issued violations):	$18,246.00	$34,930.00	$23,555.00	$41.334.00		
Citations closed:	98	207	476	98		
Citations dismissed (best interest/compliance)	38	78	379	42		
Court Fines/Fees/Costs Revenue						
Total Court Revenue:	$22,393.07	$22,571.23	$21,918.23	$20,466.21		
Court Security Fund Revenue:	$309.06	$309.60	$318.65	$307.70		
Court Technology Fund Revenue:	$283.94	$357.00	$290.64	$356.34		

COURT ACTIVITY	OCT. 2021	NOV. 2021	DEC. 2021	JAN. 2022	FEB. 2022	MAR. 2022
Private Collections Activity						
Total # of violations paid:	25	21	30	26		
Total amount collected:	$7,638.07	$7,711.43	$9,049.23	$7,651.21		
Less 30% owed to Private Collections (commission)	$1,762.63	$1,779.56	$2,105.60	$1,762.74		
Monthly Court Expenditures						
Contract Labor (Presiding Judge)	$600.00	$900.00	$900.00	$900.00		
Legal Fees (State's Attorney/Prosecutor)	$325.84	$1,160.00	$1,087.50	(pending invoice)		
GHS – Private Collections Company (30% fee of total collected)	$1762.63	$1,779.56	$2,105.60	$1,762.74		

Rhome PD Council Report

January 2022

Prepared by:

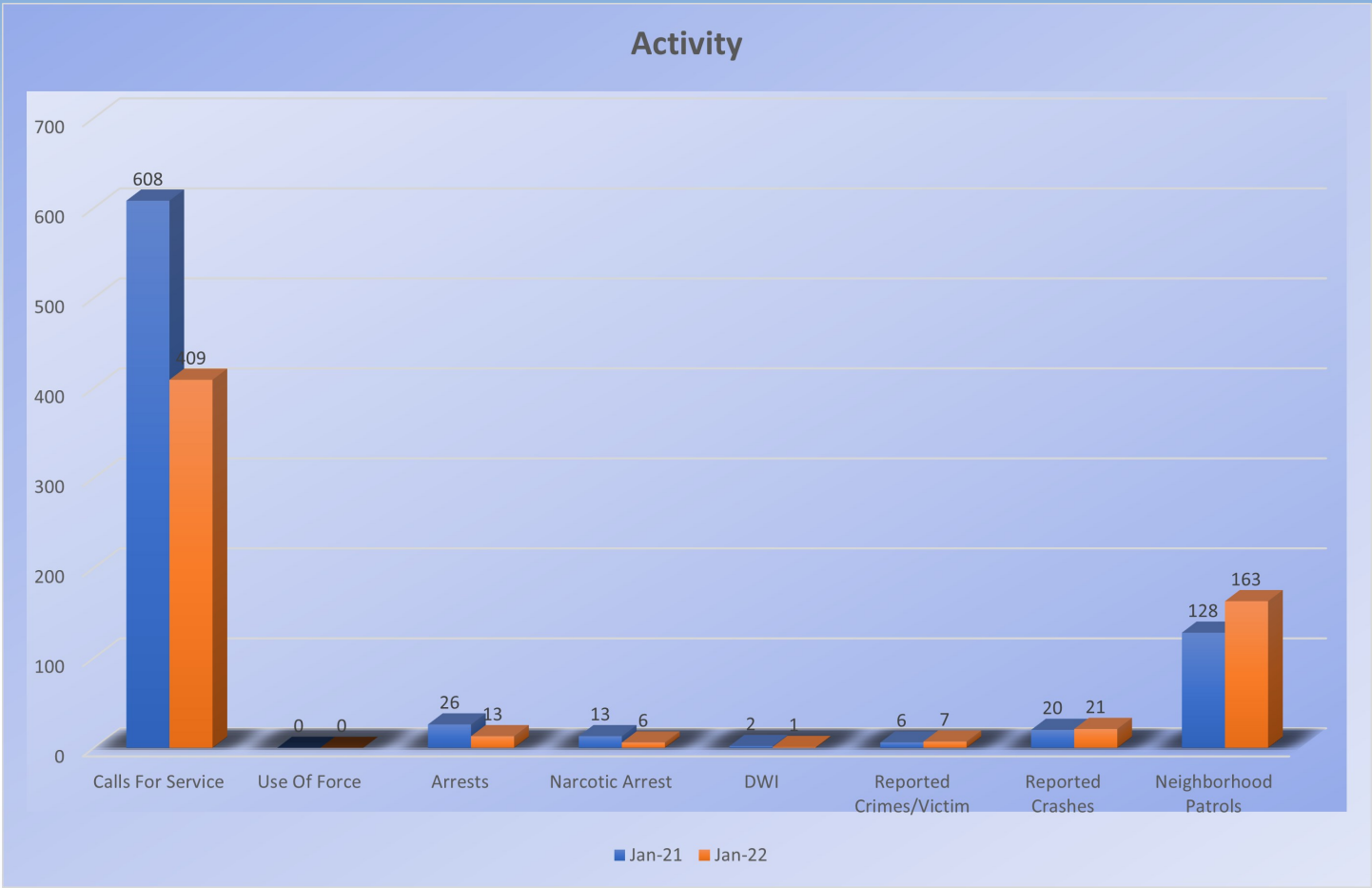
A. Soultaire #101

Rhome PD Updates

Inventory of Evidence Room Complete

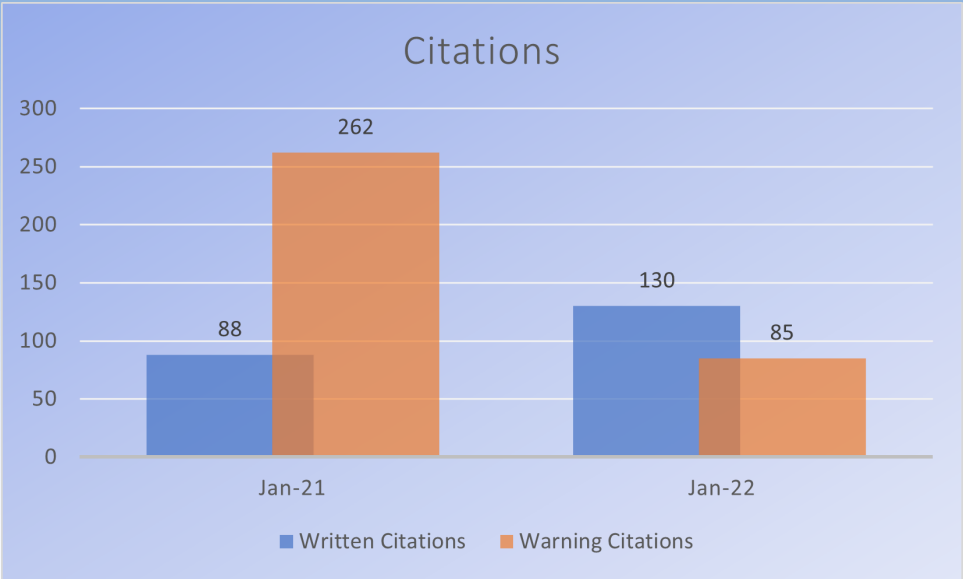
One of our major projects is one step closer to completion. Overhaul and improvement of the property and evidence room was very high on our priority list. The most difficult task being the inventory of every item in the room. Through his steadfast work Officer Smith completed a full inventory of the room. We now begin the process of organizing and disposing of unclaimed property and evidence with destruction orders.

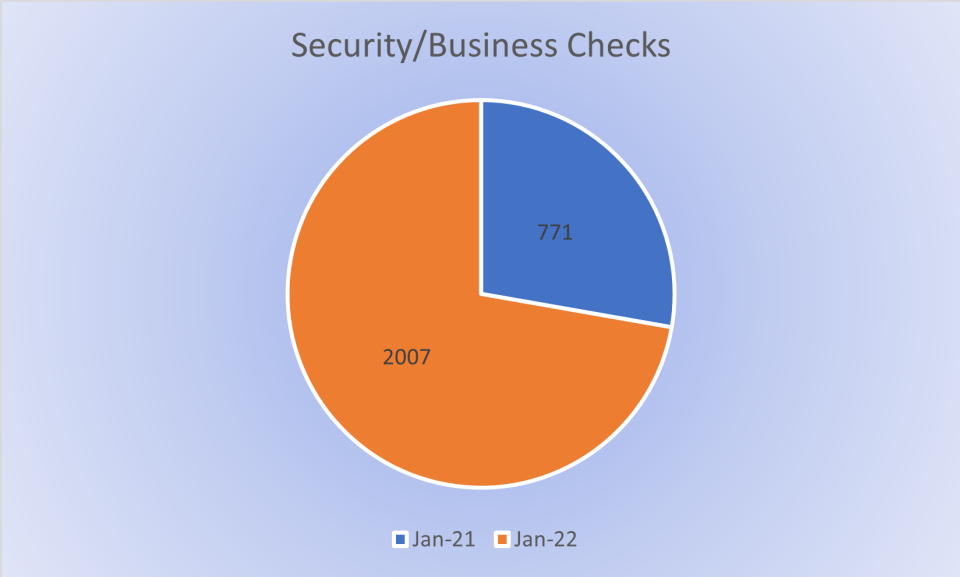
Monthly Statistics



Note: New category "Neighborhood Patrols" - Officers log instances they patrol a city neighborhood

Monthly Statistics





Training Report

Continuing education, and improvement of our law enforcement skills, is imperative when conducting high level and professional law enforcement. In the endeavor to remain current with state licensing requirements, and improvement in all areas of police work, the Rhome Police Department is committed to ongoing training. This not only enhances our customer service goals, but keeps us on the cutting edge of modern law enforcement techniques.

Soultaire	New Supervisor Training Course	20 Hours
Stanwyck	Individuals in Crisis & Group Crisis Intervention	27 Hours
	DPS Recertification as Intoxilyzer Operator	
Moore	Court Security Officer Certification	08 Hours

Narcotics Seized

Meth - 8.79 Grams

Heroin - 1.1 Grams

Future Plans / Projects

The Rhome Police Department is committed to constantly improving our law enforcement skills in an effort to provide the highest level of service to the citizens of Rhome.

- Our next auction is scheduled to go live February 14th. Once complete, we will begin the process of auctioning all the outdated equipment we still have in inventory.
- We will be ordering new radios in the near future, fulfilling our need for better and more reliable communication.
- We are continuing to identify areas of improvement within the department and are implementing new policies and procedures to those ends.

I am always available if you have any questions.

Eric Debus

Chief of Police

Rhome Police Department

501 Main St. - P.O. Box 228. Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 / Metro: 817-638-2758
Fax: 817-636-2465 - www.cityofrhome.com

To: Cynthia Northrop-City Administrator

From: Sean Densmore- Director of Public Works

Date: February 4, 2022

Re: January Monthly Report

Reporting:

1) Monthly TCEQ Reporting: GW/PWMOR
2) Monthly TCEQ Reporting: Wastewater MOR
3) Monthly Coliform Test

Equipment Issues:

Maintenance:

1) Normal preventative maintenance was performed for the water system.
2) Normal preventative maintenance was performed for the wastewater system
3) Monthly preventative collection system maintenance to wastewater collection line

Water:

1) Well site maintenance- Winterizing all well sites
2) Locate FH and valves

Wastewater

East Plant: Total flow 889,135, Daily Average 44,447, Cl2 Daily average 1.98 Mg/l, Temperature 22.0 F to 65.0 F, 0 rain.

West Plant: Total flow 871,331, Daily Average 43,567, Cl2 Daily average 2.15 Mg/l, Temperature 26.0 F, 65.0 F, 0 Rain.

1. WWTP site maintenance -

2. Jetted sewer lines for maintenance
3. Winterized WW treatment plant
4. Identifying I/I locations

Streets/Parks:

1) Normal preventative maintenance –trash pickup, mow, applied ant killer
2) Veterans Park- Applied weather protective coating on Flag box
3) Pot hole patching
4) Installed No Engine Breaking Signs.
5) Picking up tree limbs
6) Replaced 2 toilets in park bathroom
7) Winterize park bathrooms

Building Maintenance:

1) Roofing contractor is scheduled to return in January to start on the PW building roof
2) Contractor replaced outside lights on the FD

Construction:

1) East WWTP Equalization Basin project- Project is substantially complete
2) Start up and test run equipment
3) Preformed walk through
4) Finial start up and test all equipment
5) Training on the sludge press
6) Contractor completing punch list

Administration:

1) Daily water production reporting
2) Daily chlorine reporting
3) Daily wastewater production reporting
4) Daily wastewater chlorine reporting
5) Daily employee production reporting

If you would like to discuss any items noted above, please do not hesitate to contact me;

Sean Densmore

Public Works Director

RHOME FIRE RESCUE

Duty • Honor • Compassion • Service

261 N. School Road - P.O. Box 228 - Rhome, Texas 76078
817-636-2001 station17@rhomefirerescue.com

January 2022 – Council Fire Report

Calls for Service Monthly:

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
2022	80												
2021	81	78	68	67	69	58	71	59	77	72	61	78	841

Calls for Service by type:

	EMS	MVA	Structure Fires	Grass Fires	Vehicle Fires	Fire Invest.	Fire Alarms	Gas Leak	Road Hazard	Lift Assist	Other
January 2022	35	15	10	11	1	3	0	0	1	2	2
Year-To-Date	35	15	10	11	1	3	0	0	1	2	2

Call Locations

	City	County	Auto/Mutual Aid Given	Auto/Mutual Aid Received	Cancelled	Weather Watch
January 2022	30	50	18	8	4	0
Year-To-Date	30	50	18	8	4	0

Numbers above are approximate since the official numbers have not been finalized

Membership

Current Members – 17		
#	**Area**	**+/-**
7	City	-
3	In District	-
5	Out of District	-
4	Probationary	
EMS Certification - 12		
3	EMT Basic	-
6	Paramedics	-

2 new members going through 1-year probationary period. These 2 new members have finished: Courage to be safe, NIMS (100, 200, 700, 800), Traffic Incident Safety and CPR Certification. Currently finishing up Firefighter I.

Command Staff

- Completing:
    - Annual Report for 2021.
    - Annual Training Plan 2022.
    - Member Professional Development Plan for 2022.
- Interviews and Background checks for potential new members currently being conducted.
- Winter Weather preparations
    - Review of past Winter Events.
    - Monday Night Members meeting discussed and reviewed Winter Weather procedures.
    - Winter Weather precautions discussed and implemented on Apparatus and Fire Facilities.
    - Fire Personnel will be on shift during the anticipated weather time frame.
- Early stages of 22-23 FY budget review and proposals.

- Continue to update, Covid-19 Standard Operating Guidelines. Included in guidelines are:
    - Response to Medical calls when Covid-19 is suspected.
    - Precautions and questions on Medical calls when pre-screening questions to Covid-19 are negative.
    - Equipment and Apparatus Decontamination on all Emergency responses.
    - Handling Social Distancing with Department Personnel.
- Guidelines established in conjunction with
    - CDC Guidelines
    - Medical Director
    - Wise County EMS

Events

- No events scheduled for January

Apparatus

- S17 – Replaced brakes and rotors – in house.
- B217 – Replaced belts – in house.
- E317 – Serpentine Belt broke when AC compressor locked up. Repairs done by Siddons-Martin. Belt fixed, AC compressor to be replaced in February/March.
- Set up Annual Pump testing schedule for Apparatus for February and March.

261 N. School Road - P.O. Box 228 - Rhome, Texas 76078
817-636-2001 station17@rhomefirerescue.com

Equipment

- Added battery powered portable telescoping light to E217.

Station

- Received Quotes on ceiling tile and insulation replacement in bunkroom/sleeping quarters.
- Working with City Hall on budgeted computers both new and replacements.

Training

- Fire Training
  - Wildland Urban Interface
  - Winter Weather Operations
  - Rapid Intervention Training
- Online Training

Professional Development

- FF1 classes and skills completed – Sam Bryan, Dusty Hilliard

Prevention/Community Risk Reduction

Community Risk Reduction

- Community Event (Not FD Event(s)) – 5 manhours
- FD Sponsored Community Event(s) – 0 manhours
- Fire Safety Education Event(s) – .5 manhours
- Monthly Testing
  - AED's at City Facilities
  - Storm Sirens

Prevention

- Administrative – 6 manhours
- Fire Inspections – 0 manhour/0 Inspections
- Fire Pre-Plan Business – 1

Future Projects

- Inside personal lockers for members.
- Wildland Brush Truck.
- Motion stop sensors for garage doors to improve safe vehicle operations in and out along with the main benefit of safety of members and visitors entering and exiting the building.

My door is as always open if you have any questions,

Darrell Fitch
Fire Chief
Rhome Fire Rescue

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758
www.cityofrhome.com cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com

AGENDA ITEM I

501 South Main | PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462
www.cityofrhome.com | citysecretary@cityofrhome.com

MINUTES OF RHOME REGULAR PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING

Meeting Date: Monday, December 6, 2021

Regular Session Meeting Time: 6:00pm

Meeting Location: Rhome Community Center, 261 North School Road, Rhome, TX 76078

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum

Chair Knight called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and called roll to establish a quorum of Commissioners present.

Commissioners Present:

Chair Steve Knight	Commissioner Christy Nerren
Vice Chair Thomas Cannon	Commissioner Kristy King

City Staff Present:

City Administrator Cynthia Northrop	Interim City Secretary LeAnn Gallman

Public Presentations and Input

The Commission is not permitted to take action on or discuss any presentations made to the Commission at this time concerning an item not listed on the agenda. The Commission will hear comments on specific agenda items during this designated time.

No Public Presentations were made.

Regular Agenda – Old Business

A. Discussion and any necessary action regarding the Minutes of November 1, 2021 Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Session

Motion made by Chair Knight, seconded by Commissioner Cannon, to approve the Minutes of the November 1, 2021 Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting as presented.

Chair Knight asked for a roll-call vote:

Chair Knight:	Aye
Vice Chair Cannon:	Aye
Commissioner Nerren:	Aye
Commissioner King	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

B. Rhome Planning & Zoning Commission to conduct a Public Hearing to consider a request for a Carport Legal property being acres: .423, Lot: 9, Blk: C, Subd: CHISHOLM CREEK PH2, Abst: A-554 J MOFFATT, also known as 217 Cheyenne Trail N, Rhome, Texas 76078.

Chair Knight opened the Public Hearing at 6:07 pm.

Responses re: 217 Cheyenne Trail N.:

- Mr. and Mrs. Mike Goodgion – IN FAVOR (217 Cheyenne Trail N)
- Elaine Priest – OPPOSED (216 Cheyenne Trail N)

C. Rhome Planning & Zoning commission to conduct a Public Hearing to consider a request for a Carport Legal property being acres: 0.154, Lot: 48, Blk: 4, Subd: Crown Point PH1, Abst: A-280 EJ TADLOCK, also known as 116 Troxell Blvd, Rhome, Texas 76078.

Responses re: 116 Troxell Blvd:

- Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Dingler – IN FAVOR (116 Troxell Blvd)
- Chris Williams – IN FAVOR (101 St. James Ct.)
- Marvin Schuh/Echo Associates – OPPOSED (113 Troxell Blvd)

Chair Knight closed the Public Hearing at 6:16 pm.

Regular Agenda – New Business

D. Discussion and any necessary action considering a recommendation to Council regarding a request for a Carport Legal property being acres: Acres: .423, Lot: 9, Blk: C, Subd: CHISHOLM CREEK PH2, Abst: A-554 J MOFFATT, also known as 217 Cheyenne Trail N, Rhome, Texas 76078

City Administrator provided background information on the Ordinances that pertain to Carports and that the initial request did not meet the ordinance requirements on the side. Chair Knight asked the property owners if they would be willing to meet both the side and rear set back requirements and they replied in the affirmative. After discussion amongst the Commissioners, Kristi King made a motion to deny the Carport request and Chair Knight seconded the motion. Chair Knight asked for a roll-call vote:

Chair Knight:	Aye
Vice Chair Cannon:	Aye
Commissioner Nerren:	Aye
Commissioner King:	Aye

The vote was unanimous to deny the Carport Request.

E. Discussion and any necessary action considering a recommendation to Council regarding a request for a Carport Legal property being acres: Acres 0.154, Lot: 48, Blk: 4, Subd: Crown Point PH1, Abst: A-280 EJ TADLOCK, also known as 116 Troxell Blvd, Rhome, Texas 76078

City Administrator provided background information on the request that it met the side property setback but not the front ROW. Chair Knight asked the property owners if they would be willing to meet both the side and the front setback required by Ordinance and he replied in the affirmative after confirming it would be 5 ft from the sidewalk. After brief discussion, Vice Chair Cannon made a motion to recommend approval of the Carport request to the Council and Commissioner Nerren with confirmation that the property owner would stay 5 ft back from the sidewalk. Chair Knight asked for a roll-call vote:

Chair Knight:	Aye
Vice Chair Cannon:	Aye
Commissioner Nerren:	Aye
Commissioner King:	Aye

The motion passed unanimously to recommend approval of the Carport Request to the Council.

Future Agenda Items

There were no future agenda items requested.

Chair Knight adjourned the meeting at 6:44 pm.

Steve Knight, Chair	Shaina Odom City Secretary

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758
www.cityofrhome.com cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com

AGENDA ITEM J

Agenda Commentary

Meeting Date: 2.10.2022

Department: Administration **Contact: Cynthia Northrop**

Agenda Item: J. Discussion and any necessary action regarding wastewater rates and W/WW Revenue Bond

Type of Item: ___ **Ordinance** ___ **Resolution** ___ **Contract/Agreement** ___ **Public Hearing**
___ **Plat** x **Discussion & Direction** ___ **Other**

Summary-Background:

At the December 2021 Council meeting, Council directed staff to look at possible options for restructuring the impact of the wastewater increase. Staff and consultants have reviewed and analyzed and while there may be a potential to lower the current rate, we would still be required to increase the rate next year at a higher level to make up the difference. Additionally, the estimates for these W/WW projects for which Council authorized a revenue bond are now almost a year old. With the pandemic-related supply chain issues, market indicators predict substantially higher prices over last year, which could have a significant impact on this project. Kimley-Horn is re-evaluating and updating the estimate cost for the project.

Funding Expected: ___ **Revenue** ___ **Expenditure** ___ **N/A**
Budgeted Item: ___ **Yes** ___ **No** ___ **N/A**
GL Account: _____ **Amount:** _____
Legal Review Required: ___ **Yes** ___ **No** **Date Completed:** _____
Engineering Review: ___ **FD Review:** ___ **PD Review:** ___ **PW Review:** ___

Supporting Documents Attached: Yes

Recommendation:

Staff/consultant recommend leaving the previously authorized wastewater increase as is.

CITY OF RHOME
ORDINANCE 2021-10

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE EXISTING WASTEWATER RATES FOR THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Rhome, Texas, is authorized and empowered pursuant to the laws of the State of Texas to establish rates, charges and fees for the provision of water and waste water services, and

WHEREAS, the City of Rhome has determined that it is necessary to pass those increased costs to the City's water customers in order to maintain the financial integrity of both the City's Water Utility Fund and the General Fund.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS:

1. That the existing WasteWater Rates of the City of Rhome, Texas charged and collected by the city from all customers obtaining service from its waterworks system is hereby amended as set forth below:

WASTEWATER RATES

	Residential WasteWater Rates Inside City Limits		Commercial WasteWater Rates Inside City Limits	
Minimum Charge	**Current Rate**	**New Rate**	**Current Rate**	**New Rate**
¾" or Less	$ 11.00	$ 28.79	$ 30.00	$ 78.51
1"	11.00	28.79	75.00	196.28
1 ½"	11.00	28.79	100.00	261.70
2" or Greater	11.00	28.79	150.00	392.55
Volumetric Rate (per 1,000 Gallons)				
0 - 2,000 Gallons	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 7.00	$ 18.32
2,001 – 10,000 Gallons	2.63	6.88	7.00	18.32
10,001+ Gallons	3.06	8.00	7.00	18.32
Maximum Charge	$ 50.00	$ 130.78	N/A	N/A

2. That all other provisions of the existing ordinance shall prevail and be in full force and effect.

3. This ordinance shall be effective September 1, 2021.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Rhome, Texas, this the 27th day of May 2021.

Jo Ann Wilson,
Mayor

[SEAL]

ATTEST:

Shannon Montgomery, TRMC
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Carvan E. Adkins,
City Attorney

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758
www.cityofrhome.com cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com

AGENDA ITEM K

Agenda Commentary

Meeting Date: 2.10.2022

Department: Administration **Contact: Cynthia Northrop**

Agenda Item: K. Discussion and any necessary action regarding a Code of Conduct Ordinance

Type of Item: ___ **Ordinance** ___ **Resolution** ___ **Contract/Agreement** ___ **Public Hearing**
___ **Plat** x **Discussion & Direction** ___ **Other**

Summary-Background:

At the January 13, 2022 Council meeting, Council considered a draft Code of Conduct Ordinance. Staff had worked with legal to address Council and citizen feedback and has eliminated redundant items already covered in the existing Code of Ethics Ordinance. The purpose of the Code of Conduct, which the majority of cities incorporate, both General Law and Home Rule Cities, is to clearly elucidate the expected behavior and rules of decorum for Mayor, City Council Members, and City Boards and Commissions, both in and out of meetings.

Funding Expected: ___ **Revenue** ___ **Expenditure** ___ **N/A**
Budgeted Item: ___ **Yes** ___ **No** ___ **N/A**
GL Account: _____ **Amount:** _____
Legal Review Required: ___ **Yes** ___ **No** **Date Completed:** _____
Engineering Review: ___ **FD Review:** ___ **PD Review:** ___ **PW Review:** ___

Supporting Documents Attached: Yes

Recommendation:

Provide direction on incorporating the Code of Conduct into the City of Rhome's Ordinances.

ORDIANCE NO._____

AN ORDIANCE OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 1 "GENERAL PROVISIONS," ARTICLE 1.03 "MAYOR AND COUNCIL" TO ADD PROVISIONS NECESSARY FOR THE EFFICIENT CONDUCT OF CITY BUSINESS; INCLUDING A SEVERABILITY PROVISION; REPEALING CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Rhome, Texas is a Type A general-law municipality located in Wise County, created in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6 of the Local Government Code and operating pursuant to the enabling legislation of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to adopt a Code of Conduct for the Mayor, City Council Members, Board and Commission Members to preserve order and decorum in their respective roles as well as during City Council meetings.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS THAT:

SECTION 1.

The City of Rhome Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1, Section 1.03, is hereby amended to add two new Sections, 1.03.008 and 1.03.009.

ARTICLE 1.03 MAYOR AND COUNCIL

…

Section 1.03.008 Conduct During City Meetings

(a) During City Council meetings, Mayor and City Council members shall preserve order and decorum, shall not interrupt or delay proceedings, and shall respect the presiding officer. Mayor and City Council members shall demonstrate respect and courtesy to each other, City staff members, and citizens appearing before the Council. Mayor and City Council members shall refrain from rude and derogatory remarks.

(b) Mayor, Council Members, Board and Commission members shall continue to be dedicated to friendly and courteous relationships with staff, other city officials and the public, and shall seek to improve the quality and image of public service and the city

Section 1.03.009 Prohibited Conduct by Officers of the City

No Mayor, Council Member, Board or Commission Member:

A. My hold themselves out as representing the city in any capacity other than that for which they were elected or appointed.

B. May transact any city business in his/her official capacity that has not been authorized by the Council.

C. May use their official position to secure confidential information for any purpose other than official responsibilities.

D. May interfere with the City Administrator's administrative duties of appointment to and removal of persons from employment with the city. Except for the purpose of inquiry, the Mayor and Council Members shall deal with the city departments and city employees for which the city administrator is responsible solely through the city administrator, and neither shall give orders to any of the subordinates of the city administrator, either publicly or privately.

SECTION 2.
SEVERABILITY OF ORDINANCE

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance hereby adopted are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not effect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, or sections, since the same would have been enacted by the City Council without the incorporation of any unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section.

SECTION 3.
CONFLICTING PROVISIONS

That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

SECTION 4.
EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage and adoption by the City Council.

RESOLVED AND ENTERED this the _____ day of _____, 2022.

CITY OF RHOME

_____
MAYOR

ATTEST:

_____
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
City Attorney

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758
www.cityofrhome.com cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com

AGENDA ITEM L

Agenda Commentary

Meeting Date: 2.10.2022

Department: Administration **Contact: Cynthia Northrop**

Agenda Item: L. Discussion and any necessary action regarding updating and adoption of the 2018 IBC, 2017 NEC and 2018 COG Amendments to the City of Rhome's Building Codes

Type of Item:	___	**Ordinance**	___	**Resolution**	___	**Contract/Agreement**	___ **Public Hearing**
	___	**Plat**	x	**Discussion & Direction**			___ **Other**

Summary-Background:

The City of Rhome building codes currently comply with the 2015 IBC, 2014 NEC and the 2015 COG Amendments, Option B. We need to update to be in compliance with 2018 IBC, 2017 NEC and 2018 COG Amendments, Option B. This action will help ensure our building codes stay up-to-date and promote quality building and safety in our building practices, especially as we continue to grow over the next few years. This action will bring us in compliance with 2018 International Building Standards and at the same time provides a logical and progressive approach to our building practices.

Staff has worked with our third party building inspector and legal has reviewed as well.

Funding Expected:	___	**Revenue**	___	**Expenditure**	___	**N/A**	
Budgeted Item:	___	**Yes**	___	**No**	___	**N/A**	
GL Account:	_____		**Amount:**	_____			
Legal Review Required:	___	**Yes**	___	**No**		**Date Completed:**	_____
Engineering Review:	___	**FD Review:**	___	**PD Review:**	___	**PW Review:**	___

Supporting Documents Attached: Yes

Recommendation:

Staff recommends a motion to update the City of Rhome's Ordinances by adopting the 2018 IBC, 2017 NEC and 2018 COG Amendments (Option B).

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS AMENDING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 3, "BUILDING REGULATIONS", TO ADOPT THE 2018 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE, THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE, THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE, AND THE 2017 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE; AMENDING THE VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 5.01, "GENERAL PROVISIONS," CHAPTER 5, "FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION", TO ADOPT THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE; PROVIDING FOR RECORDING OF THE CODES AS PUBLIC RECORDS; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Rhome, Texas is a Type A general-law municipality located in Wise County, created in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6 of the Local Government Code and operating pursuant to the enabling legislation of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has previously adopted the 2015 editions of the International Building Code, the International Residential Code, the International Plumbing Code, the International Mechanical Code, the International Energy Conservation Code, the International Property Maintenance Code, the International Fire Code, and the 2014 edition of the National Electrical Code; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to update to and adopt the 2018 Editions of the International Residential Code, the International Existing Building Code, the International Plumbing Code, the International Mechanical Code, the International Energy Conservation Code, the International Property Maintenance Code, and the 2017 Edition of the National Electric Code; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Rhome, Texas, desires to provide a mechanism by which local modifications reflecting the unique needs of the City of Rhome may be made when deemed appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Rhome, Texas, has determined that the adoption of these Codes as amended herein is in the public interest and therefore deems it advisable to enact this ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS:

SECTION 1.

The Code of Ordinances, City of Rhome, is hereby revised by amending only the specified divisions and sections of Article 3.03 "Technical and Construction Codes and Standards" of Chapter 3 "Building Regulations" to read as follows:

Division 1. Generally

Sec. 3.03.001. Exhibits A through H maintained as public record. of content.

