

1	Sec. 311.5.5	Sec. 401.3	Sec. 401.3.1	Sec. 401.3.2
2	Sec. 401.3.3	Sec. 502.1	Sec. 503.1	Sec. 503.2.1
3	<u>Sec. 503.2.2</u>	Sec. 503.2.4	Sec. 503.3	<u>Sec. 503.4.1</u>
4	Sec. 507.3	Sec. 507.4	Sec. 507.5.1	Sec. 507.5.3
5	Sec. 510.1	Sec. 603.3.2	Sec. 603.3.2.1	Sec. 603.3.2.2
6	Sec. 603.3.2.3	Sec. 603.3.2.4	Sec. 901.5	Sec. 903.2.6
7	Sec. 903.2.7	Sec. 903.3.1.2.1	Sec. 903.3.5.2	Sec. 903.3.6
8	Sec. 904.9	Sec. 904.11	Sec. 905.1	Sec. 905.3.1
9	Sec. 905.3.4.1	Sec. 905.5.3	Sec. 906.1	Sec. 907.2
10	Sec. 907.2.7	Sec. 907.2.8.1	Sec. 907.2.8.2	Sec. 907.2.9
11	Sec. 907.2.9.1	Sec. 907.2.9.2	Sec. 907.2.13.2	Sec. 907.5.1
12	Sec. 907. 65 .2.3.4	Sec. 907. 76 .5	Sec. 909	Sec. 912.1
13	Sec. 912.3	Sec. 912.3.1	Sec. 1002.1	Table 1004.1.2
14	Sec. 1004.2	Sec. 1004.3	<u>Sec. 1008.1.9.8</u>	Sec. 1030.2
15	Sec. 4602 <u>1102</u> .1	Sec. 4603 <u>1103</u> .5	Sec. 4603 <u>1103</u> .6.6	
16	Sec. 4603 <u>1103</u> .7.3	<u>Sec. 1103.9</u>	Chapter 222 <u>3</u> , Title	
17	Sec. 2201 <u>2301</u> .1	<u>Sec. 2304.1</u>	<u>Sec. 2304.2</u>	
18	Sec. 2205 <u>2305</u> .1.3	Sec. 2205 <u>2305</u> .2.1	Sec. 2205 <u>2305</u> .3	
19	Sec. 2403 <u>3103</u> .5	Sec. 2403 <u>3103</u> .8.2	Sec. 2701 <u>5001</u> .2	
20	Sec. 2701 <u>5001</u> .5	Sec. 2701 <u>5001</u> .5.1	Sec. 2701 <u>5001</u> .5.2	
21	Sec. 2703 <u>5003</u> .3.1.4	Table 2703 <u>5003</u> .1.1(1) Footnote I		
22	Table 2703<u>5003</u>.1.1(3)	Table 2703<u>5003</u>.1.1(4)	Sec. 2703<u>5003</u>.3.1.4	
23	Sec. 2703 <u>5003</u> .9.8	Sec. 2704 <u>5004</u> .2	Sec. 2704 <u>5004</u> .2.1	
24	Sec. 2704 <u>5004</u> .2.2	Sec. 2704 <u>5004</u> .2.2.1	Sec. 2704 <u>5004</u> .2.2.2	
25	Sec. 2704 <u>5004</u> .2.2.5	Sec. 2704 <u>5004</u> .2.2.6	Sec. 3006 <u>5306</u> .2	
26	Sec. 3006 <u>5306</u> .2.1	Sec. 3006 <u>5306</u> .2.2	Sec. 3006 <u>5306</u> .2.3	
27	Sec. 3006 <u>5306</u> .3	Sec. 3104 <u>5404</u> .2	Sec. 3104 <u>5404</u> .2.1	

1 Sec. ~~32045504~~.3.1.1 Sec. ~~33045601~~.2.4 Sec. ~~33045601~~.4
2 Sec. ~~33075607~~.5 Sec. ~~34035703~~.4 Sec. ~~34045704~~.2.9.6.1
3 Sec. ~~34045704~~.2.10 Sec. ~~34045704~~.2.10.1 Sec. ~~34045704~~.2.11.2
4 Sec. ~~34045704~~.2.11.5.1 Sec. ~~34045704~~.2.11.3 Sec. ~~38046101~~.2
5 Sec. ~~38046104~~.2

6 Chapter ~~4780~~, NFPA ~~References to NFPA 13, 13D, 13R, and 72~~Standards

7 ~~Sec. 202, Overcrowding~~ Appendix A Appendix B, Section B105.1
8 Appendix C Appendix D Appendix F, Sections F101.1 and F101.2
9 Appendices H, I and J

10 (C) The City Clerk shall file a copy of the ~~2009-2012~~ Edition of the International Fire
11 Code and local amendments adopted in Section 25-12-172 with the official ordinances of
12 the City.

13 (D) In the City Code, “Fire Code” means the 2009 International Fire Code as
14 adopted by Section 25-12-171 (*Fire Code*) and the local amendments to the
15 ~~2009-2012~~ International Fire Code adopted by Section 25-12-172 (*Local*
16 *Amendments to the Fire Code*). Fire Code sections may be cited by
17 reference to the appropriate section or as a section of the International Fire
18 Code (e.g., IFC Section 101). In this article, “this code” means the Fire
19 Code.

20 § 25-12-172 LOCAL AMENDMENTS TO THE FIRE CODE.

21 The following provisions are local amendments to the 2009 International Fire
22 Code. Each provision in this section is a substitute for the identically numbered provision
23 deleted by Section 25-12-171(A) (*Fire Code*) or is a local addition to the ~~2009-2012~~
24 International Fire Code.

25 **101.1 Title.** These regulations shall be known as the Fire Code of the City of Austin,
26 hereinafter referred to as the “Code” or “Fire Code”.

27 **102.7 Referenced codes and standards.** The codes and standards referenced in this code
28 shall be those that are listed in Chapter 47 and such codes and standards shall be
29 considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such
30 reference. In the event of a conflict between referenced provisions of the International
31 Mechanical Code and the Mechanical Code, the Mechanical Code prevails. In the event
32 of a conflict between referenced provisions of the International Plumbing Code, the
33 International Fuel Gas Code and the Plumbing Code, the Plumbing Code prevails.
34 Where differences occur between the provisions of this code and the referenced
35 standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

1 [A] 102.7.1 Conflicts. Unless precedence is specified by another ordinance of the City,
2 Where-where conflicts occur between provisions of this code and referenced codes and
3 standards, the provisions of this code shall apply. In the event of a conflict between
4 referenced provisions of the International Mechanical Code and the Mechanical Code, the
5 Mechanical Code prevails. In the event of a conflict between referenced provisions of
6 the International Plumbing Code, the International Fuel Gas Code and the Plumbing
7 Code, the Plumbing Code prevails.
8

9 [A] 102.7.2 Provisions in referenced codes and standards. Unless precedence is
10 specified by another ordinance of the City, Where-where the extent of the reference to a
11 referenced code or standard includes subject matter that is within the scope of this code,
12 the provisions of this code, as applicable, shall take precedence over the provisions in the
13 referenced code or standard.
14

15 SECTION 103 FIRE PREVENTION

16 **103.1 General.** The Austin Fire Department, under the direction of the Fire Chief, shall
17 implement, administer and enforce the provisions of this code.

18 **103.2 Appointment.** The Fire Chief shall be appointed by the City Manager in
19 accordance with the policies and procedures of the City of Austin and in compliance with
20 state law. The Fire Chief shall serve as the fire code official.

21 **103.3 Deputies.** In accordance with the policies and procedures of the Austin Fire
22 Department the Fire Chief shall appoint a Fire Marshal and shall have the authority to
23 appoint assistant fire marshals, inspectors and/or other employees and to delegate duties.
24 Where the terms “fire code official”, “fire chief”, “chief”, “fire department”, and/or “fire
25 marshal” are used in this code, the provisions shall also apply to assistant fire marshals,
26 inspectors, engineering professionals and/or other fire department employees in the
27 execution of their assigned duties.

28 **103.4 Liability for Damages.** The Fire Chief may not be held personally liable for any
29 damages that may accrue to persons or property as a result of any act or by reason of any
30 act or omission in the discharge of his duties when he acts in good faith and without
31 malice in the discharge of his duties. Additionally, this code shall not be construed to
32 hold the City or any officer or employee responsible for any damage to persons or
33 property by reason of inspection or reinspection authorized or provided in this Chapter or
34 by reason of the approval or disapproval of any equipment or process authorized in this
35 chapter, or for any action in connection with the control or extinguishment of any fire or
36 in connection with any other official duties. Any suit brought against the Fire Chief
37 because of any act or omission performed by him in the enforcement of any provision of
38 the International Fire Code or this Chapter shall be handled in accordance with the
39 resolution adopted by City Council on April 9, 1987 relating to employee
40 indemnification.

1 This code does not reduce the responsibility of any person owning, operating or
2 controlling any building or structure for any damages to persons or property caused by
3 defects, nor shall the Austin Fire Department or the City of Austin assume any liability
4 by reason of the inspections authorized by this code or any permits or certificates issued
5 under this code.

6 **104.1 General.** The Fire Chief is hereby authorized to administer and enforce the
7 provisions of this code and shall have the authority to render interpretations of this
8 code, and to adopt policies, procedures, rules and regulations in order to clarify the
9 application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies, procedures, rules and
10 regulations shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and shall not
11 have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code. Under
12 the Fire Chief's direction, the fire department is authorized to enforce all ordinances of
13 the jurisdiction pertaining to:

- 14 1. The prevention of fires,
- 15 2. The suppression or extinguishment of dangerous or hazardous fires,
- 16 3. The storage, use and handling of hazardous materials,
- 17 4. The installation and maintenance of automatic, manual and other private
18 fire alarm systems and fire-extinguishing equipment,
- 19 5. The maintenance and regulation of fire escapes,
- 20 6. The maintenance of fire protection and the elimination of fire hazards on
21 land and in buildings, structures and other property, including those under
22 construction,
- 23 7. The maintenance of means of egress, and
- 24 8. The investigation of the cause, origin and circumstances of fire and
25 unauthorized releases of hazardous materials.

26 For authority related to control and investigation of emergency scenes, see Section
27 104.10.

28 **104.1.1 Fire prevention bureau personnel and police.** The Fire Chief and members
29 of the fire department assigned to enforce this code are authorized to issue citations for
30 violations of this code.

31 **104.8 Modifications.** Whenever there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out
32 the provisions of this code, the Fire Chief shall have the authority to grant modifications
33 for individual cases, provided the Fire Chief shall first find that special individual reason
34 makes the strict letter of this code impractical and the modification is in compliance with
35 the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, life

1 and fire safety requirements. The details of action granting modifications shall be
2 recorded and entered in the files of the fire department.

3 **104.9 Alternative materials and methods.** The provisions of this code are not intended
4 to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any method of construction not
5 specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been
6 approved. The fire chief is authorized to approve an alternative material or method of
7 construction where the fire chief finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and
8 complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or
9 work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this
10 code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety. The owner,
11 lessee, or a representative shall apply for approval of an alternate material or method in
12 writing, detailing the specifics of the alternate materials or methods including evidence of
13 equivalence with the prescribed requirements of this code. An approval under this code
14 is also subject to the approval of the building official whenever the alternate material or
15 method involves matters regulated by the Building Code.

16 **104.10.2 Fire Chief.** The Fire Chief, or his or her designee, may summon and compel the
17 attendance of witnesses before him or her to testify regarding any matter relating to the
18 inquiry and investigation of the cause, origin and circumstance of fire, and may require
19 the production of any book, paper or other pertinent document. The Fire Chief may
20 administer oaths and affirmations to any person appearing as a witness before him. A
21 witness who refuses to be sworn, or who disobeys any lawful order of the Fire Chief, or
22 refuses to produce any book, paper, or document regarding any matter under
23 examination, or who is guilty of any contemptuous conduct after being summoned to give
24 testimony on any matter under investigation, is guilty of a violation of this code. The Fire
25 Chief may make a complaint against any person refusing to comply with the summons or
26 the order of the Fire Chief before any Justice of the Peace or before the Judge of the
27 Municipal Court in the manner as in other criminal cases.

