



City of Prescott

Fire Board of Appeals

December 11, 2025 | 1:00 PM
201 N. Montezuma Street
Council Chambers, 1st Floor
Prescott, AZ 86301

AGENDA

This Agenda was Amended at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, December 1, 2025 changing the date to December 11, 2025

The following Agenda will be considered by the **Fire Board of Appeals** at their meeting to be held **December 11, 2025**. Notice of this meeting is given pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 38-431.02.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**
 - A. Introduction & Welcome of Fire Board of Appeals Members.
Recommended Action: This item is for introductions only. No formal action will be taken.
 - B. Discussion & Appointment of a Vice Chair for the Board.
Recommended Action: MOVE to appoint a Vice Chair for the Fire Board of Appeals
 - C. Approval of the March 26, 2021 Fire Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes.
Recommended Action: MOVE to approve the minutes as presented
 - D. Presentation & Discussion Regarding the Adopted 2024 International Fire Code Amendments.
Recommended Action: This item is for discussion only. No formal action will be taken.
4. **UPDATES**
5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a public majority vote of a quorum of the Board, the Board may hold an executive session, which will not be open to the public, regarding any item listed on the agenda but only for the following purposes:

- (1) Discussion or consideration of personnel matters (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1));
- (2) Discussion or consideration of records exempt by law (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(2));
- (3) Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the city's attorneys (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3));

- (4) Discussion or consultation with the city's attorneys regarding the city's position regarding contracts that are the subject of negotiations, in pending or contemplated litigation, or in settlement discussions conducted in order to avoid litigation (A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(4));
- (5) Discussion or consultation with designated representatives of the city to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations with employee organizations (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(5));
- (6) Discussion, consultation or consideration for negotiations by the city or its designated representatives with members of a tribal council, or its designated representatives, of an Indian reservation located within or adjacent to the city (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(6));
- (7) Discussion or consultation with designated representatives of the city to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(7)).

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Prescott City Hall on 12/1/25 at 9:00 a.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the Prescott City Council with the City Clerk.

Sarah M. Thornhill

Sarah M. Thornhill, City Clerk



TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA: December 11 Fire Board of Appeals
DATE: December 11, 2025
DEPT: Fire Department
ITEM #: 3.A
SUBJECT: Introduction & Welcome of Fire Board of Appeals Members.

ITEM SUMMARY

This item will provide an opportunity for new and existing members to introduce themselves to each other.

Members:

Chair - Robert Betts
Member - Robert Gebel
Member - Michael King
Member - Robert Rudolph
Member - Roger Sewald

BACKGROUND

None.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

This item is for introductions only. No formal action will be taken.

ATTACHMENTS

None



TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA: December 11 Fire Board of Appeals
DATE: December 11, 2025
DEPT: Fire Department
ITEM #: 3.B
SUBJECT: Discussion & Appointment of a Vice Chair for the Board.

ITEM SUMMARY

This item is for the appointment of a Vice Chair.

BACKGROUND

Since the Fire Board of Appeals membership is mostly new, a vice-chair must be nominated by the Board membership.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

MOVE to appoint a Vice Chair for the Fire Board of Appeals

ATTACHMENTS

None



TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA: December 11 Fire Board of Appeals
DATE: December 11, 2025
DEPT: Fire Department
ITEM #: 3.C
SUBJECT: Approval of the March 26, 2021 Fire Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes.

ITEM SUMMARY

This item is for the approval of the March 26, 2021 meeting minutes. Staff recommends approval of the minutes as presented.

BACKGROUND

None.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

MOVE to approve the minutes as presented

ATTACHMENTS

1. March 26, 2021 Fire Board of Appeals Minutes



FIRE BOARD OF APPEALS

**CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 S. CORTEZ ST.
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2021
1:00 P.M.**

Minutes of the Fire Board of Appeals meeting held on March 26, 2021 in the City Hall, Council Chambers, 201 S. Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman King called the meeting to order at 1:01P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

- ✓ Chairman, Michael King
- ✓ Vice Chair, Bob Betts
- ✓ Citizen, Jim Campbell
- ✓ Citizen, Marty Trembly

3. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. Introduction of Fire Board of Appeals members

Chairman King requested the Fire Board members in attendance to introduce themselves. Chief Light stated that there was representation from the contractor's community, Jonathan Aten from All-West Fire Protection.

2. Approval of the August 14, 2020 meeting minutes.

Corrected Marty Trembly's last name in the minutes.

**Jim Campbell moved to approve the August 14, 2020 meeting minutes, seconded by Marty Trembly:
Passed 4-0.**

3. Presentation of 2021 Amendments to the 2018 International Fire Code

Chief Light stated that he would like to thank everyone as he greatly appreciates everyone's time on a Friday afternoon. Cory has prepared a few slides to kind of capture the highlights. For added background, prior to Cory taking over the roll as Fire Marshal, we reached out through Sandy with YCCA and done at least one kind of warm or soft opening of the Fire Code. With that, it took some points that we needed to bring back. Since that time, I believe we have had a least a couple, good, in-depth conversations with our builders and our building community. With that, during Cory's preparations for the presentation, we've drilled it down to the pieces that are relevant to the amendments, to the code. The model code stands in and by itself, pretty much as a self-standing document. There are some nuances that are unique to the City of Prescott, for which Amendments have in the past and

currently are being proposed; along with some redactions and removal of what we felt were either extraneous information that added to or created a lack of clarity. So, what we've tried to do is clean that up. About two weeks ago, we brought this forward to the contractor's community, at which time we had an opportunity to have some feedback. With that, we've tried to incorporate those points, and as such we've kind of bifurcated our process to bring the International Fire Code forward today before you with the expectation that perhaps in summer time frame once the City gets past budgetary processes and those kinds of things, and we have some follow up with our contracting community, that we will be bringing forward the other code for which we are responsible for, and that is the Wildland Urban Interface Code.

So, with that, I'd like to introduce Deputy Chief Moser. Cory serves as our Fire Marshal for this community. Our mission really is to ensure that the engineering side of things are such that when a fire does occur, that it doesn't put operational resources needlessly at risk. With that, Chairman, I'll turn it back to you and hopefully over to Cory for his presentation.

Chairman King requested that Cory proceed.

Fire Marshal Cory Moser stated that it's his privilege to bring forward the 2021 Amendments to the 2018 International Fire Code (IFC). We're very proud of the document that we've put together. We've put a lot of work into this, and we're excited to have this opportunity to present the Amendments to you.

Just for the record, Fire Marshal Moser wanted to go over a couple of items of note about this process. Why are changes being made? We have a Fire Code in place. We have Amendments in place. What is it that prompts this process? The International Code Council (ICC), every three years, updates all of their codes. They're on a three-year cycle. The City strives to match what the State does. The State adopts every other code cycle and that's about a six-year process, is what they've put it at. We try to stay ahead of that; because by staying ahead of that, it lets us kind of define the rules of the game for our own community. If they were to go ahead and adopt that 2018 code, they would trump what we have locally, because they would have a more recent version of the code. So, what we try to do is adopt the code prior to the State adopting it so that the we can put our Amendments in place and we can have that code apply to our community rather than becoming subject to what the State has put in place. It's time for us to do that; in fact, we're a little bit past due. We want to get this process taken care of because we believe that State is on the cusp of adopting their 2018 code. If they were to go ahead and do that, it would create some challenges for us locally.

Fire Marshal Moser asked what was the process? What got us to this point? When Fire Marshal Moser came into his position, in January of 2020, we had what we believed were a good set of amendments that were ready to bring forward to the Fire Board and in turn to the Council. They had been vetted internally, there had been a meeting with some of the contractors' groups; it looked like things were good. As typically is the case, when people

have a little bit of time to chew stuff over and kind of re-think things, sometimes their opinions about stuff changes a little bit. So, when I came in, in January of 2020, both internal stakeholders to the City of Prescott as well as Sandy Griffis from YCCA approached me. They felt that there was more crafting that needs to be done on these agreements before you take them to the City. Would it be okay if we pressed the pause button, reconsidered some of the stuff that's getting ready to be brought forward and get something that perhaps has a greater sense of community, in terms of the document and what makes everybody comfortable with what we're bringing forward? So, we took what we called a drag net approach. We had both external and internal stakeholders. We said at our first meeting, think about everything that you don't like about our code. What is it that rubs you wrong? What is it that just doesn't seem to work? What is it that's lead to problems? Is there just something that you don't like? Lets list it all out, and either we'll see if we can fit it into the Amendments or we'll come up with a reason why we can't; but at the very least, the questions are answered. You walk out of this process knowing why it is that we can't do whatever it is that you would like to do. Along with that process, we started generating stakeholder feedback. We relied very much on the YCCA for that. We're very thankful for their teamwork and cooperation in bringing in key contractors and key players within the community that have been subject to our code. We started listening to what they had to say. In August of 2020, we held a meeting at the Centennial Center. We brought in local architects and designers, and we talked to them about, primarily in that instance, the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) code, but code in general. It was an opportunity for us to discuss things with the group.

As Chief Light brought up, a couple weeks ago, we also had a meeting with the general YCCA membership and the contractors, and just gave them an opportunity to talk about what was on their mind with the fire code; and where we could take some of their suggestions and adopt them; we went ahead and did so. Two key things that came out of that, we're going to talk about this as we go through the code. We got some good feedback about the sprinkler riser room. We had a request from Mr. Aten from All West to put some definitions in there in terms of spacing so that sprinkler contractors could work around the sprinkler riser than have them butted up against the wall. So, we adopted that.

Then we listened to the contractor's group and realized that we needed to become more creative with the WUI code. They're in a challenging situation right now. As partners in the community, the Fire Department, and the City of Prescott, we're very proud of the fact that we work well with the stakeholders in the community. So, when we heard this feedback at this process, we said okay, we're going to put the WUI code on pause. We're going to go back to the drawing board, see if we can sharpen our pencils a little bit more; listen to some more feedback that they have and decided that today, rather than bringing this WUI code forward, we're just going to focus on the IFC and bring you something that's perhaps a little bit more palatable for everybody with the WUI code.

