

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE January 6, 2023

TO Honorable Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Adoption of the International Fire Code**

Please accept this message as an update to the process for the adoption of the International Fire Code, on which the Public Safety Committee was briefed on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Fire Code Advisory and Appeals Board (FCB) voted to approve the adoption of the 2021 International Fire Code with Dallas amendments on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Dallas Fire-Rescue (DFR) is proposing the adoption of the 2022 Dallas Fire Code, which is a combination of the 2021 International Fire Code and 2022 Dallas amendments. DFR provides amendments to specific sections of the International Fire Code model code language as a part of the overall adoption process of the Dallas Fire Code. The proposed 2022 amendments are primarily a carryover of previous Dallas amendments from previous Dallas Fire Codes.

The new Dallas Fire Code amendments reflect modifications of new code sections that have been added to the International Fire Code model code language since the 2016 Dallas Fire Code adopted by the City of Dallas. The proposed amendments mirror the language and intent of the additions to the 2021 Regional Code amendments for the 2021 International Fire Code, which was adopted by the North Texas Council of Governments. The 2021 Regional Code amendments provide a base of amendments used by several municipalities in the North Texas area for Fire Code consistency.

Sections of note within the proposed 2022 Dallas Fire Code amendments include:

- Appendix L, Firefighter Air Replenishment Systems (FARS) has been widely adopted by fire departments throughout the United States. This system provides the ability for firefighters to replenish their air bottles inside a structure within minutes, increasing their safety factor significantly.
- Section 510, Emergency Responder Communication Coverage, provides fire code regulation to ensure that structures have the critical radio signal strength necessary for first responders to communicate during an emergency incident.

In preparation for developing the suggested amendments, DFR collaborated with external stakeholders for constructive feedback. Additionally, DFR also met with representatives of the City of Dallas Sustainable Development department and the Fire Code Advisory and Appeals Board for comments and discussion.

The City Attorney's reviewed the 2022 Dallas Fire Code and is scheduled for consideration to full Council on January 11, 2023.

DATE January 4, 2023

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Additional information or questions on the 2022 Dallas Fire Code and the Dallas amendments may be obtained from the Dallas Fire Marshal, Deputy Chief Christopher Martinez at [c.martinez@dallasfire.gov](mailto:c.martinez@dallasfire.gov) or by calling the Inspection and Life Safety Education Division at 214-670-4319.



Jon Fortune  
Deputy City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager  
Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager  
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Directors and Assistant Directors