28 **104.12 Authority of the Chief.** The Fire Chief, or his or her designee, may order the
29 evacuation of or cessation of its use or operation of any area, premises, building, building
30 under construction, or vehicle which is or is in imminent danger of becoming a fire
31 hazard, a chemical exposure hazard, or a life or health hazard as a result of flooding or
32 other dangerous condition.

33 **105.3.1 Expiration.** An operational permit shall remain in effect until reissued, renewed,
34 or revoked or for such a period of time as specified in the permit. Construction permits
35 shall be issued and administered in accordance with the International Building Code as
36 amended by the City. Unless otherwise provided in this code, permits are not transferable
37 and any change in occupancy, operation, tenancy or ownership shall require that a new
38 permit be issued.

1 **105.4 Construction documents.** Construction documents shall be in accordance with
2 this section and in accordance with the guidance in the City’s “Fire Protection Criteria
3 Manual”.

4 **105.4.1 Submittals.** Construction documents and supporting data that are part of site plan
5 or building permit submittals shall be submitted in accordance with the requirements of
6 the City of Austin Land Development Code. Shop drawing submittals subsequent to
7 building permit review shall be submitted directly to the fire department in two or more
8 sets in such form and detail as required by the fire chief. The construction documents
9 shall be prepared by a registered design professional, licensed fire alarm planner (APL),
10 or licensed fire sprinkler responsible managing employee (RME) as appropriate and as
11 required by the statutes of the State of Texas.

12 **Exception:** The fire chief is authorized to waive the submission of construction
13 documents and supporting data not required to be prepared by a registered design
14 professional if it is found that the nature of the work applied for is such that review
15 of construction documents is not necessary to obtain compliance with this code.

16 **105.4.1.1 Examination of documents.** The fire chief shall examine or cause to be
17 examined the accompanying construction documents and shall ascertain by such
18 examinations whether the work indicated and described is in accordance with the
19 requirements of this code.

20 **105.4.2 Information on construction documents.** Construction documents shall be
21 drawn to scale upon suitable material on in a media acceptable to the City of Austin
22 Planning and Development Review Department and the Austin Fire Department. All
23 shop drawings submitted to the Fire Department that are drawn to any scale other than
24 $\frac{1}{8}''=1'$ or $\frac{1}{4}''=1'$ shall be assessed the fee set for non-standard drawing scales.
25 Construction documents shall be of sufficient clarity to indicate the location, nature and
26 extent of the work proposed and show in detail that the work will conform to the
27 provisions of this code and relevant laws, ordinances, rules and regulations as determined
28 by the fire code official.

29 **105.4.4 Approved documents.** Construction documents approved by the fire chief are
30 approved with the intent that such construction documents comply in all respects with
31 this code. The issuance or granting approval of plans and specifications or other
32 construction documents is not an approval of any violation of this code or of any other
33 ordinance of the jurisdiction. An approval presuming to give authority to violate or
34 cancel the provisions of this code is not valid. Review and approval by the fire
35 department shall not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of compliance with this
36 code. The issuance of an approval based on plans, specifications and other data shall not
37 prevent the fire chief from requiring the correction of errors in the plans, specifications or
38 other data, or from preventing processes, building operations or uses being carried on
39 when in violation of this code or any other code of this jurisdiction.

1 **SECTION 105.6.0 PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

2 **105.6.1 Required operational permits.** The fire chief is authorized to issue operational
3 permits for the operations, practices, and functions set forth in the provisions adopted
4 under this section.

5 **105.6.2**

6 **105.6.3**

7 **105.6.4 Carnivals and fairs.** An operational permit is required to conduct a carnival or
8 fair.

Formatted: Space Before: Auto

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

9 **105.6.5**

10 **105.6.6**

11 **105.6.7**

12 **105.6.8** See Section 105.6.20.1.4

13 **105.6.9**

14 **105.6.10** See Section 105.6.20.1.4

15 **105.6.11**

16 **105.6.12**

17 **105.6.13 Exhibits and trade shows.** An operational permit is required to operate exhibits
18 and trade shows.

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Space Before: Auto

19 **105.6.14 Explosives.**

20 **105.6.14.1 Blasting.** An operational permit is required to use explosives or blasting
21 agents at a named location for a named period. See also Chapter 33.

22 1. Class A: 45 days

23 2. Class B: 120 days

24 3. Class C: 1 year

25 4. Class D: 10 days

26 **105.6.14.2 Explosives or Blasting Agents.** An operational permit is required for the
27 manufacture, storage, handling, sale or use of any quantity of explosives, explosive
28 material, or blasting agents. See also Chapter 33.

1 **105.6.14.3 Fireworks.** An operational permit is required for the manufacture, storage,
2 handling, sale or use of any quantity fireworks or pyrotechnic special effects within the
3 scope of Chapter 33.

4 **105.6.15**

5 **105.6.16 Flammable and combustible liquids.** Permitting of flammable and
6 combustible liquids is governed by section 105.6.20 below.

7 **105.6.17**

8 **105.6.18**

9 **105.6.19**

10 **105.6.20 Hazardous Materials.**

11 **105.6.20.1** An operational permit is required to use or possess hazardous materials in a
12 quantity in excess of that named in 105.6.21.2 below and meeting any one of the
13 following criteria:

14 **105.6. 20.1.1** Materials with a toxicity rating of 2 or more, as defined in Appendix F.

15 **105.6.20.1.2** Materials with a flammability rating of 2 or more, as defined in Appendix F.

16 **105.6.20.1.3** Materials with a reactivity rating of 2 or more, as defined in Appendix F.

17 **105.6.20.1.4** Compressed gases, liquefied compressed gases and cryogenic fluids.

18 **105.6.20.2** An operational permit is required to use or possess hazardous materials if the
19 aggregate quantity of each material with the same hazard rating, in the same physical
20 state throughout the facility, is equal to or greater than the following:

21 **MINIMUM AGGREGATE**

Flammability	Rating	Quantity
4	Extreme	0.5 lbs. or 5 Gallons
3	High	12 lbs. or 10 Gallons
2	Moderate	60 lbs. or 120 Gallons
Toxicity	Rating	Quantity
4	Extreme	0.35 oz. or 0.3 fl. oz.

3	High	10 lbs. or 1 gal.
2	Moderate	110 lbs. or 55 gal.
Reactivity	Rating	Quantity
4	Extreme	0.35 oz. or 0.3 fl. oz.
3	High	2.2 lbs or 0.26 gal.
2	Moderate	110 lbs. or 55 gal.
Compressed gases, and liquefied compressed gases		100 Cu. Ft. at NTP
Cryogenic fluids		1 gallon

105.6.20.3 An operational permit is required to engage in the dispensing of liquid fuels, regardless of hazard classification, from tank vehicles into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles at commercial, industrial, governmental or manufacturing establishments. Dispensing liquid fuels of any kind from tank vehicles into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles is not permitted at residences.

105.6.20.4 The criteria for the rating of hazardous materials are contained in NFPA Standard No. 704 (See Appendix F). The fire chief shall use NFPA Standard No. 704 in assigning hazard ratings to hazardous materials. If the material is assigned a hazards rating in the NFPA Fire Protection Handbook, these ratings shall be used. Where the ratings are not provided, the fire chief shall use NFPA 704, information contained in Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), Appendix E, or other commonly accepted published standards of nationally recognized organizations/authors to classify hazardous materials.

105.6.20.5 Compressed and liquefied gases and cryogenic fluids will be totaled on a quantitative basis for each hazard class. The materials may be reported in pounds or gallons but shall be calculated in cubic feet by the Fire Department for the purpose of regulation.

105.6.20.6 The state of a material (liquid, solid, gas) shall be based on its physical state at NTP.

105.6.20.7 Materials not requiring a permit. The following materials are not subject to the permitting requirements under this Article:

1 **105.6.20.7.1** Inert gases which do not support combustion including argon, helium,
2 krypton, neon, xenon, compressed air, carbon dioxide, and nitrogen. These gases, with
3 the exception of carbon dioxide, are subject to permitting requirements when stored as
4 cryogenic fluids.

5 **105.6.20.7.2** Any material used or stored for household purposes at a private residence.

6 **105.6.20.7.3** Any material contained in a transportation vehicle when the vehicle is not
7 being used for permanent storage.

8 **105.6.20.7.4** Commercial products used at the facility solely for janitorial purposes and
9 maintenance products which are necessary for the immediate, continued operation of
10 equipment at the facility (not to include fuels), and which are not for resale. This includes
11 air conditioning refrigerant and pool chemicals when maintained in quantities less than
12 the following:

13 **NFPA 704**

Material	Rating	Quantity
Corrosives (i.e. Muriatic Acid)	3-0-0	4 gallons
Class 2 Oxidizers Trichloro-s-triazinetriene (trichloroisocyanuric acid)	3-0-2	150 pounds
Class 3 Oxidizers Calcium hypochlorite (HTH, Hy-chlor)	3-0-2	110 pounds
Air Conditioning Refrigerant	2-0-0	2-30 pound cylinders

14 **105.6.20.7.5** Materials which are held solely as pharmaceutical products which are
15 packaged for distribution to, and use by, the general public, except for those materials
16 with a toxic or flammable hazard rating of 3 or more, and reactive materials with a rating
17 of 2 or more, based on the criteria in the Fire Protection Manual.

18 **105.6.20.7.6** Any waste material regulated by the State of Texas under Chapter 361,
19 Health and Safety Code; provided, however, that the materials must be listed in the
20 permit application if one is otherwise required, but not considered in setting the amount
21 for permit fee.

22 **105.6.20.7.7** Radioactive material(s) regulated by the State of Texas under Chapter 401,
23 Health and Safety Code or under Federal regulations must be listed in a permit
24 application, but will not require a permit nor be considered in setting the amount for a
25 permit fee.

1 **105.6.20.7.8** Any material contained in a process vessel, except where the process vessel
2 is being used for permanent storage.

3 **105.6.20.7.9** Any material stored in underground tanks complying with the permit
4 requirements of the City of Austin Planning and Development Review Department, or its
5 successor department, and with the reporting requirements of the U.S. Environmental
6 Protection Agency (EPA) Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
7 (EPCRA), also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization
8 Act (SARA Title III), and if applicable, with the requirements of the Texas Hazard
9 Communication Act.

10 **105.6.20.7.10** Class II combustible liquids used to fuel emergency generators, located
11 outside of buildings, and in approved tanks or containers less than 275 gallons in size.

12 **105.6.21 HPM facilities.** HPM facilities, including Group H-5 occupancies are required
13 to obtain a hazardous materials permit in accordance with section 105.6.20.

14 **105.6.22 High-piled storage.** A triennial operational permit is required to use a building
15 or portion thereof as a high-piled storage area exceeding 500 square feet (46m²).

16 **105.6.23**

17 **105.6.24**

18 **105.6.25**

19 **105.6.26**

20 **105.6.27**

21 **105.6.28**

22 **105.6.29**

23 **105.6.30 Open burning.** An operational permit is required for the kindling or
24 maintaining of an open fire or a fire on any public street, alley, road or other public or
25 private ground. Instructions and stipulations of the permit shall be adhered to. See also
26 Section 307.2.

27 **105.6.31**

28 **105.6.32 Open flames and candles.** An operational permit is required to use open flames
29 or candles in connection with assembly areas, dining areas of restaurants or drinking
30 establishments.

31 **105.6.33**

32 **105.6.34 Places of assembly.** An operational permit or appropriate certificate of
33 occupancy is required to operate a place of assembly.

1 **105.6.34.1** An annual operational permit is required to operate any place of assembly
2 where 51% or more of the gross receipts at the location are from alcoholic beverage sales.

3 **105.6.34.2** With concurrence of the Building Official, the fire chief may issue a
4 temporary change of use permit to use a structure for public assembly. Such permits
5 shall be limited as to time of service, but shall not be permitted for more than 30 days.
6 The fire chief is authorized to grant extensions for demonstrated cause.