So that's the process that brought us to today. So, to be specific. What are we reviewing today? As we mentioned, we are reviewing the 2018 International Fire Code, we're not reviewing the 2018 International Wildland Urban Interface Code and we're not reviewing the 2018 International Building Code, which has been adopted by the City already and has a strong influence on what we do in the IFC. So, they've kind of set the pace for us in many of

these different amendments in ways that we work. We're going to, after this slide, briefly talk about some common code topics. So, these are issues that have to do with amendments, but are questions that we commonly get from the contracting community and from the public in general. We want to give you the information so that you understand our reasoning on these topics; so that if you're approached at any point, you have a good basis for explaining the Fire Department's reasoning on these code requirements. Then we're going to get into the amendments themselves.

As far as the amendments are concerned, we're only talking specifically about changes to the Prescott Fire Department Amendments. So, we're not talking about changes from the 2012 Fire Code to the 2018 Fire Code. They have entire classes for that. If that interests you, I would suggest that you take one of those classes through the ICC cause we are talking about a document that's in the neighborhood of 1,000 pages long. We're not going to go page by page through a 1,000-page document going over every change from 2012 to 2018. What we are going to talk about is the amendments. The organic document that we have that's been in place for decades and the changes that we're making to that document with this iteration of the amendments. Is that clear to everybody, I hope?

So, common code topics. If somebody from the public approaches you and wants to talk to you about the fire code, 9 times out of 10, it's something to do with sprinklers. They want to know, what is it that makes them have to put sprinklers in a building. Why does the Fire Department require it? We'll talk to you about the cost associated with the sprinklers. Sometimes without knowing how the Fire Department works, it can feel like these codes that we have in place are arbitrary. Where does the number 5,000 come from? Why is it 150 feet? Well, let's talk about that. Five thousand square feet is the size of the building, that we as a Fire Department, feel at that point we can no longer, I don't want to say effectively, but quickly extinguish a fire. Once we hit the 5,000 square foot mark, we begin taxing our water supply in the community, we have a four-unit alarm response; that to get all four units on scene we're bumping up around the 18 to 20 minutes mark to get all four units on scene. So, that means that when we show up, we need fire really, if we're going to save a structure or lives or property, to be small enough that maybe we could hit it with one or two engines. When we hit 5,000 square feet, we're probably not going to get our arms around it with just one or two engines; and now that means that we're looking at the 20-minute mark to get all four engines on scene. Some of these 5,000 square foot buildings are in areas where the fire has the potential to spread to other structures. For example, if you look at our downtown area, there's certainly 5,000 square foot buildings in the downtown area that butt right up against other structures. So, for us, as a Fire Department, when we hit that 5,000 square foot mark, we need help. We need something in place that's going to keep the fire in check for a period of time until we have enough resources on scene to make sure everybody's out of the building and that we can put that fire out. So, 5,000 square foot is that spot where, we say, you know what, we want sprinklers in place at that point; because those sprinklers are proven to be effective at containing a fire, at least to a size where people will survive, and we have a pretty good chance at extinguishing it with the resources that we have in the community.

You see up there the City of Prescott Amendment, that's the sprinkler code. If we were to adopt State code, without any changes, verbatim, State code requires sprinklers in every

residential building that's built. It doesn't matter if it's a one residence home, single family home, two family home, apartment complex. The code reads all Group R buildings are required to have sprinklers in place. City of Prescott, for R-3, which is one- and two-family dwellings, we require them at the 5,000 square foot mark, if there's 500 feet or more between hydrants, or if the fire flow isn't available to put the building out. Congregate living facilities with greater than 12 people, because there is a unique life safety hazard with that; and if the building is greater than two stories. Keeping in mind that there are other code requirements throughout the book that may trigger sprinklers. We're going to talk about that on the next slide. Any questions about this part?

Mayor Mengarelli stated that he thinks his own family could trigger the 12. Fire Marshal Moser stated that fortunately by definition, he doesn't think that their a congregate living facility.

Mayor Mengarelli stated that Fire Marshal Moser mentioned that "State code requires all residential to have sprinklers. Do you see municipalities amending that though?" Fire Marshal Moser responded that it's a mixed bag. Scottsdale Fire Department follows that to the letter of the law. Fire Marshal Moser spoke to the Fire Marshal down there. He stated that if you have a four-by-four building, it's got one sprinkler head. Other departments, such as CAFMA, our neighbors on the other side of the hill, they follow something similar to ours; where they're not requiring it in every Group R building, but they have some measures in place based off their firefighting capabilities in their area that at a certain point they feel they need assistance catching the fire before it gets too big.

Mr. Aten requested to add to that. Mr. Aten stated that Scottsdale's has had that requirement since 1987.

Chairman King requested that Mr. Aten come to the microphone and identify himself.

Mr. Jonathen Aten introduced himself and identified that he runs a fire protection business here in town. Mr. Aten would like to add to what Mr. Moser said. Scottsdale's had that amendment to their fire code since 1987; one of the forerunners in the entire country as far as fire protection goes in life safety. Something that I hope that this city will one day will ascertain to be where we can get down to a zero square foot sprinkler requirement, because it's a great life safety feature.

Fire Marshal Moser stated that he didn't think he could add anything to that. If you're interested, we actually keep sprinkler heads at our fire department for saves. We have a whole row of them downstairs at our Administrative headquarters; where when we show up and a sprinkler head activated and it clearly had an effect on the life safety of the building, we'll go ahead and unscrew that sprinkler head and keep it and replace it, because it means something to us.

We talked about the first bullet point here, the why sprinklers at 5,000 square feet.

The second one talks about the model code 503.1.1. We had an amendment that addressed this. We recognized that it was redundant. We'll talk about it a little bit more as we're going through the amendments. This model code requirement is the 150-foot rule. What that means is that from the street that your home is on to any point in your home has to be within about a 150 feet. If it's not, your home is going to be required to have sprinklers in place. The reasoning for this is on any given fire truck throughout our community, if you look at it, you'll see that there's always hose stacked at the rear of the fire truck. We have what we call a transverse bed. That's the hose that's lined up right behind the cab where the firefighters sit. That's the hose that the firefighters grab. It's preloaded. They pull it, run right into the house, and put the fire out. The hose in that transverse bed is 200 feet long. If they need more than that 200-foot length of hose, they're going to have to go to the rear of the truck, deploy what we call a working line, which is a 2.5-inch line. They'll have to get what we call high rise packs out or disconnect the transverse bed and connect it to that working line, and then that will allow them to fight a fire that's further than that length of 200-foot hose we give them. So, what we're saying here is, we want to be able to reach fires in residences with a transverse line without having to do additional work. At a 150 feet, we'll have 50 feet left over for the firefighter to maneuver the hose around obstacles, try to get position on the fire, maybe do a search of the room that they're in if there's any occupants that are unconscious in that room, and be able to put the fire out. So, this has to do with us being able to rapidly deploy hose and extinguish the fire quickly. If we can't do that, again we're looking to that force multiplier. The sprinkler head that activates, that buys us time to do whatever else we have to do to effectively extinguish the fire and remove the occupants of that house. So that's where the notorious 150-foot rule comes from. Any questions or thoughts about that?

So, let's get into the amendments. I know that the cheat sheet that I sent you is 3 pages long. The Amendment document itself is just somewhere over 25 pages, so it feels a little bit cumbersome; but I think that you're going to see that we're really not changing a whole lot. This document is long just for the sake of being up front and honest with every time we did a strikethrough or any word change; but in terms of how the code is applied. In fact, we've got a number of different areas that we feel that we've kind of relaxed things a little bit. We'll go through that.

We'll start with Chapter 2, the definitions. This is the chapter that has the most changes to it in our amendment document. These changes are driven based on council decisions regarding sober living homes, congregate living facilities, things of that nature. When we changed occupant loads associated with those, it also then had a cascading effect requiring changes not only in the building code, but also in the fire code. So, the bulk of the changes that you're going to see here in Chapter 2, if you have your cheat sheet, for example: community residences, that definition is deleted, personal care service is deleted, congregate living facilities we had to add definitions for what Non transient and transient is, changes in occupancy load and service care numbers for Intentional Groups I-1 and I-2. All of those changes were to align our amendments with what has already been adopted in the IBC and the direction of the City Council regarding these homes. This isn't a Fire

Department driven change, although we're very supportive of it. We're just catching up to with what's already been decided with those changes.

You'll notice that in the definitions, one thing of note is that we've changed the definition of detached building. This is something that's already changed in the building code. We're trying to match it. We think that it's a reasonable change that makes life a little bit easier for our community. In a nutshell, what that's saying is that if you have a structure that's more than 200 square feet in size or less than 10 feet from your primary residence it's going to be added into the total fire area of that residence. The reason being, that if you have a fire in one building its close enough or large enough to affect the other building. Now previously we said it was a 15-foot distance, so we're giving up 5 feet on that definition. We're saying that if you're at 12 feet, if you're at 13 feet, we're not going to count that into the total square footage; our benchmarks 10.

If you see deleted, so for example, sky lantern is deleted. We deleted that definition because that was a large enough issue that the IFC adopted that definition into their model code, so it just wasn't required anymore.

I'm going to start moving through this. Please don't hesitate to stop me or raise your hand if there's something that I don't talk more about, and you want to discuss further.

Chapter 3 our amendment changes, again really center around the sky lanterns. We don't want them lighted or released in our community obviously due to the high fire risk that we have here locally. We added it into one section just for ease of location because in another section it's kind of buried down into the wording. So, we brought it up and gave it its own section and it will make it easier for us to find it.

Chapter 5 Fire Service Features. We have one significant change to Chapter 5. Obviously, we're asking that you don't spell out address numbers because our firefighters at 3 o'clock in the morning it's tough to read four, one, two, seven, rather than just seeing the four numbers on the side of the building. So, we're asking that we just have four numbers or three numbers on the side building.