The material contained in Section 1 through Section 3 of the Ordinance from which this section is derived, although fully adopted and incorporated by reference, shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances. The material contained in Section 1 through Section 3 shall instead be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and the building inspector. These exhibits will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours. The purpose of maintaining these records separate and apart from the municipal codification is to avoid the inclusion of detailed technical construction materials, subject to frequent change, which would unreasonably lengthen the code.

Sec. 3.03.002. Additional local modifications to the codes.

The city may from time to time determine that additional local modifications to the codes adopted herein are necessary and appropriate to meet the unique building needs of the city. To effectuate modifications, the city council may enact individual ordinances amending this Chapter fully setting forth the change to be made in the specific code. Such subsequent amendments shall be consolidated as an exhibit to this article, and shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary.

Sec. 3.03.003. City council may set or revise fees.

The city council may set or revise fees as established on the city fee schedule in section 3.04.113 for all persons, firms or organizations applying for licenses, inspections, permits or the city services, activities or uses pursuant to the municipal codes adopted herein. It shall be a violation of this article to conduct any activity or commence any use for which payment of a fee is required until such fee has been paid.

Sec. 3.03.004. Penalty.

Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty and is subject to the penalties as set forth in this Chapter.

Secs. 3.03.005—3.03.050. Reserved.

Division 2. Building Code

Sec. 3.03.051. International Building Code Adopted.

The 2018 Edition of the International Building Code is hereby adopted as the official building code of the city. This residential code is fully incorporated by reference as though copied into this article in its entirety. The material contained in the International Building Code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

Sec. 3.03.052. Amendments.

The 2018 Edition of the International Building Code, as adopted herein, is hereby amended by adoption of those local amendments show on Exhibit A attached to Ordinance _____, and where options are indicated in such local amendments, option B is hereby selected in each instance.

Division 3. Residential Code

Sec. 3.03.101. International Residential Code Adopted.

The 2018 Edition of the International Residential Code is hereby adopted as the official residential construction code of the city, and is fully incorporated by reference as though copied into this division in its entirety. The material contained in such code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

Sec. 3.03.102. Amendments.

The 2018 Edition of the International Residential Code, as adopted herein, is hereby amended by adoption of those local amendments show on Exhibit B attached to Ordinance _____.

Division 4. Existing Building Code

Sec. 3.03.151. International Existing Building Code adopted.

The 2018 Edition of the International Existing Building Code is hereby adopted as the official existing building code of the city, and is fully incorporated by reference as though copied into this division in its entirety. The material contained in such code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

Sec. 3.03.152. Amendments.

The 2018 Edition of the International Existing Building Code, as adopted herein, is hereby amended by adoption of those local amendments show on Exhibit C attached to Ordinance _____.

Division 5. Plumbing Code

Sec. 3.03.201. International Plumbing Code Adopted.

The 2018 Edition of the International Plumbing Code is hereby adopted as the official plumbing code of the city, and is fully incorporated by reference as though copied into this division in its entirety. The material contained in such code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

Sec. 3.03.202. Amendments.

The 2018 Edition of the International Plumbing Code, as adopted herein, is hereby amended by adoption of those local amendments show on Exhibit D attached to Ordinance _____.

Division 6. Mechanical Code

Sec. 3.03.151. International Mechanical Code adopted.

The 2018 Edition of the International Mechanical Code is hereby adopted as the official mechanical code of the city, and is fully incorporated by reference as though copied into this division in its entirety. The material contained in such code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

Sec. 3.03.152. Amendments.

The 2018 Edition of the International Mechanical Code, as adopted herein, is hereby amended by adoption of those local amendments show on Exhibit E attached to Ordinance _____.

Division 7. Energy Code

Sec. 3.03.301. International Energy Conservation Code adopted.

The 2018 Edition of the International Energy Conservation Code is hereby adopted as the official energy Conservation code of the city, and is fully incorporated by reference as though

copied into this division in its entirety. The material contained in such code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

Sec. 3.03.302. Amendments.

The 2018 Edition of the International Energy Conservation Code, as adopted herein, is hereby amended by adoption of those local amendments show on Exhibit F attached to Ordinance _____.

Division 9. Property Maintenance Code

Sec. 3.03.401. International Property Maintenance Code adopted.

The 2018 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code is hereby adopted as the official property maintenance code of the city, and is fully incorporated by reference as though copied into this division in its entirety. The material contained in such code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

Sec. 3.03.402. Reserved.

SECTION 2.

The Code of Ordinances, City of Rhome, is hereby revised by amending only the specified divisions and sections of Article 3.04 "Electricity" of Chapter 3 "Building Regulations" to read as follows:

Division 2. Electrical Code

Sec. 3.04.041. National Electrical Code adopted.

The 2017 Edition of the National Electrical Code is hereby adopted as the official electrical code of the city, and is fully incorporated by reference as though copied into this division in its entirety. The material contained in such code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

Sec. 3.04.042. Amendments.

The 2017 Edition of the National Electrical Code, as adopted herein, is hereby amended by adoption of those local amendments show on Exhibit G attached to Ordinance _____.

SECTION 3.

The Code of Ordinances, City of Rhome, is hereby revised by amending only the specified divisions and sections of Article 5.04 "Fire Code" of Chapter 5 "Fire Prevention and Protection" to read as follows:

Sec. 5.04.001. International Fire Code adopted.

The 2018 Edition of the International Fire Code is hereby adopted as the official fire code of the city, and is fully incorporated by reference as though copied into this division in its entirety. The material contained in such code shall not be included in the formal municipal codification of ordinances but shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary and will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

Sec. 5.04.002. Amendments.

The 2018 Edition of the International Fire Code, as adopted herein, is hereby amended by adoption of those local amendments show on Exhibit H attached to Ordinance _____, and where options are indicated in such local amendments, option B is hereby selected in each instance.

SECTION 4.

Any section, division, Article, or Chapter of the Code of Ordinances, City of Rhome, which is not expressly modified by this Ordinance shall remain in effect and unchanged after this Ordinance is effective.

SECTION 5.

The City of Rhome may from time to time determine that additional local modifications to the code adopted herein are necessary and appropriate to meet the unique needs of the City of Rhome. To effectuate modifications, the city council may enact individual ordinances amending this ordinance fully setting forth the changes to be made. Such subsequent amendments shall be consolidated as an exhibit to this ordinance, and shall be maintained as a public record in the office of the city secretary, available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours.

SECTION 6.

This Ordinance shall be cumulative of all provisions of ordinances of the City of Rhome, except where the provisions of this ordinance are in direct conflict with the provisions of such ordinances, in which event the conflicting provisions of such ordinances are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7.

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining, phrase, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of this Ordinance since the same would have been enacted by the City Council without incorporation in this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

SECTION 8.

Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined no more than Two Thousand Dollars ($2,000.00) for all violations involving zoning, fire safety or public health and sanitation, including dumping or refuse, and shall be fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) for all other violations of this Ordinance. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 9.

All rights and remedies of the City of Rhome, Texas, are expressly saved as to any and all violations of the provisions of any ordinances of the City of Rhome which have accrued at the time of the effective date of this Ordinance; and, as to such accrued violations and all pending litigation, both civil and criminal, whether pending in court or not, under such ordinances same shall not be affected by this Ordinance but may be prosecuted until final disposition by the courts.

SECTION 10.

The City Secretary of the City of Rhome is hereby authorized to publish this ordinance in book or pamphlet form for general distribution among the public, and the operative provisions of this ordinance as so published shall be admissible in evidence in all courts without further proof than the production thereof.

SECTION 11.

The City Secretary of the City of Rhome is directed to publish the caption and penalty clause of this Ordinance in the official newspaper of the City of Rhome, Texas, as required by Section 52.011 of the Texas Local Government Code.

SECTION 12.

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect form and after its passage and publication as provided by law, and it is so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED _____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

_____
MAYOR

ATTEST:

_____
CITY SECRETARY

EFFECTIVE DATE: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

_____
CARVAN ADKINS, CITY ATTORNEY

North Central Texas
Council of Governments

Recommended Amendments to the 2018 International Building Code

North Central Texas Council of Governments Region

The following sections, paragraphs, and sentences of the *2018 International Building Code* are hereby amended as follows: Standard type is text from the IBC. Underlined type is text inserted. ~~Lined through type is deleted text from IBC.~~ A double asterisk (**) at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the 2015 edition of the code and a triple asterisk (***) identifies a new or revised amendment with the 2018 code.

Explanation of Options A and B:
Please note that as there is a wide range in fire fighting philosophies / capabilities of cities across the region, OPTION "A" and OPTION "B" are provided in the Fire and Building Code amendments. Jurisdictions should choose one or the other based on their fire fighting philosophies / capabilities when adopting code amendments.

***Section 101.4; change to read as follows:**

101.4 Referenced codes. The other codes listed in Sections 101.4.1 through 101.4.8 and referenced elsewhere in this code, when specifically adopted, shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Whenever amendments have been adopted to the referenced codes and standards, each reference to said code and standard shall be considered to reference the amendments as well. Any reference to NFPA 70 or the Electrical Code shall mean the Electrical Code as adopted.

(Reason: Legal wording to recognize locally adopted codes and amendments adopted with referenced codes. The former ICC Electrical Code is now Appendix K of this code but no longer called by that name.)

***Section 101.4.8; add the following:**

101.4.8 Electrical. The provisions of the Electrical Code shall apply to the installation of electrical systems, including alterations, repairs, replacement, equipment, appliances, fixtures, fittings and appurtenances thereto.

(Reason: This was dropped when ICC quit publishing the ICC Electrical Code, but the Electrical Code still should be referenced regardless of how it is adopted.)

*** Section 103 and 103.1; amend to insert the Department Name**

~~DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SAFETY~~ BUILDING INSPECTIONS AND PERMITTING DEPARTMENT

103.1 Creation of enforcement agency. The ~~Department of Building Safety~~ Building Inspections and Permitting Department is hereby created and the official in charge thereof shall be known as the *building official*.

(Reason: Reminder to be sure ordinance reads the same as designated by the city.)

****Section [A] 104.2.1 Determination of substantially improved or substantially damaged existing buildings and structures in flood hazard areas.** *(Jurisdictions may consider the option **to amend or delete** depending on local enforcement and flood hazard ordinances.)*

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

***Section 104.10.1; Flood hazard areas.** *(Jurisdictions may consider the option **to amend or delete** depending on local enforcement and flood hazard ordinances.)*

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

***Section 105.2 Work exempt from permit; under sub-title entitled "Building" delete items 1, 2, 10 and 11 and re-number as follows:**

Building:

~~1. One-story detached accessory structures used as tool and storage sheds, playhouses and similar uses, provided the floor area does not exceed 120 square feet (11 m_2).~~

~~2. Fences not over 7 feet (1829 mm) high.~~

~~3.~~ 1. (Remainder Unchanged)

~~4.~~ 2. (Remainder Unchanged)

~~5.~~ 3. (Remainder Unchanged)

~~6.~~ 4. (Remainder Unchanged)

~~7.~~ 5. (Remainder Unchanged)

~~8.~~ 6. (Remainder Unchanged)

~~9.~~ 7. (Remainder Unchanged)

~~10. Shade cloth structures constructed for nursery or agricultural purposes, not including service systems.~~

~~11.~~ 8. (Remainder Unchanged)

~~12.~~ 9. (Remainder Unchanged)
~~13.~~ 10. (Remainder Unchanged)

(Reason: Item~~s~~ deleted are for one- and two-family dwellings regulated by the International Residential Code. Accessory structures, fences and shade cloth structures would require a permit for commercial properties to ensure compliance with local ordinance, egress, accessibility, flame spread of fabric, wind/snow design load, etc.)

***Section 109; add Section 109.7 to read as follows:**

109.7 Re-inspection Fee. A fee as established by city council resolution may be charged when:

1. The inspection called for is not ready when the inspector arrives;

2. No building address or permit card is clearly posted;

3. City approved plans are not on the job site available to the inspector;

4. The building is locked or work otherwise not available for inspection when called;

5. The job site is red-tagged twice for the same item;

6. The original red tag has been removed from the job site.

7. Failure to maintain erosion control, trash control or tree protection.

Any re-inspection fees assessed shall be paid before any more inspections are made on that job site.

(Reason: This fee is not a fine or penalty but is designed to compensate for time and trips when inspections are called for when not ready.)

***Section 109; add Section 109.8, 109.8.1, 109.8.2 and 109.9 to read as follows:**

109.8 Work without a permit.

109.8.1 Investigation. Whenever work for which a permit is required by this code has been commenced without first obtaining a permit, a special investigation shall be made before a permit may be issued for such work.

109.8.2 Fee. An investigation fee, in addition to the permit fee, shall be collected whether or not a permit is subsequently issued. The investigation fee shall be equal to the amount of the permit fee required by this code or the city fee schedule as applicable. The payment of such investigation fee shall not exempt the applicant from compliance with all other provisions of either this code or the technical codes nor from penalty prescribed by law.

109.9 Unauthorized cover up fee. Any work concealed without first obtaining the required inspection in violation of Section 110 shall be assessed a fee as established by the city fee schedule.

(Reason: This fee is not a fine or penalty but is designed to compensate for time and to remove incentive to attempt to evade permits and code compliance. Text taken from former Uniform Administrative Code.)

****Section 110.3.5; Lath, gypsum board and gypsum panel product inspection; Delete exception**

~~***Exception :** Gypsum board and gypsum panel products that are not part of a fire resistance rated assembly or a shear assembly.*~~

(Reason: Lath or gypsum board inspections are not typically performed in this area.)

*****Section 202; amend definition of Ambulatory Care Facility as follows:**

AMBULATORY CARE FACILITY. Buildings or portions thereof used to provide medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing or similar care on a less than 24-hour basis to individuals who are rendered incapable of self-preservation by the services provided ~~or staff has accepted responsibility for care recipients already incapable~~. This group may include but not be limited to the following:

- Dialysis centers
- Sedation dentistry
- Surgery centers
- Colonic centers
- Psychiatric centers

*(Reason: To clarify the range of uses included in the definition. [Explanatory note related to **Ambulatory Care Facilities**: This group of uses includes medical or dental offices where persons are put under for dental surgery or other services. Section 903.2.2 will now require such uses to be sprinklered if on other than the floor of exit discharge or if four or more persons are put under on the level of exit discharge. Recommend (1.) jurisdictions document any pre-existing non-conforming conditions prior to issuing a new C of O for a change of tenant and, (2.) On any medical or dental office specify on C of O the maximum number of persons permitted to be put under general anesthesia. It is recommended that before a Certificate of Occupancy is issued, a letter of intended use from the business owner shall be included and a C of O documenting the maximum number of care recipients incapable of self preservation allowed.)*

Section 202; add definition of Assisting Living Facilities to read as follows.

ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES. *A building or part thereof housing persons, on a 24-hour basis, who because of age, mental disability or other reasons, live in a supervised residential environment which provides personal care services. The occupants are capable of responding to an emergency situation without physical assistance from staff.*

(Reason: The code references Assisted Living facilities and definition was deleted.)

Section 202; change definition of "Atrium" as follows:

ATRIUM. An opening connecting ~~two~~ three or more stories… *{Balance remains unchanged}*

(Reason: Accepted practice in the region based on legacy codes. Section 1019 permits unenclosed two story stairways under certain circumstances.)

****Section 202; ~~add~~ amend definition of "Repair Garage" as follows:***

REPAIR GARAGE. A building, structure or portion thereof used for servicing or repairing motor vehicles. This occupancy shall also include garages involved in minor repair, modification and servicing of motor vehicles for items such as lube changes, inspections, windshield repair or replacement, shocks, minor part replacement and other such minor repairs.

(Reason: The code references aligns with fire code.)

Section 202; amend definition of SPECIAL INSPECTOR to read as follows:

SPECIAL INSPECTOR. A qualified person employed or retained by an approved agency who shall prove to the satisfaction of the registered design professional in responsible charge and ~~approved by~~ the Building Official as having the competence necessary to inspect a particular type of construction requiring special inspection.

(Reason: The registered design professional in responsible charge should be included.)

Option A
***Section 202;** {No amendment necessary}*

Option B
****Section 202; amend definition to read as follows:***

HIGH-RISE BUILDING. A building with an occupied floor located more than ~~75~~ 55 feet ~~(22 860 mm)~~ (16 764 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.

(Reason: To define high-rise, as it influences sprinkler requirement thresholds based on the fire fighting capabilities of a jurisdiction.)

****Section 303.1.3; add a sentence to read as follows:***

303.1.3 Associated with Group E occupancies. A room or space used for assembly purposes that is associated with a Group E occupancy is not considered a separate occupancy~~.~~ ~~E~~except when applying the assembly requirements of Chapters 10 and 11.

(Reason: To clarify that egress and accessibility requirements are applicable for assembly areas, i.e. cafeteria, auditoriums, etc.)

***Section 304.1; add the following to the list of occupancies:**

Fire stations
Police stations with detention facilities for 5 or less

(Reason: Consistent with regional practice dating back to the legacy codes.)

***Section 307.1.1; add the following sentence to Exception 4:**

4. Cleaning establishments… *{Text unchanged}* …with Section 707 or 1-hour horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711 or both. See also IFC Chapter 21, Dry Cleaning Plant provisions.

(Reason: To call attention to detailed requirements in the Fire Code.)

***Section 403.1, Exception 3; change to read as follows:**

3. The open air portion of a building *[remainder unchanged]*

(Reason: To clarify enclosed portions are not exempt.)

***Section 403.3, Exception; delete item 2.**

(Reason: To provide adequate fire protection to enclosed areas.)

***Section 403.3.2; change to read as follows:**

[F] 403.3.2 Water supply to required fire pumps. In buildings that are more than ~~420~~ 120 feet (36.5 m) in building height, required fire pumps shall be supplied by connections to no fewer than two water mains located in different streets. Separate supply piping shall be provided between each connection to the water main and the pumps. Each connection and the supply piping between the connection and the pumps shall be sized to supply the flow and pressure required for the pumps to operate.

Exception: {No change to exception.}

(Reason: The 2009 edition of the IFC added this requirement based on a need for redundancy of the water supply similar to the redundancy of the power supply to the fire pumps required for such tall buildings, partially due to the fact that these buildings are rarely fully evacuated in a fire event. More commonly, the alarm activates on the floor of the event, the floor above and the floor below. Back-up power to the fire pump becomes critical for this reason. Certainly, the power is pointless if the water supply is impaired for any reason, so a similar requirement is provided here for redundant water supplies. The 2015 edition changed the requirement to only apply to very tall buildings over 420 ft. This amendment modifies/lowers the requirement to 120 ft., based on this same height requirement for fire service access elevators. Again, the language from the 2009 and 2012 editions of the code applied to any high-rise building. This compromise at 120 ft. is based on the above technical justification of defend-in-place scenarios in fire incidents in such tall structures.)

***Section 404.5; delete Exception.**

(Reason: Consistent with amended atrium definition.)

***Section 406.3.3.1 Carport separation; add sentence to read as follows:**

A fire separation is not required between a Group R-2 and U carport provided that the carport is entirely open on all sides and that the distance between the two is at least 10 feet (3048 mm).

(Reason: Simplifies the fire separation distance and eliminates the need to obtain opening information on existing buildings when adding carports in existing apartment complexes. Consistent with legacy codes in effect in region for years and no record of problems with car fires spreading to apartments as a result.)

****Table 506.2; delete sentence from table**

~~I. The maximum allowable area for a single-story non-sprinklered Group U greenhouse is permitted to be 9000 square feet or the allowable area shall be permitted to comply with Table C102.1 of Appendix C.~~

(Reason: To eliminate the need for Appendix C adoption and remain consistent with 6000 sq. ft. sprinklering provision.)

***Section 506.3.1; add sentence to read as follows:**

506.3.1 Minimum percentage of perimeter. [Existing Text remains]

In order to be considered as accessible, if not in direct contact with a street or fire lane, a minimum 10-foot wide pathway meeting fire department access from the street or approved fire lane shall be provided.

(Reason: To define what is considered accessible. Consistent with regional amendment to IFC 504.1.)

****Section 602.1.1; add sentence to read as follows:**

602.1.1 Minimum Requirements. [Existing Text to remain]

Where a building contains more than one distinct type of construction, the building shall comply with the most restrictive area, height, and stories, for the lesser type of construction or be separated by fire walls.

(Reason: To create definite language that requires separation between dissimilar building types.)

****Section 708.4.2; change sentence to read as follows:**

708.4.2 Fireblocks and draftstops in combustible construction. *[Body of text unchanged]*

Exceptions:

1. Buildings equipped with an automatic sprinkler system installed throughout in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, or in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2 provided that sprinkler protection is provided in the space between the top of the fire partition and the underside of the floor or roof sheathing, deck or slab above as required for systems complying with Section 903.3.1.1. Portions of buildings containing concealed spaces filled with noncombustible insulation as permitted for sprinkler omission shall not apply to this exception for draftstopping. *[Remainder unchanged]*

Reason: (The most common exception used to eliminate the need for sprinklers in concealed spaces of combustible construction is to fill the space with noncombustible insulation. This exception was changed in 2010 to permit a 2-inch air gap at the top of the filled space. A space compliant with the permitted

omission above would allow hot gas and smoke to spread unimpeded throughout a building not provided with draftstopping. For this reason, omission of sprinklers permitted in accordance with NFPA 13 referenced standard should not be permitted with IBC exception requiring draftstopping in combustible construction.)

******Section 718.3; change sentence to read as follows:***

718.3 Draftstopping in floors. *[Body of text unchanged]*

Exceptions: Buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. and provided that in combustible construction, sprinkler protection is provided in the floor space.

(Reason: To remain consistent with changes in 708.4.2 code.)

******Section 718.4; change sentence to read as follows:***

718.4 Draftstopping in attics. *[Body of text unchanged]*

Exceptions: Buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and provided that in combustible construction, sprinkler protection is provided in the attic space.

(Reason: To remain consistent with changes in 708.4.2 code.)

*****Section 901.6.1; add Section 901.6.1.1 to read as follows:***

901.6.1.1 Standpipe Testing. Building owners/managers must maintain and test standpipe systems as per NFPA 25 requirements. The following additional requirements shall be applied to the testing that is required every 5 years:

1. The piping between the Fire Department Connection (FDC) and the standpipe shall be backflushed or inspected by approved camera when foreign material is present or when caps are missing, and also hydrostatically tested for all FDC's on any type of standpipe system. Hydrostatic testing shall also be conducted in accordance with NFPA 25 requirements for the different types of standpipe systems.

2. For any manual (dry or wet) standpipe system not having an automatic water supply capable of flowing water through the standpipe, the tester shall connect hose from a fire hydrant or portable pumping system (as approved by the *fire code official*) to each FDC, and flow water through the standpipe system to the roof outlet to verify that each inlet connection functions properly. Confirm that there are no open hose valves prior to introducing water into a dry standpipe. There is no required pressure criteria at the outlet. Verify that check valves function properly and that there are no closed control valves on the system.

3. Any pressure relief, reducing, or control valves shall be tested in accordance with the requirements of NFPA 25. All hose valves shall be exercised.

4. If the FDC is not already provided with approved caps, the contractor shall install such caps for all FDC's as required by the *fire code official*.

5. Upon successful completion of standpipe test, place a blue tag (as per Texas Administrative Code, Fire Sprinkler Rules for Inspection, Test and Maintenance Service (ITM) Tag) at the bottom of

each standpipe riser in the building. The tag shall be check-marked as "Fifth Year" for Type of ITM, and the note on the back of the tag shall read "5 Year Standpipe Test" at a minimum.

6. The procedures required by Texas Administrative Code Fire Sprinkler Rules with regard to Yellow Tags and Red Tags or any deficiencies noted during the testing, including the required notification of the local Authority Having Jurisdiction (*fire code official*) shall be followed.

7. Additionally, records of the testing shall be maintained by the owner and contractor, if applicable, as required by the State Rules mentioned above and NFPA 25.

8. Standpipe system tests where water will be flowed external to the building shall not be conducted during freezing conditions or during the day prior to expected night time freezing conditions.

9. Contact the *fire code official* for requests to remove existing fire hose from Class II and III standpipe systems where employees are not trained in the utilization of this firefighting equipment. All standpipe hose valves must remain in place and be provided with an approved cap and chain when approval is given to remove hose by the *fire code official*.

(Reason: Increases the reliability of the fire protection system and re-emphasizes the requirements of NFPA 25 relative to standpipe systems, as well as ensuring that FDC connections are similarly tested/maintained to ensure operation in an emergency incident.)

***Section 903.1.1; change to read as follows:**

903.1.1 Alternative Protection. Alternative automatic fire-extinguishing systems complying with Section 904 shall be permitted ~~instead of~~ in addition to automatic sprinkler protection where recognized by the applicable standard ~~and~~, or as *approved* by the *fire code official*.

(Reason: Such alternative systems do not provide the reliability of automatic sprinkler protection. Most gaseous type systems are highly susceptible to open doors, ceiling or floor tile removal, etc. However, an applicant could pursue an Alternate Method request to help mitigate the reliability issues with these alternative systems with the fire code official if so desired, or there may be circumstances in which the fire code official is acceptable to allowing an alternate system in lieu of sprinklers, such as kitchen hoods or paint booths.)

***Section 903.2; add paragraph to read as follows and delete the exception:**

Automatic Sprinklers shall not be installed in elevator machine rooms, elevator machine spaces, and elevator hoistways, other than pits where such sprinklers would not necessitate shunt trip requirements under any circumstances. Storage shall not be allowed within the elevator machine room. Signage shall be provided at the entry doors to the elevator machine room indicating "ELEVATOR MACHINERY – NO STORAGE ALLOWED."

(Reason: Firefighter and public safety. This amendment eliminates the shunt trip requirement of the International Building Code Section 3005.5 for the purpose of elevator passenger and firefighter safety. This amendment is contingent on the Building Code amendment eliminating the Exceptions to Section 3005.4, such that passive fire barriers for these areas are maintained. The exception deletion is due to the fact that such telecom areas pose an undue fire risk to the structural integrity of the building.)

***Section 903.2.9; add Section 903.2.9.3 to read as follows:**

903.2.9.3 Self-Service Storage Facility. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all self-service storage facilities.

(Reason: Fire departments are unable to inspect these commercial occupancies and are unaware of the contents being stored. Previous allowance to separate units by fire barriers is difficult to enforce maintenance after opening.)

****Option A**

Section 903.2.11; change 903.2.11.3 and add 903.2.11.7 and 903.2.11.8, as follows:

903.2.11.3 Buildings 55 Feet or more in Height. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout buildings that have one or more stories ~~with an occupant load of 30 or more~~, other than penthouses in compliance with Section 1510 of the *International Building Code*, located 55 feet (16 764 mm) or more above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, measured to the finished floor.

Exception~~s~~:

~~1.~~ Open parking structures in compliance with Section 406.5 of the *International Building Code, having no other occupancies above the subject garage.*

~~2. Occupancies in Group F-2.~~

903.2.11.7 High-Piled Combustible Storage. For any building with a clear height exceeding 12 feet (4572 mm), see Chapter 32 to determine if those provisions apply.

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

****Option B**

Section 903.2.11; change 903.2.11.3 and add 903.2.11.7, 903.2.11.8, and 903.2.11.9 as follows:

903.2.11.3 Buildings ~~55~~ 35 feet or more in height. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout buildings that have one or more stories ~~with an occupant load of 30 or more~~, other than penthouses in compliance with Section 1510 of the *International Building Code*, located ~~55~~ 35 feet (~~16 764~~ 10 668 mm) or more above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, measured to the finished floor.

Exception~~s~~:

~~1.~~ Open parking structures in compliance with Section 406.5 of the *International Building Code, having no other occupancies above the subject garage*.

~~2. Occupancies in Group F-2.~~

903.2.11.7 High-Piled Combustible Storage. For any building with a clear height exceeding 12 feet (4572 mm), see Chapter 32 to determine if those provisions apply.

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

903.2.11.9 Buildings Over 6,000 sq. ft. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all buildings with a building area 6,000 sq. ft. or greater and in all existing buildings that are enlarged to be 6,000 sq. ft. or greater. For the purpose of this provision, fire walls shall not define separate buildings.

Exception: Open parking garages in compliance with Section 406.5 of the *International Building Code*.

(Reason: Provides jurisdictions options as to their desired level of sprinkler protection based on multiple factors including firefighting philosophies/capabilities.)

***Section 903.3.1.1.1; change to read as follows:**

903.3.1.1.1 Exempt Locations. When approved by the *fire code official*, automatic sprinklers shall not be required in the following rooms or areas where such ...*{text unchanged}*… because it is damp, of fire-resistance-rated construction or contains electrical equipment.

1. Any room where the application of water, or flame and water, constitutes a serious life or fire hazard.
2. Any room or space where sprinklers are considered undesirable because of the nature of the contents, when approved by the fire code official.
3. Generator and transformer rooms, under the direct control of a public utility, separated from the remainder of the building by walls and floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assemblies having a fire-resistance rating of not less than 2 hours.
4. ~~In rooms or areas that are of noncombustible construction with wholly noncombustible contents.~~
5. ~~Fire service access~~ Elevator machine rooms, ~~and~~ machinery spaces, and hoistways, other than pits where such sprinklers would not necessitate shunt trip requirements under any circumstances.
6. {Delete.}

(Reason: Gives clarification. Exception 4 deleted to provide protection where fire risks are poorly addressed. Amendment 903.2 addresses Exception 5 above relative to the elimination of sprinkler protection in these areas to avoid the shunt trip requirement.)

***Section 903.3.1.2.3; delete sections and replace as follows:**

[F] Section 903.3.1.2.3 Attached Garages and Attics. Sprinkler protection is required in attached garages, and in the following attic spaces:

1. [Remainder Unchanged]
2. [Remainder Unchanged]
3. Attic spaces of buildings that are two or more stories in height above grade plane or above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.
4. Group R-4, Condition 2 occupancy attics not required by Item 1 or 3 to have sprinklers shall comply with one of the following:
   [Remainder Unchanged]

(Reason: Attic protection is required due to issues with fire exposure via soffit vents, as well as firefighter safety. Several jurisdictions indicated experience with un-protected attic fires resulting in displacement of all building occupants. NFPA 13 provides for applicable attic sprinkler protection requirements, as well as exemptions to such, based on noncombustible construction, etc. Attached garages already require sprinklers via NFPA 13R – this amendment just re-emphasizes the requirement.)

***Section 903.3.1.3; change to read as follows:**

903.3.1.3 NFPA 13D Sprinkler Systems. *Automatic sprinkler systems* installed in one- and two-family *dwellings*; Group R-3; Group R-4, Condition 1; and *townhouses* shall be permitted to be installed throughout in accordance with NFPA 13D or in accordance with state law.

(Reason: To allow the use of the Plumbing section of the International Residential Code (IRC) and recognize current state stipulations in this regard.)

***Section 903.3.1.4; add to read as follows:**

[F] 903.3.1.4 Freeze protection. Freeze protection systems for automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be in accordance with the requirements of the applicable referenced NFPA standard and this section.

903.3.1.4.1 Attics. Only dry-pipe, preaction, or listed antifreeze automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be allowed to protect attic spaces.