7 **105.6.35 Private fire hydrants.** An annual operational permit is required for all
8 properties served by private fire hydrants. Notification of the fire department is required
9 for the removal from service, use or operation of private fire hydrants. ~~This permit
10 requirement shall become effective at midnight on January 1, 2011.~~

11 **105.6.36 Pyrotechnic special effects material.** An operational permit is required for use
12 and handling of pyrotechnic special effects material.

13 **105.6.37**

14 **105.6.38**

15 **105.6.39**

16 **105.6.40**

17 **105.6.41**

18 **105.6.42**

19 **105.6.43 Temporary membrane structures and tents.** An operational permit is
20 required to operate an air-supported temporary membrane structure or a tent having an
21 area in excess of 100 square feet (9.3 m²), or an aggregate area of multiple tents or
22 membrane structures placed side by side in excess of 400 square feet (37m²).

23 **Exceptions:**

- 24 1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
- 25 2. Funeral tents and curtains or extensions attached thereto, when used for
26 funeral services.
- 27 3. Tents that are not attached to, or located within 20 feet (6096 mm) of, a
28 building shall not require a permit unless the tent is in excess of 400 square
29 feet (37 m²).
- 30 4. Tents open on all sides which comply with all of the following:
- 31 4.1 Individual tents having a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m²).

1 4.2 The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a
2 firebreak clearance of not less than 12 feet (3658mm) shall not exceed
3 700 square feet (65 m²) total.

4 4.3 A minimum clearance of 20 feet (6096 mm) to structures and other
5 tents shall be provided.

6 5. Inflatable playground equipment at one- or two- family residences.

7 6. Inflatable playground equipment used for less than 24 hours at places of
8 worship or education facilities (for ages served by the 6th grade and younger)
9 when located a minimum of 20 feet from the nearest building.

10 **105.6.44**

11 **105.6.45**

12 **105.6.46**

13 **105.6.47 Fire protection systems permit.** An annual operational permit is required for
14 all fixed fire protection systems in buildings and facilities, including but not limited to
15 fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, commercial kitchen hood suppression systems,
16 and smoke control systems. A single permit shall be issued to each building or facility
17 detailing the types and locations of systems present. Inspections and testing in
18 accordance with the City of Austin Fire Protection Criteria Manual and/or applicable
19 national standards shall be a condition of permit approval. ~~This section shall become~~
20 ~~effective at midnight on January 1, 2011.~~ See 105.6.35 concerning permit requirements
21 for private hydrant systems.

22 **105.7.1-105.7.15 No Separate Construction Permits Required. Construction permits**
23 **for permanent structures and systems are issued in accordance with the building permit**
24 **system administered by the Plan Review and Inspections Divisions of the Planning and**
25 **Development Review Department.**

26 **105.7 Required construction permits.** The fire code official is authorized to issue
27 construction permits for work as set forth in Section 105.7.1.

28 **105.7.1 Temporary membrane structures and tents.** A construction permit is required
29 to erect an air supported temporary membrane structure or tent having an area in excess
30 of 100 square feet (9.3 m²) or an aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side in
31 excess of 400 square feet (37 m²).

32 **Exceptions:**

- 33 1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
- 34 2. Funeral tents and curtains or extensions attached thereto, when used for
35 funeral services.

- 1 3. Tents that are not attached in any way to or within 20 feet (6096 mm) of a
2 building shall not require a permit unless the tent is in excess of 400 square
3 feet (37 m²).
- 4 4. Tents open on all sides, which comply with all of the following;
 - 5 4.1 Individual tents having a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m²)
 - 6 4.2 The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire
7 break clearance of not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) shall not exceed
8 700 square feet (65 m²) total.
 - 9 4.3 A minimum clearance of ~~12~~ 20 feet (3658 mm) to structures and other
10 tents shall be provided.
- 11 5. Inflatable playground equipment at one- or two- family residences.
- 12 6. Inflatable playground equipment used for less than 24 hours at places of
13 worship or education facilities (for ages served by the 6th grade and younger)
14 when located a minimum of 20 feet from the nearest building.

15 **106.2.3 Reinspections.** When previously identified violations have not been corrected, a
16 fee shall be assessed for a construction related reinspection requested by the applicant or
17 contractor. When a scheduled inspection fails, or is cancelled with less than a 24 hour
18 notice, due to the fact that the applicant or contractor was not capable of or prepared for
19 the inspection to be conducted, a reinspection fee shall be assessed. The reinspection fee
20 shall be in an amount set by a separate ordinance. No subsequent inspections shall be
21 made until the required fees have been paid and required documentation submitted.

22 **108.1 Appeals.** Appeals shall be handled under the provisions of City Code Chapter 25-
23 1, Article 7, Division 1 (*Appeals*).

24 **109.2.2 Compliance with orders and notices.** Orders and notices of violation issued
25 or served as provided by this code shall be complied with by the owner, operator,
26 occupant or other person responsible for the condition or violation to which the notice
27 of violation pertains. In cases of immediate danger to persons or property, immediate
28 compliance is required. If the building or other premises is not owner occupied, under
29 lease or otherwise, and the order or notice requires additions or changes in the building
30 or premises which would immediately become fixtures and be the property of the
31 owner of the building or premises, such orders or notices shall be complied with by the
32 owner.

33 **Exception:** When the owner and the occupant have agreed otherwise between
34 themselves, in which event the occupant shall comply.

35 **109.2.3 Prosecution of violations.** If the notice of violation is not complied with
36 promptly, the fire chief is authorized to request the legal counsel of the City to institute

1 the appropriate legal proceedings at law or in equity to restrain, correct or abate such
2 violation or to require removal or termination of the unlawful occupancy of the structure
3 in violation of the provisions of this code or of the order or direction made pursuant
4 hereto.

5 **109.2.3.1 Citations.** Persons operating or maintaining an occupancy, premises or
6 vehicle subject to this code who allow a hazard to exist or fail to take immediate action
7 to abate a hazard on such occupancy, premises or vehicle when ordered or notified to
8 do so by the chief shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

9 **109.23.4 Unauthorized tampering.** Signs, notices, orders, tags or seals posted or
10 affixed by the fire chief shall not be mutilated, destroyed or tampered with or removed
11 without authorization from the fire chief.

12 **Section 113 FEES**

13 **[A] 113.1 Fees.**

14 A permit shall not be issued until the fees have been paid, ~~nor shall an amendment to a~~
15 ~~permit be released until the additional fee, if any, has been paid.~~

16 **[A] 113.2 Schedule of ~~permit~~ fees.**

17 A fee for each permit or service shall be paid as required, in accordance with the
18 schedule as established by ~~the applicable governing authority~~ the City of Austin fiscal
19 year fee ordinance.

20 **[A] 113.3 Work commencing before permit issuance.**

21 Any person who commences any work, activity or operation regulated by this code
22 before obtaining the necessary permits shall be subject to a notice of violation and to
23 prosecution as provided in section 1009.3 of this code. ~~an additional fee established by~~
24 ~~the applicable governing authority, which~~ Any penalties assessed due to prosecution
25 under this code shall be in addition to the required permit or service fees.

26 **[A] 113.4 Related fees.**

27 The payment of the fee for the construction, *alteration*, removal or demolition of work
28 done in connection to or concurrently with the work or activity authorized by a permit
29 shall not relieve the applicant or holder of the permit from the payment of other fees
30 that are prescribed by law.

31 **[A] 113.5 Refunds.**

32 The ~~applicable governing authority is authorized to establish a~~ refund policy of the City
33 of Austin and the Austin Fire Department shall be applicable to the over payment of
34 any fees associated with the administration of this code.

35 **202.1.1 Supplemental and replacement definitions.** The following definitions in this
36 subsection apply throughout this code and supplement the definitions in Section 202
37
38
39
40

1 (General Definitions) of the 2009 International Fire Code, as published, ~~unless the~~
2 ~~term is defined in both places, in which case the definition in this subsection replaces~~
3 ~~and supersedes the definition in Section 202 of the 2009 International Fire Code.~~

4 ACCESS ROADWAY is any road(s) providing access around the perimeter of any
5 building, to a building from a public street, or to a building or its fire department
6 connection from a required fire hydrant.

7 ALL WEATHER DRIVING SURFACE: Hot mix asphaltic concrete or concrete
8 pavement as per City of Austin Standard Specifications or other alternative roadway
9 methods approved by the fire code official.

10 APPLICABLE STANDARDS. The published standards or codes of nationally
11 recognized organizations shall be applied to hazardous materials occupancies to the
12 extent that the standards or codes are set forth in this code or in the Fire Protection
13 Criteria Manual and are expressly applicable to a particular business or industry and to
14 industrial practices that are generally accepted by businesses within a particular industrial
15 group or subgroup, ~~to the extent~~ provided that such ~~the~~ industrial practices are not
16 inconsistent with federal and state law. However, on written request of an applicant or
17 permit holder, alternative specifications and guidelines may be substituted for the
18 Applicable Standards in specific situations by the fire code official where the permit
19 applicant or holder provides suitable evidence that the proposed alternatives will meet or
20 exceed the requirements of this Article.

21 **AUTOMOBILE WRECKING YARD** is an area that stores salvage vehicles.

22 [B] BALCONY, EXTERIOR. An exterior floor projected from and supported by a
23 structure without additional independent supports.

24 [B] BED AND BREAKFAST. A private residence having a limited number of sleeping
25 rooms which are available for transient guests who have paid for accommodations. For
26 the different classifications of Bed and Breakfast, refer to LDC 25-2-781 (*Bed and*
27 *Breakfast Residential Use Structures Classified*).

28 **BLASTER'S LICENSE:** An instrument issued by the fire chief authorizing certain
29 individuals to engage in the loading, firing and supervision of the loading or firing, of
30 explosive materials in accordance with applicable ordinances, resolutions, and
31 regulations of the City of Austin.

32 **CERTIFICATION:** A record of the test, including problems found and corrections
33 made, documenting the actions on approved forms.

34 **CITY/AUSTIN/CITY OF AUSTIN:** These terms mean the City of Austin, in the Hays,
35 Travis and Williamson Counties the State of Texas. Geographically these terms indicate
36 all territory within the corporate limits of the City of Austin and that territory annexed for

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

1 limited purpose by the City of Austin in accordance with Article I, Section 7 of the
2 Charter of the City of Austin.

3 **[M] COMMERCIAL COOKING APPLIANCES.** Appliances used in a commercial
4 food service establishment for heating or cooking food and which produce grease vapors,
5 steam, fumes, smoke or odors that are required to be removed through a local exhaust
6 ventilation system. Such appliances include deep fat fryers; upright broilers; griddles;
7 broilers; steam-jacketed kettles; hot-top ranges; under-fired broilers (charbroilers); ovens;
8 barbecues; rotisseries; and similar appliances. For the purpose of this definition, a food
9 service establishment shall include any building or a portion thereof used for the
10 preparation and serving of food for more than 6 hours per week, including food services
11 within a residential board and care facility if the facility serves 12 or more residents.

12 **DAY CARE FACILITIES.** The use of a building or structure, or portion thereof, for
13 educational, supervision or personal care services for more than six children older than 2
14 ½ years of age, shall be classified as a Group E occupancy.

15 **[B] GROUP E, DAY CARE FACILITIES.** This group includes buildings and
16 structures or portions thereof occupied by more than six children older than 2 ½ years of
17 age who receive educational, supervision or personal care services for fewer than 24
18 hours per day. A child care facility that provides care for more than six but no more than
19 100 children 2 ½ years or less of age, where the rooms in which the children are cared for
20 are located on a level of exit discharge serving such rooms and each of these child care
21 rooms has an exit door directly to the exterior, shall also be classified as Group E.

22 **[B]Six or fewer children.** A facility having six or fewer children receiving such day care
23 shall be classified as part of the primary occupancy.

24 **[B]Six or fewer children in a dwelling unit.** A facility such as the above within a
25 dwelling unit and having six or fewer children receiving such day care shall be classified
26 as a Group R-3 occupancy or shall comply with the International Residential Code
27 provided an automatic sprinkler system is installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3
28 (NFPA 13D sprinkler systems) or with Section P2904 of the 2012 International
29 Residential Code as published.