But the change that we think that is a good thing for the community without compromising safety, is we're allowing the use of a standard for rural water supplies when calculating fire flow. Calculating fire flow is important because it drives a number of different requirements for the building, things such as sprinklers and what not. But we recognize, that while not frequently encountered, there are still locations within Prescott where maybe access to municipal water just isn't feasible for whatever reason. Prior to these set of amendments, it put us in a really weird position; because as code officials, we see the reasoning behind the person's situation. We see that their kind of stuck in this position, but we didn't have any options available to us to help us manage and help them work through the challenges that they were facing. What we're saying is we're going to go ahead and allow the use of NFPA Standard 1142, National Fire Protection Association Standard on Water Supplies for Rural Firefighting Areas, to be used in special circumstances where City water isn't available to them.

Chairman King asked Fire Marshal Moser, "would that be a capacity and pressure issues? Are they both under consideration?"

Fire Marshal Moser replied, "Yes. In totality, if a person has to come up with water from a different source, whether they're having to truck it in or if they're on a well. City of Prescott has some unique geography to it. Some challenges that I dare say our Public Works folks face that almost none of the people in the valley have to face when it comes to supplying water to homes; for fire flows and pressure, basically all of the above. If it's just impossible for us to meet the norm with the property, then we'll go ahead and use this standard and apply it.

Vice Chairman Betts asked Fire Marshal Moser, "on the 505.1 with the address numbers. Is there a particular reason why we're going from 4 to 6 inches? Is this just commercial buildings or is it residential and commercial?" Fire Marshal Moser responded, "I believe with that change, that's not a new change. I believe that's one that existed previously. Is that correct? I think that was in the 2012 iteration of the amendments. Let me pull that up real quick and we'll double check it." Vice Chairman Betts would like to know before he puts the new numbers on his mailbox. Fire Marshal Moser indicated, "that's a requirement that's been in place since at least the 2012 amendments and potentially even prior to that. So, I can come up with a reason right now, but I don't own it." Vice Chairman Betts stated that he was looking at the 2018 code.

Board member Trembly stated, "again Chief, when we say new and existing buildings that concludes residences of 5,000 square feet and more?" Fire Marshal Moser said, "basically any building that is the primary structure that firefighters and emergency responders. Keep in mind, when we come up with this stuff were also thinking about benefits that apply to your EMS agencies, police officers. The intent of this if we respond to a location, we want to be able to verify for a fact that the building that we're looking at is the one that our MDT says is where we are supposed to be. So, it just needs to be big numbers, easy to read when our folks are tired and they're trying to make quick decisions, we just want it to pop." Mr. Trembly stated that the 5,000 square feet is the important threshold." Fire Marshal Moser stated, "5,000 square feet is the threshold for sprinklers. For this address identification, it's any commercial, residential, whatever it is."

Fire Marshal Moser went on to state that Chapter 9 Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems is a chapter that applies most specifically to sprinklers for sure and other life safety systems and fire protection systems inside of a structure. We noticed quickly, one of the things that happens with organic documents, such as the City of Prescott Amendments, when I say organic, I mean something that's not re-written each time that it's adopted, but we pull it up and look at it, see changes need to be made and we move them forward. One of the challenges that comes up with these organic documents, is sometimes things are brought into the model code or added to that document, that we don't realize were already addressed in a different location. So, what we did was looked at Chapter 9 and said okay, where are there some redundancies that we can just get rid of to help us make this document easier to understand, easier to read. So, on the next slide, we're going to talk about some of those areas, in particular 903.2.8.

One of the things that we changed was in 901.4.6. We always had a policy of requiring a riser room to be 4 feet by 4 feet with exterior access. The reason for that is we need our firefighters to be able to access that riser room in an emergency without having to go through a maze in the building to figure out where it's at. That 4 foot by 4 foot space, what we're saying is that it needs to be large enough that service work, installation and repairs can be done in a reasonable fashion. It's not an exaggeration to say that we get plans sometimes with these risers stuck in a corner of a closet, in the back of an area that you would never be able to find even if there was a sign on the door that says riser room. So, we've always had internal policy saying it has got to be a 4 foot by 4 foot room, we have to have exterior access to it. What we've done with this iteration of amendments is that we've taken out policy and we just embedded it into code. It's an expectation that almost every builder, or an understanding that every builder in the community has, but we're just kind of solidifying it by putting it into code. Another thing that we put in that I mentioned earlier, that's not on this slide because it was recent enough not to stick it up there, is that we are requiring 18 inches of separation from the supply to any adjacent wall and from the supply to the remote FDC. Again, it's that same reasoning that we want this very important piece of equipment to be able to be serviced appropriately, have ease of access to it, and be able to maintain it without it being cumbersome.

903.3.5.3 adds more specific language for hydraulic calculation requirements. Now this was something that I would say has been about a year in the making. A lot of intensive work with one of our Fire Safety Inspectors, Chuck Moore, talking with local sprinkler contractor companies, and we've come up with some hydraulic calculation requirements that we feel are reasonable, that clarify things, reduces guesswork for everybody. It talks about a single head design for the most demanding area. So what that means is that we can guarantee that we're getting water and pressure to the sprinkler head in the building that requires the most pressure in the furthest location in the building, perhaps from the street side or the water supply side.; and then gives us some further clarification about pressure loss for when meter sets come into the building and how exactly we calculate elevation pressure.

Again, just some more clarifications. Where we want the remote inspector test to be at. It only makes sense that if you have an area that's the most demanding that that's where the test is located at.

We clarified too that well pumps can't supply pressure to the sprinklers. It has to be something other than that well pump that supplies pressure to the sprinklers.

Then also with 903.2.8 Group R, if you look at your cheat sheet, we eliminated three items from there as being redundant. We recognized that they were already requirements for sprinklers that were in place in other parts of the model code. We eliminated item D. We felt that was unnecessary; it talked about dead-end routes requiring sprinklers. We felt that we had capacity in place to manage that. We didn't need to have that requirement in particular with some of the challenges the builders are facing locally.

Finally, the appendices. So, item A, we actually after a quick chat, we've expanded the change to appendix A. We recognized that City Code 1-25 defines everything about your board. So, we could see any reason for why we needed a definition of the Fire Board of

Appeals in our IFC code when it's already defined within City Code. So, rather than leaving it to say that you have to be a resident of the City, which is already stated in the City Code, we just inserted a single sentence saying that the Fire Board of Appeals will be administered per City Code 1-25.

Vice Chairman Betts, "actually Cory, I was hoping that with the lining out of the members shall serve without numeration and compensation, I thought maybe you had a change in mind." Fire Marshal Moser, "well if it was up to me."

Fire Marshal Moser continued with Appendices D, O, and P. The dead-end fire apparatus turnaround driveway requirements, the automatic gate requirements; again, these are similar to the previous issue where we have the four by four riser room, where we have internal policies in place. In fact, there are even forms that when you build, you come up and they give you these forms and say these are the requirements, this is what we're going to look for when reviewing your plans. One of the goals that YCCA, Community Development, and the Fire Department have was to simplify all this. We don't want you having to go to a 100 different areas to find all of the requirements or only discover a requirement after you've submitted your plans and have them kicked back to you. So, what we've done is taken those forms, we've incorporated them into document as Appendices. So now they're all in one spot. One of the things that we're hoping to do, next budget year, ICC will create a document specific for your community. So, by incorporating this into our document as an appendix, we'll be able to go to ICC and get the City of Prescott IFC so that the builder just has a single document that they have to look at without going to the model code, versus the amendments, versus the policy documents that are in place at Community Development. It's just one-stop shopping. That's our goal for that and that's why we've included these as Appendices.

So, what now? Well today, we're hoping that you find our changes clear and reasonable enough that you feel comfortable in recommending these amendments for adoption along with the 2018 Fire Code; and if so, we're going to be looking at a Study Session and then a Voting Session in the month of April to City Council to formally adopt the 2018 Code with the 2021 Amendments.

Chairman King thanked Fire Marshal Moser for his presentation. Chairman King opened this up to comments from the public regarding the presentation. Then questions and comments from the board.

Ms. Sandy Griffis, Executive Director Yavapai County Contractors Association, "Chairman King, Vice Chair Betts, board, Mr. Mayor, Chief Light, "it's a privilege to be before you this afternoon to support these amendments that Deputy Chief Moser has brought before you. We worked long and hard. I remember one of the first meetings that I came to I was armed with fire books and ordinances. I said Deputy Chief Moser, look if I go from here from this book, it tells me to go to this book, then it tells me to go to this page. We've got to be on the same page. You know, with all of our hard work, and our meetings, we have done that, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart Deputy Chief. Phenomenal job. You and your team are, without a doubt, shining stars to all you guys in the audience. I want to say that I wish you understood the importance of collective collaboration. It makes all the difference

in the world. We've been able to accomplish that with the City of Prescott Fire Department, and of course, Ms. Bryn and her Community Development Department for code enforcement and implementation. I'd say that we're shining stars in doing that. We talk, we listen, we collaborate, and we come up with solutions. I'm equally as excited throughout this entire process that Deputy Chief Moser still takes my phone calls and has not blocked emails. That's huge. So, please support these amendments. They're easy. We've done a lot of hard work. We've made it easy for the building community, for the builders, and my industry stands behind this 100%. I'd like to end with a very short statement that says, YCCA plants our flag with the City of Prescott for these amendments. So, thank you gentleman for your support."

Chairman King asked if there were any other comments from the audience. Are there any questions or comments from board members or liaison?

Board member Trembly stated, "not having lived with the process that you went through, to make these changes, one thing stood out to me, and that is the increase in the number of, in the definitions of what qualifies as particular residential group. In other words, basically the number 6 went to 12, the number 5 went to 10 in a number of places. So, do you interpret that as a loosening or is that a recognition of a reality that you could in fact cover? To me, it looked like you were covering more situations with the same number of people."