Exception: Wet-pipe fire sprinkler systems shall be allowed to protect non-ventilated attic spaces where:

1. The attic sprinklers are supplied by a separate floor control valve assembly to allow ease of draining the attic system without impairing sprinklers throughout the rest of the building, and
2. Adequate heat shall be provided for freeze protection as per the applicable referenced NFPA standard, and
3. The attic space is a part of the building's thermal, or heat, envelope, such that insulation is provided at the roof deck, rather than at the ceiling level.

903.3.1.4.2 Heat trace/insulation. Heat trace/insulation shall only be allowed where approved by the fire code official for small sections of large diameter water-filled pipe.

(Reason: In the last few years, severe winters brought to light several issues with current practices for sprinklering attics, not the least of which was wet-pipe sprinklers in ventilated attics provided with space heaters, etc. for freeze protection of such piping. This practice is not acceptable for the protection of water-filled piping in a ventilated attic space as it does not provide a reliable means of maintaining the minimum 40 degrees required by NFPA, wastes energy, and presents a potential ignition source to the attic space. Listed antifreeze is specifically included because NFPA currently allows such even though there is no currently listed antifreeze at the time of development of these amendments. The intent of this amendment is to help reduce the large number of freeze breaks that have occurred in the past with water-filled wet-pipe sprinkler systems in the future, most specifically in attic spaces.)

***Section 903.3.5; add a second paragraph to read as follows:**

Water supply as required for such systems shall be provided in conformance with the supply requirements of the respective standards; however, every water-based fire protection system shall be designed with a 10 psi safety factor. Reference Section 507.4 for additional design requirements.

(Reason: To define uniform safety factor for the region.)

***Section 903.4; add a second paragraph after the exceptions to read as follows:**

Sprinkler and standpipe system water-flow detectors shall be provided for each floor tap to the sprinkler system and shall cause an alarm upon detection of water flow for more than 45 seconds. All control valves in the sprinkler and standpipe systems except for fire department hose connection valves shall be electrically supervised to initiate a supervisory signal at the central station upon tampering.

(Reason: To avoid significant water losses. Consistent with amendment to IFC 905.9.)

***Section 903.4.2; add second paragraph to read as follows:**

The alarm device required on the exterior of the building shall be a weatherproof horn/strobe notification appliance with a minimum 75 candela strobe rating, installed as close as practicable to the fire department connection.

(Reason: Fire department connections are not always located at the riser; this allows the fire department faster access.)

***Section 905.2; change to read as follows:**

905.2 Installation Standard. Standpipe systems shall be installed in accordance with this section and NFPA 14. Manual dry standpipe systems shall be supervised with a minimum of 10 psig and a maximum of 40 psig air pressure with a high/low alarm.

(Reason: To define manual dry standpipe supervision requirements. Helps ensure the integrity of the standpipe system via supervision, such that open hose valves will result in a supervisory low air alarm.)

****Section 905.3; add Section 905.3.9 and exception to read as follows:**

905.3.9 Buildings Exceeding 10,000 sq. ft. In buildings exceeding 10,000 square feet in area per story and where any portion of the building's interior area is more than 200 feet (60960 mm) of travel, vertically and horizontally, from the nearest point of fire department vehicle access, Class I automatic wet or manual wet standpipes shall be provided.

Exceptions:

1. Automatic dry, semi-automatic dry, and manual dry standpipes are allowed as provided for in NFPA 14 where approved by the fire code official.
2. R-2 occupancies of four stories or less in height having no interior corridors.

(Reason: Allows for the rapid deployment of hose lines to the body of the fire. Manual dry option added this edition.)

***Section 905.4, change Item 1, 3, and 5, and add Item 7 to read as follows:**

1. In every required ~~interior~~ exit stairway, a hose connection shall be provided for each story above and below grade plane. Hose connections shall be located at the main floor landing between stories, unless otherwise approved by the fire code official.
2. {No change.}
3. In every exit passageway, at the entrance from the exit passageway to other areas of a building.

Exception: Where floor areas adjacent to an exit passageway are reachable from an ~~interior~~ exit stairway hose connection by a {No change to rest.}

4. {No change.}
5. Where the roof has a slope less than four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33.3-percent slope), each standpipe shall be provided with a two-way ~~a~~ hose connection ~~shall be~~ located to serve the roof or at the highest landing of an ~~interior~~ exit stairway with stair access to the roof provided in accordance with Section 1011.12.
6. {No change.}
7. 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.

(Reason: Item 1, 3, and 5 amendments to remove 'interior' will help to clarify that such connections are required for all 'exit' stairways, to ensure firefighter capabilities are not diminished in these tall buildings, simply because the stair is on the exterior of the building. Item 5 reduces the amount of pressure required

to facilitate testing, and provides backup protection for fire fighter safety. Item 7 allows for the rapid deployment of hose lines to the body of the fire.)

***Section 905.9; add a second paragraph after the exceptions to read as follows:**

Sprinkler and standpipe system water-flow detectors shall be provided for each floor tap to the sprinkler system and shall cause an alarm upon detection of water flow for more than 45 seconds. All control valves in the sprinkler and standpipe systems except for fire department hose connection valves shall be electrically supervised to initiate a supervisory signal at the central station upon tampering.

(Reason: To avoid significant water losses. Consistent with amendment to IFC 903.4.)

***Section 907.1; add Section 907.1.4 to read as follows:**

907.1.4 Design Standards. Where a new fire alarm system is installed, the devices shall be addressable. Fire alarm systems utilizing more than 20 smoke detectors shall have analog initiating devices.

(Reason: Provides for the ability of descriptive identification of alarms, and reduces need for panel replacement in the future. Updated wording to match the language of the new requirement at 907.5.2.3. Change of terminology allows for reference back to definitions of NFPA 72.)

***Section 907.2.1; change to read as follows:**

907.2.1 Group A. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in Group A occupancies ~~where the~~ having an occupant load ~~due to the assembly occupancy is~~ of 300 or more persons, or where the ~~Group A~~ occupant load is more than 100 persons above or below the *lowest level of exit discharge*. Group A occupancies not separated from one another in accordance with Section 707.3.10 of the *International Building Code* shall be considered as a single occupancy for the purposes of applying this section. Portions of Group E occupancies occupied for assembly purposes shall be provided with a fire alarm system as required for the Group E occupancy.

Exception: {No change.}

Activation of fire alarm notification appliances shall:

1. Cause illumination of the *means of egress* with light of not less than 1 foot-candle (11 lux) at the walking surface level, and
2. Stop any conflicting or confusing sounds and visual distractions.

(Reason: Increases the requirement to be consistent with Group B requirement. Also addresses issue found in Group A occupancies of reduced lighting levels and other A/V equipment that distracts from fire alarm notification devices or reduces ability of fire alarm system to notify occupants of the emergency condition.)

***Section 907.2.3; change to read as follows:**

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.

Exceptions:

1. {No change.}
   1.1. Residential In-Home day care with not more than 12 children may use interconnected single station detectors in all habitable rooms. (For care of more than five children 2 1/2 or less years of age, see Section 907.2.6.) {No change to remainder of exceptions.}

(Reason: To distinguish educational from day care occupancy minimum protection requirements. Further, to define threshold at which portable buildings are considered a separate building for the purposes of alarm systems. Exceptions provide consistency with State law concerning such occupancies.)

***Section 907.2.12, Exception 3; change to read as follows:**

3. Open air portions of buildings with an occupancy in Group A-5 in accordance with Section 303.1 of the *International Building Code*; however, this exception does not apply to accessory uses including but not limited to sky boxes, restaurants, and similarly enclosed areas.

(Reason: To indicate that enclosed areas within open air seating type occupancies are not exempted from automatic fire alarm system requirements.)

***Section 907.4.2; add Section 907.4.2.7 to read as follows:**

907.4.2.7 Type. Manual alarm initiating devices shall be an approved double action type.

(Reason: Helps to reduce false alarms.)

***Section 907.6.1; add Section 907.6.1.1 to read as follows:**

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 the operation of any addressable devices (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 a 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.

(Reason: To provide uniformity in system specifications and guidance to design engineers. Improves reliability of fire alarm devices and systems.)

***Section 907.6.3; delete all four Exceptions.**

(Reason: To assist responding personnel in locating the emergency event for all fire alarm systems.)

***Section 907.6.6; add sentence at end of paragraph to read as follows:**

See 907.6.3 for the required information transmitted to the supervising station.

(Reason: To assist responding personnel in locating the emergency event for all fire alarm systems.)

(Reason: Deleted Previous code amendment Section 909.22, For removal because it is already in the code in Sections 909.20.5, 909.20.6, 909.20.6.1, 909.20.6.2, and 909.20.6.3.)

***Section 910.2; change Exception 2 and 3 to read as follows:**

2. Only manual smoke and heat removal shall ~~not~~ be required in areas of buildings equipped with early suppression fast-response (ESFR) sprinklers. Automatic smoke and heat removal is prohibited.
3. Only manual smoke and heat removal shall ~~not~~ be required in areas of buildings equipped with 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 stored commodities with 12 or fewer sprinklers. Automatic smoke and heat removal is prohibited.

(Reason: Allows the fire department to control the smoke and heat during and after a fire event, while still prohibiting such systems from being automatically activated, which is a potential detriment to the particular sprinkler systems indicated.)

***Section 910.2; add subsections 910.2.3 with exceptions to read as follows:**

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 m^2) in single floor area.

   Exception: Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.

2. In areas of buildings 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, or Class 2 or 3 water-reactive materials as required for a high-hazard commodity classification.

   Exception: Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.

(Reason: Maintains a fire protection device utilized in such occupancies where it is sometimes necessary to allow chemicals to burn out, rather than extinguish.)

***Section 910.3; add section 910.3.4 to read as follows:**

910.3.4 Vent Operation. Smoke and heat vents shall be capable of being operated by approved automatic and manual means. Automatic operation of smoke and heat vents shall conform to the provisions of Sections 910.3.2.1 through 910.3.2.3.

910.3.4.1 Sprinklered buildings. Where installed in buildings equipped with an approved automatic sprinkler system, smoke and heat vents shall be designed to operate automatically.
The automatic operating mechanism of the smoke and heat vents shall operate at a temperature rating at least 100 degrees F (approximately 38 degrees Celsius) greater than the temperature rating of the sprinklers installed.

Exception: Manual only systems per Section 910.2.

910.3.4.2 Nonsprinklered Buildings. Where installed in buildings not equipped with an approved automatic sprinkler system, smoke and heat vents shall operate automatically by actuation of a heat-responsive device rated at between 100°F (56°C) and 220°F (122°C) above ambient.

Exception: Listed gravity-operated drop out vents.

(Reason: Amendment continues to keep applicable wording from prior to the 2012 edition of the IFC. Specifically, automatic activation criteria is no longer specifically required in the published code. Specifying a temperature range at which smoke and heat vents should activate in sprinklered buildings helps to ensure that the sprinkler system has an opportunity to activate and control the fire prior to vent operation.)

***Section 910.4.3.1; change to read as follows:**

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 ~~manual or~~ 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.

(Reason: Makeup air has been required to be automatic for several years now in this region when mechanical smoke exhaust systems are proposed. This allows such systems to be activated from the smoke control panel by first responders without having to physically go around the exterior of the building opening doors manually. Such requires a significant number of first responders on scene to conduct this operation and significantly delays activation and/or capability of the smoke exhaust system.)

***Section 912.2; add Section 912.2.3 to read as follows:**

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.

(Reason: To accommodate limited hose lengths, improve response times where the FDC is needed to achieve fire control, and improve ease of locating a fire hydrant in those situations also. Also, consistent with NFPA 14 criteria.)

****Section 913.2.1; add Section 913.2.1.1 and exception to read as follows:**

913.2.1.1 Fire Pump Room Access. When located on the 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 doors that are provided. A key box shall be provided at this door, as required by IFC Section 506.1.

Exception: 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 IFC Section 506.1.

(Reason: This requirement allows fire fighters safer access to the fire pump room. The requirement allows access without being required to enter the building and locate the fire pump room interior access door during a fire event. The exception recognizes that this will not always be a feasible design scenario for some buildings, and as such, provides an acceptable alternative to protect the pathway to the fire pump room.)

Section 1006.2.2.7; add Section 1006.2.2.7 as follows:

1006.2.2.7 Electrical Rooms. For electrical rooms, special exiting requirements may apply. Reference the electrical code as adopted.

(Reason: Cross reference necessary for coordination with the NEC which has exiting requirements as well.)

****Section 1009.8; add the following Exception 7:**

1009.8 Two Way Communication. A two-way communication system complying with Sections 1009.8.1 and 1009.8.2 shall be provided at the landing serving each elevator required to be accessible on each accessible floor that is one or more stories above or below the level of exit discharge.

Exceptions:
7. Buildings regulated under State Law and built in accordance with State registered plans, including variances or waivers granted by the State, shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of Section 1009 and chapter 11.

(Reason: To accommodate buildings regulated under Texas State Law and to be consistent with amendments in Chapter 11.)

****Section 1010.1.9.5 Bolt Locks; amend exceptions 3 and 4 as follows:**

Exceptions:
3. Where a pair of doors serves an occupant load of less than 50 persons in a Group B, F, M or S occupancy. (remainder unchanged)
4. Where a pair of doors serves a Group A, B, F, M or S occupancy (remainder unchanged)

(Reason: Application to M occupancies reflects regional practice; No. 4 expanded to Group A due to it being a similar scenario to other uses; No. 4 was regional practice.)

****Section 1020.1 Construction; add exception 6 to read as follows:**

6. In group B occupancies, corridor walls and ceilings need not be of fire-resistive construction within a single tenant space when the space is equipped with approved automatic smoke-detection within the corridor. The actuation of any detector must activate self-annunciating alarms audible in all areas within the corridor. Smoke detectors must be connected to an approved automatic fire alarm system where such system is provided.

(Reason: Regionally accepted alternate method.)

****Section 1029.1.1.1 Spaces under grandstands and bleachers; delete this section.**

(Reason: Unenforceable.)

****Section 1101.1 Scope; add exception to Section 1101.1 as follows:**

Exception: Components of projects regulated by and registered with Architectural Barriers Division of Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(Reason: To accommodate buildings regulated under state law. Further clarified in 2015 to mean components that are specifically addressed by TDLR shall be exempt.)

*****Section 2901.1; add a sentence to read as follows:***

[P] 2901.1 Scope. {*existing text to remain*} The provisions of this Chapter are meant to work in coordination with the provisions of Chapter 4 of the International Plumbing Code. Should any conflicts arise between the two chapters, the Building Official shall determine which provision applies.

(Reason: Gives building official discretion.)

***Section 2902.1; add a second paragraph to read as follows:**

In other than E Occupancies, the minimum number of fixtures in Table 2902.1 may be lowered, if requested in writing, by the applicant stating reasons for a reduced number and approved by the Building Official.

(Reason: To allow flexibility for designer to consider specific occupancy needs.)

***Table 2902.1; add footnote g to read as follows:**

g. Drinking fountains are not required in M Occupancies with an occupant load of 100 or less, B Occupancies with an occupant load of 25 or less, and for dining and/or drinking establishments.

(Reason: Adjustment meets the needs of specific occupancy types.)

****Add new Section 2902.1.4 to read as follows:**

2902.1.4 Additional fixtures for food preparation facilities. In addition to the fixtures required in this Chapter, all food service facilities shall be provided with additional fixtures set out in this section.

2902.1.4.1 Hand washing lavatory. At least one hand washing lavatory shall be provided for use by employees that is accessible from food preparation, food dispensing and ware washing areas. Additional hand washing lavatories may be required based on convenience of use by employees.

2902.1.4.2 Service sink. In new or remodeled food service establishments, at least one service sink or one floor sink shall be provided so that it is conveniently located for the cleaning of mops or similar wet floor cleaning tool and for the disposal of mop water and similar liquid waste. The location of the service sink(s) and/or mop sink(s) shall be approved by the **<Jurisdiction's>** health department.

(Reason: Coordinates Health law requirements with code language for consistent regional practice.)

*****Section 3001.2 Emergency Elevator Communication Systems for the deaf, hard of hearing and speech impaired; delete this section.**

(Reason: Per Elevator manufacturers input, they were not consulted prior to code approval and technology of elevator provisions as submitted are not currently available to provide this feature.)

*****Section 3002.1 Hoistway Enclosure Protection required. Add exceptions to Section 3002.1 as follows:**

Exceptions:

4. Elevators completely located within atriums shall not require hoistway enclosure protection.

5. Elevators in open or enclosed parking garages that serve only the parking garage, shall not require hoistway enclosure protection.

(Reason: Provides specific Code recognition that elevators within atriums and within parking garages do not require hoistway enclosure protection. Amendment needed since specific Code language does not currently exist.)

****Section 3005.4 Machine rooms, control rooms, machinery spaces and control spaces; delete text as follows:**

~~Elevator machine rooms, control rooms, control spaces and machinery spaces outside of but attached to a hoistway that have openings into the hoistway shall be enclosed with fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711, or both.~~

Revise text to read:

Elevator machine rooms, control rooms, control spaces and machinery spaces shall be enclosed with fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711, or both.

(Remainder unchanged)

(Reason: This amendment eliminates code language to be consistent with the regional goal to require passive enclosures of these areas unless a hoistway enclosure is not required by other Code provisions. See companion change to eliminate fire sprinklers thereby eliminating shunt trip.)

*****Section 3005.4 Machine rooms, control rooms, machinery spaces and control spaces; Delete exceptions and add two new exceptions to Section 3005.4 as follows:**

Exceptions:

1. Elevator machine rooms, control rooms, machinery spaces and control spaces completely located within atriums shall not require enclosure protection.

2. Elevator machine rooms, control rooms, machinery spaces and control spaces in open or enclosed parking garages that serve only the parking garage, shall not require enclosure protection.

(Reason: This amendment eliminates the Exceptions to Section 3005.4 such that passive enclosures for these areas are to be provided and maintained. The fire rating of these enclosures is permitted to be omitted by the above added exceptions where allowed by other provisions of the code such as in atriums and parking structures. See companion change to eliminate fire sprinklers to eliminate the need for shunt trip system.)

****Section 3005.7 add a Section 3005.7 as follows:**

3005.7 Fire Protection in Machine rooms, control rooms, machinery spaces and control spaces.

3005.7.1 Automatic sprinkler system. The building shall be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, except as otherwise permitted by Section 903.3.1.1.1 and as prohibited by Section 3005.7.2.1.

3005.7.2.1 Prohibited locations. Automatic sprinklers shall not be installed in machine rooms, elevator machinery spaces, control rooms, control spaces and elevator hoistways.

3005.7.2.2 Sprinkler system monitoring. The sprinkler system shall have a sprinkler control valve supervisory switch and water-flow initiating device provided for each floor that is monitored by the building's fire alarm system.

3005.7.3 Water protection. An approved method to prevent water from infiltrating into the hoistway enclosure from the operation of the automatic sprinkler system outside the elevator lobby shall be provided.

3005.7.4 Shunt trip. Means for elevator shutdown in accordance with Section 3005.5 shall not be installed.

(Reason: Firefighter and public safety. This amendment eliminates the shunt trip requirement of the International Building Code Section 3005.5 for the purpose of elevator passenger and firefighter safety. The new section above is intended to be identical to Sections 3007.2, 3007.3, and 3007.4 for Fire Service Access Elevators and Sections 3008.2, 3008.3 and 3008.4 for Occupant Evacuation Elevators.)

****Section 3005.8; add Section 3005.8 as follows:**

3005.8 Storage. Storage shall not be allowed within the elevator machine room, control room, machinery spaces and or control spaces. Provide approved signage at each entry to the above listed locations stating: "No Storage Allowed.

(Reason: Reinforces the need to maintain space clean and free of combustibles. See companion change to eliminate fire sprinklers therein, to always require an enclosure - with IBC 3005.4 exceptions deleted - resulting in the limited need for a shunt trip system.)

Option A
Section 3006.2, Hoistway opening protection required; Revise text as follows:

5. The building is a high rise and the elevator hoistway is more than 75 feet (22 860 mm) in height. The height of the hoistway shall be measured from the lowest floor at or above grade to the highest floors served by the hoistway."

Option B
Section 3006.2, Hoistway opening protection required; Revise text as follows:

5. The building is a high rise and the elevator hoistway is more than ~~75 foot (22 860 mm)~~ 55 feet (16 764 mm) in height. The height of the hoistway shall be measured from the lowest floor at or above grade to the highest floors served by the hoistway."

(Reason: 2018 IBC text does not address hoistways that are greater than 75'-0" in height that are both below grade and above grade but not located above the high rise classification nor does the IBC address hoistways wholly located above grade such as those that serve sky lobbies".)

End

North Central Texas
Council of Governments

Recommended Amendments to the 2018 International Residential Code

North Central Texas Council of Governments Region

The following sections, paragraphs, and sentences of the *2018 International Residential Code* are hereby amended as follows: Standard type is text from the IRC. Underlined type is text inserted. ~~Lined through type is deleted text from IRC.~~ A double asterisk at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the 2015 edition of the code and a triple asterisk identifies a new or revised amendment with the 2018 code.

In 2009, **the State Legislature enacted SB 1410 prohibiting cities from enacting fire sprinkler mandates in residential dwellings.** However, jurisdictions with ordinances that required sprinklers for residential dwellings prior to and enforced before January 1, 2009, may remain in place. Reference; Section R313 Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems.

The energy provisions in IRC Chapter 11 is deleted in its entirety.
Reference the 2018 IECC for energy code provisions and recommended amendments.

***Section R102.4; change to read as follows:**

R102.4 Referenced codes and standards. The *codes*, when specifically adopted, and standards referenced in this *code* shall be considered part of the requirements of this *code* to the prescribed extent of each such reference and as further regulated in Sections R102.4.1 and R102.4.2. Whenever amendments have been adopted to the referenced *codes* and standards, each reference to said *code* and standard shall be considered to reference the amendments as well. Any reference made to NFPA 70 or the *Electrical Code* shall mean the *Electrical Code* as adopted.

(Reason: Legal wording to recognize locally adopted codes and amendments adopted with referenced codes.)

*** Section R103 and R103.1 amend to insert the Department Name**

~~DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SAFETY~~ [INSERT OFFICIAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT NAME OF JURISDICTION]

R103.1 Creation of enforcement agency. The ~~Department of Building Safety~~ [INSERT OFFICIAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT NAME OF JURISDICTION] is hereby created and the official in charge thereof shall be known as the *building official*.

(Reason: Reminder to be sure ordinance reads the same as designated by the city.)

***Section R104.10.1 Flood Hazard areas; delete this section.**

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

***Section R105.3.1.1& R106.1.4; delete these sections.**

(Reason: Floodplain provisions are addressed locally.)

***Section R110 (R110.1 through R110.5); delete the section.**

(Reason: Issuing CO's for residences is not a common practice in the area.)

***Section R202; change definition of "Townhouse" to read as follows:**

TOWNHOUSE. A single-family dwelling unit constructed in a group of three or more attached units separated by property lines in which each unit extends from foundation to roof and with a *yard* or *public way* on at least two sides.
(Reason: To distinguish Townhouses on separate lots.)

******Table R301.2 (1); fill in as follows:***

GROUND SNOW LOAD	WIND DESIGN				SEISMIC DESIGN CATEGORY[f]	SUBJECT TO DAMAGE FROM			WINTER DESIGN TEMP[e]	ICE BARRIER UNDER-LAYMENT[h]	FLOOD HAZARDS[g]	AIR FREEZING INDEX[i]	MEAN ANNUAL TEMP[j]
	SPEED[d] (MPH)	Topographic Effects[k]	Special Wind Region[L]	Windborne Debris Zone[m]		Weathering a	Frost Line Depth[b]	Termite[c]					
5 lb/ft	115 (3 sec-gust)/ 76 fastest mile	No	No	No	A	Moderate	6"	Very Heavy	22^0 F	No	Local Code	150	64.9^0 F

Delete remainder of table Manual J Design Criteria and footnote N

(Reason: To promote regional uniformity. Manual J is utilized by third party and not part of performed plan reviews. This is reference table only, not needed.)

*****Section R302.1; add exception #6 to read as follows:***

Exceptions: *{previous exceptions unchanged}*

6. Open non-combustible carport structures may be constructed when also approved within adopted ordinances.

(Reason: Refers to other ordinances, such as zoning ordinances.)

*****Section R302.3; add Exception #3 to read as follows:***

Exceptions:

1. *{existing text unchanged}*
2. *{existing text unchanged}*
3. Two-family dwelling units that are also divided by a property line through the structure shall be separated as required for townhouses.

(Reason: Provide guidance for a common construction method in this area. Correlates with amendment to IRC Section R202 Townhouse definition.)

*****Section R302.5.1; change to read as follows:***

R302.5.1 Opening protection. Openings from a private garage directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted. Other openings between the garage and residence shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than 13/8 inches (35 mm) in thickness, solid or honeycomb core steel doors not less than 13/8 inches (35 mm) thick, or 20-minute fire-rated doors. ~~Equipped with a self-closing or automatic closing device~~.

(Reason: Absence of data linking self-closing devices to increased safety. Self-closing devices often fail to close the door entirely.)

***Section R303.3, Exception; amend to read as follows:**

Exception: {existing text unchanged**}** Spaces containing only a water closet or water closet and a lavatory may be ventilated with an approved mechanical recirculating fan or similar device designed to remove odors from the air.

(Reason: Consistent with common local practice as recirculating fans are recognized as acceptable air movement.)

***Section R313.2 One and Two Family Dwellings; Delete this section and subsection in their entirety**.

(Reason: In 2009, the State Legislature enacted SB 1410, amending section 1301.551 subsection I of the occupation code, prohibiting cities from enacting fire sprinkler mandates one or two family dwellings only. However, jurisdictions with ordinances that required sprinklers for one or two family dwellings prior to and enforced before January 1, 2009, may remain in place.*)*

****Section R315.2.2 Alterations, repairs and additions; amend to read as follows:**

Exception:
1. [existing text remains]
2. Installation, alteration or repairs of all electrically powered mechanical systems or plumbing appliances.

(Reason: Revised exception for clarity. Code intent is to protect against the products of combustion.)

***Section R322 Flood Resistant Construction; deleted section.**

(Reason: Floodplain hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

****Section R401.2; amended by adding a new paragraph following the existing paragraph to read as follows.**

Section R401.2. Requirements. *{existing text unchanged} …*

Every foundation and/or footing, or any size addition to an existing post-tension foundation, regulated by this code shall be designed and sealed by a Texas-registered engineer.

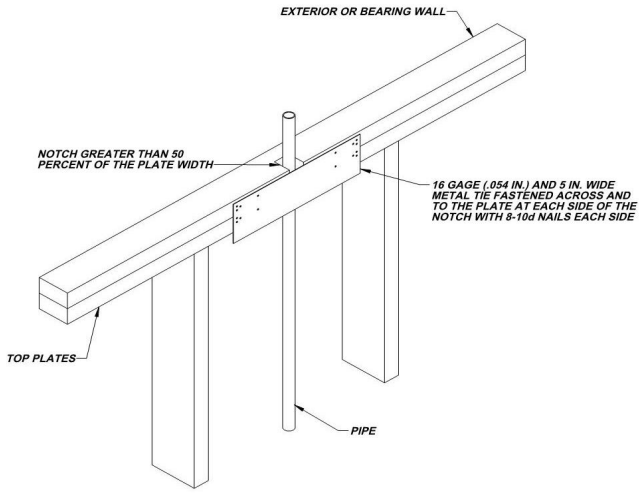
(Amendment to 2015 IRC carried forward to 2018 IRC.)

****Section R602.6.1; amend the following:**

R602.6.1 Drilling and notching of top plate. When piping or ductwork is placed in or partly in an exterior wall or interior load-bearing wall, necessitating cutting, drilling or notching of the top plate by more than 50 percent of its width, a galvanized metal tie not less than 0.054 inch thick (1.37 mm) (16 Ga) and ~~1 ½ inches (38) mm~~ 5 inches (127 mm) wide shall be fastened across and to the plate at each side of the opening with not less than eight 10d (0.148 inch diameter) having a minimum length of 1 ½ inches (38 mm) at each side or equivalent. Fasteners will be offset to prevent splitting of the top plate material. The metal tie must extend a minimum of 6 inches past the opening. See figure R602.6.1. {remainder unchanged}

(Amendment to 2015 IRC carried forward to 2018 IRC.)

***Figure R602.6.1; delete the figure and insert the following figure:**



(Amendment to 2015 IRC carried forward to 2018 IRC also provides additional assurance of maintaining the integrity of the framing by spreading the nailing pattern.)

***Add section R703.8.4.1.2 Veneer Ties for Wall Studs; to read as follows:**

R703.8.4.1.2 Veneer Ties for Wall Studs. In stud framed exterior walls, all ties may be anchored to studs as follows:

1. When studs are 16 in (407 mm) o.c., stud ties shall be spaced no further apart than 24 in (737 mm) vertically starting approximately 12 in (381 mm) from the foundation; or

2. When studs are 24 in (610 mm) o.c., stud ties shall be spaced no further apart than 16 in (483 mm) vertically starting approximately 8 in (254 mm) from the foundation.

(This amendment had been a carry over amendment for years to provide clear instruction for placement of brick ties. It is now retained with changes to reflect its correct placement and use for clarity when attachment to framing lumber (studs). It should remain for those purposes. It is in addition to the new new Table in 2018 which provides for brick ties directly to sheathing.)

Section R902.1; amend and add exception #5 to read as follows:

R902.1 Roofing covering materials. Roofs shall be covered with materials as set forth in Sections R904 and R905. Class A, B, or C roofing shall be installed ~~in designated by law as requiring their use or when the edge of the roof is less than 3 feet from a lot line~~. *{remainder unchanged}*

Exceptions:

1. *{text unchanged}*
2. *{text unchanged}*
3. *{text unchanged}*
4. *{text unchanged}*

5. Non-classified roof coverings shall be permitted on one-story detached *accessory structures* used as tool and storage sheds, playhouses and similar uses, provided the floor area does not exceed (area defined by jurisdiction).

(Reason: to address accessory structures Group U exempt from permits per Section R105.2)

***** Chapter 11 [RE] – Energy Efficiency is deleted in its entirety; Reference the 2018 IECC for energy code provisions and recommended amendments.**

(Reason: The recommended energy code changes from the Energy and Green Advisory Board update the amendments for Chapter 11. The 2018 International Energy Conservation Code should be referenced for residential energy provisions. This approach simply minimizes the number of amendments to the IRC.)

******Section M1305.1.2; change to read as follows:***

M1305.1.2 Appliances in attics. *Attics containing appliances shall be provided . . . {bulk of paragraph unchanged} . . . side of the appliance. The clear access opening dimensions shall be a minimum of 20 inches by 30 inches (508 mm by 762 mm), and large enough to allow removal of the largest appliance. As a minimum, for access to the attic space, provide one of the following:*

1. A permanent stair.
2. A pull down stair with a minimum 300 lb (136 kg) capacity.
3. An *access* door from an upper floor level.

   Exceptions:

   1. The passageway and level service space are not required where the *appliance* can be serviced and removed through the required opening.
   2. Where the passageway is unobstructed…*{remaining text unchanged}*

(Reason: To provide a safe means of accessibility to appliances in attics and to allow for different types of construction limitations. Consistent with regional amendment to IFGC and IMC 306.3.)

*****Section M1411.3; change to read as follows:***

M1411.3 Condensate disposal. Condensate from all cooling coils or evaporators shall be conveyed from the drain pan outlet to ~~an *approved* place of disposal~~ a sanitary sewer through a trap, by means of a direct or indirect drain. *{remaining text unchanged}*

(Reason: Reflects regional practice and to reduce excessive runoff into storm drains.)