30 **[B]Six or fewer persons receiving care.** A facility having six or fewer persons receiving
31 custodial care shall be classified as part of the primary occupancy.

32 **[B]Six or fewer persons receiving care in a dwelling unit.** A facility such as the above
33 within a dwelling unit and having five six or fewer persons receiving custodial care shall
34 be classified as a Group R-3 occupancy or shall comply with the International Residential
35 Code provided an automatic sprinkler system is installed in accordance with Section
36 903.3.1.3 (NFPA 13D sprinkler systems) or with Section P2904 of the 2012 International
37 Residential Code as published.

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Left, Space After: 0 pt

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

Formatted: Left, Space After: 0 pt

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

1
2 **[B]Six or fewer persons receiving care.** A facility such as above with six or fewer
3 persons receiving such care shall be classified as Group R-3 or shall comply with the
4 International Residential Code provided an automatic sprinkler system is installed in
5 accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 (NFPA 13D sprinkler systems) or with Section P2904
6 of the 2012 International Residential Code as published.

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

7
8 **[B]Seven to sixteen persons receiving care.** A facility such as the above, housing not
9 fewer than seven and not more than 16 persons receiving such care, shall be classified as
10 Group R-4.

11 ~~**CHILD CARE FACILITY.** A facility that provides supervision and personal care on~~
12 ~~less than a 24-hour basis for more than six children 2 ½ years of age or less shall be~~
13 ~~classified as Group I-4.~~

14 ~~—— **Exception:** A child day care facility that provides care for more than six but no~~
15 ~~more than 100 children 2 ½ years or less of age, when the rooms where such~~
16 ~~children are cared for are located on the level of exit discharge and each of these~~
17 ~~child care rooms has an exit door directly to the exterior, shall be classified as~~
18 ~~Group E.~~

19 **[B]Institutional Group I-2.** This occupancy shall include buildings and structures
20 used for medical care on a 24-hour basis for more than five six persons who are
21 incapable of self-preservation. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the
22 following:

23
24 ~~Foster Child care facilities~~

Formatted: Strikethrough

25 ~~Detoxification facilities~~

26 ~~Hospitals~~

27 ~~Nursing homes~~

28 ~~Psychiatric hospitals~~

Formatted: Left, Space After: 0 pt

29
30 **[B]Institutional Group I-4, day care facilities.** This group shall include buildings and
31 structures not classified above which are occupied by more than six persons of any age
32 who receive custodial care for fewer than 24 hours per day by persons other than parents
33 or guardians, relative by blood, marriage or adoption, and in a place other than the home
34 of the person cared for. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

35 ~~Adult day care~~

36 ~~Child day care~~

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

37
38 ~~**EXISTING.** Buildings, facilities or conditions that are already in existence, constructed~~
39 ~~or officially authorized prior to the adoption of this code.~~

Formatted: Left, Space After: 0 pt

1 **EXTENSION CORD AND FLEXIBLE CORD:** Flexible cord of any length which has
2 one male electrical connector on one end and one or more female electrical connectors on
3 the other end.

4 **FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROAD.** A road that provides fire apparatus access from
5 a fire station to a facility, building or portion thereof. This is a general term inclusive of
6 all other terms such as fire lane, fire zone, public street, private street, parking lot lane
7 and access roadway.

8 **FIRE COMMAND CENTER.** The principal attended or unattended location where the
9 status of the detection, alarm communications and control systems is displayed, and from
10 which the system(s) can be manually controlled.

11 **FIRE DEPARTMENT MASTER KEY.** A limited issue key of special or controlled
12 design to be carried by fire department officials in command which will open key boxes
13 on specified properties.

14 **FIRE LANE AND FIRE ZONE.** A road, an off-street area, or other passageway
15 developed to allow the passage of fire apparatus that is designated in accordance with this
16 code that is to remain free and clear of parked or standing vehicles in order to provide
17 access to buildings, processes, storage areas or fire appliances in case of fire or other
18 emergency. A fire lane is not necessarily intended to be used by vehicular traffic other
19 than fire apparatus.

20 **KEY BOX AND KNOX BOX.** A secure device with a lock operable only by a fire
21 department master key, and containing building entry keys and other keys that may be
22 required for access in an emergency.

23 **GROUP I-1.** This occupancy shall include buildings, structures or parts thereof housing
24 more than 16 persons, on a 24-hour basis, who because of age, mental disability or other
25 reasons, live in a supervised residential environment that provides personal care services.
26 The occupants are capable of responding to an emergency situation without physical
27 assistance from staff. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

28 Alcohol and drug centers

29 Assisted living facilities

30 Congregate care facilities

31 Convalescent facilities

32 Group homes

33 Half-way houses

34 Residential board and care facilities

35 Social rehabilitation facilities

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Font color: Custom
Color(RGB(79,98,40))

1 A facility such as the above with five or fewer persons shall be classified as Group R-3 in
2 accordance with this code. A facility such as above, housing at least six and not more
3 than 16 persons, shall be classified as Group R-4.

4 [B] Institutional Group I-2. This occupancy shall include buildings and structures used
5 for medical care on a 24-hour basis for more than five six persons who are incapable of
6 self-preservation. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 7 Foster Child care facilities
- 8 Detoxification facilities
- 9 Hospitals
- 10 Nursing homes
- 11 Psychiatric hospitals

12 I-2 with six or fewer persons receiving care. A facility such as the above with six or
13 fewer persons receiving such care shall be classified as Group R-3 or shall comply with
14 the International Residential Code provided an automatic sprinkler system is installed in
15 accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 (NFPA 13D sprinkler systems) or with Section P2904
16 of the 2012 International Residential Code as published.

17 **INDEPENDENT EXIT/INDEPENDENT STAIRWAY/INDEPENDENT EXIT**
18 **RAMP.** An independent exit, independent stairway, or independent exit ramp is an exit
19 or egress component that does not require the occupant to travel within 10 feet (3.048 m)
20 of another apartment's door or window at any point in the path of egress.

21 **LEGITIMATE COOKING FIRE:** A fire kindled within the confines of an appliance or
22 structure manufactured or built for the express purpose of cooking meals for consumption
23 by human. Incidental cooking or warming of foods with an open recreational fire shall
24 not be considered a "legitimate cooking fire".

25 **LEGITIMATE WARMING FIRE:** A fire kindled within the confines of a metal or
26 other non-combustible container at a construction site or other similar outdoor
27 employment location for the sole purpose of allowing employees/workers to warm
28 themselves without having to leave the workplace or construction site.

29 **MOTOR VEHICLE FLUIDS** are liquids which are flammable, combustible or
30 hazardous materials, such as crankcase fluids, fuel, brake fluids, transmission fluids,
31 radiator fluids and gear oil. This definition does not include liquids which are
32 permanently sealed, such as hydraulic fluid within shock absorbers.

33 ~~**GROUP I-1.** This occupancy shall include buildings, structures or parts thereof housing~~
34 ~~more than 16 persons, on a 24-hour basis, who because of age, mental disability or other~~
35 ~~reasons, live in a supervised residential environment that provides personal care services.~~
36 ~~The occupants are capable of responding to an emergency situation without physical~~
37 ~~assistance from staff. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:~~

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman

1 ~~Alcohol and drug centers~~

2 ~~Assisted living facilities~~

3 ~~Congregate care facilities~~

4 ~~Convalescent facilities~~

5 ~~Group homes~~

6 ~~Half-way houses~~

7 ~~Residential board and care facilities~~

8 ~~Social rehabilitation facilities~~

9 ~~A facility such as the above with five or fewer persons shall be classified as Group R-3 in~~
10 ~~accordance with this code. A facility such as above, housing at least six and not more~~
11 ~~than 16 persons, shall be classified as Group R-4.~~

12 **OVERCROWDING.** A condition that exists when either there are more people in a
13 building, structure or portion thereof than have been authorized or posted by the fire chief
14 or the building official, or when the fire chief determines that a threat exists to the safety
15 of the occupants due to persons sitting and/or standing in locations that may obstruct or
16 impede the use of aisles, passages, corridors, stairways, exits or other components of the
17 means of egress.

18 **PERMANENT STORAGE.** Storage for a period of over 30 days.

19 **PERMIT.** A permit issued under this Article, including the permit application, and any
20 amendment for other uses of this term and other types of permits, see Section 105 of this
21 code.

22 **PROCESS VESSEL.** A container, including the associated piping, used or designed to
23 be used to contain or promote a chemical or physical reaction

24 **Residential Group R.** Residential Group R includes, among others, the use of a building
25 or structure, or a portion thereof, for sleeping purposes when not classified as an
26 Institutional Group I or when not regulated by the International Residential Code in
27 accordance with Section 101.2 (Scope). Residential occupancies shall include the
28 following:

29 **[B] R-1** Residential occupancies containing sleeping units where the occupants are
30 primarily transient in nature, including:

31 Boarding houses (transient)

32 Hotels (transient)

33 Motels (transient)

1 Bed and Breakfasts

2 Congregate living facilities (transient) with 10 or fewer occupants are permitted as
3 an alternate method of compliance to comply with the construction requirements for
4 Group R-3 including Section 903.2.8 (Group R).

5 **[B]R-2** Residential occupancies containing sleeping units or more than two dwelling
6 units where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature, including:

7 Apartment houses

8 Boarding houses (not transient)

9 Convents

10 Dormitories

11 Fraternities and sororities

12 Hotels (nontransient)

13 Live/work units

14 Monasteries

15 Motels (nontransient)

16 Vacation timeshare properties

17 Congregate living facilities with 16 or fewer occupants are permitted as an
18 alternate method of compliance to comply with the construction requirements for Group
19 R-3 including Section 903.2.8 (Group R).

20 **[B]R-3** Residential occupancies where the occupants are primarily permanent in
21 nature and not classified as Group R-1, R-2, R-4 or I, including:

22 Buildings that do not contain more than two dwelling units.

23 Adult care facilities that provide accommodations for five or fewer persons of any
24 age for less than 24 hours.

25 Child care facilities that provide accommodations for five or fewer persons of any
26 age for less than 24 hours.

27 Congregate living facilities with 16 or fewer persons.

28 Adult care and child care facilities that are within a single-family home are
29 permitted as an alternate method of compliance to comply with the International
30 Residential Code provided the building is protected by an automatic sprinkler
31 system in accordance with Section 903.2.8 (Group R).

Formatted: Font color: Custom
Color(RGB(79,98,40))

Formatted: Font color: Custom
Color(RGB(79,98,40))

1 **Exception:** Compliance with Section 903.2.8 (Group R) is not required for adult
2 care and child care facilities that are within the proprietor's single-family home
3 provided that the home was constructed and occupied as a residence prior to the
4 adoption of this code October 1st, 2010.

5 **[B]R-4 Residential occupancies shall include buildings arranged for occupancy as**
6 **residential care/assisted living facilities including more than five but not more than 16**
7 **occupants, excluding staff.**

8 Group R-4 occupancies shall meet the requirements for construction as defined for
9 Group R-3, except as otherwise provided for in this code, or, as an alternate method of
10 compliance, shall comply with the International Residential Code provided the building is
11 protected by an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with 903.2.8 (Group
12 R).