Fire Marshal Moser stated, "it does, and I think that I would answer that by saying that that's reflective of our mindset with this entire process. So, from the Fire Department perspective, we know what we believe to be our ability to protect life and what measures are based on life safety. For us, that's uncompromising; but that's not to say that there aren't areas that we can't still meet that standard and give some room to whoever it is, whatever community partner or stakeholder is asking us to give them. With these issues, those numbers were decided before I even got in it. Those decisions were made a number of years back that we're trying to catch up with. Having said that, if I was uncomfortable with those numbers looking at our response capacity, looking at our sprinkler code requirement, fire alarm requirements that tie into that, I would have pushed back when looking at them. I'm comfortable with those. You'll probably see other areas, for example, like the rural water supply, where it can look like it's a loosening and it is, but it's based on our comfort knowing what we're able to do and saying yes, we can still meet that life safety requirement and give you this ask at the same time. Does that make sense?"

Board member Trembly stated, "yes, it does. Great, thank you."

Chairman King asked if there were any other questions or comments from the members.

Vice Chair Betts has one comment and one question. Vice Chair Betts really appreciated where you went in and removed "per the Code Official." Specifically, we need 28-foot radius, etc., etc., so it got it down to very specifics so that clearly everybody understands where that is. The one question that Vice Chair Betts had was section 901.2 regarding the sprinkler systems. I get what level 3 Nicet is. What is the state registrant? Does the state have its own certification for sprinkler systems?

Fire Inspector/Investigator, Chuck Moore stated that a registrant is anyone with a seal. Any of your engineers that can prove that they have past experience with doing any of this work and had success with it, if asked to present that. They can actually put their stamp or seal on it. So, it doesn't have to be a Nicet 3 per say. He would actually trump them if he could actually prove that he had done sprinkler systems anywhere else.

Vice Chair Betts, stated, "that's a registration through the State of Arizona?"

Inspector Moore stated that was correct; but it could be a civil engineer, could be a hydraulic engineer. It could be any engineer with a license with a previous experience. Any engineer can work underneath another engineer in getting that experience; as long as the engineer is registered in the State of Arizona, he has that ability. So, it's up to us to check to make sure that they're registered in the State of Arizona.

Chairman King asked if there were any other comments or questions.

Board member Campbell stated, "being a previous owner/builder, I really appreciate when things are more well defined; where it's easy to find the information you may need when you come into the City where you can just get it in one spot, versus having to go here or not understanding the various different codes. When it's more clearly defined, it's always a benefit to everyone in the community. Thank you.

Mayor Mengarelli, "briefly, two things: My first phone call before this meeting was to Sandy and she was very complementary as she has already been with Deputy Chief. Having YCCA as a partner is a big deal and I appreciate your collaboration and help for our building community. This past week has been difficult because we lost a Prescott firefighter. We will probably memorialize Tye Seets tomorrow. But these gentleman, Deputy Chief especially, Chief Light, Jaimie, and others, I appreciate their effort to be here to present today. I know there's some hurtles and obstacles to get around and I appreciate your effort. Thank you."

Chief Light, "Thank you Mayor on behalf of men and women."

Chairman King would like to summarize from his perspective as well. What he heard from Sandy and what he heard from the others is that it was professionally done, it was collaborative, it focused on the safety of the private property, it was focuses on the safety of the firefighters, and our community; and that's a win situation. My commendations for the work and the comments from others. So, with that then, we know that we are not approving these, but recommending these changes, amendments, to the City Council for their consideration. So, is there one member of the council that would like to make a motion?

Board member Trembly, "is the language that we see here final? In other words, the reason I ask that is I saw some opportunities here for some maybe clarifications for some of the definitions or language that might be of help. Is there time between now and the Study Session to do that kind of thing, or in the event we do approve this, is this language what we're specially approving? I'm seeing some issues here with possibly some questions that people may ask. I may be wrong, but I'd like to have an opportunity to vet that."

Chief Light responded that, “we are on a timeline to move this forward. I think provided that the suggested recommendations are not to change content or context, we can probably address those. One of my challenges is, we have Study Session planned for 13th of April. With that, we will have the greater Council here. So, I'm hopeful we can leave out of here with an approval to move that forward. In the meantime, I feel very confident that staff could, staff being Cory and the folks out of Comm Dev can work with us and can facilitate changes to nuances, provided they're not content changes in totality. Hopefully that offers you some insight as to what we could do or couldn't do. Is April 13th a deadline, no. It does become problematic, programming wise because we are entering into the budgetary system and that takes up much of April and May. I'm fearful that the State would come forward, move forward with their adoption and preempt us. It would really grind to a halt much of the fire service side of development.”

Fire Marshal Moser stated that, “he would agree 100%. Fire Marshal Moser would suggest is, of course being very conscious of open meeting laws, after you and I talk and make your suggested changes, again not to content, but to wording and so forth. Naturally I would take that and push that forward to the board again so that every board member could see what we did. I would suggest that, clearly, we can't negotiate stuff behind closed doors by email. If anybody felt that we had exceeded the mandate by the board today in terms of our mission, clearly, they would be able to request another board meeting, and we would set it up then. If anybody felt that we had went outside of our authority in doing that.”

Chairman King asked Board member Trembly if that satisfied him. Mr. Trembly stated that it did.

- i. Jim Campbell moved to recommend to the City Council the adoption of 2021 Amendments to 2018 International Fire Code, seconded by Board member Trembly: Passed 4-0.**

Chairman King stated that they have completed our agenda. Chairman King stated something came to mind while in the meeting. The board met in August and had an appeal before the board; a substantial, emotional, heartfelt appeal for a variance for some of the codes. There was some follow-up that was going to occur with the professionals and private landowner. I think that the board and maybe the public would like to know how that turned out.

Fire Marshal Moser stated, “that at direction of board, Community Development, the Fire Department met with Hearts to review suggested options that were available to them. Many of these options actually came from you Board members yourselves. There was some very creative thinking that was done. Additionally, I know that our Chief Building Official, Paul McCary, had some creative ideas to try to help them solve this issue. At the meeting that we had it was clear that the options, for whatever reason without assigning blame to anybody, were not going to work. Within a short period of time, we received email notification from the Hearts that they were withdrawing their appeal based on their belief that there wasn't anything that they could do to meet our expectations; so, it was formally withdrawn.

Chairman King mentioned that next week is wildfire awareness week. Chairman King would like to compliment Mr. Mayor for his messages about taking responsibility for your homes and wildland urban interface and bringing this to our attention. Always in fire season here in Prescott, Arizona. Boundary-less here in our fire suppression. We have wildland firefighters in the Prescott Fire Department that help the Forest Service in our neighborhood. We should be proud of that. The fire message is that it doesn't matter who it is, it's still a good one. Thank you."

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss Chairman King adjourned the meeting at 2:00P.M.

Jaimie Sventek, Business Manager

ATTEST:

Michael King, Chairman
Mike King, Chairman



TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA: December 11 Fire Board of Appeals
DATE: December 11, 2025
DEPT: Fire Department
ITEM #: 3.D
SUBJECT: Presentation & Discussion Regarding the Adopted 2024 International Fire Code Amendments.

ITEM SUMMARY

This item is to discuss the updates and adoption of the 2024 International Fire Codes, bringing the City of Prescott up to the latest standards and practices. In addition, we have streamlined our amendments to the codes, resulting in amendments that align with regional best practices and overall regulatory compliance.

BACKGROUND

The City of Prescott has historically adopted the current editions of the various building codes every six years. The City of Prescott adopted the 2018 codes in June 2019. The various codes are updated and published every three years by the International Code Council. This year's code adoption was a multi-jurisdictional effort to create consistency and uniformity across our region. The following jurisdictions participated: Prescott Valley, Yavapai County, Sedona, Dewey-Humboldt, Cottonwood, and Chino Valley.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

This item is for discussion only. No formal action will be taken.