*****Section M1411.3.1, Items 3 and 4; add text to read as follows:***

M1411.3.1 Auxiliary and secondary drain systems. *{bulk of paragraph unchanged}*

1. *{text unchanged}*
2. *{text unchanged}*
3. An auxiliary drain pan… *{bulk of text unchanged}…* with Item 1 of this section. A water level detection device may be installed only with prior approval of the *building official*.
4. A water level detection device… *{bulk of text unchanged}…* overflow rim of such pan. A water level detection device may be installed only with prior approval of the *building official*.

(Reason: Reflects standard practice in this area.)

***Section M1411.3.1.1; add text to read as follows:**

M1411.3.1.1 Water-level monitoring devices. On down-flow units …*{bulk of text unchanged}*… installed in the drain line. A water level detection device may be installed only with prior approval of the *building official.*

(Reason: Reflects standard practice in this area.)

****M1503.6 Makeup Air Required; amend and add exception as follows:**

M1503.6 Makeup air required. Where one or more gas, liquid or solid fuel-burning appliance that is neither direct-vent nor uses a mechanical draft venting system is located within a dwelling unit's air barrier, each exhaust system capable of exhausting in excess of 400 cubic feet per minute (0.19 m^3/s) shall be mechanically or passively provided with makeup air at a rate approximate~~ly equal~~ to the difference between exhaust air rate and 400 cubic feet per minute. Such makeup air systems shall be equipped with not fewer than one damper complying with Section M1503.6.2.

Exception*:* Makeup air is not required for exhaust systems installed for the exclusive purpose of space cooling and intended to be operated only when windows or other air inlets are open**.** Where all appliances in the house are of sealed combustion, power-vent, unvented, or electric, the exhaust hood system shall be permitted to exhaust up to 600 cubic feet per minute (0.28 m3/s) without providing makeup air. Exhaust hood systems capable of exhausting in excess of 600 cubic feet per minute (0.28 m3/s) shall be provided with a makeup air at a rate approximately to the difference between the exhaust air rate and 600 cubic feet per minute.

(Reason: Exception requires makeup air equaling the amount above and beyond 400 cfm for larger fan which will address concerns related to "fresh" air from the outdoors in hot humid climates creating a burden on HVAC equipment and negative efficiency impacts from back-drafting and wasted energy.)

****Section M2005.2; change to read as follows:**

M2005.2 Prohibited locations. Fuel-fired water heaters shall not be installed in a room used as a storage closet. Water heaters located in a bedroom or bathroom shall be installed in a sealed enclosure so that *combustion air* will not be taken from the living space. Access to such enclosure may be from the bedroom or bathroom when through a solid door, weather-stripped in accordance with the exterior door air leakage requirements of the *International Energy Conservation Code* and equipped with an *approved* self-closing device. Installation of direct-vent water heaters within an enclosure is not required.

(Reason: Corresponds with the provisions of IFGC Section 303.3, exception #5.)

****Section G2408.3 (305.5)Private Garages; delete this section in its entirety.**

(Reason: This provision does not reflect standard practice in this area.)

****Section G2415.2.1 (404.2.1) CSST; add a second paragraph to read as follows:**

Both ends of each section of medium pressure gas piping shall identify its operating gas pressure with an *approved* tag. The tags are to be composed of aluminum or stainless steel and the following wording shall be stamped into the tag:

"WARNING: 1/2 to 5 psi gas pressure - Do Not Remove"

(Reason: To protect homeowners and plumbers.)

***Section G2415.12 (404.12) and G2415.12.1 (404.12.1); change to read as follows:**

G2415.12 (404.12) Minimum burial depth. Underground *piping systems* shall be installed a minimum depth of ~~12 inches (305 mm)~~ 18 inches (457 mm) below grade, ~~except as provided for in Section G2415.12.1.~~

G2415.12.1 (404.12.1) Individual Outdoor Appliances; Delete in its entirety

(Reason: To provide increased protection to piping systems.)

***Section G2417.1 (406.1); change to read as follows:**

G2417.1 (406.1) General. Prior to acceptance and initial operation, all *piping* installations shall be inspected and *pressure tested* to determine that the materials, design, fabrication, and installation practices comply with the requirements of this *code*. The *permit* holder shall make the applicable tests prescribed in Sections 2417.1.1 through 2417.1.5 to determine compliance with the provisions of this *code*. The *permit* holder shall give reasonable advance notice to the *building official* when the *piping system* is ready for testing. The *equipment*, material, power and labor necessary for the inspections and test shall be furnished by the *permit* holder and the *permit* holder shall be responsible for determining that the work will withstand the test pressure prescribed in the following tests.

(Reason: To utilize language used in the IPC regarding who is responsible for testing procedures.)

***Section G2417.4; change to read as follows:**

G2417.4 (406.4) Test pressure measurement. Test pressure shall be measured with a monometer or with a pressure-measuring device designed and calibrated to read, record, or indicate a pressure loss caused by leakage during the pressure test period. The source of pressure shall be isolated before the pressure tests are made. ~~Mechanical gauges used to measure test pressures shall have a range such that the highest end of the scale is not greater than five times the test pressure.~~

(Reason: To require the use of more accurate diaphragm gauges. Spring gauges do not provide accurate measurement below approximately 17 psig.)

***Section G2417.4.1; change to read as follows:**

G2417.4.1 (406.4.1) Test pressure. The test pressure to be used shall be no less than 3 psig (20 kPa gauge), or at the discretion of the Code Official, the piping and valves may be tested at a pressure of at least six (6) inches (152 mm) of mercury, measured with a manometer or slope gauge, ~~irrespective of design pressure. Where the test pressure exceeds 125 psig (862 kPa gauge), the test pressure shall not exceed a value that produces a hoop stress in the piping greater than 50 percent of the specified minimum yield strength of the pipe.~~ For tests requiring a pressure of 3 psig, diaphragm gauges shall utilize a dial with a minimum diameter of three and one half inches (3 ½"), a set hand, 1/10 pound incrementation and pressure range not to exceed 6 psi for tests requiring a pressure of 3 psig. For tests requiring a pressure of 10 psig, diaphragm gauges shall utilize a dial with a minimum diameter of three and one-half inches (3 ½"), a set hand, a minimum of 2/10 pound incrementation and a pressure range not to exceed 20 psi. For welded piping, and for piping carrying gas at pressures in excess of fourteen (14) inches water column pressure (3.48 kPa) (1/2 psi) and less than 200 inches of water column pressure (52.2 kPa) (7.5 psi), the test pressure shall not be less than ten (10) pounds per square inch (69.6 kPa). For piping carrying gas at a pressure that exceeds 200 inches of water column (52.2 kPa) (7.5 psi), the test pressure shall be not less than one and one-half times the proposed maximum working pressure.

Diaphragm gauges used for testing must display a current calibration and be in good working condition. The appropriate test must be applied to the diaphragm gauge used for testing

(Reason: To provide for lesser pressures to coordinate with the use of more accurate diaphragm gauges.)

***Section G2417.4.2; change to read as follows:**

G2417.4.2 (406.4.2) Test duration. The test duration shall be held for a length of time satisfactory to the *Building Official*, but in no case for ~~be not~~ less than ~~10~~ fifteen (15) minutes. For welded *piping*, and for *piping* carrying gas at pressures in excess of fourteen (14) inches water column pressure (3.48 kPa), the test duration shall be held for a length of time satisfactory to the *Building Official*, but in no case for less than thirty (30) minutes.

(Reason: To comply with accepted regional practices.)

***Section G2420.1 (406.1); add Section G2420.1.4 to read as follows:**

G2420.1.4 Valves in CSST installations. Shutoff *valves* installed with corrugated stainless steel (CSST) *piping systems* shall be supported with an approved termination fitting, or equivalent support, suitable for the size of the *valves*, of adequate strength and quality, and located at intervals so as to prevent or damp out excessive vibration but in no case greater than 12-inches from the center of the *valve*. Supports shall be installed so as not to interfere with the free expansion and contraction of the system's *piping*, fittings, and *valves* between anchors. All *valves* and supports shall be designed and installed so they will not be disengaged by movement of the supporting *piping*.

(Reason: To provide proper security to CSST valves. These standards were established in this region in 1999 when CSST was an emerging technology.)

***Section G2420.5.1 (409.5.1); add text to read as follows:**

G2420.5.1 (409.5.1) Located within the same room. The shutoff valve…*{bulk of paragraph unchanged}…* in accordance with the appliance manufacturer's instructions. A secondary shutoff valve must be installed within 3 feet (914 mm) of the firebox if appliance shutoff is located in the firebox.

(Reason: Reflects regional practice and provides an additional measure of safety.)

***Section G2421.1 (410.1); add text and Exception to read as follows:**

G2421.1 (410.1) Pressure regulators. A line *pressure regulator* shall be *… {bulk of paragraph unchanged}… approved* for outdoor installation. Access to *regulators* shall comply with the requirements for access to *appliances* as specified in Section M1305.

> **Exception:** A passageway or level service space is not required when the *regulator* is capable of being serviced and removed through the required *attic* opening.

(Reason: To require adequate access to regulators.)

***Section G2422.1.2.3 (411.1.3.3) Prohibited locations and penetrations; delete Exception 1 and Exception 4.**

(Reason: To comply with accepted regional practices.)

***Section G2445.2 (621.2); add Exception to read as follows:**

G2445.2 (621.2) Prohibited use. One or more *unvented room heaters* shall not be used as the sole source of comfort heating in a *dwelling unit*.

Exception: Existing *approved unvented room heaters* may continue to be used in *dwelling units*, in accordance with the *code* provisions in effect when installed, when *approved* by the *Building Official* unless an unsafe condition is determined to exist as described in *International Fuel Gas Code* Section 108.7 of the Fuel Gas Code.

(Reason: Gives code official discretion.)

***Section G2448.1.1 (624.1.1); change to read as follows:**

G2448.1.1 (624.1.1) Installation requirements. The requirements for *water heaters* relative to access, sizing, *relief valves*, drain pans and scald protection shall be in accordance with this *code.*

(Reason: To clarify installation requirements. Also corresponds with amendments regarding water heater access.)

****Section P2603; add to read as follows:**

P2603.3 Protection against corrosion. Metallic piping, except for cast iron, ductile iron and galvanized steel, shall not be placed in direct contact with steel framing members, concrete or cinder walls and floors or other masonry. Metallic piping shall not be placed in direct contact with corrosive soil. Where sheathing is used to prevent direct contact, the sheathing shall have a thickness of not less than 0.008 inch (8 mil) (0.203 mm) and the sheathing shall be made of approved material ~~plastic~~. Where sheathing protects piping that penetrates concrete or masonry walls or floors, the sheathing shall be installed in a manner that allows movement of the piping within the sheathing.

(Reason: Allows for other materials to be accepted.)

****Section P2603.5.1 Sewer Depth; change to read as follows:**

P2603.5.1 Sewer depth. Building sewers that connect to private sewage disposal systems shall be a minimum of [number] inches (mm) below finished grade at the point of septic tank connection. Building sewers shall be a minimum of 12 inches (304 mm) below grade.

(Reason: Provides sewer depth that is common in this region. Deleted reference to private sewage disposal because a private sewage disposal code is not typically adopted in this region.)

****Section P2604; add to read as follows:**

P2604.2.1 Plastic sewer and DWV piping installation. Plastic sewer and DWV piping installed underground shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Trench width shall be controlled to not exceed the outside the pipe diameter plus 16 inches or in a trench which has a controlled width equal to the nominal diameter of the piping multiplied by 1.25 plus 12 inches. The piping shall be bedded in 4 inches of granular fill and then backfilled compacting the side fill in 6-inch layers on each side of the piping. The compaction shall be to minimum of 85 percent standard proctor density and extend to a minimum of 6 inches above the top of the pipe.

(Reason: To follow manufacturer backfill requirements and to be clear to Inspectors out in the field.)

*** Section P2801; change to read as follows:**

P2801.6 Required pan.

Where a storage tank-type water heater or a hot water storage tank is installed in a location where water leakage from the tank will cause damage, the tank shall be installed in a pan constructed of one of the following:

1. Galvanized steel or aluminum of not less than 0.0236 inch (0.6010 mm) in thickness.
2. Plastic not less than 0.036 inch (0.9 mm) in thickness.
3. Other *approved* materials.

~~A plastic pan beneath a gas-fired water heater shall be constructed of material having a flame spread index of 25 or less and a smoke-developed index of 450 or less when tested in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723~~.

(*Reason: Plastic burns degrading material over time on gas fired water heaters and to maintaining protection level.)*

****Section P2801.6.1; change to read as follows:**

Section P2801.6.1 Pan size and drain. The pan shall be not less than 11/2 inches (38 mm) in depth and shall be of sufficient size and shape to receive all dripping or condensate from the tank or water heater. The pan shall be drained by an indirect waste pipe having a diameter of not less than 3/4 inch (19 mm). Piping for safety pan drains shall be of those materials listed in Table P2906.5.
Multiple pan drains may terminate to a single discharge piping system when *approved* by the administrative authority and permitted by the manufactures installation instructions and installed with those instructions. {*existing text unchanged}*

(Reason: Regionally accepted practice.)

****** Section P2804.6.1; change to read as follows:***

Section P2804.6.1 Requirements for discharge piping. The discharge piping serving a pressure relief valve, temperature relief valve or combination thereof shall:

1. Not be directly connected to the drainage system.
2. Discharge through an air gap ~~located in the same room as the water heater.~~
3. Not be smaller than the diameter of the outlet of the valve served and shall discharge full size to the air gap.
4. Serve a single relief device and shall not connect to piping serving any other relief device or equipment.

   Exception: Multiple relief devices may be installed to a single T & P discharge piping system when approved by the administrative authority and permitted by the manufactures installation instructions and installed with those instructions.

5. Discharge to ~~the floor, to the pan serving the water heater or storage tank, to a waste receptor~~ an approved location or to the outdoors.

   [remainder unchanged]

(Reason: To ensure the T&P is ran to the exterior.)

*****Section P2902.5.3; change to read as follows:***

P2902.5.3 Lawn irrigation systems. The potable water supply to lawn irrigation systems shall be protected against backflow by an atmospheric-type vacuum breaker, a pressure-type vacuum breaker, a double-check assembly or a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer. A valve shall not be installed

downstream from an atmospheric vacuum breaker. Where chemicals are introduced into the system, the potable water supply shall be protected against backflow by a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer.

(Reason: To provide clarity.)

*****Section P3003.9; change to read as follows:**

P3003.9.2 Solvent cementing. Joint surfaces shall be clean and free from moisture. A purple primer that conforms to ASTM F 656 shall be applied. Solvent cement not purple in color and conforming to ASTM D 2564, CSA B137.3, CSA B181.2 or CSA B182.1 shall be applied to all joint surfaces. The joint shall be made while the cement is wet and shall be in accordance with ASTM D 2855. Solvent cement joints shall be permitted above or below ground.

~~Exception: A primer is not required where both of the following conditions apply:~~

1. ~~The solvent cement used is third-party certified as conforming to ASTM D 2564~~
2. ~~The solvent cement is used only for joining PVC drain, waste, and vent pipe and fittings in not pressure applications in sizes up to and including 4 inches (102mm) in diameter.~~

(Reason: to keep the "process of joining PVC pipe".)

*****Section P3111Combination waste and vent systems; delete this section in its entirety.***

(Reason: A combination waste and vent system is not approved for use in residential construction.)

*****Section P3112.2 Vent Collection; delete and replace with the following:***

P3112.2 Installation. Traps for island sinks and similar equipment shall be roughed in above the floor and may be vented by extending the vent as high as possible, but not less than the drainboard height and then returning it downward and connecting it to the horizontal sink drain immediately downstream from the vertical fixture drain. The return vent shall be connected to the horizontal drain through a wye-branch fitting and shall, in addition, be provided with a foot vent taken off the vertical fixture vent by means of a wye-branch immediately below the floor and extending to the nearest partition and then through the roof to the open air or may be connected to other vents at a point not less than six (6) inches (152 mm) above the flood level rim of the fixtures served. Drainage fittings shall be used on all parts of the vent below the floor level and a minimum slope of one-quarter (1/4) inch per foot (20.9 mm/m) back to the drain shall be maintained. The return bend used under the drain-board shall be a one (1) piece fitting or an assembly of a forty-five (45) degree (0.79 radius), a ninety (90) degree (1.6 radius) and a forty-five (45) degree (0.79 radius) elbow in the order named. Pipe sizing shall be as elsewhere required in this Code. The island sink drain, upstream of the return vent, shall serve no other fixtures. An accessible cleanout shall be installed in the vertical portion of the foot vent.

(Reason: To clarify the installation of island venting and to provide a regional guideline on a standard installation method for this region.)

END

North Central Texas
Council of Governments

Recommended Amendments to the 2018 International Existing Building Code

North Central Texas Council of Governments Region

The following sections, paragraphs, and sentences of the *2018 International Existing Building Code* are hereby amended as follows: Standard type is text from the IEBC. Underlined type is text inserted. ~~Lined through type is deleted text from IEBC.~~ A double asterisk (**) at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the 2015 edition of the code and a triple asterisk (***) identifies a new or revised amendment with the 2018 code.

***Section 102.4; change to read as follows:**

[A] 102.4 Referenced codes and standards. The codes, when specifically adopted, and standards referenced in this code shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference and as further regulated in Sections 102.4.1 and 102.4.2.

(Reason: To not inadvertently adopt other codes (i.e. Wildland Urban Interface Code etc…) by reference.)

***Section 202; amend definition of Existing Building as follows:**

Existing Building - A building, structure, or space, with an approved final inspection issued under a code edition which is at least 2 published code editions preceding the currently adopted building code; or a change of occupancy.

***Section 202; amend definition of Existing Structure as follows:**

Existing Structure- A building, structure, or space, with an approved final inspection issued under a code edition which is at least 2 published code editions preceding the currently adopted building code; or a change of occupancy.

(Reason: To prevent potential abuses in new construction and shell buildings.)

***Section 305.1; adds an exception to read as follows:**

Exception: Components of projects regulated by and registered with Architectural Barriers Division of Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation shall be deemed to be incompliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(Reason: To coordinate with the IEBC and State Law.)

***Section 305.4.2; add Number 7 to the list of requirements as follows**:

7. At least one accessible family or assisted use toilet room shall be provided in accordance with Chapter 11 of the International Building Code.

(Reason: Accessible toilet rooms should be available for disabled occupants.)

****Section 401.3 Flood Hazard Areas; delete this section:**

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

****Section 405.2.5 Flood Hazard Areas; delete this section:**

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

Section* 406.1*; add a code reference to read as follows:

406.1 Material. Existing electrical wiring and equipment undergoing *repair* shall be allowed to be repaired or replaced with like material, in accordance with the requirements of NFPA 70.

(Reason: To ensure compliance with the NEC relative to any electrical repairs/replacement.)

****Section 502.3 Flood Hazard Areas; delete this section:***

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city)

Section 504.1.2; change to read as follows:

504.1.2 Existing fire escapes. Existing fire escapes shall continue to be accepted as a component in the means of egress in existing buildings only. Existing fire escapes shall be permitted to be repaired or replaced.

(Reason: *To add clarity and help reduce confusion associated with the amendment preventing new fire escapes.*)

Section* 504.1.3; *delete entire section:

504.1.3 ~~New fire escapes~~. ~~New fire escapes for existing buildings shall be permitted only where exterior stairways cannot be utilized due to lot lines limiting stairway size or due to the sidewalks, alleys or roads at grade level. New fire escapes shall not incorporate ladders or access by windows.~~

(Reason: *To generally require a higher level of egress protection.*)

****Section 507.3 Flood Hazard Areas; delete this section:***

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

****Section 701.3 Flood Hazard Areas; delete this section:***

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

Section* 702.6*; add a code reference to read as follows:

702.6 Materials and methods. All new work shall comply with the materials and methods requirements in the *International Building Code*, *International Energy Conservation Code*, *International Mechanical Code*, National Electrical Code, and *International Plumbing Code*, as applicable, that specify material standards, detail of installation and connection, joints, penetrations, and continuity of any element, component, or system in the building.

(Reason: To provide a more complete list of potentially adopted codes.)

****Section 802.5.1;* change to read as follows:**

802.5.1 Minimum requirement. Every portion of ~~a floor, such as a balcony or a loading dock,~~ open-sided walking surfaces, including *mezzanines*, *equipment platforms*, *aisles*, *stairs*, *ramps* and landings that is more than 30 inches (762 mm) above the floor or grade below and is not provided with guards, or those in which the existing guards are judged to be in danger of collapsing, shall be provided with guards.

(Reason: To be consistent with Building Code requirements for guards and unsafe conditions.)

***Section 803.1; add sentence to read as follows:**

For the purpose of fire sprinkler protection and fire alarm requirements included in this section, the *work area* shall be extended to include at least the entire tenant space or spaces bounded by walls capable of resisting the passage of smoke containing the subject *work area*, and if the *work area* includes a corridor, hallway, or other exit access, then such corridor, hallway, or other exit access shall be protected in its entirety on that particular floor level.

(Reason: The intent is to avoid work area protection that would result in partial sprinkler or fire alarm protection. Partial sprinkler protection not delineated by walls would be a clear violation of NFPA 13 and would not allow the sprinkler to perform or function as intended. Also, partial fire alarm coverage is a clear violation of the Fire Code, NFPA 72, and ADA.)

***Section 803.2.4; change exception to read as follows:**

Exception: Supervision is not required where the Fire Code does not require such for new construction ~~for the following:~~

~~1.Underground gate valve with roadway boxes.~~
~~2. Halogenated extinguishing systems.~~
~~3.Carbon dioxide extinguishing systems.~~
~~4.Dry- and wet-chemical extinguishing systems.~~
~~5.Automatic sprinkler systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13R where a common supply main is used to supply both domestic and automatic sprinkler systems and a separate shutoff valve for the automatic sprinkler system is not provided.~~

(Reason: The published exceptions are over-reaching and will result in inconsistencies among supervised protection systems and cause confusion for first responders as well.)

***Section 803.3; change section to read as follows:**

803.3 Standpipes. Refer to Section 1103.6 of the Fire Code for retroactive standpipe requirements. {Delete rest of Section 804.3.}

(Reason: The Fire Code already requires standpipes in these buildings (greater than 50 ft.) retroactively in Section 1103.6. This new section would negate/lessen those retroactive provisions already contained in the Fire Code.)

Section **805.2; *remove Exception #1*

Exception 1. ~~Where the work area and the means of egress serving it complies with NFPA101.~~

(Reason: NFPA 101 is not a commonly adopted code in the region and enforcement could be problematic.)

Section* 805.3.1.2*; change to read as follows:

805.3.1.2 Fire Escapes required. For other than Group I-2, where more than one exit is required an existing ~~or newly constructed~~ fire escape complying with section 805.3.1.2.1 shall be accepted as providing one of the required means of egress.

(Reason: Higher level of safety by not allowing new fire escapes.)

Section* 805.3.1.2.1*; change to read as follows:

805.3.1.2.1 Fire Escape access and details - …

1. [Remain unchanged]

2. Access to a ~~new~~ fire escape shall be through a door...
3. Item Deleted
4. [Remain unchanged]
5. In all buildings of Group E occupancy up to and including the 12th grade, buildings of Group I occupancy, ~~rooming~~ boarding houses, and childcare centers, ladders of any type are prohibited on fire escapes used as a required means of egress.

(Reason: Higher level of safety by not allowing new fire escapes. Consistency with language and defined term in IBC.)

***Section 805.5.2 Transoms; add language to read as follows:**

805.5.2 Transoms. In all buildings of Group B, E, [Remainder unchanged]

(Reason: Transom windows were historically a common practice in school buildings and each jurisdiction should evaluate the impact on their stakeholders and their community with regards to section.)

***Section 904.1; add sentence to read as follows:**

For the purpose of fire sprinkler protection and fire alarm requirements included in this section, the *work area* shall be extended to include at least the entire tenant space or spaces bounded by walls containing the subject *work area*, and if the *work area* includes a corridor, hallway, or other exit access, then such corridor, hallway, or other exit access shall be protected in its entirety on that particular floor level.

(Reason: The intent is to avoid work area protection that would result in partial sprinkler or fire alarm protection. Partial sprinkler protection not delineated by walls would be a clear violation of NFPA 13 and the Fire Code and would not allow the sprinkler system to perform or function as intended. Also, partial fire alarm coverage is a clear violation of the Fire Code, NFPA 72, and ADA.)

***Section 904.1.1; change sentence to read as follows:**

904.1.1 High-rise buildings. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided in work areas of ~~where the~~ high-rise buildings. ~~has a sufficient municipal water supply for the design and installation of an automatic sprinkler system at the site~~.

(Reason: Level 3 alterations are affecting more than 50% of the existing high-rise building, and as such, sprinkler protection is more than justifiable, even when fire pumps, etc., are necessary. It is noted that the work area method is one of three different methods available to the designer/owner in the IEBC.)

****Section 1103.3 Flood Hazard Areas; delete this section:**

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

****Section 1201.4 Flood Hazard Areas; delete this section:**

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

****Section 1301.3.2; change to read as follows:**

1301.3.2 Compliance with other codes. Buildings that are evaluated in accordance with this section shall comply with the International Fire Code. ~~and International Property Maintenance Code.~~

(Reason: NCTCOG does not currently review the IPMC for recommended amendments at this time.)

****Section 1301.3.3 Compliance with Flood Hazard Provisions; delete this section:**

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

***Section 1402.6 Flood Hazard Areas; delete this section:**

(Reason: Flood hazard ordinances may be administered by other departments within the city.)

END

North Central Texas Council of Governments

Recommended Amendments to the 2018 International Plumbing Code

North Central Texas Council of Governments Region

The following sections, paragraphs, and sentences of the *2018 International Plumbing Code* are hereby amended as follows: Standard type is text from the IPC. Underlined type is text inserted. ~~Lined through type is deleted text from the IPC.~~ A double asterisk at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the 2015 edition of the code and a triple asterisk identifies a new or revised amendment with the 2018 edition of the code.

Note: Historically NCTCOG has limited Chapter 1 amendments in order to allow each city to insert their local policies and procedures. We now have suggested certain items to be brought to the attention of cities considering adoption of the code that may be of concern to several jurisdictions. **It is still intended to be discretionary to each city to determine which Chapter 1 amendments to include.**

****Table of Contents, Chapter 7, Section 714; change to read as follows:***

714 Engineered ~~Computerized~~ Drainage Design 69

(Reason: Editorial change to make compatible with amendment to Section 714.1.)

******Section 102.8; change to read as follows:***

102.8 Referenced codes and standards. The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be those that are listed in Chapter 15 and such codes, when specifically adopted, and standards shall be considered as part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where the differences occur between provisions of this code and the referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall be the minimum requirements. Whenever amendments have been adopted to the referenced codes and standards, each reference to said code and standard shall be considered to reference the adopted amendments. Any reference to NFPA 70 shall mean the Electrical Code as adopted.

(Reason: Legal wording to recognize locally adopted codes and amendments adopted with referenced codes.)

****Sections 106.6.2 and 106.6.3; change to read as follows:***

106.6.2 Fee schedule. The fees for all plumbing work shall be as ~~indicated in the following schedule: (JURISDICTION TO INSERT APPROPRIATE SCHEDULE)~~ adopted by resolution of the governing body of the jurisdiction.

106.6.3 Fee Refunds. The code official shall establish a policy for ~~authorize~~ authorizing the refunding of fees ~~as follows~~. *{Delete balance of section}*

(Reason: This calls to attention of local jurisdictions considering adoption that they need a fee schedule and a refund policy.)

****Section 109; delete entire section and insert the following:***

SECTION 109
MEANS OF APPEAL

109.1 Application for appeal. Any person shall have the right to appeal a decision of the code official to the board of appeals established by ordinance. The board shall be governed by the enabling ordinance.

(Reason: Most jurisdictions already have an ordinance establishing and governing an appeals board for this code. This also calls to the attention of jurisdictions not having such a board that it needs to be established.)

******Section 305; change to read as follows:***

305.1 Protection against contact. Metallic piping, except for cast iron, ductile iron and galvanized steel, shall not be placed in direct contact with steel framing members, concrete or cinder walls and floors or other masonry. Metallic piping shall not be placed in direct contact with corrosive soil. Where sheathing is used to prevent direct contact, the sheathing shall have a thickness of not less than 0.008 inch (8 mil) (0.203 mm) and the sheathing shall be made of approved material ~~plastic~~. Where sheathing protects piping that penetrates concrete or masonry walls or floors, the sheathing shall be installed in a manner that allows movement of the piping within the sheathing.

(Reason: Allows for other materials to be accepted.)

305.4.1 Sewer depth. ~~Building sewers that connect to private sewage disposal systems shall be a minimum of [number] inches (mm) below finished grade at the point of septic tank connection.~~ Building sewers shall be a minimum of 12 inches (304 mm) below grade.

(Reason: Provides sewer depth that is common in this region. Deleted reference to private sewage disposal because a private sewage disposal code is not typically adopted in this region.)

*****Section 305.7; change to read as follows:***

305.7 Protection of components of plumbing system. Components of a plumbing system installed within 3 feet along alleyways, driveways, parking garages or other locations in a manner in which they could be exposed to damage shall be recessed into the wall or otherwise protected in an *approved* manner.

(Reason: Provide a common cutoff point to designate a general separation distance at which plumbing systems should be safe for consistency in enforcement.)

******Section 306; change to read as follows:***

*****306.2.4 Plastic sewer and DWV piping installation.** Plastic sewer and DWV piping installed underground shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Trench width shall be controlled to not exceed the outside the pipe diameter plus 16 inches or in a trench which has a controlled width equal to the nominal diameter of the diameter of the piping multiplied by 1.25 plus 12 inches. The piping shall be bedded in 4 inches of granular fill and then backfilled compacting the side fill in 6-inch layers on each side of the piping. The compaction shall be to minimum of 85 percent standard proctor density and extend to a minimum of 6 inches above the top of the pipe.

(Reason: To follow manufacturer backfill requirements and to be clear to Inspectors out in the field)

*****Section 314.2.1; change to read as follows:***

314.2.1 Condensate disposal. Condensate from all cooling coils and evaporators shall be conveyed from the drain pan outlet to an *approved* place of disposal. ... {text unchanged} **...** Condensate shall not discharge into a street, alley, sidewalk, rooftop, or other areas so as to cause a nuisance.

(Reason: Greater specificity in prohibited locations for condensate discharge. It is the intent of this amendment to send condensate discharge into a sanitary sewer drain. Consistent with regional amendment to IMC 307.2.1.)

***Section 409.2; change to read as follows:**

409.2 Water connection. The water supply to a commercial dishwashing machine shall be protected against backflow by an air gap or backflow preventer in accordance with Section 608. (Remainder of section unchanged).

(Reason: Domestic dishwashing machines would be difficult to enforce and should already come equipped with backflow preventers. Consistent with regional amendments in IPC Section 608.)

***Section 413.4; change to read as follows:**

413.4 Required location for floor drains ~~Public laundries and central washing facilities.~~ Floor drains shall be installed in the following areas:

1. In public laundries and in the central washing facilities of multiple family dwellings, the rooms containing automatic clothes washers shall be provided with floor drains located to readily drain the entire floor area. Such drains shall have a minimum outlet of not less than 3 inches (76 mm) in diameter.

