



The City of



Fire-Rescue Department

FACT SHEET

2022 Fire Code Adoption

Proposed Local Amendments

The City of San Diego proposes local amendments to the Municipal Code necessary to implement the 2022 California Fire Code which will be effective January 1, 2023. Local amendments are effective after approval by the City Council and final passage of ordinances necessary to codify updates to the Municipal Code.

The City's fire safety laws are incorporated in the San Diego Municipal Code Chapter 5, Article 11, Division 1-83

The proposed code amendments are necessary to provide consistency and compatibility with the 2022 edition of the state code as well as necessary changes in response to new legislation. The California Building Standards Commission allows for local modifications to be made as reasonably necessary due to local climatic, topographical, and geological conditions.

Summary of Significant Changes

The following is a list of significant code changes:

- New requirements for the use of outdoor portable fireplaces in a Wildland-Urban Interface Area.
- Added definitions for terms contained within the municipal code that were previously undefined.
- Restrictions on recreational fires during high fire risk conditions such as a red-flag warning.
- Clarification on approval and implementation of fire safety plans and emergency procedures.
- Provided guidelines based on occupant load for Group A occupancies requiring a fire safety and evacuation plan.
- Updated duties of Standby Fire Department Personnel to better correlate with current code.
- Added provisions to ensure adequate ingress/egress for at-risk communities in the event of a wildfire in accordance with Public Resources Code 4290.5 and associated recommendations from the Board of Forestry.
- Updated defensible space regulations to correlate with zone 1 and zone 2 requirements contained within the Land Development Code Section 142.0412.
- Removed redundant language associated with our HAZMAT program.
- Modified Appendix B to ensure adequate fire-flows for buildings.
- Modified appendix C to ensure adequate number and spacing of on-site hydrants for the protection of buildings and communities.

Questions/Comments

For questions or comments regarding the proposed amendments please contact Daniel Hypes, Assistant Fire Marshal, at 619-533-4427 and via e-mail at dhypes@sandiego.gov.