ATTACHMENTS

1. IFC 2024 SIGNIFICANT CHANGES
2. Code Changes Presentation

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
104 Duties and Powers of the Fire Code Official	The provisions for review and approval of alternative methods are revised and clarified. The alternative method criteria are now the same in all the International Codes (I-Codes) [®] , enhancing the uniformity and application of companion codes.	2024	Modification				
202 Definition of Emergency Responder Communications Enhancement System	The two-way emergency responder communications system is now referred to as the emergency responder communications enhancement system, and several other definitions are included to assist in applying these regulations.	2024	Addition				
202 Definition of Flammable Gas	The category of flammable gas has been subdivided into two subcategories based on flammability characteristics.	2024	Modification				
202 Definition of Occupiable Roof	The term occupiable roof now includes human occupancy on rooftops for purposes other than maintenance and repair.	2024	Addition				
202 Definition of Puzzle Rooms	Puzzle rooms are defined in the code and included under the general definition of special amusement areas.	2024	Modification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
203 Occupancy Classification and Use	Occupancy classifications are removed from the list of definitions in Chapter 2 and relocated to a new Section 203 to improve user understanding and enhance correlations with the IBC .	2024	Clarification				
304 Trash Collection and Containers	The requirements for waste containers are reorganized to improve clarity and application. Requirements for valet trash collection are added.	2024	Modification				
304.3.6, 304.3.7, 808.1 Trash Containers	Provisions for waste and linen containers in institutional and ambulatory care facilities are relocated to Section 304.3 .	2024	Modification				
314.4 Indoor Vehicle Display	Revisions are made to address the newer alternative fuels and power systems found in today's vehicles.	2024	Modification				
317 Vegetative Roofs	Landscaped and vegetative roofs are defined separately since they have different applications.	2024	Modification				
320 Battery Storage	Requirements pertaining to the storage of lithium-ion and lithium metal batteries are added to address the significant fire hazard that occurs during thermal runaway.	2024	Addition				
322 Powered Micromobility Devices	Requirements are added to regulate the use and recharging of lithium-ion or lithium metal battery powered micromobility devices.	2024	Addition				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
403.10.6 Fire Safety Plan for Lithium-Ion Batteries	A fire safety and evacuation plan must be maintained for most areas using lithium-ion or lithium metal batteries.	2024	Addition				
510.4.1.1, 510.4.1.2 ERCES Signal Strength	The measurement of the downlink signal strength in an ERCES system is based on the Delivered Audio Quality of 3.0.	2024	Modification				
510.4.2.8, 510.4.2.9 Emergency Responder Communications Enhancement System (ERCES)	Additional requirements are included for emergency responder communications enhancement systems to deal with signal interference and the near-far effect.	2024	Modification				
608.1.1 CO₂ Mechanical Refrigeration Systems	Mechanical refrigeration systems utilizing carbon dioxide (CO ₂) as a refrigerant are now regulated in the IFC .	2024	Addition				
608.1, 608.9 Ammonia Mechanical Refrigeration Systems	Requirements for ammonia refrigeration systems are contained in IIAR standards rather than the IFC .	2024	Modification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
608.12 Storage of Refrigerants	Refrigerant gases temporarily removed from equipment during repair or maintenance are not considered as storage of gases for maximum allowable quantity purposes.	2024	Modification				
705.2.7 Rolling Fire Door Testing	Rolling steel fire doors must be inspected, tested and reset by a trained fire door systems technician on an annual basis.	2024	Modification				
803.11.1 Foam Plastics	Foam plastics can be used as interior finish provided the materials comply with specified test standards.	2024	Modification				
903.2 Sprinklers on Batteries for Telecommunication	Sprinkler protection in areas containing batteries at telecommunication facilities is only exempted for batteries that do not exceed 50 VAC and 60 VDC and are installed in accordance with NFPA 76.	2024	Clarification				
903.2, 903.3 Sprinklers for Battery Storage, Testing and Vehicle Repair	A sprinkler system is required for facilities where lithium-ion batteries or lithium metal batteries are developed, tested, manufactured and stored, and also where vehicles powered by lithium-ion or lithium metal batteries are repaired.	2024	Modification				
903.2.8.3 Sprinklers in Group R-4	An automatic sprinkler system with a minimum design to NFPA 13R is required in Group R-4 Condition 2 occupancies.	2024	Clarification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
903.3.1.1.1 Sprinkler System Exempt Locations	Two exempt sprinkler locations have been consolidated to eliminate confusion and clarify where sprinkler systems may be omitted.	2024	Modification				
903.3.1.2 NFPA 13R Sprinkler Installations	Group R-2 occupancies are allowed to use NFPA 13R sprinkler system where the height to the roof assembly does not exceed 45 feet when measured from the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.	2024	Modification				
903.4, 903.3.9 Sprinkler System Supervision and Alarms	The sprinkler alarm supervision and monitoring provisions are reformatted. The exterior water flow alarms are specifically removed for one- and two-family dwellings, while a requirement for a visual water flow alarm is added for other occupancies.	2024	Modification				
904.12 Hybrid Fire-Extinguishing Systems	Hybrid fire-extinguishing systems are now addressed in the IFC .	2024	Addition				
904.14.1 Manual Actuation Device	A new exception allows placement of a manual actuation device at distances other than 10-20 feet from cooking areas.	2024	Modification				
905.3, 905.4 Standpipe Locations	Requirements are clarified to eliminate confusion and provide guidance as to which buildings require standpipes and where the stand-pipes need to be located.	2024	Clarification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
905.3.4, 905.5.1 Standpipes on Stages	Standpipes are no longer required on stages or on tiers of dressing rooms in Group A-1 or A-2 occupancies.	2024	Deletion				
907.2.1 Group A Fire Alarm	Manual fire alarms and emergency voice/alarm communication systems are not required for certain outdoor, bleacher-type seating facilities classified as Group A-5.	2024	Modification				
907.2 Fire Detection for Lithium-Ion and Lithium Metal Batteries	A fire alarm and detection system is required where lithium-ion or lithium metal batteries are developed, tested or manufactured, and where stored in battery storage rooms in Group M or S occupancies.	2024	Addition				
907.2.11.3 Installation Near Cooking Appliances	As of January 1, 2025, all smoke alarms must be listed for resistance to common nuisance sources from cooking appliances.	2024	Modification				
907.5.2.1.3 Audible Alarm Signal Frequency	The 520-Hz low-frequency alarm is now required in Group I-1 sleeping rooms.	2024	Modification				
907.10 Smoke Alarm Maintenance	Specific criteria on when smoke alarms must be replaced, and what type of audible alarm is required from the replacement smoke alarm, are added to the code.	2024	Clarification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
Tables 911.1, 5003.8.2 Explosion Hazard— Flammable Gas and Consumer Fireworks	Tables 911.1 and 5003.8.2 include revisions for Category 1B flammable gases and consumer fireworks classified as Division 1.4G explosives.	2024	Modification				
912.5 Fire Department Connection Signs	Signs for fire department connections must indicate the type of system served and any specific pressure requirements.	2024	Modification				
914.3.1.1 Sprinkler Risers in High-Rise Buildings	Standpipe risers must be protected the same as sprinkler risers, and multiple risers are required in buildings greater than 420 feet in height.	2024	Modification				
914.6.1 Sprinklers Under Catwalks	Fire sprinklers are required beneath catwalks and galleries only when NFPA 13 requires sprinklers beneath the obstruction.	2024	Modification				
914.7, 907.2.12 Fire Alarms in Special Amusement Areas	Fire detection and alarm requirements are modified in special amusement areas along with an exception that eliminates puzzle rooms from complying if they provide readily available exits.	2024	Modification				
915.1 Carbon Monoxide Alarms	Carbon monoxide (CO) detection is required in all occupancies containing a carbon monoxide source. Detection and notification can be addressed in several ways, and a definition is added to clarify where CO detection is required.	2024	Modification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
915.2 Carbon Monoxide Detection Locations	The location of carbon monoxide detectors is specified based on occupancy classification, type of use, or type of carbon monoxide source.	2024	Addition				
915.3, 915.5 CO Alarms and Fire Alarms	Criteria for the installation of CO alarms and CO detectors is provided, including the requirement to connect CO detectors to the fire alarm system in buildings required to install a fire alarm system.	2024	Addition				
917.2 Mass Notification in Group E	A mass notification risk analysis is required for Group E occupancies with an occupant load of 500 or more.	2024	Addition				
Table 1004.5, 1004.8 Information Technology Equipment	Information technology equipment rooms, along with appropriate definitions, are added to the code to address information technology equipment facilities.	2024	Addition				
Tables 1006.3.3, 1006.3.4(1), 1006.3.4(2) Egress from Occupiable Roofs	Determination of the minimum number of exits from an occupiable roof now uses Table 1006.3.3 , 1006.3.4(1) or 1006.3.4(2) .	2024	Modification				
Table 1010.2.4, 1010.2.5 Locks and Latches	The requirements for manual bolts and automatic bolts are reformatted and clarified.	2024	Modification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
1010.2.6 Stairway Doors	Additional requirements for unlocking stairway doors are added.	2024	Modification				
1010.2.9 Access Control Systems	When a door is provided with access control, several options are available for controlling egress, including no restriction of egress.	2024	Clarification				
1010.2.14 Elevator Lobby Exit Access Doors	Doors between an elevator lobby and the tenant spaces on a floor can be locked for security purposes provided the unlocking criteria is met.	2024	Addition				
1013.2 Low-Level Exit Signs in Group R-1	Low-level exit signs are not required in a Group R-1 occupancy equipped with an automatic sprinkler system.	2024	Modification				
1017.2.3 Group H-5 Exit Access Travel Distance Increase	Exit access travel distance is increased to 300 feet when specific building design criteria are met.	2024	Modification				
1029.3 Construction of Egress Courts	When an egress court is less than 10 feet wide, it can either be protected by 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction or be provided with two egress paths.	2024	Modification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
1032.2.2, 1104.16.5.1, 1104.16.7 Fire Escape Maintenance	The requirements for maintenance of fire escape stairways are relocated from Chapter 11 to Section 1032 , which addresses maintenance of the means of egress.	2024	Modification				
1103.9 Carbon Monoxide Alarms in Existing Buildings	Existing buildings with a carbon monoxide source are required to retroactively install carbon monoxide detection.	2024	Modification				
1107 Existing Lithium-Ion Energy Storage Systems	The level of potential hazard and needed mitigation for existing energy storage systems utilizing lithium-ion batteries must be evaluated if the energy storage system was constructed under code requirements prior to the 2018 IFC .	2024	Addition				
1201.1, 1207.1 Energy Storage Systems Under Utility Control	Energy storage systems under the exclusive control of an electric utility must comply with Chapter 12 and NFPA 855.	2024	Modification				
1205.2.3 Markings for Building-Integrated Photovoltaic Systems	The requirements for marking the roof for firefighting operations have been clarified.	2024	Clarification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
1207.2.1 Energy Storage System Commissioning Plan	Two exceptions address commissioning requirements for energy storage systems with lead-acid batteries or nickel-cadmium batteries.	2024	Clarification				
Tables 1207.1.3, 1207.5, 1207.6 Energy Storage System Technologies	New battery technologies used for energy storage systems are included in the code.	2024	Modification				
1207.5.5 Sprinklers for Energy Storage Systems	Sprinkler design criteria is revised to specify limitations in its application.	2024	Modification				
1207.11 Energy Storage Systems in Group R-3 and R-4	Several revisions occurred dealing with energy storage systems in Group R-3 or R-4 occupancies.	2024	Modification				
2404.2, 2404.3 Prohibited Enclosures for Spray Application Operations	Inflatable or portable enclosures for spray application of flammable finishes is prohibited except in marina, dry docks and construction areas.	2024	Addition				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
2404.5 Limited Finishing Workstation	A limited finishing workstation is now allowable for spray application of flammable finishes.	2024	Addition				
Table 2704.2.2.1 Hazardous Material Limits in a Fabrication Area	The allowed density of certain hazardous materials in a fabrication area has increased, which results in larger quantities allowed in fabrication areas.	2024	Modification				
3103.5, 3103.9.1 Water-Filled Vessels for Tent Anchoring	Water-filled vessels can be used to anchor tents when they meet the load specifications for the specific tent.	2024	Modification				
3106 Inflatable Amusement Devices	Inflatable amusement devices are added to the code and have requirements for combustibility and operation.	2024	Addition				
3107.5.1, 3108.4, 3108.12, 4104.4, 4104.5 Cooking in Tents	Separation distances for tents used for cooking have been reduced.	2024	Modification				
3208.3 Flue Spaces	The storage rack structure is not considered an obstruction when measuring the width of a transverse flue space.	2024	Modification				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
Chapter 33 Fire Safety During Construction	Chapter 33 has been significantly reformatted to assist in usability and clarity.	2024	Clarification				
3312.1 Protection of Mass Timber	When mass timber buildings install a single layer of noncombustible protection so construction can continue above six stories, the floor surfaces do not need to be protected.	2024	Clarification				
3901, 105.5.26 Plant Cultivation	Chapter 39 applies to facilities with plant processing and solvent-based extraction processes and now includes criteria for lighting systems and carbon dioxide enriched environments used in cultivation.	2024	Modification				
3903.7 Means of Egress	Exit doors and exit access doors serving an extraction room must swing in the direction of egress.	2024	Addition				
3905.3 Ventilation During Extraction	Minimum ventilation requirements are included to address ventilation requirements in extraction rooms and during post-extraction processes.	2024	Addition				
4005 Protection of Distilled Spirits in Wooden Barrels	Specific design criteria are included for automatic sprinkler systems protecting distilled spirits in wooden barrels.	2024	Addition				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
Chapter 41 Temporary Heating and Cooking Operations	A new chapter is provided to address temporary heating and cooking operations and correlate the requirements from various locations in the code.	2024	Addition				
4106 Mobile Food Preparation Vehicles	NFPA 96 is added as a standard for design and operation of mobile food preparation vehicles.	2024	Modification				
Table 5003.1.1(5) Hazardous Materials Exemptions	A new table is included in Chapter 50 to assist in determining whether certain uses or functions are exempt from application of Chapter 50 requirements.	2024	Modification				
Table 5003.11.1 Solid Oxidizers in Retail	The maximum allowable quantity of Oxidizer Class 3 solid materials is increased in the retail setting from 1,350 pounds to 1,500 pounds.	2024	Modification				
5003.11.2 Flammable Gas Category 1B in Groups M and S	The maximum allowable quantity per control area for Category 1B flammable gas with a low burning velocity is specified for Group M retail facilities and Group S storage occupancies.	2024	Addition				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
5003.13 Rooftop Storage of Hazardous Materials	Hazardous materials are allowed to be stored or used on a building roof provided the quantity does not exceed the maximum allowable quantity of hazardous materials allowed on the story below the roof.	2024	Addition				
5104 Plastic Aerosol 3 Products	Plastic aerosol 3 products are treated the same as Level 3 aerosol products and included in the determination of allowed quantities.	2024	Clarification				
5705.5, 5001.1 Alcohol-Based Hand Rubs	Floor supported devices for alcohol-based hand rub dispensers are now allowed, and the supply of dispenser refill containers is not included in the maximum allowable quantity.	2024	Modification				
5706.5.4.5 Fleet Fueling for Commercial, Industrial, Governmental or Manufacturing	Class I flammable liquids are now allowed to be dispensed in fleet fueling operations for commercial, industrial, manufacturing or governmental facilities.	2024	Modification				
5809 On-Demand Hydrogen Mobile Fueling	Regulations for on-demand mobile fueling of hydrogen vehicles are added to the code.	2024	Addition				