2. Commercial kitchens. In lieu of floor drains in commercial kitchens, the Code Official may accept floor sinks.

3. Public restrooms.

(Reason: To make more compatible with local health code practices.)

****Section 502.3; change to read as follows:**

502.3 Water heaters installed in attics. Attics containing a water heater shall be provided . . . {bulk of paragraph unchanged} . . . side of the water heater. The clear access opening dimensions shall be not less than 20 inches by 30 inches (508 mm by 762 mm) where such dimensions are large enough to allow removal of the water heater. As a minimum, for access to the attic space, provide one of the following:

1. A permanent stair.

2. A pull-down stair with a minimum 300 lb (136 kg) capacity.

3. An access door from an upper floor level.

4. Access Panel may be used in lieu of items 1, 2, and 3 with prior approval of the Code Official due to building conditions.

Exceptions:

1. The passageway and level service space are not required where the appliance is capable of being serviced and removed… {remainder of text unchanged}

(Reason: To provide a safe means of accessibility to appliances in attics and to allow for different types of construction limitations. Consistent with regional amendment to IMC and IFGC)

***Section 502.6; add Section 502.6 to read as follows:**

502.6 Water heaters above ground or floor. When the attic, roof, mezzanine or platform in which a water heater is installed is more than eight (8) feet (2438 mm) above the ground or floor level, it shall be made accessible by a stairway or permanent ladder fastened to the building.

Exception: A max 10-gallon water heater (or larger with approval) is capable of being accessed through a lay-in ceiling and a water heater is installed is not more than ten (10) feet (3048 mm) above the ground or floor level and may be reached with a portable ladder.

(Reason: To provide safe access to water heaters. (Consistent with regional amendments to IFGC 306.7 and IMC 306.3. Note reference to amendment above.)

****Section 504.6; change to read as follows:**

504.6 Requirements for discharge piping. The discharge piping serving a pressure relief valve, temperature relief valve or combination thereof shall:

1. Not be directly connected to the drainage system.
2. Discharge through an air gap. ~~located in the same room as the water heater~~.
3. Not be smaller than the diameter of the outlet of the valve served and shall discharge full size to the air gap.
4. Serve a single relief device and shall not connect to piping serving any other relief device or equipment.

   Exception: Multiple relief devices may be installed to a single T & P discharge piping system when *approved* by the administrative authority and permitted by the manufacture's installation instructions and installed with those instructions.

5. Discharge to ~~the floor, to the pan serving the water heater or storage tank, to a waste receptor~~ an approved location or to the outdoors.
6. Discharge in a manner that does not cause personal injury or structural damage.
7. Discharge to a termination point that is readily observable by the building occupants.
8. Not be trapped.
9. Be installed so as to flow by gravity.
10. Terminate not more than 6 inches above and not less than two times the discharge pipe diameter above the floor or flood level rim of the waste receptor.

11. Not have a threaded connection at the end of such piping.

12. Not have valves or tee fittings.

13. Be constructed of those materials listed in Section 605.4 or materials tested, rated and *approved* for such use in accordance with ASME A112.4.1.

14. Be one nominal size larger than the size of the relief valve outlet, where the relief valve discharge piping is installed with insert fittings. The outlet end of such tubing shall be fastened in place

(Reason: To provide a higher degree of safety.)

*****Section 504.7.1; change to read as follows:***

Section 504.7.1 Pan size and drain to read as follows: The pan shall be not less than 11/2 inches (38 mm) in depth and shall be of sufficient size and shape to receive all dripping or condensate from the tank or water heater. The pan shall be drained by an indirect waste pipe having a diameter of not less than 3/4 inch (19 mm). Piping for safety pan drains shall be of those materials listed in Table 605.4. Multiple pan drains may terminate to a single discharge piping system when *approved* by the administrative authority and permitted by the manufactures installation instructions and installed with those instructions.

*****Section 608.1; change to read as follows:***

608.1 General. A potable water supply system shall be designed, installed and maintained in such a manner so as to prevent contamination from non-potable liquids, solids or gases being introduced into the potable water supply through cross-connections or any other piping connections to the system. Backflow preventer applications shall conform to applicable local regulations, Table 608.1, ~~except~~ and as specifically stated in Sections 608.2 through 608.16.10.

(Reason: To recognize local requirements.)

*****Section 608.17.5; change to read as follows:***

608.17.5 Connections to lawn irrigation systems.
The potable water supply to lawn irrigation systems shall be protected against backflow by an atmospheric-type vacuum breaker, a pressure-type vacuum breaker, a double-check assembly or a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer. A valve shall not be installed downstream from an atmospheric vacuum breaker. Where chemicals are introduced into the system, the potable water supply shall be protected against backflow by a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer.

(Reason: To recognize regional practices.)

*****Section 608.18; change to read as follows:***

608.18 Protection of individual water supplies. An individual water supply shall be located and constructed so as to be safeguarded against contamination in accordance with applicable local regulations. Installation shall be in accordance with Sections 608.17.1 through 608.17.8.

(Reason: To allow local requirements to govern.)

Section 703.6; Delete

(Reason: not a standard practice in this region)

***Section 704.5; added to read as follows:**

***704.5* Single stack fittings.** Single stack fittings with internal baffle, PVC schedule 40 or cast iron single stack shall be designed by a registered engineer and comply to a national recognized standard.

(Reason: to allow owners, installers, inspectors, and design professionals to ready identify product markers to determine they meet all required standards.)

***Section 712.5; add Section 712.5 to read as follows:**

712.5 Dual Pump System. All sumps shall be automatically discharged and, when in any "public use" occupancy where the sump serves more than 10 fixture units, shall be provided with dual pumps or ejectors arranged to function independently in case of overload or mechanical failure. For storm drainage sumps and pumping systems, see Section 1113.

(Reason: To address dual pump system. To provide reference for storm drainage systems.)

***Section 713, 713.1; change to read as follows:**

SECTION 713
ENGINEERED ~~COMPUTERIZED~~ DRAINAGE DESIGN

713.1 Design of drainage system. The sizing, design and layout of the drainage system shall be ~~permitted to be~~ designed by a registered engineer using *approved* ~~computer~~ design methods.

(Reason: Code was too restrictive.)

Section 803.3; added to read as follows:

803.3 Special waste pipe, fittings, and components. Pipes, fittings, and components receiving or intended to receive the discharge of any fixture into which acid or corrosive chemicals are placed shall be constructed of CPVC, high silicone iron, PP, PVDF, chemical resistant glass, or glazed ceramic materials.

(Reason: To clarify the allowable materials which are specifically listed for chemical drainage applications.)

***Section 903.1; change to read as follows:**

903.1 Roof extension. Open vent pipes that extend through a roof shall terminate not less than six (6) inches (152 mm) above the roof. Where a roof is to be used for assembly or as a promenade, observation deck, sunbathing deck or similar purposes, open vent pipes shall terminate not less than 7 feet (2134 mm) above the roof.

(Reason: To provide regional guideline on standard installation method for this area and address reference number correction.)

****Section 918.8; change to read as follows.**

918.8 **Where permitted**. Individual, branch and circuit vents shall be permitted to terminate with a connection to an individual or branch-type air admittance valve in accordance with Section 918.3.1. Stack

vents and vent stacks shall be permitted to terminate to stack-type air admittance valves in accordance with Section 918.3.2. Air admittance valves shall only be installed with the prior approval of the building official.

(Reason: Mechanical Device that is subject to fail and not installed per manufacturer)

***Section 1003; see note below:**

{Until the Health and Water Departments of the area can coordinate a uniform grease interceptor section, each city will have to modify this section individually.}

***Section 1106.1; change to read as follows:**

1106.1 General. The size of the vertical conductors and leaders, building storm drains, building storm sewers, and any horizontal branches of such drains or sewers shall be based on six (6) inches per hour ~~the 100-year hourly~~ rainfall rate ~~indicated in Figure 1106.1 or on other rainfall rates determined from *approved* local weather data~~.

(Reason: Specify the roof drain size normally used in the area.)

***Section 1108.3; change to read as follows:**

1108.3 Sizing of secondary drains. Secondary (emergency) roof drain systems shall be sized in accordance with Section 1106 ~~based on the rainfall rate for which the primary system is sized in Figure 1106.1 or on other rainfall rates determined from *approved* local weather data.~~ Scuppers shall be sized to prevent the depth of ponding water from exceeding that for which the roof was designed as determined by Section 1101.7. Scuppers shall not have an opening dimension of less than 4 inches (102 mm). The flow through the primary system shall not be considered when sizing the secondary roof drain system.

(Reason: Specify that overflow drainage is to be the same size as the normal roof drains.)

****Section 1109; delete this section.**

*****Section 1202.1; delete Exceptions 1 and 2.**

(Reason: State law already specifies that Med Gas systems must comply with NFPA 99.)

END

North Central Texas Council of Governments

Recommended Amendments to the 2018 International Mechanical Code

North Central Texas Council of Governments Region

The following sections, paragraphs, and sentences of the *2018 International Mechanical Code* (IMC) are hereby amended as follows: Standard type is text from the IMC. Underlined type is text inserted. ~~Lined through type is deleted text from the IMC.~~ A double asterisk at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the 2015 edition of the code and a triple asterisk identifies a new or revised amendment of the 2018 edition of the code.

Note: Historically the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has limited Chapter 1 amendments in order to allow each city to insert their local policies and procedures. We now have suggested certain items to be brought to the attention of cities considering adoption of the code that may be of concern to several jurisdictions. **It is still intended to be discretionary to each city to determine which Chapter 1 amendments to include.**

******Section 102.8; change to read as follows:***

102.8 Referenced Codes and Standards. The codes and standards referenced herein shall be those that are listed in Chapter 15 and such codes, when specifically adopted, and standards shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and the referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall apply. Whenever amendments have been adopted to the referenced codes and standards, each reference to said code and standard shall be considered to reference the adopted amendments. Any reference to NFPA 70 shall mean the Electrical Code as adopted.

(Reason: Legal wording to recognize locally adopted codes and amendments adopted with referenced codes.)

******Section 306.3; change to read as follows:***

306.3 Appliances in Attics. Attics containing appliances shall be provided *. . . {bulk of paragraph unchanged} . . .* side of the appliance. The clear *access* opening dimensions shall be a minimum of 20 inches by 30 inches (508 mm by 762 mm), and large enough to allow removal of the largest appliance. As a minimum, for *access* to the attic space, provide one of the following:

1. A permanent stair.
2. A pull-down stair with a minimum 300 lb. (136 kg) capacity.
3. An *access* door from an upper floor level.
4. *Access* Panel may be used in lieu of items 1, 2, and 3 with prior approval of the code official due to building conditions.

   Exceptions:

   1. The passageway and level service space are not required where the appliance is capable of being serviced and removed… *{remainder of section unchanged}*

(Reason: To provide a safe means of accessibility to appliances in attics and to allow for different types of construction limitations. Consistent with regional amendment to International Fuel and gas Code (IFGC) 306.3.)

******Section 306.5; change to read as follows:***

306.5 Equipment and Appliances on Roofs or Elevated Structures. Where *equipment* requiring *access* or appliances are located on an elevated structure or the roof of a building such that personnel will have to climb higher than 16 feet (4877 mm) above grade to access, an interior or exterior means of access shall be provided. Exterior ladders providing roof *access* need not extend closer than 12 feet (2438 mm) to the finish grade or floor level below and shall extend to the *equipment* and appliances' level service space. Such *access* shall . . . *{bulk of section to read the same}* . . . on roofs having a slope greater than four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33-percent slope). ... *{remainder of text unchanged}*.

(Reason: To assure access to roof appliances and provide options to not extend exterior ladders to grade. Consistent with IFGC amendments.)

*****Section 306.5.1; change to read as follows:***

306.5.1 Sloped Roofs. Where appliances, *equipment*, fans or other components that require service are installed on a roof having a slope of three units vertical in 12 units horizontal (25-percent slope) or greater and having an edge more than 30 inches (762 mm) above grade at such edge, a catwalk at least 16 inches in width with substantial cleats spaced not more than 16 inches apart shall be provided from the roof *access* to a level platform at the appliance. The level platform shall be provided on each side of the appliance to which *access* is required for service, repair or maintenance. The platform shall be not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in any dimension and shall be provided with guards. The guards shall extend not less than 42 inches (1067 mm) above the platform, shall be constructed so as to prevent the passage of a 21-inch-diameter (533 mm) sphere and shall comply with the loading requirements for guards specified in the *International Building Code*…*{remainder of text unchanged}*.

(Reason: To assure safe access to roof appliances. Consistent with IFGC amendments.)

*****Section 306; add Section 306.6 to read as follows:***

306.6 Water Heaters Above Ground or Floor. When the mezzanine or platform in which a water heater is installed is more than eight (8) feet (2438 mm) above the ground or floor level, it shall be made accessible by a stairway or permanent ladder fastened to the building.

> **Exception:** A maximum 10 gallon water heater (or larger with approval) is capable of being accessed through a lay-in ceiling and the water heater installed is not more than ten (10) feet (3048 mm) above the ground or floor level and may be reached with a portable ladder.

(Reason: To provide safe access to water heaters and to provide lighting and receptacle for maintenance of equipment. Consistent with regional amendments to IFGC 306.7 and International Plumbing Code (IPC) 502.5.)

*****Section 307.2.3; amend item 2 to read as follows:***

2. A separate overflow drain line shall be connected to the drain pan provided with the equipment. Such overflow drain shall discharge to a conspicuous point of disposal to alert occupants in the event of a stoppage of the primary drain. The overflow drain line shall connect to the drain pan at a higher level than the primary drain connection. However, the conspicuous point shall not create a hazard such as dripping over a walking surface or other areas so as to create a nuisance.

(Reason: Greater specificity in prohibited locations for condensate discharge. Consistent with regional amendment to IPC 314.2.1.)

***Section 403.2.1; add an item 5 to read as follows:**

5. Toilet rooms within private dwellings that contain only a water closet, lavatory, or combination thereof may be ventilated with an *approved* mechanical recirculating fan or similar device designed to remove odors from the air.

(Reason: Consistent with common regional practice. Consistent with regional amendment to International Residential Code (IRC) R303.3.)

***Section 501.3; add an exception to read as follows:**

501.3 Exhaust Discharge. The air removed by every mechanical exhaust system shall be discharged outdoors at a point where it will not cause a public nuisance and not less than the distances specified in Section 501.3.1. The air shall be discharged to a location from which it cannot again be readily drawn in by a ventilating system. Air shall not be exhausted into an attic, crawl space, or be directed onto walkways.

Exceptions:

1. Whole-house ventilation-type attic fans shall be permitted to discharge into the attic space of dwelling units having private attics.

2. Commercial cooking recirculating systems.

3. Where installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and where mechanical or natural ventilation is otherwise provided in accordance with Chapter 4, listed and labeled domestic ductless range hoods shall not be required to discharge to the outdoors.

4. Toilet room exhaust ducts may terminate in a warehouse or shop area when infiltration of outside air is present.

(Reason: Provide a reasonable alternative in areas where a large volume of outside air is present.)

***Section 607.5.1; change to read as follows:**

607.5.1 Fire Walls. Ducts and air transfer openings permitted in fire walls in accordance with Section 705.11 of the International Building Code shall be protected with listed fire dampers installed in accordance with their listing**.** For hazardous exhaust systems see Section 510.1-510.9 IMC.

(Reason: Correspond with un-amended IBC 710.7.)

END

North Central Texas
Council of Governments

Recommended Amendments to the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code And the energy provisions of the 2018 International Residential Code

North Central Texas Council of Governments Region
(Climate Zone 3 of the IECC)

The following sections, paragraphs, and sentences of the *2018 International Energy Conservation Code* (IECC) are hereby amended as follows: Standard type is text from the IECC. Underlined type is text inserted. ~~Lined through type is deleted text from IECC.~~ A double (**) asterisk at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the 2015 edition of the code and a triple (***) asterisk identifies a new or revised amendment with the 2018 code. Section numbers in parenthesis represent the corresponding numbers of the energy provisions of the 2018 *International Residential Code* for parallel amendments.

2018 IECC (Energy Provisions of the 2018 IRC)

***Section C102/R102 General; add Section C102.1.2 and R102.1.2 (N1101.4.1) to read as follows:**

C102.1.2 Alternative compliance. A building certified by a national, state, or local accredited energy efficiency program and determined by the Energy Systems Laboratory to be in compliance with the energy efficiency requirements of this section may, at the option of the Code Official, be considered in compliance. The United States Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Program certification of energy code equivalency shall be considered in compliance.

R102.1.2 (N1101.4.1) Alternative compliance. A building certified by a national, state, or local accredited energy efficiency program and determined by the Energy Systems Laboratory to be in compliance with the energy efficiency requirements of this section may, at the option of the Code Official, be considered in compliance. The United States Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Program certification of energy code equivalency shall be considered in compliance. Regardless of the program or the path to compliance, each 1- and 2-family dwelling shall be tested for air and duct leakage as prescribed in Section R402.4.1.2 (N1102.4.1.2) and R403.3.3 (N1103.3.3) respectively.

(Reason: This amendment is added to allow alternative compliance in accordance with Texas HB 1365, 78th Legislature. Codified in Chapter 388 Texas Building Energy Performance Standards: §388.003(i). The last sentence to Section R102.1.2 (N1101.4.1) was added to insure that every house is tested in accordance with the mandatory provisions of the code.)

Section R202 (N1101.6) Definitions; *add the following definition:*

****PROJECTION FACTOR.** The ratio of the horizontal depth of the overhang, eave or permanently attached shading device, divided by the distance measured vertically from the bottom of the fenestration glazing to the underside of the overhang, eave or permanently attached shading device.

*(Reason: The amendment to **Section 402.3.2 (N1102.3.2) Glazed fenestration SHGC** was proposed by the TAB. ESL determined the proposal to be not less restrictive than the 2015 IECC. This added definition is necessary as part of that amendment. The amendment will provide additional options for SHGC selection.)*

North Central Texas
Council of Governments

Section R202 (N1101.6) Definitions; *add the following definition:*

****DYNAMIC GLAZING.** Any fenestration product that has the fully reversible ability to change it performance properties, including *U*-factor, solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC), or visible transmittance (VT).

(Reason: This term is referenced in Section R402.3.2. This definition of DYMANIC GLAZING is also found in the Commercial provisions of the code.)

******Table 402.1.2 (N1102.1.2) INSULATION AND FENESTRATION REQUIREMENTS BY COMPONENT; the Fenestration U-factor for Climate Zone 3 is amended as follows:***

CLIMATE ZONE	FENESTRATION *U*-FACTOR
3	~~0.32~~ 0.35

(Reason: Carries forward the value in the 2015 IECC/IRC.)

******Table 402.1.4 (N1102.1.4) EQUIVALENT U-FACTORS; the Fenestration U-factor for Climate Zone 3 is amended as follows:***

CLIMATE ZONE	FENESTRATION *U*-FACTOR
3	~~0.32~~ 0.35

(Reason: Carries forward the value in the 2015 IECC/IRC.)

*****Section R402.3.2 (N1102.3.2) Glazed fenestration SHGC; amend by adding a paragraph and table following the exception to read as follows:***

Where vertical fenestration is shaded by an overhang, eave, or permanently attached shading device, the SHGC required in Table R402.1.2 shall be reduced by using the multipliers in Table R402.3.2 SHGC Multipliers for Permanent Projections.

Table R402.3.2 SHGC Multipliers for Permanent Projections [a]

Projection Factor	SHGC Multiplier (all Other Orientation)	SHGC Multiplier (North Oriented)
0 - 0.10	1.00	1.00
>0.10 – 0.20	0.91	0.95
>0.20 – 0.30	0.82	0.91
>0.30 – 0.40	0.74	0.87
>0.40 – 0.50	0.67	0.84
>0.50 – 0.60	0.61	0.81
>0.60 – 0.70	0.56	0.78
>0.70 – 0.80	0.51	0.76
>0.80 – 0.90	0.47	0.75
>0.90 – 1.00	0.44	0.73

[a] North oriented means within 45 degrees of true north.

*(Reason: The amendment to **Section 402.3.2 Glazed fenestration SHGC** was proposed by the TAB and ESL determined the proposal to be not less restrictive than the 2015 IECC. This added definition is necessary as part of that amendment. The amendment will provide additional options for SHGC selection.)*

***R402.4.1.2 (N1102.4.1.2) Testing; add a last paragraph to read as follows:**

Mandatory testing shall only be performed by individuals that are certified to perform air infiltration testing certified by national or state organizations as approved by the building official. The certified individuals must be an independent third-party entity, and may not be employed; or have any financial interest in the company that constructs the structure.

(Reason: The 2018 International Residential Code (IRC) and International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) includes enhanced emphasis on envelope infiltration and duct leakage. Significant changes in the residential energy requirements include more frequent requirement of performance testing for leakage. Residential Duct systems must be tested unless all ducts and equipment are located within the conditioned space. Envelope testing is required to demonstrate compliance with maximum allowable leakage rate. This language puts the regulatory authority on notice that the testing requires specialized credentials and establishes a conflict of interest baseline.)

****Section R402.4 (N1102.4) Air leakage (Mandatory); add a new section and table to read as follows:**

R402.4.1.3 (N1102.4.1.3) Testing option – ACH tradeoff. As an option to the air leakage rate set out in Section R402.4.1.2 (N1102.4.1.2), 1- and 2-family homes meeting all of the listed criteria below and the *thermal envelope* requirements in Table R402.4.1.3 (N1102.4.1.3) will be considered compliant when tested and verified as having an air leakage rate to not less than or equal to four air changes per hour when tested and reported in accordance with the testing standards and reporting criteria listed in Section R402.4.1.2 (N1102.4.1.2).

The compliance equivalency is limited as follows:

1. Limited to a conditioned floor area between 1,000 and 6,000 square feet,
2. Limited to between 2 to 6 bedrooms,
3. Assumes all ductwork and mechanical equipment is located in the unconditioned attic,
4. Assumes typical wood framing in the walls and roof, and
5. Assumes one of the following heating/cooling systems:
    a. All electric system with a heat pump for heating, or
    b. A system with electric cooling and natural gas heating.

Dwellings using electric resistance strip heating do not qualify for this tradeoff.

TABLE R402.4.1.3 (N1102.4.1.3)[a]

Envelope Component	Option #1	Option #2
R402.4 Air Leakage	≤ 4 ACH50	≤ 4 ACH50
Wall Insulation *R*-value	R13 + R3[b]	R13 + R3 [b]
Fenestration *U*-factor	≤ 0.32	≤ 0.32
Fenestration SHGC	≤ 0.25	≤ 0.25
Ceiling *R*-value	≥ R49	≥ R49
Duct Insulation *R*-value	R8	R6
Radiant Barrier Required	No	Yes

[a] Except for the values listed in the table, all other mandatory code provisions are applicable.

[b] The first value listed is the *R*-value of cavity insulation, the second value is the *R*-value of the continuous insulation or insulated siding.

(Reason: This provides a viable option to the single-family residential builder. The Energy Systems Laboratory determined that this tradeoff option to be not less stringent than the residential provisions of the 2015 IECC and the energy provisions of the 2015 IRC.)

****** Section R402.4 Air leakage (Mandatory); add a new section to read as follows:***

R402.4.1.4 Testing options for R2 multifamily dwelling units. As an option to the air leakage rate set out in Section R402.4.1.2, multifamily dwelling units will be considered compliant when tested and verified as having an air leakage rate to the air leakage rate set out in either Section R402.4.1.4.1 or Section R402.4.1.4.2 when tested and reported in accordance with the testing standards and reporting criteria listed in Section R402.4.1.2

R402.4.1.4.1 Total air leakage rate for interior multifamily dwelling units. Interior multifamily dwelling units with a measured, "unguarded" total air leakage result of 5.3 ACH50 or less shall be considered compliant.

R402.4.1.4.2 Total air leakage rate for corner multifamily dwelling units. Corner multifamily units with a measured, "unguarded" total leakage result of less than 5.0 ACH50 shall be considered compliant.

(Reason: The Mandatory Section R402.4 Air Leakage of the 2015 IECC requires that the building thermal envelope be tested and verified in accordance with R402.4.1.2. Measuring air leakage for multifamily buildings or dwelling units using an air leakage to outside test (i.e. guarded) can be costly and time prohibitive. This is because in order to isolate leakage only through the building thermal envelope, all leakage to adjacent units through adiabatic surfaces must be pressure neutralized. The methodology below therefore allows for the use of total air leakage testing for multifamily dwelling units that includes air leakage to the exterior and to adjacent units (i.e. unguarded) to show compliance with R402.4.1.2. This increases the flexibility of the code without affecting stringency. This methodology has been approved for use by ESL, and the methodology applies only to jurisdictions in the NCTCOG area.)

****** Section R402.4 Air leakage (Mandatory); add a new section to read as follows:***

R402.4.1.5 Sampling options for R2 multifamily dwelling units. For buildings having three or more

dwelling units, a minimum of 15% of the dwelling units in each building must be tested as required by Section R402.4.1.2. Prior to beginning sampling for testing, “Initial Testing” is required for each multifamily property. “Initial Testing” shall consist of the 3rd party testing contractor performing the required tests on at least three consecutive dwelling units. Test results from the “Initial Testing” must satisfy minimum code requirements before sampling is permitted. Dwelling units selected for the “Initial Testing” must be within the same building. Dwelling units selected for “Initial Testing” shall not be included in a “sample group” or counted toward the minimum 15% of dwelling units tested. The building official shall randomly select the three dwelling units for “Initial Testing.” The building official may delegate the random selection to the designated 3rd party testing contractor.

R402.4.1.5.1 Sample group Identification and Sampling. The builder shall identify a "sample group" which may be a building, floor, fire area or portion thereof. All of the dwelling units within the “sample group” must be at the same stage of construction and must be ready for testing. The building official shall randomly select at least 15% of dwelling units from each “sample group” for testing. The building official may delegate the random selection to the designated 3rd party testing contractor.

If each tested dwelling unit within a “sample group” meets the minimum code requirements, then all dwelling units in the “sample group” are considered to meet the minimum code requirements.

Before a building may be deemed compliant with the testing as required, each “sample group” must be deemed compliant with the minimum code requirements. The sum total of all of the tested dwelling units across all “sample groups” shall not be less than a minimum of 15% of the dwelling units in a building.

R402.4.1.5.2 Failure to Meet Code Requirement(s). If any dwelling units within the identified “sample group” fail to meet a code requirement as determined by testing, the builder will be directed to correct the cause(s) of failure, and 30% of the remaining dwelling units in the “sample group” will be randomly selected for testing by the building official, or third-party testing contractor, regarding the specific cause(s) of failure.

If any failures occur in the additional dwelling units, all remaining dwelling units in the sample group must be individually tested for code compliance.

A multifamily property with three failures within a 90-day period is no longer eligible to use the sampling protocol in that community or project until successfully repeating "Initial Testing." Sampling may be reinstated after at least three consecutive dwelling units are individually verified to meet all code requirements.

A Certificate of Occupancy may not may be issued for any building until testing has been performed and deemed to satisfy the minimum code requirements on the dwelling unit(s) identified for testing.

(Reason: For many multifamily (R2 classifications) projects, it is very costly and time consuming to test each dwelling unit for projects where there may be dozens of dwelling units in each building. Considering that the same tradesman generally constructs a building, it is reasonable to deem that construction practices are consistent and that if a reasonable sampling of units tested pass then all units would pass. These amendments are very similar to other ordinances/policies from Austin and San Antonio.)

***** R403.3.3 (N1103.3.3) Duct Testing (Mandatory); add a last paragraph to read as follows:***

Mandatory testing shall only be performed by individuals that are certified to perform duct testing leakage testing certified by national or state organizations as approved by the building official. The certified individuals must be an independent third-party entity, and may not be employed; or have any financial interest in the company that constructs the structure.

(Reason: The 2015 International Residential Code (IRC) and International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) includes enhanced emphasis on envelope infiltration and duct leakage. Significant changes in the residential energy requirements include more frequent requirement of performance testing for leakage. Residential Duct systems must be tested unless all ducts and equipment are located within the conditioned space. Envelope testing is required to demonstrate compliance with maximum allowable leakage rate. This language puts the regulatory authority on notice that the testing requires specialized credentials and establishes a conflict of interest baseline).

****** Section R403.3 Ducts; add a new section to read as follows:***

R403.3.4.1 Sampling options for R2 multifamily dwelling units. For buildings having three or more dwelling units, a minimum of 15% of the dwelling units in each building must be tested as required by Section R403.3.3. Prior to beginning sampling for testing, “Initial Testing” is required for each multifamily property. “Initial Testing” shall consist of the 3rd party testing contractor performing the required tests on at least three consecutive dwelling units. Test results from the “Initial Testing” must satisfy minimum code requirements before sampling is permitted. Dwelling units selected for the “Initial Testing” must be within the same building. Dwelling units selected for “Initial Testing” shall not be included in a “sample group” or counted toward the minimum 15% of dwelling units tested. The building official shall randomly select the three dwelling units for “Initial Testing.” The building official may delegate the random selection to the designated 3rd party testing contractor.

R403.3.4.1.1 Sample group Identification and Sampling. The builder shall identify a "sample group" which may be a building, floor, fire area or portion thereof. All of the dwelling units within the “sample group” must be at the same stage of construction and must be ready for testing. The building official shall randomly select at least 15% of dwelling units from each “sample group” for testing. The building official may delegate the random selection to the designated 3rd party testing contractor.

If each tested dwelling unit within a “sample group” meets the minimum code requirements, then all dwelling units in the “sample group” are considered to meet the minimum code requirements.

Before a building may be deemed compliant with the testing as required, each “sample group” must be deemed compliant with the minimum code requirements. The sum total of all of the tested dwelling units across all “sample groups” shall not be less than a minimum of 15% of the dwelling units in a building.

R403.3.4.1.2 Failure to Meet Code Requirement(s). If any dwelling units within the identified “sample group” fail to meet a code requirement as determined by testing, the builder will be directed to correct the cause(s) of failure, and 30% of the remaining dwelling units in the “sample group” will be randomly selected for testing by the building official, or third-party testing contractor, regarding the specific cause(s) of failure.

If any failures occur in the additional dwelling units, all remaining dwelling units in the sample group must be individually tested for code compliance.

A multifamily property with three failures within a 90-day period is no longer eligible to use the sampling protocol in that community or project until successfully repeating "Initial Testing." Sampling may be reinstated after at least three consecutive dwelling units are individually verified to meet all code requirements.

A Certificate of Occupancy may not may be issued for any building until testing has been performed and deemed to satisfy the minimum code requirements on the dwelling unit(s) identified for testing.

(Reason: For many multifamily (R2 classifications) projects, it is very costly and time consuming to test each dwelling unit for projects where there may be dozens of dwelling units in each building. Considering that the same tradesman generally constructs a building, it is reasonable to deem that construction practices are consistent and that if a reasonable sampling of units tested pass then all units would pass. These amendments are very similar to other ordinances/policies from Austin and San Antonio.)

*****Section C402.2/R402.2 (N1102.2) Specific insulation requirements (Prescriptive); add Section C402.2.8 and R402.2.14 (N1102.2.14) to read as follows:***

Section C402.2.8/R402.2.14 (N1102.2.14) Insulation installed in walls. Insulation installed in walls shall be totally enclosed on all sides consisting of framing lumber, gypsum, sheathing, wood structural panel sheathing or other equivalent material approved by the building official.