13 ~~**Residential Group R.** Residential Group R includes, among others, the use of a building~~
14 ~~or structure, or a portion thereof, for sleeping purposes when not classified as an~~
15 ~~Institutional Group I or when not regulated by the International Residential Code in~~
16 ~~accordance with Section 101.2 (Scope). Residential occupancies shall include the~~
17 ~~following:~~

18 ~~**R-1** Residential occupancies containing sleeping units where the occupants are~~
19 ~~primarily transient in nature, including:~~

20 ~~Boarding houses (transient)~~

21 ~~Hotels (transient)~~

22 ~~Motels (transient)~~

23 ~~Bed and Breakfasts~~

24 ~~Congregate living facilities (transient) with 10 or fewer occupants are permitted as~~
25 ~~an alternate method of compliance to comply with the construction requirements for~~
26 ~~Group R-3 including Section 903.2.8 (Group R).~~

27 ~~**R-2** Residential occupancies containing sleeping units or more than two dwelling units~~
28 ~~where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature, including:~~

29 ~~Apartment houses~~

30 ~~Boarding houses (not transient)~~

31 ~~Convents~~

32 ~~Dormitories~~

33 ~~Fraternities and sororities~~

34 ~~Hotels (nontransient)~~

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Font color: Custom
Color(RGB(79,98,40))

Formatted: Font color: Custom
Color(RGB(79,98,40))

1 ~~Live/work units~~

2 ~~Monasteries~~

3 ~~Motels (nontransient)~~

4 ~~Vacation timeshare properties~~

5 ~~Congregate living facilities with 16 or fewer occupants are permitted as an~~
6 ~~alternate method of compliance to comply with the construction requirements for Group~~
7 ~~R-3 including Section 903.2.8 (Group R).~~

8 ~~**R-3** Residential occupancies where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature~~
9 ~~and not classified as Group R-1, R-2, R-4 or I, including:~~

10 ~~Buildings that do not contain more than two dwelling units.~~

11 ~~Adult care facilities that provide accommodations for five or fewer persons of any~~
12 ~~age for less than 24 hours.~~

13 ~~Child care facilities that provide accommodations for five or fewer persons of any~~
14 ~~age for less than 24 hours.~~

15 ~~Congregate living facilities with 16 or fewer persons.~~

16 ~~Adult care and child care facilities that are within a single family home are~~
17 ~~permitted as an alternate method of compliance to comply with the International~~
18 ~~Residential Code provided the building is protected by an automatic sprinkler~~
19 ~~system in accordance with Section 903.2.8 (Group R).~~

20 ~~**Exception:** Compliance with Section 903.2.8 (Group R) is not required for adult~~
21 ~~care and child care facilities that are within the proprietor's single family home~~
22 ~~provided that the home was constructed and occupied as a residence prior to the~~
23 ~~adoption of this code.~~

24 ~~**R-4** Residential occupancies shall include buildings arranged for occupancy as residential~~
25 ~~care/assisted living facilities including more than five but not more than 16 occupants,~~
26 ~~excluding staff.~~

27 ~~Group R-4 occupancies shall meet the requirements for construction as defined for~~
28 ~~Group R-3, except as otherwise provided for in this code, or, as an alternate method of~~
29 ~~compliance, shall comply with the International Residential Code provided the building is~~
30 ~~protected by an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with 903.2.8 (Group~~
31 ~~R).~~

32 **SALVAGE VEHICLE:** A vehicle which is dismantled for parts or awaiting destruction.

33 **STAIR.** A change in elevation, consisting of two or more risers.

1 **STAIRWAY EXTERIOR.** A stairway that is open on at least two adjacent sides with
2 75% of the side with free area, except for required structural columns, beams, handrails
3 and guards. The adjoining areas shall be either yards, courts or public ways. The other
4 sides of the exterior stairway need not be open.

5 **TESTS:** A complete check of the system under nationally recognized standards to
6 determine that the system operates and functions as designed.

7 **302.2 Supplemental definitions.**

8 The following definitions are defined in section 202 as amended and apply throughout
9 this code and amend or supplement the definitions in the 2009/2012 International Fire
10 Code as published.

11 **LEGITIMATE COOKING FIRE.**

12 **LEGITIMATE WARMING FIRE.**

13 ~~The following definitions apply throughout this code and supplement the definitions in~~
14 ~~Section 302.1 (Definitions) of the 2009 International Fire Code as published.~~

15 ~~**LEGITIMATE COOKING FIRE:** A fire kindled within the confines of an appliance or~~
16 ~~structure manufactured or built for the express purpose of cooking meals for consumption~~
17 ~~by human. Incidental cooking or warming of foods with an open recreational fire shall~~
18 ~~not be considered a “legitimate cooking fire”.~~

19 ~~**LEGITIMATE WARMING FIRE:** A fire kindled within the confines of a metal or~~
20 ~~other non-combustible container at a construction site or other similar outdoor~~
21 ~~employment location for the sole purpose of allowing employees/workers to warm~~
22 ~~themselves without having to leave the workplace or construction site.~~

23 **304.3.3 Capacity exceeding 1.5 cubic yards.** Dumpsters and containers with an
24 individual capacity of 1.5 cubic yards [40.5 cubic feet (1.15 m³)] or more shall not be
25 stored in buildings or placed within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustible walls, openings or
26 combustible roof eave lines.

27 **Exceptions:**

- 28 1. Dumpsters or containers in areas protected by an approved automatic
29 sprinkler system installed throughout in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1
30 or 903.3.1.2.
- 31 2. Storage in a structure shall not be prohibited where the structure is of Type I
32 or Type IIA construction, located not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) from other
33 buildings and used exclusively for dumpster or container storage.

34 **307.2 Permit required.** A permit shall be obtained from the fire department emergency
35 prevention division in accordance with Section 105.6 prior to kindling a fire for

1 recognized silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control
2 of disease or pests, a warming fire, a rubbish fire, or a bonfire. Application for such
3 approval shall only be presented by and permits issued to the owner of the land upon
4 which the fire is to be kindled. Rubbish includes waste material from the construction or
5 demolition of buildings. For additional requirements concerning trench burning, see
6 Section 308.5. For mobile incinerators, see Section 308.6. For agricultural burning see
7 Section 308.7.

8 **Exception:** A permit is not required for legitimate cooking fires or legitimate
9 warming fires as defined in this chapter.

10 **307.4 Location.** When authorized by permits in accordance with section 307.2, the
11 location for open burning shall not be less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from any structure,
12 and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet (15 240
13 mm) of any structure. Such fires shall be constantly attended by a competent person with
14 an approved means to extinguish the fire.

15 **Exceptions:**

- 16 1. Fires in approved containers that are not less than 15 feet (4572 mm) from a
17 structure.
- 18 2. Operation of a trench burner shall be in accordance with Section 308.5.
- 19 3. Operation of a mobile incinerator shall be in accordance with Section 308.6
- 20 4. Open burning for agricultural purposes may be approved by the fire chief in
21 accordance with Section 308.7.

22 **308.1.4 Residential Barbecue Pits and Incinerators.** No person may construct, erect,
23 install, maintain or use any incinerator or barbecue pit or burn any combustible material
24 to constitute a fire hazard by the use or burning or to endanger the life or property of any
25 person. Residential barbecue pits, hibachis or other cooking appliances utilizing charcoal,
26 wood or gas as a fuel may not be stored or used on any balconies of residential
27 occupancies, on other combustible balconies, within five feet measured horizontally from
28 any portion of a combustible building, or within fifteen feet measured along the shortest
29 distance if the pit is located below any portion of a combustible building.

30 **Exception:** Detached one- and two-family dwellings.

31 **308.5 Trench Burners.**

32 In addition to the provisions of Section 307 of the International Fire Code, all trench
33 burners in the City shall comply with the following:

34 **308.5.1 Construction.** The trench burner shall be located at the center of a circle three
35 hundred feet in diameter, in which no combustible matter will be located or stored, except

1 for the pile of combustible debris which has been readied for loading into the trench
2 burner pit, except as otherwise provided by law.

- 3 1. Pertaining to trees, landscaping, erosion, drainage, or run-off control the
4 surface of the land within the circle shall be cleared of any high grasses, and
5 any trees, brush, and weeds.
- 6 2. The pit must be built in the ground and not above grade.
- 7 3. The dimensions of the pit shall be 14 feet wide, 40 feet long, and at least 10
8 feet deep, except in cases where a permit issued to the applicant by the
9 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) prescribes different
10 dimensions. The ash generated by the operation of the trench burner shall be
11 removed from the trench as necessary to maintain a minimum trench depth
12 of 10 feet.
- 13 4. The pit, air blower or fan, and other operating equipment shall be securely
14 enclosed by a locked gate and security fence of a minimum height of eight
15 feet which completely surrounds the pit and equipment at all times when the
16 trench burner is unattended. The top portions of the fence shall consist of at
17 least three runs of barbed wire. The fencing shall not be removed until the
18 pit is closed and filled. An approved Fire Department key lock shall be
19 required to secure the gate.

20 **308.5.2 Location.** A trench burner must not be located within 1320 feet of any
21 recreational area, building or structure, not occupied or used solely by the owner of the
22 property on which the trench burner is constructed.

23 **308.5.3 Hours of Operation.** The hours of continuous loading operation shall be
24 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Trench burners may not be
25 operated on Saturday, Sunday or legal holidays.

- 26 1. The blower or fan will be allowed to operate an additional two hours from
27 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to ensure cool down after its period of continuous
28 loading operations.
- 29 2. The hours of operation may be changed by the fire chief when unusual
30 atmospheric conditions exist.
- 31 3. No burning is permitted when air stagnation advisories are in effect for the
32 area in which the mobile incinerator is located.
- 33 4. No burning is permitted during periods of high fire hazard weather
34 conditions.

35 **308.5.4 Method of Operation.** Material to be burned is limited to trees, brush, untreated
36 waste lumber, shrubs, roots, bushes, and all untreated wood waste cleared from the site

1 described in the permit application. Combustible debris cleared from other sites may not
2 be burned in the trench burner.

- 3 1. All other materials, including but not limited to paper, roofing, shingles,
4 insulation, wiring, treated wood products, metal products, chemicals,
5 plastics, tires and other real or synthetic rubber materials may not be burned
6 in the pit. Flammable or combustible liquids may not be burned except for
7 ignition purposes.
- 8 2. Suitable fire protection shall be present on the site where the trench burner is
9 located during operation. Suitable fire protection consists of a trailer or tank
10 truck fitted with a water tank capable of transporting a 500 gallon water
11 supply to any location on the job site and an approved water delivery system
12 consisting of a pump, at least 100 feet of rubber booster hose having a
13 minimum diameter of three-fourths inch, and either a straight stream or
14 adjustable spray nozzle.
- 15 3. The pit must be closed and filled with dirt within 48 hours after the trench
16 burner operations are discontinued.
- 17 4. Combustible material may not be placed in the trench any higher than three
18 feet below the surface level.
- 19 5. Every trench burner must be attended when in operation. The trench burner
20 shall be completely extinguished before being left unattended.

21 **308.5.5 Permit Application.** The permit application must contain the following:

- 22 1. The name, address, and phone number of the individual or entity that owns
23 the trench burner unit.
- 24 2. The name, address, and phone number of the individual or entity responsible
25 for the operation of the trench burner unit.
- 26 3. A description of the site to be cleared, and the name, address and telephone
27 number of owner of the property.
- 28 4. An operating schedule including initial date of operation and expected
29 number of weeks of operation.
- 30 5. A copy of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality permit issued
31 for the construction of the unit, if a permit is required.
- 32 6. A statement from the applicant confirming the applicant will inform the
33 Drainage Utility Department, or its successor department, of the dates the
34 trench burner will be operating.

- 1 7. A description of the type and quantity of petroleum product utilized to ignite
2 the trench burner. If this is to be stored at the site, then the manner of storage
3 and quantity to be stored must be described. The method of igniting the
4 trench burner must be described.
- 5 8. Proof that the applicant has current liability insurance in the amount of
6 \$1,000,000 for personal injuries, and \$500,000 for property damage any
7 time the trench burner is in use.
- 8 9. The payment of the permit fee as established by the City Council.
- 9 10. Certification from the Planning and Development Review Department, or its
10 successor department, as required by Article 308.5.6 of this code.
- 11 11. A construction permit from the Texas Natural Resource Conservation
12 Commission must be obtained if required by Commission rule. If the trench
13 burner is exempt from the Commission permit requirements all conditions of
14 the exemption must be complied with.