City of Prescott Fire 2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

CODE SECTION	SCOPE OF CODE CHANGE	CODE CHANGE YEAR	TYPE OF CHANGE TO CODE SECTION	FIELD INSPECTION	NOTES ON PLANS	DETAILS ON PLANS	MISC. NOTES
E102.1.7.2 Oxidizer Classification	Information is added to Appendix E to assist in correlating the oxidizer classifications in the IFC with the classifications in the <i>Globally Harmonized System</i> .	2024	Modification				
E104 Hazardous Material Definitions in GHS	A cross reference between the IFC hazardous material classification system and the <i>Globally Harmonized System</i> is included in Appendix E .	2024	Addition				
Appendix O Valet Trash and Recycling Collection in Group R-2 Occupancies	Criteria regulating valet trash collection has been added to the code, but valet trash collection service is only allowed where approved by the fire code official.	2024	Addition				

Prescott Fire Department

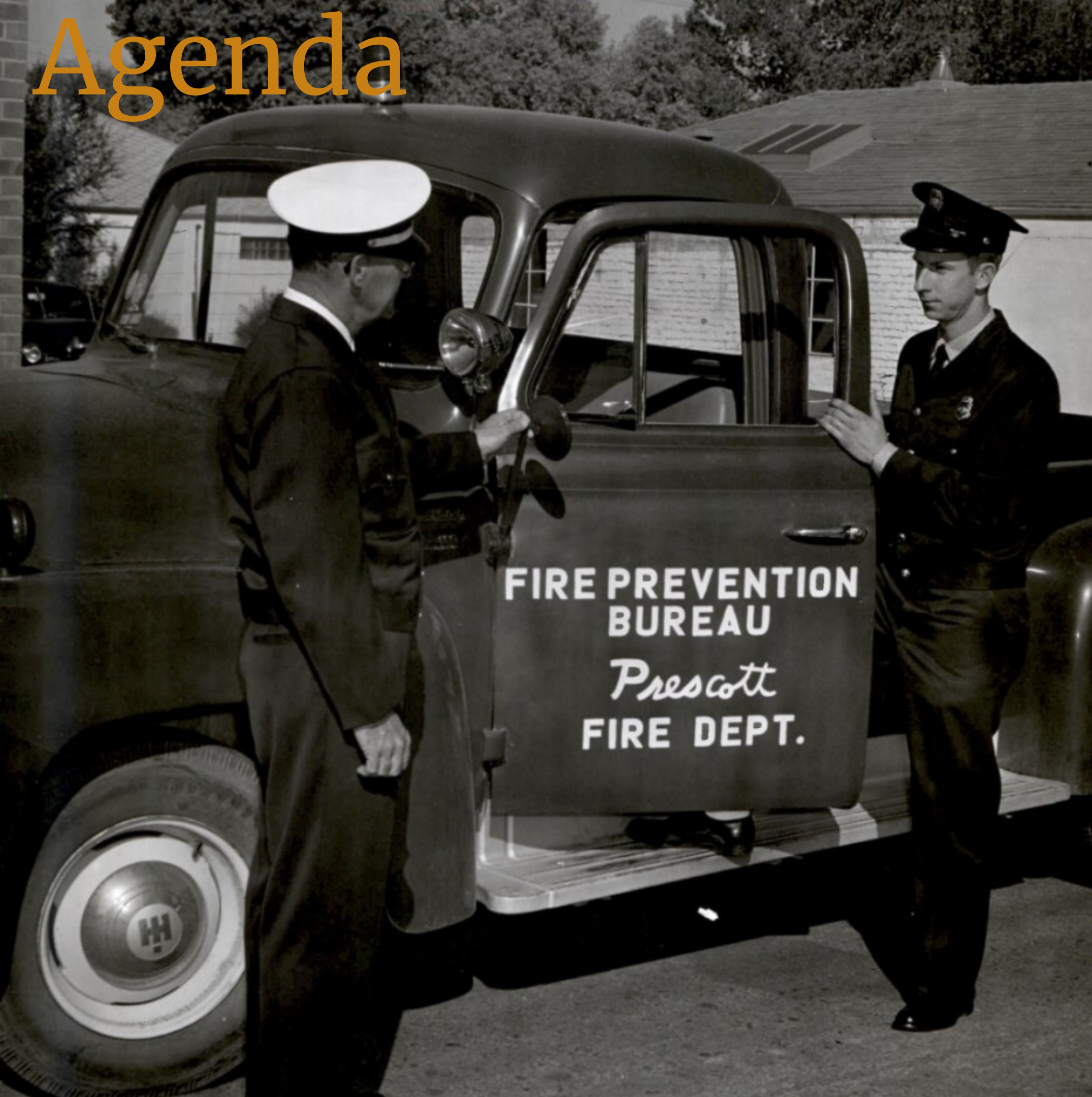
ANTHONY VALDEZ
DIVISION CHIEF | FIRE MARSHAL



2024 Fire Code Adoption



Agenda



Introduction & Purpose

- Why we're here today



Strategic Adoption Goal

- Benefits and community impact
- Joint reduction in Amendments



Fire Code Updates

- Key changes



Collaboration in Action

- Examples of Fire & Building alignment
- Community Outreach



Next Steps & Recommendation

- Adoption and Implementation Timeline



Questions & Discussion



Introduction & Purpose:

Safety First ~ Community Focus ~ Efficiency & Alignment

Public safety is at the core of our mission. The Fire and Building Departments have worked closely together to review the international code updates. This joint effort ensures consistency, safety, and efficiency across our multi-jurisdictional area for public safety and development.

Prescott Fire Mission Statement:

Mitigate the community's risk through service, excellence, and compassion.