(Reason: This will increase the performance of the insulation.)

******Section C403.7.4 Energy recovery ventilation systems (Mandatory); add exception #12 to read as follows:***

12. Individual ventilation systems that serve an individual dwelling unit or sleeping unit.

(Reason: This will clarify the intent of the section without requiring the user or the code official to analyze the numbers in the table. So a ventilation system that serves only an individual dwelling unit or sleeping unit does not require an energy recovery system.)

******Section C403.11.1 Duct and Plenum Insulation and Sealing (Mandatory); is amended by adding a second paragraph to read as follows:***

Environmental ducts and plenums installed in vertical chases, both supply and exhaust, where the ducts or plenums will not be accessible after construction completion, shall be leak tested in accordance with the SMACNA HVAC Air Leakage Test Manual to the installed ductwork class and pressure requirements.

Documentation shall be furnished demonstrating that representative sections totaling not less than 25 percent of the duct area have been tested and that all tested sections comply with the requirements of this section.

(Reason: Ductwork installed in chases is not accessible after construction completion. Leakage in these ducts will increase the energy use of the buildings and systems for the life of the building and reduce the system performance. Since the leakage in the chase enclosed ductwork would be difficult if not impossible to locate and correct, testing at the time of installation would assure that the ducts are properly installed and efficient.)

North Central Texas
Council of Governments

***Section R404.1 (N1104.1); revised in its entirety to read as follows:**

Section R404.1 (N1104.1) Lighting equipment (Mandatory). Not less than 75 percent of the lamps in permanently installed lighting fixtures or not less than 75 percent of the permanently installed lighting fixtures shall contain only high-efficacy lamps.

(Reason: This retains the 2015 language will allows for more flexibility.)

****Section 405.2 (N1105.2); add the exception to read as follows:**

Section 405.2 (N1105.2) Mandatory requirements. Compliance with the section requires that the mandatory provisions identified in Section 401.2 be met. Supply and return ducts not completely inside the building thermal envelope shall be insulated to an R-value of not less than R-6.

Exceptions:

1. For one and two family dwellings the maximum envelope leakage of 4 ACH50 is permitted provided the envelope leakage in the Standard Reference Design is 3 ACH50 and all other requirements of Section R405 are met, including all other mandatory measures. The annual energy cost or source energy usage of the Proposed Design must be equal to or less than that of the Standard Reference Design.

2. For multifamily or townhomes and buildings classified as Group R2 and Group R4 of three stories or less the maximum envelope leakage of less than 5 ACH50 is permitted provided the envelope leakage in the Standard Reference Design is 3 ACH50 and all other requirements of Section R405 are met, including all other mandatory measures. The annual energy cost or source energy usage of the Proposed Design must be equal to or less than that of the Standard Reference Design.

(Reason: This ACH tradeoff is approved by ESL and will require additional energy efficiencies to be implemented. This tradeoff is incorporated in ESL's IC3 Code Compliance Calculator as the 2015 NCTCOG path in the code drop down menu. Builders using IC3 will receive a code compliant notification if their designs meet the requirements of this tradeoff and all other energy code requirements.
Other compliance software products have not incorporated this tradeoff into their compliance reports. Building Officials receiving Section R405 submittals from software other than IC3 may approve a R405 compliance report that designates the building as not in compliance due to noncompliance with the 3 ACH50 envelope leakage mandatory measure, provided the report also states that the envelope leakage is no greater than 4 ACH50 for single family homes. REScheck™ does not have the flexibility to accommodate this tradeoff.)

*****Section R405.6.2 (N1105.6.2); add the following sentence to the end of paragraph:**

Acceptable performance software simulation tools may include, but are not limited to, REM Rate™; Energy Gauge®; ICF International Beacon Residential; Ekotrope, HERS Module; Right-Energy HERS and IC3. Other performance software programs as listed by RESNET® and having the ability to provide a report as outlined in R405.4.2 may also be deemed acceptable performance simulation programs and may be considered by the building official.

(Reason: These performance software tools are listed by RESNET at the time of recommendation.)

******Section C405.9. Voltage drop in feeders; deleted in its entirety.**

(Reason: There are similar provisions in the NEC where this type of requirement is best managed.)

North Central Texas
Council of Governments

***TABLE R406.4 (N1106.4) MAXIMUM ENERGY RATING INDEX;* amend to read as follows**:

TABLE R406.4 *(N1106.4)* [1]
MAXIMUM ENERGY RATING INDEX

CLIMATE ZONE	ENERGY RATING INDEX
3	65

[1] This table is effective until August 31, 2019.

TABLE R406.4 *(N1106.4)* [2]
MAXIMUM ENERGY RATING INDEX

CLIMATE ZONE	ENERGY RATING INDEX
3	63

[2] The table is effective from September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2022.

TABLE R406.4 *(N1106.4)* [3]
MAXIMUM ENERGY RATING INDEX

CLIMATE ZONE	ENERGY RATING INDEX
3	59

[3] This table is effective on or after September 1, 2022.

(Reason: The tables reflect the values and time table set forth in HB1736, 84th Regular Session Codified in Chapter 388 Texas Building Energy Performance Standards: §388.003.)

***Section C408.3.1 Functional Testing; amend to read as follows:*

C408.3.1 Functional Testing. Prior to passing final inspection, the *registered design professional* or *approved agency* shall provide evidence that the lighting control systems have been tested to ensure that control hardware and software are calibrated, adjusted, programmed, and in proper working condition in accordance with the *construction documents* and manufacturer's instructions. Functional testing shall be in accordance with Sections C408.3.1.1 through C408.3.1.3 for the applicable control type.

(Reason: The addition of 'or approved agency' will make the lighting systems requirements match the mechanical system requirements in C 408.2.1. This will facilitate and add flexibility to the enforcement of the commissioning requirements.)

END

Recommended Amendments to the

2017 National Electrical Code

North Central Texas Council of Governments

The following articles, paragraphs, and sentences of the *2017 National Electrical Code (NEC)* are hereby amended as follows: Standard type is text from the NEC. Highlighted with gray shading is text inserted. ~~Lined through type is deleted text from NEC.~~ A double asterisk (**) at the beginning of an article identifies an amendment carried over from the 2014 edition of the code and a triple asterisk (***) identifies a new or revised amendment with the 2017 code.

Article 100; add the following to definitions:

Engineering Supervision. Supervision by a Qualified State of Texas Licensed Professional Engineer engaged primarily in the design or maintenance of electrical installations.

(REASON FOR CHANGE: To better define the qualifications for engineering supervision. This term is used twenty four times in the 2017 National Electrical Code*.)*

Article 100; remove the amendment to the following definition:

Intersystem Bonding Termination. A device that provides a means for connecting intersystem bonding conductors for communication systems ~~and other systems such as metallic gas piping systems~~ to the grounding electrode system. ~~Bonding conductors for other systems shall not be larger than 6 AWG.~~

(REASON FOR CHANGE: Remove the above amendment. Updates to the 2017 National Electrical Code *Article 250.94(A) only accommodate connecting communication systems to an intersystem bonding termination device, but Article 250.94(B) provides an alternative or other means. ~~To allow for a termination point for other bonding conductors in addition to communication systems that are required by the various model codes. 6 AWG was chosen to coincide with the minimum size of bonding conductor required to the intersystem bonding jumper.)~~*

Article 110.2; change the following to read as follows:

110.2 Approval. The conductors and equipment required or permitted by this *Code* shall be acceptable only if approved. Approval of equipment may be evident by listing and labeling of equipment by a Nationally Recognized Testing Lab (NRTL) with a certification mark of that laboratory or a qualified third party inspection agency approved by the AHJ.

Exception: Unlisted equipment that is relocated to another location within a jurisdiction or is field modified is subject to the approval by the AHJ. This approval may be by a field evaluation by a NRTL or qualified third party inspection agency approved by the AHJ.

~~Manufacturer's self-certification of any equipment shall not be used as a basis for approval by the AHJ.~~

Informational Note No. 1: See 90.7, Examination of Equipment for Safety, and 110.3, Examination, Identification, Installation, and Use of Equipment. See definitions of *Approved*, *Identified*, *Labeled*, and *Listed*.

Informational Note No. 2: Manufacturer's self-certification of equipment may not necessarily comply with U.S. product safety standards as certified by an NRTL.

Informational Note No. 3: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 790 and 791 provide an example of an approved method for qualifying a third party inspection agency.

(REASON FOR CHANGE: To add clarity and provide more positive options for enforcement and approval of unlisted equipment.)

******Article 210.52(G) (1) Garages:*** **remove the amendment that deleted the following:**

(1) Garages. In each attached garage and in each detached garage with electric power. ~~The branch circuit supplying this receptacle(s) shall not supply outlets outside of the garage.~~ At least one receptacle outlet shall be installed for each car space.

~~(*REASON FOR CHANGE: Installations in compliance with this Code are not necessarily efficient, convenient, or adequate for good service or future expansion of electrical use.)*~~

(REASON FOR CHANGE: Updates to this section in the 2017 National Electrical Code *provided relief by removing "shall not supply outlets outside of the garage.")*

*****Article 230.71(A); remove the amendment that added the following exception:**

~~Exception: Multi-occupant buildings. Individual service disconnecting means is limited to six for each occupant. The number of individual disconnects at one location may exceed six.~~

~~*(REASON FOR CHANGE: This is currently the accepted installation practice of the region. No noteworthy complaints have surfaced. It is more reasonable than the current NEC requirements. It allows more than six disconnects grouped at one location. This also allows designers more flexibility in the placement of electrical meters and main service disconnects.)*~~

(REASON FOR CHANGE: This is below the minimum standard of the 2017 National Electrical Code *adopted by the State of Texas.)*

*****Article 300.11; remove the amendment that added the following exception:**
~~Exception: Ceiling grid support wires may be used for structural supports when the associated wiring is located in that area, not more than two raceways or cables supported per wire, with a maximum nominal metric designation 16 (trade size 1/2").~~

~~*(REASON FOR CHANGE: To provide limited support of raceways and cables by ceiling grid support wire.)*~~

(REASON FOR CHANGE: This is below the minimum standard of the 2017 National Electrical Code *adopted by the State of Texas.)*

******Article 310.15(B) (7); remove the amendment that changed the following to read as follows:***

~~**(7)** This Article shall not be used in conjunction with 220.82.~~

~~*(REASON FOR CHANGE: 310.15(B) (7) has been revised and the table has been deleted.)*~~

(REASON FOR CHANGE: Upon review of the 2014 and 2017 code-making panel 6 and in conjunction with the wire manufacturing industry, based on the diversification of loads in modern construction, this amendment becomes irrelevant.)

*****Article 500.8 (A) (3); change to read as follows:***

500.8 Equipment.
Articles 500 through 504 require equipment construction and installation that ensure safe performance under conditions of proper use and maintenance.

Informational Note No. 1: It is important that inspection authorities and users exercise more than ordinary care with regard to installation and maintenance.

Informational Note No. 2: Since there is no consistent relationship between explosion properties and ignition temperature, the two are independent requirements.

Informational Note No. 3: Low ambient conditions require special consideration. Explosion proof or dust-ignition proof equipment may not be suitable for use at temperatures lower than -25°C (-13°F) unless they are identified for low-temperature service. However, at low ambient temperatures, flammable concentrations of vapors may not exist in a location classified as Class I, Division 1 at normal ambient temperature.

(A) Suitability. Suitability of identified equipment shall be determined by one of the following:

(1) Equipment listing or labeling;
(2) Evidence of equipment evaluation from a qualified testing laboratory or inspection agency concerned with product evaluation; or,
(3) Evidence acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction such as a manufacturer's self-evaluation or ~~an owner's engineering judgment.~~ an engineering judgment signed and sealed by a qualified ~~Registered~~ licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Texas.

Informational Note: Additional documentation for equipment may include certificates demonstrating compliance with applicable equipment standards, indicating special conditions of use, and other pertinent information.

(REASON FOR CHANGE: Carry over from previous amendment with change to better define the qualifications for an engineering judgment.)

***Article 505.7 (A) changed to read as follows:**

505.7 Special Precaution.
Article 505 requires equipment construction and installation that ensures safe performance under conditions of proper use and maintenance.

Informational Note No. 1: It is important that inspection authorities and users exercise more than ordinary care with regard to the installation and maintenance of electrical equipment in hazardous (classified) locations.

Informational Note No. 2: Low ambient conditions require special consideration. Electrical equipment depending on the protection techniques described by 505.8(A) may not be suitable for use at temperatures lower than -20°C (-4°F) unless they are identified for use at lower temperatures. However, at low ambient temperatures, flammable concentrations of vapors may not exist in a location classified Class I, Zones 0, 1, or 2 at normal ambient temperature.

(A) Implementation of Zone Classification System. Classification of areas, engineering and design, selection of equipment and wiring methods, installation, and inspection shall be performed by a qualified ~~persons~~ ~~Registered~~ licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Texas.

(REASON FOR CHANGE: Carry over from previous amendment with change to better define the qualifications for an engineering judgment.)

****Article 517.30 Essential Electrical Systems for Hospitals; remove the amendment that created a new (H) and added the following language:**

(G) Coordination. Overcurrent protective devices serving the ~~equipment branch of the~~ essential electrical system shall be coordinated for the period of time that a fault's duration extends beyond 0.1 second.

Exception No. 1: Between transformer primary and secondary overcurrent protective devices, where only one overcurrent protective device or set of overcurrent protective devices exists on the transformer secondary.

Exception No. 2: Between overcurrent protective devices of the same size (ampere rating) in series.

Informational Note: The terms coordination and coordinated as used in this section do not cover the full range of overcurrent conditions.

~~**(H) Selective Coordination.** Overcurrent protective devices serving the life safety, and critical branches of the essential electrical system shall be selectively coordinated with all supply-side overcurrent protective devices.~~

~~Exception No. 1: Between transformer primary and secondary overcurrent protective devices, where only one overcurrent protective device or set of overcurrent protective devices exists on the transformer secondary.~~

~~Exception No. 2: Between overcurrent protective devices of the same size (ampere rating) in series.~~

~~Informational Note: The terms coordination and coordinated as used in this section do not cover the full range of overcurrent conditions.~~

~~(REASON FOR CHANGE: Changes made by deleting the definition of emergency systems in Article 517 Health Care Facilities and removing emergency systems as "Essential Electrical Systems for Hospitals in 517.30(B) (2), plus the new addition of section 517.30(G) for "Coordination" instead of using selective coordination, has diminished the reliability of the "Life Safety and Critical Branches of the Essential Electrical System" to deliver power to vital loads. By providing only "coordination," the instantaneous portion of the time-current curve has been eliminated from the overcurrent device settings.)~~

(REASON FOR CHANGE: Due to no action by the 2017 code-making panel 15 and NFPA 99, this amendment is not applicable.)

*****Article 600.6(A) (1) At Point of Entry to a Sign; Exception 1 changed to read as follows:**

Exception No.1: A disconnect shall not be required for branch circuits(s) or feeder conductor(s) passing through the sign where enclosed in a Chapter 3 listed raceway or metal-jacketed cable identified for the location. The conductor(s) shall not serve the sign body or sign enclosure where passing through.

*****Article 600.6(A) (1) At Point of Entry to a Sign; create a new Exception No. 2 to add the following language:**

Exception No. 2. A disconnect shall not be required at the point of entry to a sign body, sign enclosure, or pole for branch circuit conductor(s). The conductors shall be enclosed in a Chapter 3 listed raceway or metal-jacketed cable identified for the location. The conductor(s)

shall be routed to a device box which contains the disconnect. A field-applied permanent warning label that is visible during servicing shall be applied to the raceway at or near the point of entry into the sign enclosure or sign body. The warning label shall comply with 110.21(B) and state the following: “Danger. This raceway contains energized conductors.” The marking shall include the location of the disconnecting means for the energized conductor(s). The disconnecting means shall be capable of being locked in the open position in accordance with 110.25.

*****Article 600.6(A) (1) At Point of Entry to a Sign; move the original Exception 2 to create a new Exception No. 3 and add the following language:**

Exception No. 3: A disconnect shall not be required at the point of entry to a sign enclosure or sign body for branch circuit(s) or feeder conductor(s) that supply an internal panelboard(s) in a sign enclosure or sign body. The conductors shall be enclosed in a Chapter 3 listed raceway or metal-jacketed cable identified for the location. A field-applied permanent warning label that is visible during servicing shall be applied to the raceway at or near the point of entry into the sign enclosure or sign body. The warning label shall comply with 110.21(B) and state the following: “Danger. This raceway contains energized conductors.” The marking shall include the location of the disconnecting means for the energized conductor(s). The disconnecting means shall be capable of being locked in the open position in accordance with 110.25.

(*2017 Code)* Informational Note: The location of the disconnect is intended to allow service or maintenance personnel complete and local control of the disconnecting means.

(REASON FOR CHANGE: This is a modification of the nationwide sign manufacturing practice that was standard before the 2014 Code revision. It is more reasonable but not less than the current Code requirements. It provides local control of the disconnect by service personnel as the informational note suggests, while requiring a sign disconnect to be at or within sight of the sign. This also allows sign designers more flexibility in the placement of the disconnecting means in relation to the location of the sign.)

*****Article 680.25(A) remove the amendment that added the following language and exception:**

680.25 Feeders.
These provisions shall apply to any feeder on the supply side of panelboards supplying branch circuits for pool equipment covered in Part II of this article and on the load side of the service equipment or the source of a separately derived system.

(A) Wiring Methods.

(1) Feeders. Feeders shall be installed in rigid metal conduit, intermediate metal conduit. The following wiring methods shall be permitted if not subject to physical damage:

(1) Liquidtight flexible nonmetallic conduit
(2) Rigid polyvinyl chloride conduit
(3) Reinforced thermosetting resin conduit
(4) Electrical metallic tubing where installed on or in a building
(5) Electrical nonmetallic tubing where installed within a building
(6) Type MC Cable where installed within a building and if not subject to corrosive environment
~~(7) Nonmetallic-sheathed cable~~

~~(8) Type SE cable~~

~~Exception: A feeder within a one-family dwelling or two-family dwelling unit between remote panelboard and service equipment shall be permitted to run in flexible metal conduit or an approved cable assembly that includes an insulated equipment grounding conductor within its outer sheath. The equipment grounding conductor shall comply with 250.24(A) (5).~~

~~(REASON FOR CHANGE: Carry over from previous amendments. Text changed to reflect 2014 National Electrical Code. Exception deleted per Errata No.70-14-2)~~

(REASON FOR CHANGE: Updates to this section in the 2017 National Electrical Code *provided relief by recognizing these wiring methods.)*

END

North Central Texas Council of Governments

Recommended Amendments to the 2018 International Fire Code

North Central Texas Council of Governments Region

The following sections, paragraphs, and sentences of the *2018 International Fire Code* (IFC) are hereby amended as follows: Standard type is text from the IFC. Underlined type is text inserted. ~~Lined through type is deleted text from IFC.~~ A double asterisk (**) at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the 2015 edition of the code and a triple asterisk (***) identifies a new or revised amendment with the 2018 code.

Note: Historically, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has limited Chapter 1 amendments in order to allow each city to insert their local policies and procedures. We now have suggested certain items to be brought to the attention of cities considering adoption of the code that may be of concern to several jurisdictions. **It is still intended to be discretionary to each city to determine which Chapter 1 amendments to include.** Note that Appendices must be specifically adopted by Ordinance. As per Page vii of the 2018 IFC, note that several sections of the code require jurisdictional specificity as to dollar amounts, geographic limits, etc. and are not addressed in these amendments.

Explanation of Options A and B:
Please note that as there is a wide range in firefighting philosophies/capabilities of cities across the region, OPTIONS "A" and "B" are provided in the Fire and Building Code amendments. Jurisdictions should choose one of these based on their fire-fighting philosophies/capabilities when adopting code amendments.

***Section 102.1; change #3 to read as follows:**

3. Existing structures, facilities, and conditions when required in Chapter 11 or in specific sections of this code.

(Reason: To clarify that there are other provisions in the fire code applicable to existing buildings that are not located in Chapter 11, including but not limited to Section 505 Premises Identification.)

***Section 105.3.3; change to read as follows:**

105.3.3 Occupancy Prohibited before Approval. The building or structure shall not be occupied prior to the fire code official issuing a permit when required and conducting associated inspections indicating the applicable provisions of this code have been met.

(Reason: For clarity to allow for better understanding in areas not requiring such permits, such as unincorporated areas of counties. This amendment may be struck by a city.)

***Section 105.7; add Section 105.7.26 to read as follows:**

105.7.26 Electronic access control systems. Construction permits are required for the installation or modification of an electronic access control system, as specified in Chapter 10. A separate construction permit is required for the installation or modification of a fire alarm system that may be connected to the access control system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered a

modification and does not require a permit.

(Reason: Adds construction permit requirements for electronic access control systems affecting access and/or egress to ensure proper design and installation of such systems. These changes reflect local practices of municipalities in this region.)

***Section 202; amend and add definitions to read as follows:**

** **[B] AMBULATORY CARE FACILITY.** Buildings or portions thereof used to provide medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing, or similar care on a less than 24-hour basis to persons who are rendered incapable of self-preservation by the services provided or staff has accepted responsibility for care recipients already incapable. This group may include but not be limited to the following:

- Dialysis centers

- Procedures involving sedation

- Sedation dentistry

- Surgery centers

- Colonic centers

- Psychiatric centers

(Reason: to clarify the range of uses included in the definition)

** **[B] ATRIUM.** An opening connecting ~~two~~ three or more stories… *{remaining text unchanged}*

(Reason: Accepted practice in the region based on legacy codes. IBC Section 1009 permits unenclosed two story stairways under certain circumstances.)

** **[B] 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.

(*Reason: Added from International Building Code (IBC) definitions for consistency in interpretation of the subject requirements pertaining to such occupancies.)*

****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 personnel* when required by the *fire code official*, for the purposes of identifying and controlling fire hazards, detecting early signs of unwanted fire, raising an alarm of fire and notifying the fire department.

(Reason: Clearly defines options to the fire department for providing a fire watch.)

****FIREWORKS.** Any composition or device for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect for entertainment purposes by combustion, *deflagration*, ~~or~~ *detonation*, and/or activated by ignition with a match or other heat producing device that meets the definition of 1.3G fireworks or 1.4G fireworks. … *{Remainder of text unchanged}…*

(Reason: Increased safety from fireworks related injuries.)

North Central Texas
Council of Governments

****Option A**

HIGH-PILED COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE: add a second paragraph to read as follows:

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 for Class IV commodities, to the maximum pile height.

****Option B**

HIGH-PILED COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE: add a second paragraph to read as follows:

Any building classified as a group S Occupancy or Speculative Building exceeding 6,000 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 for Class IV commodities, to the maximum pile height.

(Reason: To provide protection for worst-case scenario in flexible or unknown situations.)

****Option A**

HIGH-RISE BUILDING. {No Change Required}

****Option B**

HIGH-RISE BUILDING. A building with an occupied floor located more than ~~75~~ 55 feet (~~22 860~~ 16 764 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.

(Reason: Allows for additional construction safety features to be provided, based on firefighting response capabilities.)

****REPAIR GARAGE**. A building, structure or portion thereof used for servicing or repairing motor vehicles. This occupancy shall also include garages involved in minor repair, modification and servicing of motor vehicles for items such as lube changes, inspections, windshield repair or replacement, shocks, minor part replacement, and other such minor repairs.

(Reason: To further clarify types of service work allowed in a repair garage, as well as to correspond with definition in the IBC.)

****SELF-SERVICE STORAGE FACILITY.** Real property designed and used for the purpose of renting or leasing individual storage spaces to customers for the purpose of storing and removing personal property on a self-service basis.

(Reason: To provide a definition that does not exist in the code.)

****STANDBY PERSONNEL.** Qualified fire service personnel, approved by the Fire Chief. When utilized, the number required shall be as directed by the Fire Chief. Charges for utilization shall be as normally calculated by the jurisdiction.

(Reason: To provide a definition that does not exist in the code for fire watch accommodations as required by the jurisdiction.)

****UPGRADED OR REPLACED FIRE ALARM SYSTEM.** A fire alarm system that is upgraded or replaced includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Replacing one single board or fire alarm control unit component with a newer model
- Installing a new fire alarm control unit in addition to or in place of an existing one
- Conversion from a horn system to an emergency voice/alarm communication system
- Conversion from a conventional system to one that utilizes addressable or analog devices

The following are not considered an upgrade or replacement:

- Firmware updates
- Software updates
- Replacing boards of the same model with chips utilizing the same or newer firmware

(Reason: This is referenced in several places, but the wording of "upgraded or replaced" is somewhat ambiguous and open to interpretation. Defining it here allows for consistent application across the region.)

*****Section 307.1.1; change to read as follows:***
*****Section 307.1.1; change to read as follows:***

307.1.1 Prohibited Open Burning. Open burning ~~shall be prohibited~~ that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited.

Exception: {No change.}

(Reason: To further protect adjacent property owners/occupants from open burning and/or smoke emissions from open burning.)

*****Section 307.2; change to read as follows:***

307.2 Permit Required. A permit shall be obtained from the *fire code official* in accordance with Section 105.6 prior to kindling a fire for recognized silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control of disease or pests, or open burning ~~a bonfire~~. Application for such approval shall only be presented by and permits issued to the owner of the land upon which the fire is to be kindled.

Examples of state or local law, or regulations referenced elsewhere in this section may include but not be limited to the following:

1. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) guidelines and/or restrictions.
2. State, County, or Local temporary or permanent bans on open burning.
3. Local written policies as established by the *fire code official*.

(Reason: Amendments to 307.2, 307.4, 307.4.3, and 307.5 better explain current requirements and recognize that jurisdictions have local established policies that best fit their environments.)

***Section 307.3; change to read as follows:**

307.3 Extinguishment Authority. ~~When open burning creates or adds to a hazardous situation, or a required permit for open burning has not been obtained, the fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment of the open burning operation.~~ The fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder, another person responsible or the fire department of open burning that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.

(Reason: Provides direction as to responsible parties relative to extinguishment of the subject open burning.)

***Section 307.4; change to read as follows:**

307.4 Location. The location for open burning shall not be less than ~~50~~ 300 feet (~~15 240~~ 91 440 mm) from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within ~~50~~ 300 feet (~~15 240~~ 91 440 mm) of any structure.

Exceptions: {No change.}

(*Reason: To increase the separation distance thereby increasing the safety to adjacent properties, as per applicable TCEQ rules and regulations regarding outdoor burning.)*

***Section 307.4.3, Exceptions; add exception #2 to read as follows:**

Exceptions:

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

(Reason: To reflect similar allowances for open-flame cooking in these same locations.)

***Section 307.4.4 and 5; add section 307.4.4 **Section 307.4.4 and 307.4.5; change to read as follows:**

307.4.4 Permanent Outdoor Firepit. Permanently installed outdoor firepits for recreational fire purposes shall not be installed within 10 feet of a structure or combustible material.

Exception: Permanently installed outdoor fireplaces constructed in accordance with the International Building Code.

307.4.5 Trench Burns. Trench burns shall be conducted in air curtain trenches and in accordance with Section 307.2.

(Reason: To provide a greater level of safety for this potentially hazardous fire exposure condition. Decrease in separation distance allowed for outdoor firepits due to permanent nature of construction having substantial securement.)

***Section 307.5; change to read as follows:**

307.5 Attendance. *Open burning*, trench burns, bonfires, *recreational fires*, and use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the… *{Remainder of section unchanged}*

(Reason: Adds attendance for trench burns based on previous amendment provision for such.)

***Section 308.1.4; change to read as follows:**

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

Exceptions:

1. One- and two-family dwellings, except that LP-gas containers are limited to a water capacity not greater than 50 pounds (22.68 kg) [nominal 20 pound (9.08 kg) LP-gas capacity] with an aggregate LP-gas capacity not to exceed 100 pounds (5 containers).

2. Where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an approved *automatic sprinkler system*, except that LP-gas containers are limited to a water capacity not greater than 50 pounds (22.68 kg) [nominal 20 pound (9.08 kg) LP-gas capacity], with an aggregate LP-gas capacity not to exceed 40 lbs. (2 containers).

3. {No change.}

(Reason: Decrease fire risk in multi-family dwellings and minimizes ignition sources and clarify allowable limits for 1 & 2 family dwellings, and allow an expansion for sprinklered multi-family uses. This amendment adds clarification and defines the container size allowed for residences.)

*****Section 308.1.6.2, Exception #3; change to read as follows:***

Exceptions:

3. Torches or flame-producing devices in accordance with Section ~~308.4~~ 308.1.3.

(Reason: Section identified in published code is inappropriate.)

*****Section 308.1.6.3; change to read as follows:***

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

(Reason: Eliminates the potential fire hazard presented by utilization of such devices and the potential accidental release of such devices.)

*****Section 311.5; change to read as follows:***

311.5 Placards. ~~Any~~ The *fire code official* is authorized to require marking of any vacant or abandoned buildings or structures determined to be unsafe pursuant to Section 110 of this code relating to structural or interior hazards, ~~shall be marked~~ as required by Section 311.5.1 through 311.5.5.

(Reason: There may be situations where placarding is not desired or necessary; also clarifies intent that it is not the fire code official's responsibility to provide the placard.)

*****Section 403.5; change Section 403.5 to read as follows:***

403.5 Group E Occupancies. An approved fire safety and evacuation plan in accordance with Section 404 shall be prepared and maintained for Group E occupancies and for buildings containing both a Group

E occupancy and an atrium. A diagram depicting two evacuation routes shall be posted in a conspicuous location in each classroom. Group E occupancies shall also comply with Sections 403.5.1 through 403.5.3.

(Reason: The diagrams are intended to assist with egress in such occupancies – specifically, the primary teacher is not always present to assist children with egress. Also, such will help reinforce evacuation drill requirements.)

***Section 404.2.2; add Number 4.10 to read as follows:**

4.10 Fire extinguishing system controls.

(Reason: The committee believed this information could be of great help to such plans to facilitate locating sprinkler valves to minimize water damage, for instance.)

***Section 405.4; change Section 405.4 to read as follows:**

405.4 Time. The fire code official may require an evacuation drill at any time. Drills shall be held at unexpected times and under varying conditions to simulate the unusual conditions that occur in case of fire.

(Reason: This change clarifies who may require a fire or evacuation drill).

***Section 501.4; change to read as follows:**

501.4 Timing of Installation. When fire apparatus access roads or a water supply for fire protection is required to be installed for any structure or development, they shall be installed, tested, and approved prior to the time of which construction has progressed beyond completion of the foundation of any structure. , ~~such protection shall be installed and made serviceable prior to and during the time of construction except when approved alternative methods of protection are provided. Temporary street signs shall be installed at each street intersection when construction of new roadways allows passage by vehicles in accordance with Section 505.2.~~

(Reason: Reflects current practice in the region relative to ensuring fire department and EMS access during construction, which can be a time of increased frequency for emergency incidents.)

***Section 503.1.1; add sentence to read as follows:**

Except for one- or two-family dwellings, the path of measurement shall be along a minimum of a ten feet (10') wide unobstructed pathway around the external walls of the structure.

(Reason: Recognizes that the hose lay provision can only be measured along a pathway that is wide enough for fire fighter access.)