15 **308.5.6 Environmental Protection.** The Planning and Development Review
16 Department, or its successor department, shall require the following before the issuance
17 of certification:

- 18 1. The bottom of the trench is located at a minimum distance of 50 feet from
19 the water table;
- 20 2. No fissures are located inside or adjacent to the trench;
- 21 3. Ignition fuel shall be limited to combustible liquids, as defined by this code.
22 Approval shall also be granted where an alternative to the use of
23 combustible liquids is used to ignite the trench;
- 24 4. The method of igniting the trench ensures no amount of combustible liquid
25 greater than necessary to ignite the trench will be used; and,
- 26 5. The manner of storage of the product at the site is designed to prevent any
27 leak or accidental discharge, and where applicable, the hazardous materials
28 storage and registration requirements are met.
- 29 6. An environmental review shall be conducted of the watershed of Lake
30 Austin, Lake Travis, or with the aquifer-related watershed of Barton,
31 Williamson, Slaughter, Big Bear, Little Bear and Onion Creek, including the
32 Edwards Aquifer recharge zone North and South of the Colorado River, all
33 as shown on the hazardous materials storage and registration map on file in
34 the offices of the City Clerk.

35 **308.6 Mobile Incinerators.** All mobile incinerators in the City must comply with the
36 following:

1 **308.6.1 Construction.** Each mobile incinerator must be constructed as follows:

- 2 1. Engineered and constructed of material and of a gauge to withstand normal
3 operating temperature of 1200° F or higher without deformation.
- 4 2. Chimneys serving mobile incinerators must terminate into a spark arrester
5 having an area not less than four times the net free area of the chimney.
6 Openings shall not permit the passage of spheres having a diameter larger
7 than ½ inch nor block the passage of spheres having a diameter smaller than
8 3/8 inch.
- 9 3. The exterior wall of the mobile incinerator must be of double wall
10 construction. The incinerator must be designed that the temperature rise
11 above ambient temperature (750° F + 5° F) of any portion of the incinerator
12 accessible to the operator shall not exceed 150° 4. Insulation must be
13 installed or adequate airspace provided between the external casing and the
14 inner wall as required to meet this temperature limitation.
- 15 5. Mobile incinerators must be constructed with a dual combustion chamber of
16 which the secondary chamber must maintain a temperature of 1200° F or
17 higher at all times waste material is being reduced by oxidation caused by
18 heat of combustion.
- 19 6. The secondary chamber must be provided with a thermocouple connected to
20 a temperature display for monitoring the temperature.
- 21 7. Any design not in compliance with the criteria and appropriate nationally
22 recognized standards must have the construction reviewed and submitted as
23 an alternative method under the seal of a registered professional engineer or
24 a recognized testing laboratory.

25 **308.6.2 Location.** No mobile incinerator may be located:

- 26 1. Within 10 feet of any property line, and a minimum of 10 feet must be
27 maintained between any incinerator and rubbish, dry grass, weeds,
28 vegetation and other combustible materials.
- 29 2. Within 300 feet of any recreational area, residence or structure not occupied
30 or used solely by the owner of the mobile incinerator or the owner of the
31 property on which the mobile incinerator is used.

32 **308.6.3 Hours of Operation.** The hours of continuous loading operation shall be
33 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- 34 1. Mobile incinerators may not be operated on Saturday, Sunday or legal
35 holidays. The mobile incinerator may be allowed to operate an additional

1 two hours from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to ensure cool down after its period of
2 continuous loading operations.

- 3 2. The fire chief may change the hours of operation when unusual atmospheric
4 conditions exist.
- 5 3. No burning is permitted during air stagnation advisories in effect in the area
6 in which the mobile incinerator is located.
- 7 4. No burning is permitted during periods of high fire hazard weather
8 conditions.

9 **308.6.4 Method of Operation.** Material to be burned in the mobile incinerator is limited
10 to highly combustible waste, paper, wood, cardboard cartons, including up to 10 percent
11 treated papers or plastic scraps.

- 12 1. Suitable fire protection must be present within a distance of 20 feet at all
13 times of operation. Suitable fire protection consists of an approved water
14 extinguisher having a minimum rating of 10-A, and one dry chemical
15 portable fire extinguisher with at least a 2A-10BC rating.
- 16 2. Material to be incinerated may not be stored within 10 linear feet of any
17 surface of the mobile incinerator's combustion chamber, chimney or hot
18 ashes.
- 19 3. The mobile incinerator must be enclosed by a portable security fence of a
20 minimum of four feet, or other equivalent approved barrier, which
21 completely surrounds the mobile incinerator providing a clear space of five
22 feet at all times when the unit is in operation. The fencing may not be
23 removed until the incinerator is cool to the touch.
- 24 4. The mobile incinerator must not be moving and must be in a fixed position
25 when operational or cooling.
- 26 5. Every mobile incinerator must be attended when in operation. It shall be
27 completely extinguished before being left unattended.

28 **308.6.5 Permit Application.** The permit application must contain the following:

- 29 1. Name, address, and phone number of the individual or entity that owns the
30 mobile incinerator.
- 31 2. Name, address, and phone number of the individual or entity responsible for
32 the operation of the mobile incinerator.
- 33 3. Name, address, and phone number of the owner of the property where the
34 mobile incinerator is to be operated.

- 1 4. Copy of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality permit or
2 exemption letter issued for the use of the unit. (See Chapter 382, Health and
3 Safety Code).
- 4 5. Proof that the applicant has in effect liability insurance in the amount of
5 \$1,000,000 for personal injuries, and \$500,000 for property damage any
6 time the mobile incinerator is in use.
- 7 6. Written permissions of the owner of the property where the mobile
8 incinerator is to be operated.
- 9 7. Certification from the Planning and Development Review Department, or
10 its successor department, as required by Article 308.6.6 of this code.
- 11 8. The payment of the permit fee as established by City Council.

12 **308.6.6 Environmental Protection.** The Planning and Development Review
13 Department, or its successor department, shall require the following before the issuance
14 of certification:

- 15 1. A statement that the applicant will not deposit or discharge any waste in a
16 manner that is in conflict with Section 4-1-76 of the Code of the City of
17 Austin.
- 18 2. A description of the plan for storage and disposal of combustion residue.

19 **308.7 Agricultural Burning.**

20 In addition to the provisions of section 307 of the International Fire, all agricultural
21 burning in the City shall comply with the following:

22 **308.7.1 Location.** The location of any agricultural burning activity shall be limited to
23 property zoned AG consisting of at least 150 contiguous acres. The burn site shall be
24 located at least 50 feet from the nearest property line or agricultural structure and shall be
25 at least 1320 feet from the nearest recreational property (i.e. park), building or structure
26 not owned, and occupied or used solely by the owner of the agricultural property.

27 **308.7.2 Environmental conditions.** The permit holder shall comply with applicable air
28 quality regulations of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
29 including time limits and atmospheric conditions. Burning shall not be permitted during
30 atmospheric inversions or other conditions that limit dispersion of the smoke plume.

31 **308.7.3 Burning bans.** Burning shall not be permitted during any weather related burn
32 bans.

33 **308.7.4 Fuel limitations.** Material to be burned is limited to trees, brush, untreated waste
34 lumber, shrubs, roots, bushes, and all untreated wood waste associated with the
35 agricultural property for which the burn permit is issued. Distilled hydrocarbons

1 including liquid fuels, lubricants, synthetic materials, tires, rubber, and plastics shall not
2 be burned under an agricultural burn permit.

3 **Exception:** A limited quantity of liquid hydrocarbon fuel may be burned for the
4 sole purpose of initial ignition of organic waste materials.

5 **308.7.5 Insurance.** Proof shall be provided at permit application that the applicant has
6 current liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 for personal injuries, and
7 \$500,000 for property damage any time agricultural burning is in progress.

8 **311.5 Placards.** Any vacant or abandoned buildings or structures determined to be unsafe
9 pursuant to Section 110 of this code relating to structural or interior hazards shall be
10 marked as required by the City of Austin Code Compliance Division.

11 **311.6 Placards for hazards related to emergency response.** Any building or structure
12 that is determined to present unique hazards to firefighters during emergency operations
13 shall be protected or marked as required by Section 505.3 of this code.

14 **316.6 Unprotected Construction Presenting Hazards To Firefighters.** Structures,
15 regardless of occupancy, employing construction methods or materials that have been
16 shown by experience or testing to be associated with early failure or failure with little or
17 no warning under fire exposure shall be identified as potentially hazardous to responding
18 firefighters by the premises identification in accordance with Section 505.3.

19 **Exceptions:**

- 20 1. Buildings protected throughout by automatic fire sprinklers in accordance
21 with Sections 903.3.1.1, 903.3.1.2 or 903.3.1.3.
- 22 2. Buildings with a noncombustible or limited combustible membrane that
23 shields the floor or roof construction materials from fire exposure. Such
24 membranes may be constructed using gypsum wallboard of at least ½”
25 nominal thickness, cementous fiberboard of at least ¼” nominal thickness, or
26 fire retardant treated wood (FRTW) of at least ½” nominal thickness.

27 **316.6.1 Unprotected Construction Presenting Hazards To Firefighters in Existing**
28 **Buildings.** When existing buildings, including residential structures, are identified as
29 employing construction methods or materials that have been shown by experience or
30 testing to be associated with early failure or failure with little or no warning under fire
31 exposure, the premises identification markings shall be revised to achieve compliance
32 with section 505.3

33 **Exceptions:** 1. Buildings protected throughout by automatic fire sprinklers in accordance
34 with 903.3.1.1, 903.3.1.2 or 903.3.1.3.

35 2. Buildings with a noncombustible or limited combustible membrane that shields the
36 floor or roof construction materials from fire exposure. Such membranes may be

1 constructed using gypsum wallboard of at least ½” nominal thickness, cementous
2 fiberboard of at least ¼” nominal thickness, or fire retardant treated wood (FRTW) of at
3 least ½” nominal thickness.

4 **401.3 Emergency responder notification.** Notification of emergency responders shall
5 be in accordance with Sections 401.3.1 through 401.3.3.

6 **401.3.1 Emergency Fire events.** Except as provided in Section 401.3.4, in the event an
7 unwanted fire occurs on, or upon the discovery of a fire, explosion, deflagration, smoke
8 or unauthorized release of flammable, toxic, or hazardous materials any property, the
9 owner or occupant shall immediately report such condition to the fire department.
10 Building employees and tenants shall implement the appropriate emergency plans and
11 procedures.

12 **401.3.2 Alarm activations.** Upon activation of a fire alarm signal, employees or staff
13 shall immediately notify the fire department.

14 **401.3.3 Delayed notification.** A person shall not, by verbal or written directive, require
15 any delay in the reporting of a fire or unauthorized chemical release to the fire
16 department.

17 **401.3.4 Emergency Response Teams and Fire Brigades.** Facilities complying with
18 Section ~~2703~~5003.9.1 by maintaining on-site emergency response teams (ERT) or
19 industrial fire brigades that comply with the requirements of Occupational Safety and
20 Health Administration (OSHA) regulations in 29 CFR 1910.120 or 29 CFR 1910 Subpart
21 L may, on completion of an audit (audits may be performed during annual inspections by
22 the Fire Department) of compliance by the fire chief and contingent on continued
23 ERT/fire brigade compliance, develop site-specific procedures for determining reporting
24 requirements based on facility staffing and qualifications.

25 **401.3.4.1** Guidance is published in the Fire Protection Criteria Manual to help assure
26 equitable assessment of site procedures. The procedures must be submitted to the fire
27 chief for review and approval. Maintenance of the ERT or fire brigade shall be verified
28 by a periodic audit during inspections by the Fire Department. This provision does not
29 waive a facility's or organization's reporting obligations under State or Federal
30 regulations.

31 **401.3.4.2** Failure to maintain and provide records of internal responses will result in
32 revocation of the facility's procedural approach to reporting.

33 **403.4 Ticket Sales.** Advanced ticket sales shall not exceed 110% of the maximum
34 occupant load.

35 **408.12 High-Rise Buildings.** All buildings that have occupied floors located more
36 than 75' (22 860 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access shall
37 have at least 1 Automated External Defibrillator (AED) located on each occupied level.