STRATEGIC ADOPTION GOALS

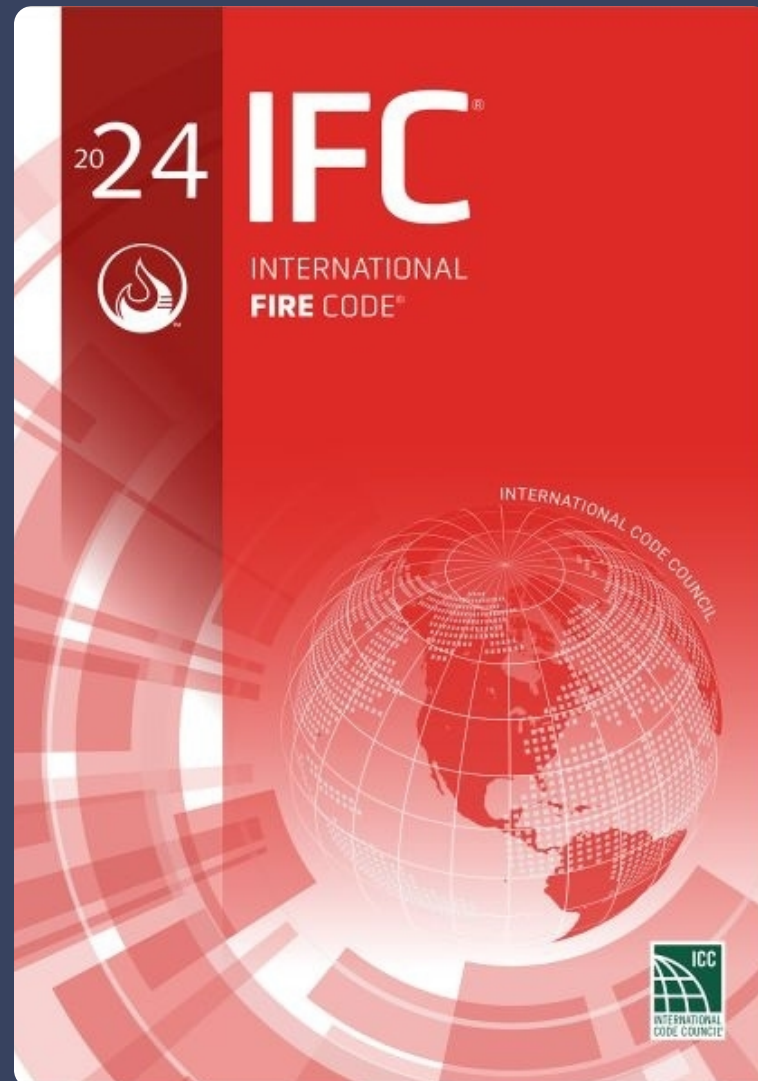
- Unified approach between building & fire.
- Reflects latest national safety standards.
- Provides consistency for developers, contractors, and inspectors.
- Reduces risk and liability for the City.
- Enhances community safety by addressing emerging risks and modern hazards.
- Provides uniformity across our multi-jurisdictional region.



Fire Board of Appeals:

Aligned the adoption of incorporating a fire board of appeals with the model code by not amending the guiding language and adopting Appendix A providing the framework for the board of appeals.



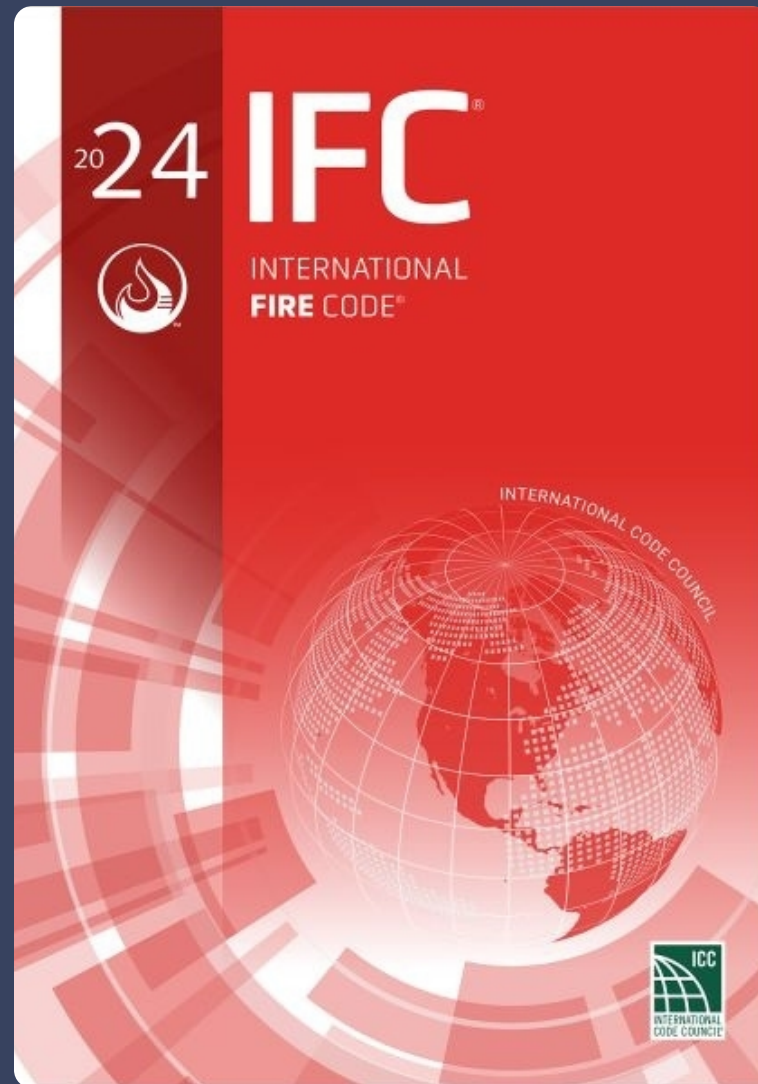


2024 International Fire Code - Significant Amendment

102.5: Application of residential code

Where structures are designed and constructed in accordance with the [International Residential Code](#), the provisions of this code shall apply as follows:

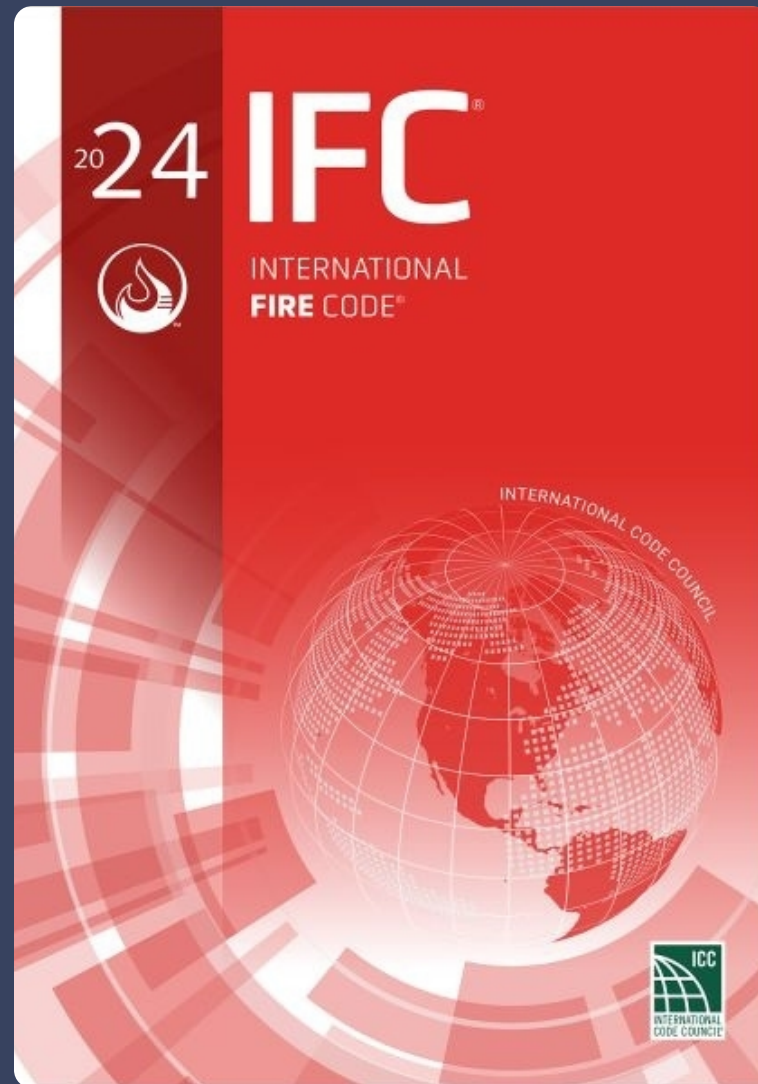
1. Construction and design provisions of this code pertaining to the exterior of the structure shall apply including, but not limited to, premises identification, fire apparatus access and water supplies. Where interior or exterior systems or devices are installed, construction permits required by [Section 105.6](#) shall apply.
2. Administrative, operational and maintenance provisions of this code shall apply.
3. [Section 903.2.8.4](#) of this code.



2024 International Fire Code - Significant Amendment

[A] 102.7.1.1: Conflicts with other City of Prescott Design Standards

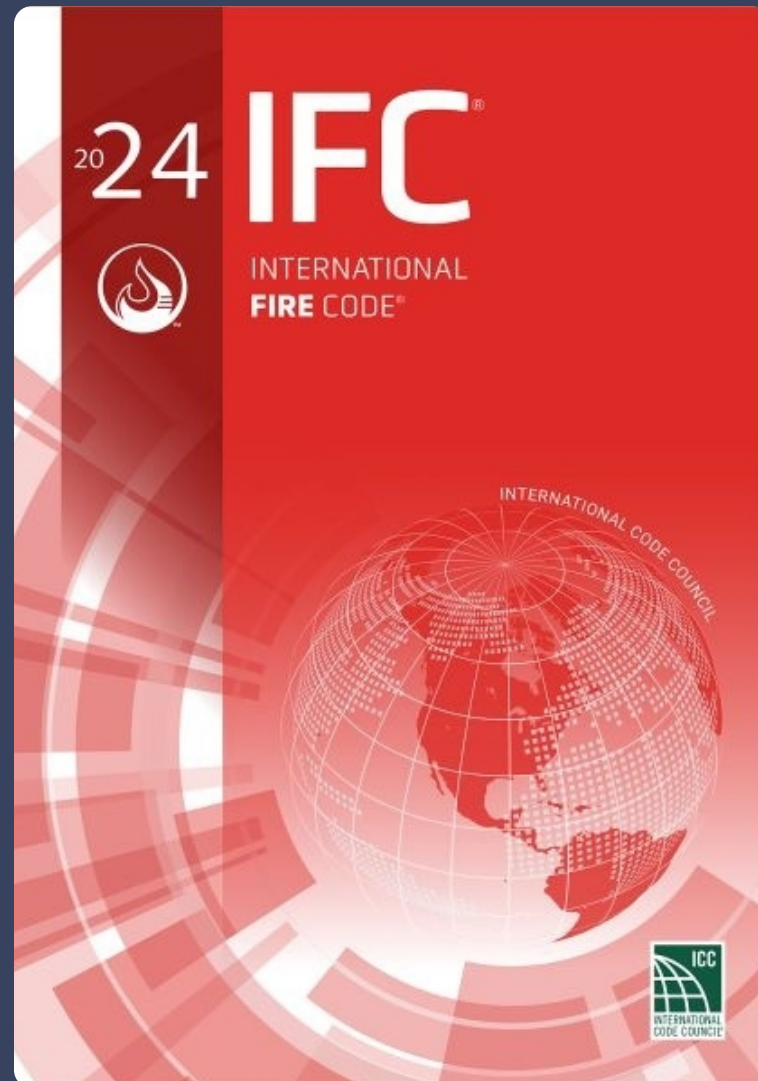
Where this code conflicts with any applicable sections of the City of Prescott General Engineering Standards, the most restrictive provisions shall apply at the discretion of the fire code official, who may consult the City Engineer for guidance.