***Section 503.2.1; change to read as follows:**

503.2.1 Dimensions. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than ~~20~~ 24 feet (~~6096 mm~~ 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 ~~13 feet 6 inches (4115 mm)~~ 14 feet (4267 mm).

Exception: 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.

(Reason: Amendments to 503.2.1 and 503.2.2 recognize that the equipment now used in firefighting is increasing in size. The code already recognizes that larger dimensions may be required under Section 503.2.2. The amendments are to standardize the dimensions for this area. With the increase in fire apparatus size, this will allow for the passage of two fire apparatus during a fire or EMS emergency.)

***Section 503.2.2; change to read as follows:**

503.2.2 Authority. The *fire code official* shall have the authority to require an increase in the minimum access widths and vertical clearances where they are inadequate for fire or rescue operations.

(Reason: Amendments to 503.2.1 and 503.2.2 recognize that the equipment now used in firefighting is increasing in size. The code already recognizes that larger dimensions may be required under Section 503.2.2. The amendments are to standardize the dimensions for this area. With the increase in fire apparatus size, this will allow for the passage of two fire apparatus during a fire or EMS emergency.)

***Section 503.2.3; change Section 503.2.3 to read as follows:**

503.2.3 Surface. Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support imposed loads of 80,000 Lbs. for fire apparatus and shall be surfaced so as to provide all-weather driving capabilities.

(Reason: To address the current size of fire trucks in use – figure derived from DOT requirements for waiver of vehicle exceeding such weight.)

***Section 503.3; change to read as follows:**

503.3 Marking. ~~Where required by the fire code official, approved signs or other approved notices or markings that include the words NO PARKING – FIRE LANE~~ 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. ~~The means by which fire lanes are designated~~ 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 of the curb.

(2) Signs – Signs shall read "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" or "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" and shall be 12" wide and 18" high. Signs shall be painted on a white background with letters and borders in red, 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 Chief.

(Reason: Establishes a standard method of marking and reflects local long-standing practices.)

***Section 503.4; change 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. The minimum widths and clearances established in Section 503.2.1 and any area marked as a fire lane as described in Section 503.3 shall be maintained at all times.

(Reason: As originally worded, the section implied that vehicles could be parked in the marked fire lane and not be in violation if the minimum width is still maintained. Current accepted enforcement practice is to require the entire marked fire lane to be maintained clear and unobstructed.)

***Section 505.1; change to read as follows:**
***Section 505.1; change to read as follows:**

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 ~~4 inches (102 mm)~~ 6 inches (152.4 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 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:** R-3 Single Family occupancies shall have approved numerals of a minimum 3 ½ 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 where such alleyway exists.

(Reason: To increase the minimum addressing requirements for commercial properties and establish a minimum for single-family residential properties Such improves legibility of these signs which are critical to emergency response in a more timely manner.)

***Section 507.4; change to read as follows:**

507.4 Water Supply Test Date and Information. The water supply test used for hydraulic calculation of fire protection systems shall be conducted in accordance with NFPA 291 "Recommended Practice for Fire Flow Testing and Marking of Hydrants" and within one year of sprinkler plan submittal. The *fire code official* shall be notified prior to the water supply test. Water supply tests shall be witnessed by the *fire code official*, as required ~~or approved documentation of the test shall be provided to the *fire code official* prior to final approval of the water supply system~~. The exact location of the static/residual hydrant and the flow hydrant shall be indicated on the design drawings. All fire protection plan submittals shall be accompanied by a hard copy of the waterflow test report, or as approved by the *fire code official*. The report must indicate the dominant water tank level at the time of the test and the maximum and minimum operating levels of the tank, as well, or identify applicable water supply fluctuation. The licensed contractor must then design the fire protection system based on this fluctuation information, as per the applicable referenced NFPA standard. Reference Section 903.3.5 for additional design requirements.

(Reason: Clarifies intent of the test to ensure contractor accounts for water supply fluctuations.)

***Section 507.5.4; change to read as follows:**

507.5.4 Obstruction. Unobstructed access to fire hydrants shall be maintained at all times. Posts, fences, vehicles, growth, trash, storage and other materials or objects shall not be placed or kept near fire hydrants, fire department inlet connections or fire protection system control valves in a manner that would prevent such equipment or fire hydrants from being immediately discernible. The fire department shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to fire protection equipment or fire hydrants.

(Reason: Additional guidance based on legacy language to ensure these critical devices are available in an emergency incident.)

***Section 509.1.2; add new Section 509.1.2 to read as follows:**

509.1.2 Sign Requirements. Unless more stringent requirements apply, lettering for signs required by this section shall have a minimum height of 2 inches (50.8 mm) when located inside a building and 4 inches (101.6 mm) when located outside, or as approved by the *fire code official*. The letters shall be of a color that contrasts with the background.

(Reason: Provides direction as to appropriate sign criteria to develop local and regional consistency in this regard.)

****Section 603.3.2 and 603.3.2.1; change to read as follows:**

603.3.1 Fuel oil storage in outside, above-ground tanks. Where connected to a fuel-oil piping system, the maximum amount of fuel oil storage allowed outside above ground without additional protection shall be 660 gallons (2498 L). The storage of fuel oil above ground in quantities exceeding 660 gallons (2498 L) shall comply with NFPA 31 and Chapter 57.

603.3.2 Fuel oil storage inside buildings. Fuel oil storage inside buildings shall comply with Sections 603.3.2.1 through 603.3.2.5 ~~or~~ and Chapter 57.

603.3.2.1 Quantity limits. One or more fuel oil storage tanks containing Class II or III *combustible liquid* shall be permitted in a building. The aggregate capacity of all tanks shall not exceed the following:

1. 660 gallons (2498 L) in unsprinklered buildings, where stored in a tank complying with UL 80, UL 142 or UL 2085 for Class III liquids, and also listed as a double-wall/secondary containment tank for Class II liquids.
2. 1,320 gallons (4996 L) in buildings equipped with an *automatic sprinkler* system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, where stored in a tank complying with UL 142 or UL 2085 as a double-wall/secondary containment tank.
3. 3,000 gallons (11 356 L) where stored in protected above-ground tanks complying with UL 2085 and Section 5704.2.9.7 and the room is protected by an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.

(Reason: Issues addressed by Chapter 57, such as venting to outside of buildings, remote fill to outside of building, overfill protection, physical protection, etc., are not included in Section 603.3, so compliance with Chapter 57 is also required. The Board determined that fuel storage in such tanks inside of buildings is commonly in double-wall tanks, and that this inherent leak protection was prudent in order to allow these quantities of combustible liquids to be stored inside a building for such purpose.)

***Section 807.5.2.2 and 807.5.2.3; change to read as follows:**

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: 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 materials shall be limited on walls of classrooms to not more than 50 percent of the 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.

(Reason: This change allows an increase in wall coverage due to the presence of sprinklers. Also provides additional guidance relative to fire resistance requirements in these areas.)

***Section 807.5.5.2 and 807.5.5.3; change to read as follows:**

807.5.5.2 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: 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.

807.5.5.3 Artwork in Classrooms. Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on walls of classrooms to not more than 50 percent of the 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.

(Reason: This change allows an increase in wall coverage due to the presence of sprinklers. Also provides additional guidance relative to fire resistance requirements in these areas.)

****Section 901.6.1; add Section 901.6.1.1 to read as follows:**

901.6.1.1 Standpipe Testing. Building owners/managers must maintain and test standpipe systems as per NFPA 25 requirements. The following additional requirements shall be applied to the testing that is required every 5 years:

1. The piping between the Fire Department Connection (FDC) and the standpipe shall be backflushed or inspected by approved camera when foreign material is present or when caps are missing, and also hydrostatically tested for all FDC's on any type of standpipe system. Hydrostatic testing shall also be conducted in accordance with NFPA 25 requirements for the different types of standpipe systems.

2. For any manual (dry or wet) standpipe system not having an automatic water supply capable of flowing water through the standpipe, the tester shall connect hose from a fire hydrant or portable pumping system (as approved by the *fire code official*) to each FDC, and flow water through the standpipe system to the roof outlet to verify that each inlet connection functions properly. Confirm that there are no open hose valves prior to introducing water into a dry standpipe. There is no required pressure criteria at the outlet. Verify that check valves function properly and that there are no closed control valves on the system.

3. Any pressure relief, reducing, or control valves shall be tested in accordance with the requirements of NFPA 25. All hose valves shall be exercised.

4. If the FDC is not already provided with approved caps, the contractor shall install such caps for all FDC's as required by the *fire code official*.

5. Upon successful completion of standpipe test, place a blue tag (as per Texas Administrative Code, Fire Sprinkler Rules for Inspection, Test and Maintenance Service (ITM) Tag) at the bottom of each standpipe riser in the building. The tag shall be check-marked as "Fifth Year" for Type of ITM, and the note on the back of the tag shall read "5 Year Standpipe Test" at a minimum.

6. The procedures required by Texas Administrative Code Fire Sprinkler Rules with regard to Yellow Tags and Red Tags or any deficiencies noted during the testing, including the required notification of the local Authority Having Jurisdiction (*fire code official*) shall be followed.

7. Additionally, records of the testing shall be maintained by the owner and contractor, if applicable, as required by the State Rules mentioned above and NFPA 25.

8. Standpipe system tests where water will be flowed external to the building shall not be conducted during freezing conditions or during the day prior to expected night time freezing conditions.

9. Contact the *fire code official* for requests to remove existing fire hose from Class II and III standpipe systems where employees are not trained in the utilization of this firefighting equipment. All standpipe hose valves must remain in place and be provided with an approved cap and chain when approval is given to remove hose by the *fire code official*.

(Reason: Increases the reliability of the fire protection system and re-emphasizes the requirements of NFPA 25 relative to standpipe systems, as well as ensuring that FDC connections are similarly tested/maintained to ensure operation in an emergency incident.)

***Section 901.6.4; add Section 901.6.4 to read as follows:**

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.

(Reason: Places the responsibility on the business or property owner to maintain their fire alarm systems in approved condition. Allows the enforcement of "prohibition of false alarms". Replaces text lost from the legacy codes that helps to ensure the maintenance of life safety systems.)

***Section 901.7; change to read as follows:**

901.7 Systems Out of Service. Where a required *fire protection system* is out of service or in the event of an excessive number of activations, the fire department and the *fire code official* shall be notified

immediately and, where required by the *fire code official*, the building shall either be evacuated or an *approved fire watch* shall be provided for all occupants left unprotected by the shut down until the *fire protection system* has been returned to service. … *{Remaining text unchanged}*

(Reason: Gives fire code official more discretion with regards to enforcement of facilities experiencing nuisance alarm or fire protection system activations necessitating correction/repair/replacement. The intent of the amendment is to allow local jurisdictions to enforce fire watches, etc., where needed to ensure safety of occupants where fire protection systems are experiencing multiple nuisance activations.)

***Section 903.1.1; change to read as follows:**

903.1.1 Alternative Protection. Alternative automatic fire-extinguishing systems complying with Section 904 shall be permitted ~~instead of~~ in addition to automatic sprinkler protection where recognized by the applicable standard ~~and~~, or as *approved* by the *fire code official*.

(Reason: Such alternative systems do not provide the reliability of automatic sprinkler protection. Most gaseous type systems are highly susceptible to open doors, ceiling or floor tile removal, etc. However, an applicant could pursue an Alternate Method request to help mitigate the reliability issues with these alternative systems with the fire code official if so desired, or there may be circumstances in which the fire code official is acceptable to allowing an alternate system in lieu of sprinklers, such as kitchen hoods or paint booths.)

***Section 903.2; add paragraph to read as follows and delete the exception:**

Automatic Sprinklers shall not be installed in elevator machine rooms, elevator machine spaces, and elevator hoistways, other than pits where such sprinklers would not necessitate shunt trip requirements under any circumstances. Storage shall not be allowed within the elevator machine room. Signage shall be provided at the entry doors to the elevator machine room indicating "ELEVATOR MACHINERY – NO STORAGE ALLOWED."

(Reason: Firefighter and public safety. This amendment eliminates the shunt trip requirement of the International Building Code Section 3005.5 for the purpose of elevator passenger and firefighter safety. This amendment is contingent on the Building Code amendment eliminating the Exceptions to Section 3005.4, such that passive fire barriers for these areas are maintained. The exception deletion is due to the fact that such telecom areas pose an undue fire risk to the structural integrity of the building.)

***Section 903.2.9; add Section 903.2.9.3 to read as follows:**

903.2.9.3 Self-Service Storage Facility. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all self-service storage facilities.

(Reason: Fire departments are unable to inspect these commercial occupancies and are unaware of the contents being stored. Previous allowance to separate units by fire barriers is difficult to enforce maintenance after opening.)

Option A

Section 903.2.11; change 903.2.11.3 and add 903.2.11.7 and 903.2.11.8, as follows:

903.2.11.3 Buildings 55 Feet or more in Height. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed

throughout buildings that have one or more stories ~~with an occupant load of 30 or more~~, other than penthouses in compliance with Section 1510 of the *International Building Code*, located 55 feet (16 764 mm) or more above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, measured to the finished floor.

Exceptions:

1. Open parking structures in compliance with Section 406.5 of the *International Building Code, having no other occupancies above the subject garage.*

~~2. Occupancies in Group F-2.~~

903.2.11.7 High-Piled Combustible Storage. For any building with a clear height exceeding 12 feet (4572 mm), see Chapter 32 to determine if those provisions apply.

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

****Option B**

Section 903.2.11; change 903.2.11.3 and add 903.2.11.7, 903.2.11.8, and 903.2.11.9 as follows:

903.2.11.3 Buildings ~~55~~ 35 feet or more in height. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout buildings that have one or more stories ~~with an occupant load of 30 or more~~, other than penthouses in compliance with Section 1510 of the *International Building Code*, located ~~55~~ 35 feet (~~16 764~~ 10 668 mm) or more above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, measured to the finished floor.

Exceptions~~:~~

~~1.~~ Open parking structures in compliance with Section 406.5 of the *International Building Code, having no other occupancies above the subject garage*.

~~2. Occupancies in Group F-2.~~

903.2.11.7 High-Piled Combustible Storage. For any building with a clear height exceeding 12 feet (4572 mm), see Chapter 32 to determine if those provisions apply.

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

903.2.11.9 Buildings Over 6,000 sq. ft. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all buildings with a building area 6,000 sq. ft. or greater and in all existing buildings that are enlarged to be 6,000 sq. ft. or greater. For the purpose of this provision, fire walls shall not define separate buildings.

Exception: Open parking garages in compliance with Section 406.5 of the *International Building Code*.

(Reason: Provides jurisdictions options as to their desired level of sprinkler protection based on multiple factors including firefighting philosophies/capabilities.)

*****Section 903.3.1.1.1; change to read as follows:***

903.3.1.1.1 Exempt Locations. When approved by the *fire code official*, automatic sprinklers shall not be required in the following rooms or areas where such ... *{text unchanged}…* because it is damp, of fire-resistance-rated construction or contains electrical equipment.

1. Any room where the application of water, or flame and water, constitutes a serious life or fire hazard.
2. Any room or space where sprinklers are considered undesirable because of the nature of the contents, when approved by the code official.
3. Generator and transformer rooms, under the direct control of a public utility, separated from the remainder of the building by walls and floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assemblies having a fire-resistance rating of not less than 2 hours.
4. ~~In rooms or areas that are of noncombustible construction with wholly noncombustible contents.~~
5. ~~Fire service access~~ Elevator machine rooms, ~~and~~ machinery spaces, and hoistways, other than pits where such sprinklers would not necessitate shunt trip requirements under any

circumstances.

6. {Delete.}

(Reason: Gives more direction to code official. Exception 4 deleted to provide protection where fire risks are poorly addressed. Amendment 903.2 addresses Exception 5 above relative to the elimination of sprinkler protection in these areas to avoid the shunt trip requirement.)

***Section 903.3.1.2.3; delete section and replace as follows:**

[F] Section 903.3.1.2.3 Attached Garages and Attics. Sprinkler protection is required in attached garages, and in the following attic spaces:

1. Attics that are used or intended for living purposes or storage shall be protected by an automatic sprinkler system.
2. Where fuel-fired equipment is installed in an unsprinklered attic, not fewer than one quick-response intermediate temperature sprinkler shall be installed above the equipment.
3. Attic spaces of buildings that are two or more stories in height above grade plane or above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.
4. Group R-4, Condition 2 occupancy attics not required by Item 1 or 3 to have sprinklers shall comply with one of the following:
    4.1. Provide automatic sprinkler system protection.
    4.2. Provide a heat detection system throughout the attic that is arranged to activate the building fire alarm system.
    4.3. Construct the attic using noncombustible materials.
    4.4. Construct the attic using fire-retardant-treated wood complying with Section 2303.2 of the International Building Code.
    4.5. Fill the attic with noncombustible insulation.

(Reason: Attic protection is required due to issues with fire exposure via soffit vents, as well as firefighter safety. Several jurisdictions indicated experience with un-protected attic fires resulting in displacement of all building occupants. NFPA 13 provides for applicable attic sprinkler protection requirements, as well as exemptions to such, based on noncombustible construction, etc. Attached garages already require sprinklers via NFPA 13R – this amendment just re-emphasizes the requirement.)

***Section 903.3.1.3; change to read as follows:**

903.3.1.3 NFPA 13D Sprinkler Systems. *Automatic sprinkler systems* installed in one- and two-family *dwellings*; Group R-3; Group R-4, Condition 1; and *townhouses* shall be permitted to be installed throughout in accordance with NFPA 13D or in accordance with state law.

(Reason: To allow the use of the Plumbing section of the International Residential Code (IRC) and recognize current state stipulations in this regard.)

***Section 903.3.1.4; add to read as follows:**

[F] 903.3.1.4 Freeze protection. Freeze protection systems for automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be in accordance with the requirements of the applicable referenced NFPA standard and this section.

903.3.1.4.1 Attics. Only dry-pipe, preaction, or listed antifreeze automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be allowed to protect attic spaces.

Exception: Wet-pipe fire sprinkler systems shall be allowed to protect non-ventilated attic spaces where:

1. The attic sprinklers are supplied by a separate floor control valve assembly to allow ease of draining the attic system without impairing sprinklers throughout the rest of the building, and
2. Adequate heat shall be provided for freeze protection as per the applicable referenced NFPA standard, and
3. The attic space is a part of the building's thermal, or heat, envelope, such that insulation is provided at the roof deck, rather than at the ceiling level.

903.3.1.4.2 Heat trace/insulation. Heat trace/insulation shall only be allowed where approved by the fire code official for small sections of large diameter water-filled pipe.

(Reason: In the last few years, severe winters brought to light several issues with current practices for sprinklering attics, not the least of which was wet-pipe sprinklers in ventilated attics provided with space heaters, etc. for freeze protection of such piping. This practice is not acceptable for the protection of water-filled piping in a ventilated attic space as it does not provide a reliable means of maintaining the minimum 40 degrees required by NFPA, wastes energy, and presents a potential ignition source to the attic space. Listed antifreeze is specifically included because NFPA currently allows such even though there is no currently listed antifreeze at the time of development of these amendments. The intent of this amendment is to help reduce the large number of freeze breaks that have occurred in the past with water-filled wet-pipe sprinkler systems in the future, most specifically in attic spaces.)

***Section 903.3.5; add a second paragraph to read as follows:**

Water supply as required for such systems shall be provided in conformance with the supply requirements of the respective standards; however, every water-based fire protection system shall be designed with a 10 psi safety factor. Reference Section 507.4 for additional design requirements.

(Reason: To define uniform safety factor for the region.)

***Section 903.4; add a second paragraph after the exceptions to read as follows:**

Sprinkler and standpipe system water-flow detectors shall be provided for each floor tap to the sprinkler system and shall cause an alarm upon detection of water flow for more than 45 seconds. All control valves in the sprinkler and standpipe systems except for fire department hose connection valves shall be electrically supervised to initiate a supervisory signal at the central station upon tampering.

(Reason: To avoid significant water losses. Consistent with amendment to IFC 905.9.)

***Section 903.4.2; add second paragraph to read as follows:**

The alarm device required on the exterior of the building shall be a weatherproof horn/strobe notification appliance with a minimum 75 candela strobe rating, installed as close as practicable to the fire department connection.

(Reason: Fire department connections are not always located at the riser; this allows the fire department faster access.)

***Section 905.2; change to read as follows:**

905.2 Installation Standard. Standpipe systems shall be installed in accordance with this section and

NFPA 14. Manual dry standpipe systems shall be supervised with a minimum of 10 psig and a maximum of 40 psig air pressure with a high/low alarm.

(Reason: To define manual dry standpipe supervision requirements. Helps ensure the integrity of the standpipe system via supervision, such that open hose valves will result in a supervisory low air alarm.)

******Section 905.3; add Section 905.3.9 and exception to read as follows:***

905.3.9 Buildings Exceeding 10,000 sq. ft. In buildings exceeding 10,000 square feet in area per story and where any portion of the building's interior area is more than 200 feet (60960 mm) of travel, vertically and horizontally, from the nearest point of fire department vehicle access, Class I automatic wet or manual wet standpipes shall be provided.

Exceptions:

1. Automatic dry, semi-automatic dry, and manual dry standpipes are allowed as provided for in NFPA 14 where approved by the fire code official.
2. R-2 occupancies of four stories or less in height having no interior corridors.

(Reason: Allows for the rapid deployment of hose lines to the body of the fire. Manual dry option added this edition.)

*****Section 905.4, change Item 1, 3, and 5, and add Item 7 to read as follows:***

1. In every required ~~interior~~ 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.
2. {No change.}
3. In every exit passageway, at the entrance from the exit passageway to other areas of a building.

Exception: Where floor areas adjacent to an exit passageway are reachable from an ~~interior~~ exit stairway hose connection by a {remainder of text unchanged}

4. {No change.}
5. Where the roof has a slope less than four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33.3-percent slope), each standpipe shall be provided with a two-way ~~a~~ hose connection ~~shall be~~ located to serve the roof or at the highest landing of an ~~interior~~ exit stairway with stair access to the roof provided in accordance with Section 1011.12.
6. {No change.}
7. 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.

(Reason: Item 1, 3, and 5 amendments to remove 'interior' will help to clarify that such connections are required for all 'exit' stairways, to ensure firefighter capabilities are not diminished in these tall buildings, simply because the stair is on the exterior of the building. Item 5 reduces the amount of pressure required to facilitate testing, and provides backup protection for fire fighter safety. Item 7 allows for the rapid deployment of hose lines to the body of the fire.)

*****Section 905.9; add a second paragraph after the exceptions to read as follows:***

Sprinkler and standpipe system water-flow detectors shall be provided for each floor tap to the sprinkler system and shall cause an alarm upon detection of water flow for more than 45 seconds. All control valves in the sprinkler and standpipe systems except for fire department hose connection valves shall be

electrically supervised to initiate a supervisory signal at the central station upon tampering.

(Reason: To avoid significant water losses. Consistent with amendment to IFC 903.4.)

***Section 907.1; add Section 907.1.4 and 907.1.4.1 to read as follows:**

907.1.4 Design Standards. Where a new fire alarm system is installed, the devices shall be addressable. Fire alarm systems utilizing more than 20 smoke detectors shall have analog initiating devices.

(Reason: Provides for the ability of descriptive identification of alarms, and reduces need for panel replacement in the future. Updated wording to match the language of the new requirement at 907.5.2.3. Change of terminology allows for reference back to definitions of NFPA 72.)

***Section 907.2.1; change to read as follows:**

907.2.1 Group A. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in Group A occupancies ~~where the~~ having an occupant load ~~due to the assembly occupancy is~~ of 300 or more persons, or where the ~~Group A~~ occupant load is more than 100 persons above or below the *lowest level of exit discharge*. Group A occupancies not separated from one another in accordance with Section 707.3.~~4~~10 of the *International Building Code* shall be considered as a single occupancy for the purposes of applying this section. Portions of Group E occupancies occupied for assembly purposes shall be provided with a fire alarm system as required for the Group E occupancy.

Exception: {No change.}

Activation of fire alarm notification appliances shall:

1. Cause illumination of the *means of egress* with light of not less than 1 foot-candle (11 lux) at the walking surface level, and
2. Stop any conflicting or confusing sounds and visual distractions.

(Reason: Increases the requirement to be consistent with Group B requirement. Also addresses issue found in Group A occupancies of reduced lighting levels and other A/V equipment that distracts from fire alarm notification devices or reduces ability of fire alarm system to notify occupants of the emergency condition.)

***Section 907.2.3; change to read as follows:**

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.

Exceptions:

1. {No change.}
   1.1. Residential In-Home day care with not more than 12 children may use interconnected

single station detectors in all habitable rooms. (For care of more than five children 2 1/2 or less years of age, see Section 907.2.6.) {No change to remainder of exceptions.}

(Reason: To distinguish educational from day care occupancy minimum protection requirements. Further, to define threshold at which portable buildings are considered a separate building for the purposes of alarm systems. Exceptions provide consistency with State law concerning such occupancies.)

***Section 907.2.12, Exception 3; change to read as follows:**

3. Open air portions of buildings with an occupancy in Group A-5 in accordance with Section 303.1 of the *International Building Code*; however, this exception does not apply to accessory uses including but not limited to sky boxes, restaurants, and similarly enclosed areas.

(Reason: To indicate that enclosed areas within open air seating type occupancies are not exempted from automatic fire alarm system requirements.)

***Section 907.4.2; add Section 907.4.2.7 to read as follows:**

907.4.2.7 Type. Manual alarm initiating devices shall be an approved double action type.

(Reason: Helps to reduce false alarms.)

***Section 907.6.1; add Section 907.6.1.1 to read as follows:**

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 the operation of any addressable devices (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 a 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.

(Reason: To provide uniformity in system specifications and guidance to design engineers. Improves reliability of fire alarm devices and systems.)

***Section 907.6.3; delete all four Exceptions.**

(Reason: To assist responding personnel in locating the emergency event for all fire alarm systems. This is moved from 907.6.5.3 in the 2012 IFC and reworded to match new code language and sections.)

***Section 907.6.6; – add sentence at end of paragraph to read as follows:**

See 907.6.3 for the required information transmitted to the supervising station.

(Reason: To assist responding personnel in locating the emergency event for all fire alarm systems. This is moved from 907.6.5.3 in the 2012 IFC and reworded to match new code language and sections.)

***Section 909.22; add to read as follows:**

909.22 Stairway or Ramp Pressurization Alternative. Where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and the stair pressurization alternative is chosen for compliance with Building Code requirements for a smokeproof enclosure, interior exit stairways or ramps shall be pressurized to a minimum of 0.10 inches of water (25 Pa) and a maximum of 0.35 inches of water (87 Pa) in the shaft relative to the building measured with all interior exit stairway and ramp doors closed under maximum anticipated conditions of stack effect and wind effect. Such systems shall comply with Section 909, including the installation of a separate fire-fighter's smoke control panel as per Section 909.16, and a Smoke Control Permit shall be required from the fire department as per Section 105.7.

909.22.1 Ventilating equipment. The activation of ventilating equipment for the stair or ramp pressurization system shall be by smoke detectors installed at each floor level at an approved location at the entrance to the smokeproof enclosure. When the closing device for the stairway or ramp shaft and vestibule doors is activated by smoke detection or power failure, the mechanical equipment shall activate and operate at the required performance levels. Smoke detectors shall be installed in accordance with Section 907.3.

909.22.1.1 Ventilation Systems. Smokeproof enclosure ventilation systems shall be independent of other building ventilation systems. The equipment, control wiring, power wiring and ductwork shall comply with one of the following:

1. Equipment, control wiring, power wiring and ductwork shall be located exterior to the building and directly connected to the smokeproof enclosure or connected to the smokeproof enclosure by ductwork enclosed by not less than 2-hour fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 of the Building Code or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711 of the Building Code, or both.
2. Equipment, control wiring, power wiring and ductwork shall be located within the smokeproof enclosure with intake or exhaust directly from and to the outside or through ductwork enclosed by not less than 2-hour barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 of the Building Code or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711 of the Building Code, or both.
3. Equipment, control wiring, power wiring and ductwork shall be located within the building if separated from the remainder of the building, including other mechanical equipment, by not less than 2-hour fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 of the Building Code or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711 of the Building Code, or both.

Exceptions:

1. Control wiring and power wiring utilizing a 2-hour rated cable or cable system.
2. Where encased with not less than 2 inches (51 mm) of concrete.
3. Control wiring and power wiring protected by a listed electrical circuit protective systems with a fire-resistance rating of not less than 2 hours.

909.21.1.2 Standby Power. Mechanical vestibule and stairway and ramp shaft ventilation systems and automatic fire detection systems shall be provided with standby power in accordance with Section 2702 of the Building Code.

909.22.1.3 Acceptance and Testing. Before the mechanical equipment is approved, the system shall be tested in the presence of the fire code official to confirm that the system is operating in compliance with these requirements.

(Reason: To assist with enforcement of such as a smoke control system, as per Section 909.6.3,

especially since a permit is now specifically required for such systems in the Fire Code. Also ensures that a firefighter's override panel is provided as per 909.16 for such systems. The above amendment copies the applicable requirements for such systems from Section 909.20 of the Building Code into the Fire Code. Although the published code did copy the elevator pressurization requirements into the Fire Code, it did not copy over the stair pressurization requirements.)

***Section 910.2; change Exception 2. and 3.to read as follows:**

2. Only manual smoke and heat removal shall ~~not~~ be required in areas of buildings equipped with early suppression fast-response (ESFR) sprinklers. Automatic smoke and heat removal is prohibited.
3. Only manual smoke and heat removal shall ~~not~~ be required in areas of buildings equipped with 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 stored commodities with 12 or fewer sprinklers. Automatic smoke and heat removal is prohibited.

(Reason: Allows the fire department to control the smoke and heat during and after a fire event, while still prohibiting such systems from being automatically activated, which is a potential detriment to the particular sprinkler systems indicated.)

***Section 910.2; add subsections 910.2.3 with exceptions to read as follows:**

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 m^2) in single floor area.

   Exception: Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.

2. In areas of buildings 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, or Class 2 or 3 water-reactive materials as required for a high-hazard commodity classification.

   Exception: Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.

(Reason: Maintains a fire protection device utilized in such occupancies where it is sometimes necessary to allow chemicals to burn out, rather than extinguish.)

***Section 910.3; add section 910.3.4 to read as follows:**

910.3.4 Vent Operation. Smoke and heat vents shall be capable of being operated by approved automatic and manual means. Automatic operation of smoke and heat vents shall conform to the provisions of Sections 910.3.2.1 through 910.3.2.3.

910.3.4.1 Sprinklered buildings. Where installed in buildings equipped with an approved automatic sprinkler system, smoke and heat vents shall be designed to operate automatically.
The automatic operating mechanism of the smoke and heat vents shall operate at a temperature rating at least 100 degrees F (approximately 38 degrees Celsius) greater than the temperature rating of the sprinklers installed.

Exception: Manual only systems per Section 910.2.

910.3.4.2 Nonsprinklered Buildings. Where installed in buildings not equipped with an approved automatic sprinkler system, smoke and heat vents shall operate automatically by actuation of a heat-responsive device rated at between 100°F (56°C) and 220°F (122°C) above ambient.

Exception: Listed gravity-operated drop out vents.

(Reason: Amendment continues to keep applicable wording from prior to the 2012 edition of the IFC. Specifically, automatic activation criteria is no longer specifically required in the published code. Specifying a temperature range at which smoke and heat vents should activate in sprinklered buildings helps to ensure that the sprinkler system has an opportunity to activate and control the fire prior to vent operation.)