1 **Exception:** The provisions of this section shall not apply to the following
2 buildings and structures:

- 3 1. Airport traffic control towers in accordance with Section 412 of the 2003
4 International Building Code.
- 5 2. Open parking garages in accordance with Section 406.3 of the 2003
6 International Building Code.
- 7 3. Buildings with an occupancy in Group A-5 in accordance with Section
8 303.1 of the 2003 International Building Code.
- 9 4. Low-hazard special industrial occupancies in accordance with Section
10 503.1.2 of the 2003 International Building Code.
- 11 5. Buildings with an occupancy in Group H-1, H-2 or H-3 in accordance
12 with Section 415 of the 2003 International Building Code.

13 **408.12.1 Type.** All AEDs used in high-rise buildings must be of the type approved by
14 the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

15 **408.12.2 Accessibility.** All AEDs must be available for public use.

- 16 1. All AEDs shall be located in the elevator lobby unless otherwise approved
17 by the fire chief.
- 18 2. Standard industry accepted signs shall mark the location of each AED.

19 **408.12.3 Maintenance.** All AEDs shall be maintained and tested according to
20 manufacturer recommendations.

- 21 1. Maintenance records shall be kept for a period of 1 year.
- 22 2. Disposable supplies (Defibrillation pads) shall be replaced upon their
23 expiration date or following use.

24 **408.12.4 Medical Direction.** A licensed physician shall be involved to ensure
25 compliance with the requirements of the Health and Safety Code, chapter 799,
26 Automated External Defibrillators.

27 **408.12.5 Training.** The person or entity that acquires an AED shall ensure that users
28 are trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and use of the automated external
29 defibrillator (AED) in a course approved by the Texas Department of State Health
30 Services

31 **408.12.6 Notifying Emergency Medical Services Providers.** Upon acquisition of an
32 AED, the person or entity shall notify the Fire Department AED Coordinator of the
33 existence, location and type of AED.

1 **502.2 Supplemental Definitions.** The following definitions are defined in section
2 202.1.1 as amended and apply throughout this code and amend or supplement the
3 definitions in the 20092012 International Fire Code as published

4 ~~The following definitions apply throughout this code.~~

5 ~~**ACCESS ROADWAY** is any road(s) providing access around the perimeter of any~~
6 ~~building, to a building from a public street, or to a building or its fire department~~
7 ~~connection from a required fire hydrant.~~

8 ~~**ALL WEATHER DRIVING SURFACE:** Hot mix asphaltic concrete or concrete~~
9 ~~pavement as per City of Austin Standard Specifications or other alternative roadway~~
10 ~~methods approved by the fire chief.~~

11 ~~**FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROAD.** A road that provides fire apparatus access from~~
12 ~~a fire station to a facility, building or portion thereof. This is a general term inclusive of~~
13 ~~all other terms such as fire lane, fire zone, public street, private street, parking lot lane~~
14 ~~and access roadway.~~

15 ~~**FIRE COMMAND CENTER.** The principal attended or unattended location where the~~
16 ~~status of the detection, alarm communications and control systems is displayed, and from~~
17 ~~which the system(s) can be manually controlled.~~

18 ~~**FIRE DEPARTMENT MASTER KEY.** A limited issue key of special or controlled~~
19 ~~design to be carried by fire department officials in command which will open key boxes~~
20 ~~on specified properties.~~

21 ~~**FIRE LANE AND FIRE ZONE.** A road, an off street area, or other passageway~~
22 ~~developed to allow the passage of fire apparatus that is designated in accordance with this~~
23 ~~code that is to remain free and clear of parked or standing vehicles in order to provide~~
24 ~~access to buildings, processes, storage areas or fire appliances in case of fire or other~~
25 ~~emergency. A fire lane is not necessarily intended to be used by vehicular traffic other~~
26 ~~than fire apparatus.~~

27 ~~**KEY BOX AND KNOX BOX.** A secure device with a lock operable only by a fire~~
28 ~~department master key, and containing building entry keys and other keys that may be~~
29 ~~required for access in an emergency.~~

30 **503.1 Where required.** Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided and maintained in
31 accordance with Sections 503.1.1 through 503.9.

32 **503.1.4 Approval of Fire Zones on Site Plans.** The Director of the Planning and
33 Development Review Department, or its successor department, shall submit plat plans of
34 proposed commercial developments to the fire chief for his review and approval of the
35 adequacy of fire zones before the issuance of a building permit for the development.

1 **503.2.1 Dimensions.** Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not
2 less than 25 feet (7620 mm), except for approved security gates in accordance with
3 Section 503.6 and the Fire Protection Criteria Manual, and an unobstructed vertical
4 clearance of not less than 14 feet (4267 mm).

5 **Exceptions:**

- 6 1. The unobstructed roadway width may be reduced to less than 25 feet for all or
7 part of the required roadway so long as the access road complies with the
8 appropriate minimum street width for dedicated City streets, and
- 9 a. Such fire access roadways, or portions of such roadways, which are
10 less than 25 feet wide are not in locations where aerial apparatus
11 deployment could be necessary to achieve control and/or
12 extinguishment of a fire, and
 - 13 b. Turning radii are adequate for maneuvering fire department and other
14 emergency services vehicles.
- 15 2. The unobstructed roadway width may be reduced to less than 25 feet for all or
16 part of the required roadway so long as the access road complies with the
17 appropriate minimum street width for dedicated City streets and
- 18 a. The access roadway is part of a system of roadways or driveways that
19 include interconnected public and/or private roads or driveways that
20 provide multiple pathways for emergency vehicles to access the
21 structures served by the roadway system, provided that a fire vehicle
22 blocking the roadway within the narrowed length will not create a
23 dead-end road segment in excess of 150 feet long.
 - 24 b. The width of each segment is sufficiently wide to accommodate the
25 deployment of emergency vehicles anticipated for that segment during
26 a potential emergency (e.g. outrigger placement and aerial operations
27 for fires in multi-story structures), and turning radii are adequate for
28 maneuvering fire department and other emergency services vehicles.
 - 29 c. Divided roadways serving as fire lanes are allowed to consist of two
30 (2) lanes each 15 feet wide, one on each side of the division in
31 locations where aerial operations are not anticipated.

32 **503.2.2 Authority.** The fire ~~code official~~ chief shall have the authority to require an
33 increase in the minimum access widths where they are inadequate for fire or rescue
34 operations or to permit a decrease in width when necessary to meet the public safety
35 objectives of the City of Austin provided the street or access roadway remains compliant
36 with 503.2.1.
37

1 **503.2.4 Turning radius.** The required inside turning radius of a fire apparatus access
2 road shall be 25 feet (7.62 m). The required outside turning radius of a fire apparatus
3 access road shall be 50 feet (15.24 m).

4 **503.3 Designation, Location, and Maintenance of Fire Zones Official Records.** All
5 fire apparatus access roads required by Sections 503.1.1 and 2306.6, and that are out of
6 the public right-of-way, are designated as fire zones or fire lanes, to maintain the required
7 unobstructed clearance in accordance with Section 503.2.1 as amended.

8 **Exception:** Fire apparatus access roads between aisles of parking or under porte
9 cocheres, not providing direct access to fire appliances, need not be designated as
10 fire zones.

11 **503.3.1** All fire zones and fire lanes shall be designated as tow away zones. The
12 designation of the fire zones or fire lanes does not make the City responsible for the
13 maintenance of the fire zones or fire lanes on private property, but the owner of the
14 property continues to be responsible for the maintenance of the area. The Fire
15 Department shall keep a record of the designation and location of fire zones and fire
16 lanes.

17 **503.3.2 Signs and Identification Markers Designating Fire Zones/Fire Lanes.** After
18 designation of a fire zone or fire lane under this article, the fire chief shall give notice of
19 the designation to the owner of the property, directing the owner to cause, at the expense
20 of the owner, markings to be painted on any areas designated as a fire zone or fire lane.
21 The markings must be red with white stenciling ~~or white with red stenciling~~ reading
22 "FIRE ZONE/TOW AWAY ZONE" or "FIRE LANE/TOW AWAY ZONE" in lettering
23 at least three inches in height. The stenciling shall be at intervals of 35 feet or less. In
24 addition, the owner shall cause signs to be posted at both ends of a fire zone or fire lane
25 and at each entry and exit point which constitutes a portion of the fire zone or fire lane.
26 Alternative marking of fire zones and fire lanes may be approved by the fire chief
27 provided fire zones or fire lanes are clearly identified at both ends and at intervals not to
28 exceed 35 feet and are clearly marked "Tow Away Zones" at least every 35 feet. The
29 signs shall be installed with the top of the sign no higher than eight feet above grade and
30 no less than five feet above grade.

31 **503.7 Persons authorized to Issue Citations.**

32 A citation for a charge of parking, standing, or stopping in a fire zone or fire lane in
33 violation of this article may be issued by a licensed peace officer employed by the City of
34 Austin, an employee of the Fire Department designated by the Fire Chief, an employee of
35 the City authorized to issue tickets for parking violations by the City Code, the property
36 owner or the owners authorized representative, or a private security guard employed by
37 an agency operating under either a license or a letter of authority issued by the Texas
38 Board of Private Investigators and Private Security Agencies, and who is employed by
39 the owner or lessee of the property on which a fire zone has been established.

1 **503.4.1. Traffic calming devices.** The fire department and the city traffic engineer shall
2 work collaboratively to plan, design, and install geometric street features intended to
3 mitigate unsafe traffic conditions such as speeding or excessive cut-through traffic.
4 Approved street features shall mitigate the traffic conditions identified by the city traffic
5 engineer while providing for adequate emergency vehicle access. ~~Traffic calming~~
6 ~~devices shall be prohibited unless approved by the fire code official.~~

7 **505.3 Premise Hazard Identification Signs.** Structures that the fire chief deems to have
8 the potential to present an unusual level of hazard to firefighters during fire ground
9 operations shall be identified such that it is readily identifiable to responding fire
10 department personnel. Such structures may or may not present obvious dangers to the
11 occupants of the building when no fire is present. Potentially hazardous structures may
12 be identified as prescribed by this code, by the building code, or by fire department safety
13 policies and procedures.

14 **505.3.1 Hazardous Address Numbering.** Structures that are required to be readily
15 identifiable by responding fire department personnel shall have unique address
16 numbering signs. The signs shall be installed on all sides of the building facing
17 emergency vehicle access established in accordance with section 503 or facing an
18 approach directly from public rights-of-way. Signs will consist of the address numbers of
19 the building in 4-inch tall white numbers on a solid red background. The address numbers
20 will be oriented vertically. The signage will be reflective to be visible at night, weather
21 resistant and permanent.

22 **507.3 Fire flow.** Fire flow requirements for buildings or portions of buildings and
23 facilities shall be determine in accordance with IFC Appendix B as amended.

24 **507.4 Water supply test.** The fire department, emergency prevention division shall be
25 notified prior to the water supply test. Water supply tests shall be conducted by or
26 witnessed by the fire department emergency prevention division.

27 **507.5.1 Where required.** Where a portion of the facility or building hereafter
28 constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction is more than 400 feet (122 m) from
29 the nearest hydrant on a fire apparatus access road or more than 500 feet (152 m) from
30 secondary hydrants needed to supply the minimum fire flow, as measured by an approved
31 route around the exterior of the facility or building, on-site fire hydrants and mains shall
32 be provided where required by the fire code official.

33 **Exceptions:**

- 34 1. For Group R-3 and Group U occupancies, the distance requirement shall be
35 600 feet (183 m).
- 36 2. For buildings equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler
37 system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2, the
38 distance requirement for all required fire hydrants shall be 500 feet (152 m).