2024 International Fire Code - Significant Amendment

105.5.51 Temporary membrane structures, special event structures and tents

An operational permit is required to operate an air-supported temporary membrane structure, [inflatable amusement devices](#), a temporary special event structure or a tent having an area in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²).

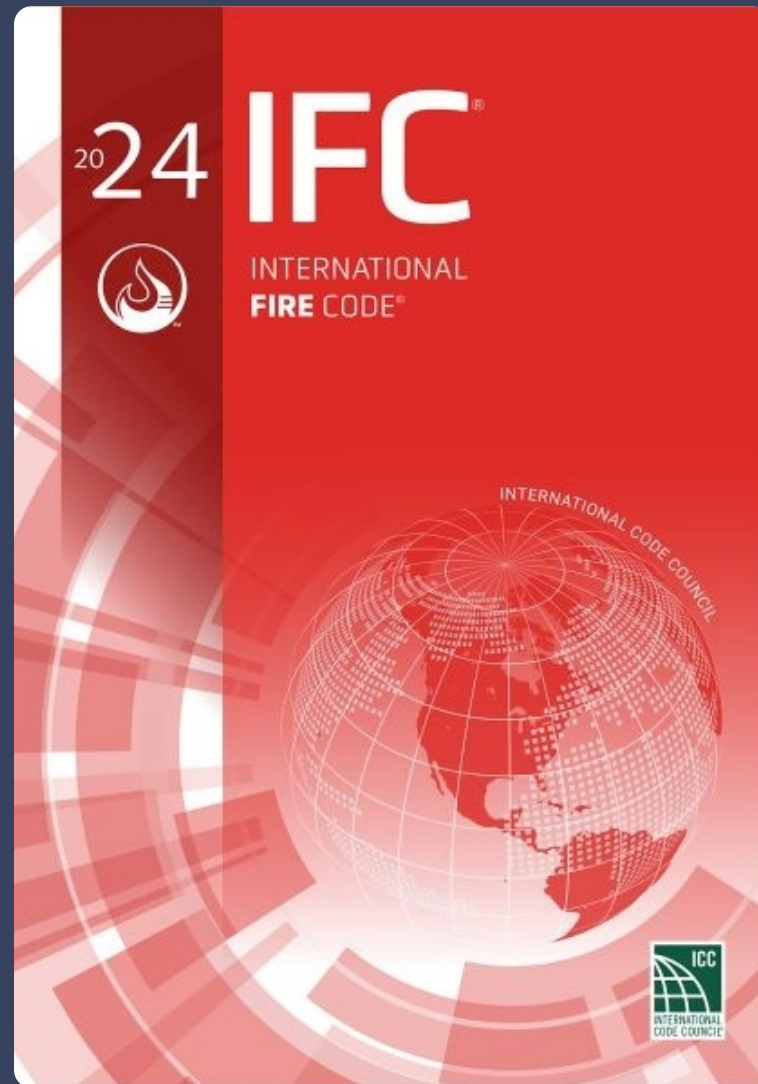


2024 International Fire Code - Significant Amendment

503.1.1: Buildings and facilities

Exceptions:

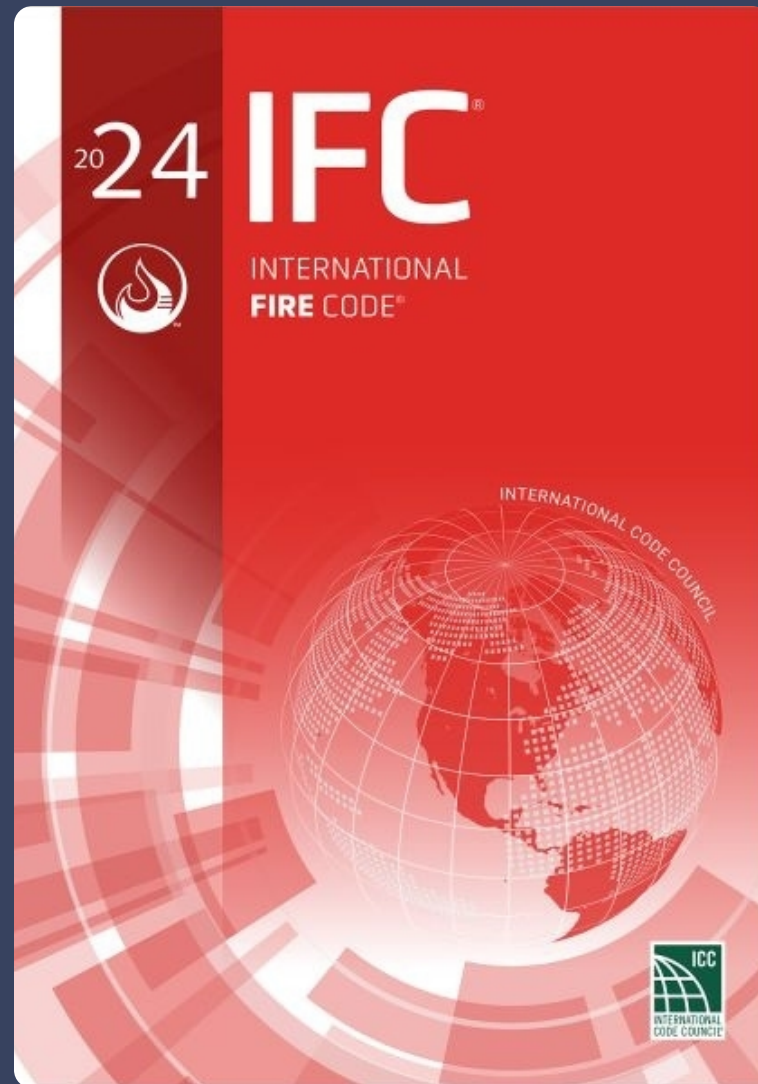
1. The fire code official is authorized to increase the dimension of 150 feet (45 720 mm) where any of the following conditions occur:
 - 1.1 The building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 (NFPA 13), the dimension shall be unlimited, as approved, provided access roads are extended to within 150 feet (45 720mm) of at least one, approved side of the building or structure. Fire hydrant requirements of Section 507 may necessitate additional fire apparatus access roads to serve hydrants near large buildings.
 - 1.2 The building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2 (NFPA 13R) or 903.3.1.3 (NFPA 13D), the dimension shall be increased to 200 feet (60 960mm).
 - ~~1.2~~ 1.3 The fire apparatus access roads cannot be installed because of location on [property](#), topography, waterways, nonnegotiable grades or other similar conditions, and an approved alternative means of fire protection is provided.
 - ~~1.3~~ 1.4 There are not more than two Group R-3 or Group U occupancies
2. Where approved by the fire code official, fire apparatus access roads shall be permitted to be exempted or modified for solar photovoltaic power generation facilities.



2024 International Fire Code - Significant Amendment

503.1.2: ADDITIONAL ACCESS AND EGRESS ROADS

The fire code official is authorized to require more than one fire apparatus access **and egress** road based on the potential for impairment of a single road by vehicle congestion, condition of terrain, climatic conditions or other factors that could limit access **or egress for the purposes of emergency vehicle access and/or emergency egress.**



2024 International Fire Code - Significant Amendment

5607 Blasting Code

Current model code provisions address the majority of the existing Prescott Blasting Code. Therefore, we removed most of the existing blasting code while keeping pertinent local provisions that are not addressed in the model code.

Collaboration in Action:



Internal Advisory Group Meetings

Internal Advisory Group Meetings

- Building Department
- Com Dev Operations Team
- Fire Department
- Existing Amendment Discussion
- Proposed Amendment Discussion



Fire Board of Appeals

Meeting: December 4, 2025



Stakeholder Input

Meeting with Executive Director at YCCA for input on amendments





**NOVEMBER
2025**

**DECEMBER
2025**

**JANUARY
2026**



Council Review & Direction

Presentations by Fire and Building



Draft Ordinance Preparation

Legal and staff finalize adoption language



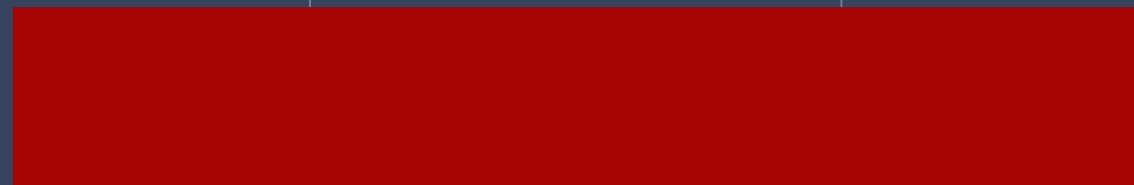
Council Adoption

Formal vote on ordinance.



Effective Date

Updated codes go into effect.





We welcome your feedback & direction



Together, we are committed to adopting the 2024 codes to ensure safety, consistency, and community resilience.