*****Section 910.4.3.1; change to read as follows:***

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 ~~manual or~~ 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.

(Reason: Makeup air has been required to be automatic for several years now in this region when mechanical smoke exhaust systems are proposed. This allows such systems to be activated from the smoke control panel by first responders without having to physically go around the exterior of the building opening doors manually. Such requires a significant number of first responders on scene to conduct this operation and significantly delays activation and/or capability of the smoke exhaust system.)

*****Section 912.2; add Section 912.2.3 to read as follows:***

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.

(Reason: To accommodate limited hose lengths, improve response times where the FDC is needed to achieve fire control, and improve ease of locating a fire hydrant in those situations also. Also, consistent with NFPA 14 criteria.)

*****Section 913.2.1; add second paragraph and exception to read as follows:***

When located on the 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 doors that are provided. A key box shall be provided at this door, as required by Section 506.1.

Exception: 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.

(Reason: This requirement allows fire fighters safer access to the fire pump room. The requirement allows access without being required to enter the building and locate the fire pump room interior access door during a fire event. The exception recognizes that this will not always be a feasible design scenario

for some buildings, and as such, provides an acceptable alternative to protect the pathway to the fire pump room.)

*****Section 914.3.1.2; change to read as follows:***

914.3.1.2 Water Supply to required Fire Pumps. In buildings that are more than ~~420~~ 120 feet (37 m) in *building height*, required fire pumps shall be supplied by connections to no fewer than two water mains located in different streets. Separate supply piping shall be provided between each connection to the water main and the pumps. Each connection and the supply piping between the connection and the pumps shall be sized to supply the flow and pressure required for the pumps to operate.

Exception: {No change to exception.}

(Reason: The 2009 edition of the IFC added this requirement based on a need for redundancy of the water supply similar to the redundancy of the power supply to the fire pumps required for such tall buildings, partially due to the fact that these buildings are rarely fully evacuated in a fire event. More commonly, the alarm activates on the floor of the event, the floor above and the floor below. Back-up power to the fire pump becomes critical for this reason. Certainly, the power is pointless if the water supply is impaired for any reason, so a similar requirement is provided here for redundant water supplies. The 2015 edition changes the requirement to only apply to very tall buildings over 420 ft. This amendment modifies/lowers the requirement to 120 ft., based on this same height requirement for fire service access elevators. Again, the language from the 2009 and 2012 editions of the code applied to any high-rise building. This compromise at 120 ft. is based on the above technical justification of defend-in-place scenarios in fire incidents in such tall structures.)

****Section 1006.2.2.7; Add Section 1006.2.2.7 as follows:**

1006.2.2.7 Electrical Rooms. For electrical rooms, special exiting requirements may apply. Reference the electrical code as adopted.

(Reason: Cross reference necessary for coordination with the NEC which has exiting requirements as well.)

****Section 1009.8; add the following Exception 7:**

Exceptions:
7. Buildings regulated under State Law and built in accordance with State registered plans, including variances or waivers granted by the State, shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of Section 1009 and chapter 11.

(Reason: To accommodate buildings regulated under Texas State Law and to be consistent with amendments in Chapter 11.)

****Section 1010.1.9.5 Bolt Locks; amend exceptions 3 and 4 as follows:**

Exceptions:
3. Where a pair of doors serves an occupant load of less than 50 persons in a Group B, F, M or S occupancy. (Remainder unchanged)
4. Where a pair of doors serves a Group A, B, F, M or S occupancy (remainder unchanged)

(Reason: Application to M occupancies reflects regional practice; No. 4 expanded to Group A due to it being a similar scenario to other uses; No. 4 was regional practice.)

****Section 1020.1 Construction; add exception 6 to read as follows:**

6. In group B occupancies, corridor walls and ceilings need not be of fire-resistive construction within a single tenant space when the space is equipped with approved automatic smoke-detection within the corridor. The actuation of any detector must activate self-annunciating alarms audible in all areas within the corridor. Smoke detectors must be connected to an approved automatic fire alarm system where such system is provided.

(Reason: Regionally accepted alternate method.)

****Section 1029.1.1.1 Spaces under grandstands and bleachers; delete this section.**
(Reason: Unenforceable.)

*****Section 1031.2; change to read as follows:***

1031.2 Reliability. Required *exit accesses, exits* and *exit discharges* shall be continuously maintained free from obstructions or impediments to full instant use in the case of fire or other emergency ~~where the building area served by the means of egress is occupied~~. An *exit* or *exit passageway* shall not be used for any purpose that interferes with a means of egress.

(Reason: Maintain legacy levels of protection and long-standing regional practice, and provide firefighter safety.)

*****Section 1103.3; add sentence to end of paragraph as follows:***

Provide emergency signage as required by Section 606.3.

(Reason: Coordinates requirements of previous amendment.)

*****Section 1103.5.1: add sentence to read as follows:**

Fire sprinkler system installation shall be completed within 24 months from date of notification by the fire code official.

(Reason: Regional consistency of this retroactive requirement to allow business owners adequate time to budget to accommodate the cost of the fire sprinkler system.)

*****Section 1103.5; add Section 1103.5.5 to read as follows:***

1103.5.5 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.

(Reason: Consistent with amendment to IFC 2404, and long-standing regional requirement to protect this hazardous operation.)

*****Section 1103.7; add Section 1103.7.7 and 1103.7.7.1 to read as follows:**

1103.7.7 Fire Alarm System Design Standards. Where an existing fire alarm system is upgraded or replaced, the devices shall be addressable. Fire alarm systems utilizing more than 20 smoke and/or heat detectors shall have analog initiating devices.

Exception: 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, the fire alarm system must comply within 18 months of permit application.

1103.7.7.1 Communication requirements. Refer to Section 907.6.6 for applicable requirements.

(Reason: To assist responding personnel in locating the emergency event and provide clarity as to percentages of work that results in a requirement to upgrade the entire fire alarm system.)

******Section 1203; change and add to read as follows:***

1203.1.1 {No change.}
1203.1.2 {No change.}
1203.1.3 Emergency power systems and standby power systems shall be installed in accordance with the *International Building Code*, NFPA 70, NFPA 110 and NFPA 111. Existing installations shall be maintained in accordance with the original approval, except as specified in Chapter 11.
1203.1.4 through 1203.1.9 {No changes to these sections.}
1203.1.10 Critical Operations Power Systems (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.
1203.2 Where Required. Emergency and standby power systems shall be provided where required by Sections 1203.2.1 through 1203.2.~~18~~26 or elsewhere identified in this code or any other referenced code.
1203.2.1 through 1203.2.3 {No change.}
1203.2.4 Emergency Voice/alarm Communications Systems. Emergency power shall be provided for emergency voice/alarm communications systems in the following occupancies, or as specified elsewhere in this code, as required in Section 907.5.2.2.5. The system shall be capable of powering the required load for a duration of not less than 24 hours, as required in NFPA 72.

Covered and Open Malls, Section 907.2.19 and 914.2.3
Group A Occupancies, Sections 907.2.1 and 907.5.2.2.4.
Special Amusement Buildings, Section 907.2.11
High-rise Buildings, Section 907.2.12
Atriums, Section 907.2.13
Deep Underground Buildings, Section 907.2.18

1203.2.5 through 1203.2.13 {No change.}
1203.2.14 Means of Egress Illumination. Emergency power shall be provided for *means of egress* illumination in accordance with Sections 1008.3 and 1104.5.1. (90 minutes)
1203.2.15 Membrane Structures. Emergency power shall be provided for *exit* signs in temporary tents and membrane structures in accordance with Section 3103.12.6. (90 minutes) Standby power shall be provided for auxiliary inflation systems in permanent membrane structures in accordance with Section 2702 of the *International Building Code*. (4 hours) Auxiliary inflation systems shall be provided in temporary air-supported and air-inflated membrane structures in accordance with section 3103.10.4.
1203.2.16 {No change.}
1203.2.17 Smoke Control Systems. Standby power shall be provided for smoke control systems in the following occupancies, or as specified elsewhere in this code, as required in Section 909.11:

Covered Mall Building, *International Building Code*, Section 402.7
Atriums, *International Building Code*, Section 404.7
Underground Buildings, *International Building Code*, Section 405.8
Group I-3, *International Building Code*, Section 408.4.2
Stages, *International Building Code*, Section 410.2.5
Special Amusement Buildings (as applicable to Group A's), *International Building Code*, Section 411.1
Smoke Protected Seating, Section 1029.6.2.

1203.2.18 {No change.}

1203.2.19 Covered and Open Mall Buildings. Emergency power shall be provided in accordance with Section 907.2.19 and 914.2.3.

1203.2.20 Airport Traffic Control Towers. A standby power system shall be provided in airport traffic control towers more than 65 ft. in height. Power shall be provided to the following equipment:

1. Pressurization equipment, mechanical equipment and lighting.
2. Elevator operating equipment.
3. Fire alarm and smoke detection systems.

1203.2.21 Smokeproof Enclosures and Stair Pressurization Alternative. Standby power shall be provided for smokeproof enclosures, stair pressurization alternative and associated automatic fire detection systems as required by the *International Building Code*, Section 909.20.6.2.

1203.2.22 Elevator Pressurization. Standby power shall be provided for elevator pressurization system as required by the *International Building Code*, Section 909.21.5.

1203.2.23 Elimination of Smoke Dampers in Shaft Penetrations. Standby power shall be provided when eliminating the smoke dampers in ducts penetrating shafts in accordance with the *International Building Code*, Section 717.5.3, exception 2.3.

1203.2.24 Common Exhaust Systems for Clothes Dryers. Standby power shall be provided for common exhaust systems for clothes dryers located in multistory structures in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code,* Section 504.10, Item 7.

1203.2.25 Hydrogen Cutoff Rooms. Standby power shall be provided for mechanical ventilation and gas detection systems of Hydrogen Cutoff Rooms in accordance with the *International Building Code*, Section 421.

1203.2.26 Means of Egress Illumination in Existing Buildings. Emergency power shall be provided for *means of egress* illumination in accordance with Section 1104.5 when required by the fire code official. (90 minutes in I-2, 60 minutes elsewhere.)

1203.3 through 1203.6 {No change.}

1203.7 Energy Time Duration. Unless a time limit is specified by the fire code official, in this chapter or elsewhere in this code, or in any other referenced code or standard, the emergency and standby power system shall be supplied with enough fuel or energy storage capacity for not less than 2-hour full-demand operation of the system.

Exception: Where the system is supplied with natural gas from a utility provider and is approved.

(Reason: These amendments were moved from Chapter 6, due to relocation of the published sections to this new Chapter 12. These provisions provide a list to complete and match that throughout the codes. The only additional requirements are the reference to COPS in NFPA 70, and the specified Energy time duration. Other changes are a reference to a code provision that already exists.)

*****Section 2304.1; change to read as follows:***

2304.1 Supervision of Dispensing. The dispensing of fuel at motor fuel-dispensing facilities shall be ~~conducted by a qualified attendant or shall be under the supervision of a qualified attendant at all times or~~

~~shall be~~ in accordance with ~~Section 2204.3.~~ the following:

1. Conducted by a qualified attendant; and/or,

2. Shall be under the supervision of a qualified attendant; and/or

3. Shall be an 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.

(Reason: Allows a facility to apply the attended and unattended requirements of the code when both are potentially applicable.)

***Section 2401.2; delete this section.**

(Reason: This section eliminates such booths from all compliance with Chapter 15 including, but not limited to: size, ventilation, fire protection, construction, etc. If the product utilized is changed to a more flammable substance, the lack of compliance with Chapter 15 could result in significant fire or deflagration and subsequent life safety hazard.)

****Section 3103.3.1; delete this section.**

(Reason: This new section of the Fire Code requires a fire sprinkler system to be installed in temporary tents and membrane structures, which is not a reasonable or enforceable requirement for a temporary use. A fire watch or fire alarm system is a more advisable approach for such occupancies that are only temporary.)

***Table 3206.2, footnote h; change text to read as follows:**

h. ~~Not required~~ 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.

(Reason: Allows the fire department to control the smoke and heat during and after a fire event, while ensuring proper operation of the sprinkler protection provided. Also, gives an alternative to smoke and heat vents.)

****Table 3206.2, footnote j; 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 fire wall constructed in accordance with Section 706 of the *International Building Code* shall be used to divide high-piled storage exceeding 500,000 square feet in area.

(Reason: This is a long-standing legacy requirement and provides passive protection for extremely large buildings where it would be otherwise impossible to control the spread of fire without the fire wall in place

in an uncontrolled fire event, which is much more likely in high hazard commodities, such as tires, flammable liquids, expanded plastics, etc.)

***Section 3310.1; add sentence to end of paragraph to read as follows:**

When fire apparatus access roads are required to be installed for any structure or development, they shall be approved prior to the time at which construction has progressed beyond completion of the foundation of any structure.

(Reason: Reference requirement of Section 501.4.)

***Section 5601.1.3; change to read as follows:**

5601.1.3 Fireworks. The possession, manufacture, storage, sale, handling, and use of fireworks are prohibited.

Exceptions:

1. Only when approved for fireworks displays, storage, and handling of fireworks as allowed in Section 5604 and 5608.

~~2. Manufacture, assembly and testing of fireworks as allowed in Section 5605.~~

~~3.~~2. The use of fireworks for approved fireworks displays as allowed in Section 5608.

~~4. The possession, storage, sale~~*… {Delete remainder of text.}*

(Reason: Restricts fireworks to approved displays only, which is consistent with regional practice. Such is intended to help protect property owners and individuals from unintentional fireworks fires within the jurisdiction, as well as to help protect individuals from fireworks injuries. It is noted that there has been a change in the State Law to allow possession of unopened fireworks in certain areas of the vehicle, and it is highly recommended that AHJ's familiarize themselves with the applicable State Laws in this regard.)

***Section 5703.6; add a sentence to read as follows:**

5703.6 Piping Systems. Piping systems, and their component parts, for flammable and combustible liquids shall be in accordance with Sections 5703.6.1 through 5703.6.11. An *approved* method of secondary containment shall be provided for underground tank and piping systems.

(Reason: Increased protection in response to underground leak problems and remediation difficulty in underground applications. Coordinates with TCEQ requirements.)

***Section 5704.2.11.4; add a sentence to read as follows:**

5704.2.11.4 Leak Prevention. Leak prevention for underground tanks shall comply with Sections 5704.2.11.4.1 ~~and 5704.2.11.4.2~~ through 5704.2.11.4.3. An *approved* method of secondary containment shall be provided for underground tank and piping systems.

(Reason: Increased protection in response to underground leak problems and remediation difficulty in

underground applications.)

***Section 5704.2.11.4.2; change to read as follows:**

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.

(Reason: Reference to IFC Section 5704.2.11.4.3 amendment.)

***Section 5704.2.11.4.3; add Section 5704.2.11.4.3 to read as follows:**

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 a minimum of 4 tubes. Sampling tubes shall be placed in the product line excavation within 10 feet of the tank excavation and one every 50 feet routed along product lines towards the dispensers, a minimum of two are required.

(Reason: Provides an economical means of checking potential leaks at each tank site.)

***Section 5707.4; add paragraph to read as follows:**

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.

(Reason: The general public does not expect a hazardous operation to be occurring in a typical parking lot or for a fuel truck to be traversing such parking lot, temporarily fueling a vehicle, and moving on to the next area in the parking lot to fuel the next vehicle. Vehicular accidents occur in parking lots on a regular basis, but the presence of a fuel truck, especially one in the process of fueling a vehicle with gasoline, greatly adds to the potential risk involved in such accidents. By restricting such operations to the occupancies in question, the employees of the business may be adequately notified to expect such operations to occur in the parking lot.)

***Section 6103.2.1; add Section 6103.2.1.8 to read as follows:**

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.

(Reason: To provide a consistent and reasonable means of regulating the use of portable LP-Gas containers in these situations. Reduces the hazard presented by portable containers when natural gas is already available. Please note that current State Law does not allow for the enforcement of any rules more stringent than that adopted by the State, so this amendment is only applicable as to the extent allowed by that State Law.)

***Section 6104.2, Exception; add an exception 2 to read as follows:**

Exceptions:

1. *{existing text unchanged}*

2. Except as permitted in Sections 308 and 6104.3.2, LP-gas containers are not permitted in residential areas.

(Reason: To provide a consistent and reasonable means of regulating the use LP-Gas containers. Reduces the hazard presented by such containers when natural gas is already available. References regional amendment to IFC 6104.3.2. Please note that current State Law does not allow for the enforcement of any rules more stringent than that adopted by the State, so this amendment is only applicable as to the extent allowed by that State Law.)

***Section 6104.3; add Section 6104.3.3 to read as follows:**

6104.3.3 Spas, Pool Heaters, and Other Listed Devices. Where natural gas service is not available, an LP-gas container is allowed to be used to supply spa and pool heaters or other listed devices. Such container shall not exceed 250-gallon water capacity per lot. See Table 6104.3 for location of containers.

Exception: Lots where LP-gas can be off-loaded wholly on the property where the tank is located may install up to 500 gallon above ground or 1,000 gallon underground approved containers.

(Reason: Allows for an alternate fuel source. Dwelling density must be considered and possibly factored into zoning restrictions. Reduces the hazard presented by over-sized LP-Gas containers. Please note that current State Law does not allow for the enforcement of any rules more stringent than that adopted by the State, so this amendment is only applicable as to the extent allowed by that State Law.)

***Section 6107.4 and 6109.13; change to read as follows:**

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 ~~NFPA 58~~ 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.

~~**Exception:** Vehicle impact protection shall not be required for protection of LP-gas containers where the containers are kept in lockable, ventilated cabinets of metal construction.~~

(Reason: NFPA 58 does not provide substantial physical protection [it allows raised sidewalks, fencing, ditches, parking bumpers as 'vehicle barrier protection'] of the container(s) from vehicular impact as is required and has been required historically, as per Section 312, i.e. bollard protection. Further, the exception to Section 6109.13 would allow for portable containers in ventilated metal cabinets to not require any physical protection whatsoever from vehicular impact, regardless of the location of the containers. Please note that current State Law does not allow for the enforcement of any rules more stringent than that adopted by the State, so this amendment is only applicable as to the extent allowed by that State Law.)

**** {Applicable to those jurisdictions adopting Appendix B}***
Table B105.2; change footnote a. to read as follows:

a. The reduced fire-flow shall be not less than ~~1,000~~ 1,500 gallons per minute.

(Reason: The minimum fire-flow of 1,500 gpm for other than one- and two- family dwellings has existed since the 2000 edition of the IFC, as well as the Uniform Fire Code before that. Little to no technical justification was provided for the proposed code change at the code hearings. The board believes that the already-allowed 75 percent reduction in required fire-flow for the provision of sprinkler protection is already a significant trade-off. The minimum 1,500 gpm is not believed to be overly stringent for the vast majority of public water works systems in this region, especially since it has existed as the requirement for so many years. Further, the continued progression of trading off more and more requirements in the codes for the provision of sprinkler protection has made these systems extremely operation-critical to the safety of the occupants and properties in question. In other words, should the sprinkler system fail for any reason, the fire-flow requirements drastically increase from that anticipated with a sprinkler-controlled fire scenario.)

END

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758
www.cityofrhome.com cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com

AGENDA ITEM M

Agenda Commentary

Meeting Date: 2.10.2022

Department: Administration **Contact: Cynthia Northrop**

Agenda Item: M. Discussion and any necessary action regarding Ordinance to lower speed limit on FM 3433

Type of Item:	X	**Ordinance**	___	**Resolution**	___	**Contract/Agreement**	___ **Public Hearing**
	___	**Plat**	X	**Discussion & Direction**			___ **Other**

Summary-Background:

Council has directed staff to work with TXDOT to lower the speed limit within Rhome City limits on FM 3433 from the SB SR of 287 south to our city limits in an effort to help promote the safety of the traveling public, especially in light of the schools located on FM 3433 and the continued construction and growth of Rolling V Ranch. In accordance with TXDOT requirements, staff initiated a speed study on FM 3433, the results of which support a reduction of 5 mph; from 60 mph to 55 mph. Both TXDOT and staff have reviewed the Ordinance which will reduce the speed limit from 60 mph to 55 mph. The City is required to take action by this Ordinance and to submit to TXDOT in order to implement the reduction in the speed limit.

Funding Expected:	___	**Revenue**	___	**Expenditure**	___	**N/A**	
Budgeted Item:	___	**Yes**	___	**No**	___	**N/A**	
GL Account:	_____		**Amount:**	_____			
Legal Review Required:	X	**Yes**	___	**No**		**Date Completed:**	_____
Engineering Review:	___	**FD Review:**	___	**PD Review:**	___	**PW Review:**	___

Supporting Documents Attached: Yes

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the adoption of the Ordinance to lower the speed limit from 60 mph to 55 mph as allowed by speed study to promote the safety of the traveling public and is required to provide to authorize TXDOT to lower the speed limit.

CITY OF RHOME ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS, SETTING A SPEED LIMIT PURSUANT TO TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, SECTION 545.356 AND CITY ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 12, TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, ARTICLE 12.05, OPERATION OF VEHICLES, SECTION 12.05.033, GENERAL SPEED LIMIT; IDENTIFYING THE MAXIMUM PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMIT FOR FM 3433 WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY; PROVIDING A PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED $200.00 FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; REPEALING ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A CUMULATIVE CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Rhome is a Type A general law city located in Wise County, Texas and acting under the powers granted to it pursuant to state law, including Chapters 6 and 211 of the Texas Local Government Code; and

WHEREAS, Section 542.202(12) of the Texas Transportation Code grants local authorities the power to alter speed limits; and

WHEREAS, Section 545.356 of the Texas Transportation Code provides that whenever the governing body of the City shall determine upon the basis of an engineering study that any prima facie speed therein set forth is greater or less than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist at any intersection or other place or upon any part of a street or highway within the City, taking into consideration the width and condition of the traffic thereon, said governing body may determine and declare a reasonable and safe speed limit there at or thereon by the passage of an ordinance, which shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected at such intersection or other place or part of the street or highway; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of Transportation has conducted an engineering and traffic investigation and study to determine a maximum speed limit which is reasonable and safe on FM 3433 in the City of Rhome, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby finds and determines based upon said engineering and traffic investigation and study that FM 3343, located within City limits, is designed for vehicular traffic to travel at a lower speed than the existing speed limits on said roadway, the existing speed being unreasonable and unsafe; and

WHEREAS, the City Council declares that the speed limit on FM 3343 should be changed as set forth in this ordinance and that such amendment is in the best interest of the City of Rhome and will promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of the City of Rhome and the general public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS:

SECTION 1.

Upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation heretofore made as authorized by the provisions of Texas Transportation Code 545.356, the maximum prima facie speed limit indicated herein for vehicles is hereby determined and declared to be reasonable and safe, and such speed limit is hereby fixed at the rate of speed indicated for vehicles traveling upon the named street or parts thereof. From and after the date of the passage of this ordinance, no motor vehicle shall be operated along and upon FM 3343 within the corporate limits of the City of Rhome in excess of fifty-five (55) miles per hour.

SECTION 2.

The speed limit set forth in Section 1, above, is effective when the City Administrator, or a designee thereof, erects signs giving notice of the new speed limits. The City Administrator is directed to take such action necessary to ensure that such new speed limit signs are erected and installed.

SECTION 3.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a Class C misdemeanor pursuant to Section 12.05.031 of the Code and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not to exceed two hundred dollars ($200.00).

SECTION 4.

All ordinances, orders or resolutions heretofore passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Rhome, Texas, are hereby repealed to the extent that said ordinances, orders or resolutions, or parts thereof, are in conflict herewith.

SECTION 5.

This ordinance shall be cumulative of all provisions of ordinances and of the Code of Ordinances of the City, as amended, except where the provisions of this ordinance are in direct conflict with the provisions of such ordinances and such Code, in which event the conflicting provisions of such ordinances and such Code are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6.

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause sentence, paragraph or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this ordinance, since the same would have been enacted by the City Council without the incorporation in this ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

SECTION 7.

All rights and remedies of the City are expressly saved as to any and all violations of the provisions of the City Code amended or revised herein, or any other ordinances affecting the matters regulated herein which have accrued at the time of the effective date of this ordinance; and, as to such accrued violations and all pending litigation, both civil and criminal, whether pending in court or not, under such ordinances, same shall not be affected by this ordinance but may be prosecuted until final disposition by the courts.

SECTION 8.

The City Secretary is directed to publish the caption, penalty clause, publication clause and effective date of this Ordinance to the extent required by law.

SECTION 9.

The City Secretary is hereby authorized to publish this ordinance and the exhibits to this ordinance in book or pamphlet form for general distribution among the public, and the operative provisions of this ordinance as so published shall be admissible in evidence in all courts without further proof than the production thereof.

SECTION 10.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law, and it is so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS

_____
Mayor, Jo Ann Wilson

ATTEST:

_____
Shaina Odom, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Carvan Adkins, City Attorney

Physical Address: 501 South Main Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 228
Rhome, Texas 76078
Telephone: 817-636-2462 | Metro: 817-638-2758
www.cityofrhome.com cityadministrator@cityofrhome.com

AGENDA ITEM N

Agenda Commentary

Meeting Date: 2.10.2022

Department: Administration **Contact: Cynthia Northrop**

Agenda Item: N. s

Type of Item: ___ **Ordinance** ___ **Resolution** ___ **Contract/Agreement** ___ **Public Hearing**
___ **Plat** x **Discussion & Direction** ___ **Other**

Summary-Background: Annual Calling General Election Ordinance

Canvass Period is May 10, 2022 through May 18, 2022. Regular Council Meetings are May 12 and May 26. Staff recommends scheduling the Canvas on latest day to allow the County to receive all mail in ballots. Staff is asking Council for a date to Canvass; only two council members are needed to Canvass. Options include moving the regular scheduled meeting of Thursday, May 12 to Wednesday, May 18 and possibly only have one meeting in May since the second regular scheduled Council Meeting is the following week on May 26 or having a special meeting to Canvass Wednesday May 18, keeping it as a Canvass the vote meeting only.

Funding Expected: ___ **Revenue** ___ **Expenditure** ___ **N/A**
Budgeted Item: ___ **Yes** ___ **No** ___ **N/A**
GL Account: _____ **Amount:** _____
Legal Review Required: ___ **Yes** ___ **No** **Date Completed:** _____
Engineering Review: ___ **FD Review:** ___ **PD Review:** ___ **PW Review:** ___

Supporting Documents Attached: Yes

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval

CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS
ORDINANCE NO. 2022-001

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS, CALLING A GENERAL ELECTION FOR THE OFFICES OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBER - PLACE 4, COUNCIL MEMBER - PLACE 5, AND MAYOR, TO BE HELD MAY 7, 2022; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT WITH THE WISE COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR TO CONDUCT THE ELECTION; AND PROVIDING PROCEDURES TO CONDUCT THE ELECTION

WHEREAS, the City of Rhome, Texas ("City") is a Type A general law municipality governed by Chapter 6 of the Texas Local Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Election Code establishes May 7, 2022, as the uniform election date for the general election for the City; and

WHEREAS, it is the City Council's intent that the election be conducted jointly with other political subdivisions of Wise County and be administered by the Wise County Elections Administrator in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code; and

WHEREAS, it is City Council's intent that the City accept the Wise County Election Administrator's use of the direct recording electronic voting system, which has been certified by the Secretary of State in accordance with the Texas Election Code and approved by the United States Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, the meeting at which this Ordinance is considered is open to the public as required by law, and public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by Section 551.043 of the Texas Government Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RHOME, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. ORDER FOR GENERAL ELECTION. The City Council hereby calls and orders a general municipal election to be held on May 7, 2022 between the hours of 7:00am to 7:00pm for the purpose of electing three (3) persons to serve on City Council Place 4, Place 5, and Mayor, each to serve a term of two (2) years from May 2022 until May 2024, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

SECTION 2. FILING FOR OFFICE. Qualified persons may file as candidates for the general election by filing applications each weekday in the office of the City Secretary during regular office hours of 8:00am to 4:00pm beginning Wednesday, January 19, 2022 and ending Friday, February 18, 2022.

SECTION 3. MAIL BALLOTS. Applications requesting a ballot by mail for either early voting or election day voting shall be mailed to: Wise County Elections, Early Voting Clerk, 200 South Trinity Street, Decatur, Texas 76234. Applications for early voting ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on Tuesday, April 26, 2022.

SECTION 4. EARLY VOTING. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted on the following dates and times beginning April 25, 2022 and ending May 3, 2022.

The main early voting location is the Elections Office, 200 South Trinity Street, Decatur, TX 76234.

April 19, 2021	Monday	8:00am - 5:00pm
April 20, 2021	Tuesday	7:00am - 7:00pm
April 21, 2021	Wednesday	8:00am - 5:00pm
April 22, 2021	Thursday	8:00am - 5:00pm
April 23, 2021	Friday	8:00am - 5:00pm
April 26, 2021	Monday	8:00am - 5:00pm
April 27, 2021	Tuesday	7:00am - 7:00pm

SECTION 5. ELECTION DAY. The elections shall be held jointly with other political subdivisions of Wise County on Saturday, May 7, 2022, between the hours of 7:00am and 7:00pm.

SECTION 6. JOINT ELECTION CONTRACT. Prior to the election, the City anticipates that it will enter into an agreement for election services with the Wise County Elections Administrator. The City Administrator is hereby authorized to execute a Joint Election Contract with the Wise County Elections Administrator for the conduct of a joint election to be held on May 7, 2022, and to execute any amendments.

SECTION 7. ELECTION NOTICES. The City Secretary is hereby authorized and instructed to file, publish and/or post, in the time and manner prescribed by law all notices required to be so filed, published, or posted in connection with these elections and to provide and furnish ballot wording to the County election officials.

SECTION 8. APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION OFFICIALS. All election officials, including but not limited to the Early Voting Clerk and election judges, shall be the officials appointed to such positions by Wise County, and to the extent required by law, are hereby so appointed.

SECTION 9. DIRECT RECORDING SYSTEM. In accordance with Section 123.001 of the Texas Election Code, the Direct Recording Electronic Voting Systems approved by the Secretary of State are hereby adopted for the election on May 7, 2022.

SECTION 10. ACCESSIBLE VOTING SYSTEM. Section 61.012 of the Code requires that the City must provide at least one accessible voting system in each polling place used in Texas election on or after January 1, 2006. The City shall use, in Early Voting and Election Day Voting, a voter assist terminal as approved by the Secretary of State.

SECTION 11. ELECTION MATERIALS. The election materials specified in the Texas Election Code shall be printed in both English and Spanish for use at the polling places and for early voting for the election and provisions shall be made for oral assistance to Spanish speaking voters.

SECTION 12. ELECTION RESPONSIBILITY. The City shall contract with the Wise County Elections Administrator to perform all duties normally performed by the City Secretary in regular elections with respect to early voting, election day voting, and preparing the official ballots.

SECTION 13. The election shall be conducted in accordance with the Texas Election Code and the Constitution of the State of Texas.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Rhome, Texas, this the 10th day of February 2022, by a vote of ayes, nays, and abstentions, at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Rhome, Texas.

Jo Ann Wilson,
Mayor

[SEAL]

ATTEST:

Shaina Odom
City Secretary

APPROVED TO AS FORM:

Carvan E. Adkins,
City Attorney