1 **507.5.3 Private fire service mains and water tanks.** Private fire service mains,
2 including private fire hydrants, and water tanks shall be periodically inspected, tested and
3 maintained in accordance with NFPA 25 and American Water Works Association
4 (AWWA) Manual M-17, Installation, Field Testing and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants at
5 the following intervals:

- 6 1. Private fire hydrants (all types): Inspection annually and after each
7 operation; flow test and maintenance annually to ensure proper functioning
8 in accordance with the following:
 - 9 a. Private fire hydrants shall be flushed annually. Chlorine residual tests
10 will be performed on all private hydrant systems not separated from
11 potable water uses by an approved back-flow prevention device. The
12 unseparated hydrants shall be flushed until the free chlorine residual
13 meets or exceeds the 0.2 mg/l minimum established by the Texas
14 Commission on Environmental Quality in section 290.46(f)(1) of the
15 Rules and regulations for Public Water Systems. Chlorine residual
16 shall be determined using the N,N-diethyl-p-phenylenediamine (DPD)
17 method.
 - 18 b. Static testing shall be performed in accordance with AWWA Manual
19 M-17, Installation, Field Testing and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants,
20 chapter 4.
 - 21 c. Flow tests shall be conducted in accordance with Manual M-17,
22 Installation, Field Testing and Maintenance of Fire Hydrants, Chapter
23 6.
- 24 2. Fire service main piping: Inspection of exposed, annually; flow test every 5
25 years.
- 26 3. Fire service main piping strainers: Inspection and maintenance after each
27 use.

28 **507.5.7 Fire-protection equipment and fire hydrants.** Fire-protection equipment and
29 fire hydrants shall be clearly identified in an approved manner to prevent obstruction by
30 parking and other obstructions.

31 All fire hydrants shall be painted in accordance with City of Austin Standard
32 Specifications. With the approval of the fire chief, private hydrants may be painted an
33 alternate reflective color; multi-colored hydrants are prohibited. When required by the
34 chief, hydrant locations shall be identified by the installation of reflective markers.

35 **507.6 Protection of potable water systems required.** Fire hydrants and the supply
36 piping to them which contain chemicals or additives shall be separated from sources of
37 potable water by a reduced pressure backflow assembly installed at the connection to the

1 potable water system. Backflow assemblies shall be operationally tested and maintained
2 in accordance with Chapter 18-5 of the City Code.

3 Private fire hydrants located more than one hundred (100) feet from a flowing water
4 service shall have backflow prevention protection as required by Chapter 18-5 of the City
5 Code.

6 Private fire hydrant systems not maintained, flushed and tested for chlorine residual in
7 accordance with Section 903.4.1.2 shall be provided with backflow prevention protection
8 in accordance with Chapter 18-5 of the City Code.

9 **507.6.1 Special inspections.** The City of Austin Water & Wastewater Department shall
10 inspect private property to identify each existing private fire hydrant connected to the
11 City's potable water distribution system. The owner of the property or the water service
12 customer shall bear the costs and the responsibility to provide a flushing and maintenance
13 program in accordance with Section 508.5.3 or to provide backflow prevention protection
14 in accordance with Chapter 18-5 of the City Code.

15 Further modifications shall be made by, and at the expense of, the property owner or
16 water service customer as necessary to correct any water supply deficiencies (flow or
17 pressure) resulting from the installation of required backflow prevention protection
18 assemblies.

19 **510.1 Emergency responder radio coverage in buildings.** All buildings shall have
20 approved radio coverage for emergency responders within the building based upon the
21 existing coverage levels of the public safety communications system of the jurisdiction at
22 the exterior of the building. This section shall not require improvement of the existing
23 public safety communication system.

24 **Exceptions:**

- 25 1. Where approved by the building official and the fire chief, a wired
26 communication system in accordance with Section 907.2.13.2 shall be
27 permitted to be installed or maintained in lieu of an approved radio coverage
28 system in buildings where a floor for human occupancy is **not** located more
29 than 75 feet (22 860 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle
30 access.
- 31 2. Where it is determined by the fire code official that the radio coverage
32 system is not needed.

33 **510.1.1 Time Frame for New Building Installations.** The adequacy of radio coverage
34 for buildings permitted after adoption of this code shall be determined following
35 completion of construction and issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy. If supplemental
36 equipment such as bi-directional amplifiers are necessary to assure radio coverage, the

1 design and installation of the supplementary radio transmission equipment shall be
2 completed within two (2) years of original occupancy.

3 **510.1.2 Time Frame for Existing Buildings.** If it is discovered that radio coverage is
4 not adequate within buildings permitted prior to the adoption of this code the design and
5 installation of necessary supplementary radio transmission equipment shall be completed
6 within three (3) years of the discovery of the deficiency. (moved to chapter 11)

7 **602.2 Supplemental definition.** The following terms are is defined in Chapter 2-section
8 202 as amended and applies throughout this code. This amended definition supplements
9 the remaining definitions identified in Chapter 6 and replaces the definition for this term
10 in the 2012 International Fire Code as published.

11 ~~The following definition applies throughout this code and replaces the definition for this~~
12 ~~term in the Section 602.1 (Definitions) of the 2009 International Fire Code as published.~~

13 ~~[M] COMMERCIAL COOKING APPLIANCES. Appliances used in a commercial~~
14 ~~food service establishment for heating or cooking food and which produce grease vapors,~~
15 ~~steam, fumes, smoke or odors that are required to be removed through a local exhaust~~
16 ~~ventilation system. Such appliances include deep fat fryers; upright broilers; griddles;~~
17 ~~broilers; steam jacketed kettles; hot top ranges; under fired broilers (charbroilers); ovens;~~
18 ~~barbecues; rotisseries; and similar appliances. For the purpose of this definition, a food~~
19 ~~service establishment shall include any building or a portion thereof used for the~~
20 ~~preparation and serving of food for more than 6 hours per week, including food services~~
21 ~~within a residential board and care facility if the facility serves 12 or more residents.~~

22 **603.3.2 Fuel oil storage inside buildings.** Fuel oil storage inside buildings shall comply
23 with Sections 603.3.2.1 through 603.3.2.4 and Chapter ~~3457~~.

24 **603.3.2.1 Quantity limits.** Except as modified by this section, the maximum allowable
25 quantity for fuel oils shall be 120 gallons (240 gallons in buildings with fire sprinkler
26 protection) of Class II or 330 gallons (660 gallons in buildings with fire sprinkler
27 protection) of Class III liquids. One or more fuel storage tanks containing Class II or III
28 combustible liquids shall be permitted in a building. When Class II fuel oil tanks are
29 located in a room protected with a 1-hr fire barrier wall and the building is protected by
30 an automatic sprinkler system, the aggregate capacity of all fuel oil tanks shall not exceed
31 660 gallons (2498 L).

32 **Exception:** The aggregate capacity limit shall be permitted to be increased to
33 3,000 gallons (11 356 L) of Class II or III liquid for storage in protected
34 aboveground tanks complying with Section 3404.2.9.6, when the following
35 conditions are met:

- 36 1. The entire 3,000 gallon (11 356 L) quantity shall be stored in protected
37 above-ground tanks;

2. The 3,000 gallon (11 356 L) capacity shall be permitted to be stored in a single tank or multiple smaller tanks;
3. The tanks shall be located in a building protected by an automatic sprinkler system complying with 903.3.1.1; and
4. The room containing the tank or tanks is built as a Group H Occupancy except that ventilation in accordance with ~~2704~~5004.3 will not be required.

603.3.2.2 Restricted use and connection. Tanks installed in accordance with Section 603.3.2 shall be used only to supply fuel to fuel-burning or generator equipment installed in accordance with Section 603.3.2.3. Connections between tanks and equipment supplied by such tanks shall be made using closed piping systems.

603.3.2.3 Installation. Tanks and piping systems shall be installed and separated from other uses in accordance with Section 915 and Chapter 13 both of the International Mechanical Code, as applicable.

603.3.2.4 Tanks in basements. Tanks in basements shall be located not more than one story below the grade plane.

901.5 Installation acceptance testing. Fire detection and alarm systems, fire-extinguishing systems, fire hydrant systems, fire standpipe systems, fire pump systems, private fire service mains and all other fire protection systems and appurtenances thereto shall be subject to acceptance tests as contained in the installation standards and as approved by the fire department. The fire department emergency prevention division shall be notified before any required acceptance testing.

The conditions of approval of all Halon automatic fire-extinguishing systems shall include (i) a demonstration of need acceptable to the fire chief detailing a critical need for the system such as a direct effect on life safety that can not be adequately addressed by other types of suppression systems, and (ii) an approved method of testing that does not include the intentional release of Halon gas.

903.2.6. Group I. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout buildings with a Group I fire area.

Exceptions:

1. An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2 shall be permitted in Group I-1 facilities.

2. Where a building being constructed will be within the scope of 903.3.1.3, An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 shall be allowed in Group I-1 facilities when in compliance with all of the following:

2.1. A hydraulic design information sign is located on the system riser;

1 2.2. Exception 1 of Section 903.4 is not applied; and

2 2.3. Systems shall be maintained in accordance with the requirements of Section
3 903.3.1.2.

4 3. An automatic sprinkler system is not required where day care facilities are at
5 the level of exit discharge and where every room where care is provided has at
6 least one exterior exit door.

7 4. In buildings where Group I-4 day care is provided on levels other than the
8 level of exit discharge, an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section
9 903.3.1.1 shall be installed on the entire floor where care is provided and all floors
10 between the level of care and the level of exit discharge, all floors below the level
11 of exit discharge, other than areas classified as an open parking garage.

12 **Exception:** An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2
13 shall be allowed in Group I-1 facilities.

14 ~~903.2.7 Group M. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout buildings~~
15 ~~containing a Group M occupancy where one of the following conditions exists:~~

16 ~~1. Where a Group M fire area exceeds 12,000 square feet (1115 m²);~~

17 ~~2. Where a Group M fire area is located more than three stories above grade~~
18 ~~plane; or~~

19 ~~3. Where the combined area of all Group M fire areas on all floors, including~~
20 ~~any mezzanines, exceeds 24,000 square feet (2230 m²).~~

21 **903.3.1.2.1 Balconies and decks.** Sprinkler protection shall be provided for exterior
22 balconies, decks and ground floor patios of dwelling units where the building is of Type
23 V construction, or of Type III construction if the balcony or deck is framed with wood,
24 provided there is a roof or deck above. Sidewall sprinklers that are used to protect such
25 areas shall be permitted to be located such that their deflectors are within 1 inch (25 mm)
26 to 6 inches (152 mm) below the structural members and a maximum distance of 14
27 inches (356 mm) below the deck of the exterior balconies and decks that are constructed
28 of open wood joist construction.

29 **903.3.1.2.2 Balcony closets.** Sprinkler protection shall be provided for all balcony
30 closets.

31 **903.3.1.3 NFPA 13D sprinkler systems.** Automatic sprinkler systems installed in one
32 and two-family dwellings, Group R-3 and R-4 congregate living facilities with 16 or
33 fewer residents and townhouses shall be permitted to be installed throughout in
34 accordance with NFPA 13D.

35 **903.3.5.2** Water supplies designed for automatic sprinkler systems shall provide a safety
36 factor of ten (10) pounds per square inch gauge (PSIG) or ten (10) percent of the

1 minimum required residual pressure, whichever is greater. The safety factor shall be
2 based on the calculated system design flow and pressure.

3 **Exception:** A safety factor less than those defined in this Section may be approved
4 by the fire chief only if historical water supply data is available to demonstrate that
5 reasonable expected fluctuations will not cause the water supply to fall below the
6 system demand.

7 **903.3.5.3 Hose Stream Demand.** The minimum calculated hose stream demand for Type
8 V-B and Type V-A construction, as defined in the Building Code, shall be a minimum of
9 250 Gallons Per Minute (GPM).

10 **903.3.6 Hose threads.** Fire hose threads and fittings used in connection with automatic
11 sprinkler systems shall be approved and shall be National Standard Hose Thread..

12 **903.3.8 Sprinkler System Flex Piping.** Flex piping used in automatic sprinkler systems
13 shall be limited in length to a maximum of 6 feet. The extinguishing agent shall pass
14 through a maximum of one 6 foot section before discharging from the sprinkler orifice
15 (head). Approval of shop drawing submittals shall be required for all uses of flex
16 sprinkler piping and where more than one (1) flex piping sprinkler drop is used in a
17 remodel application the adequacy of the water supply shall be verified by hydraulic
18 calculations.

19 **904.9 Halon systems.** Halogenated extinguishing systems shall be installed, maintained,
20 and periodically inspected and tested in accordance with NFPA 12A and their listing.
21 The conditions of approval of all Halon automatic fire-extinguishing systems shall
22 include (i) a demonstration of need acceptable to the fire chief detailing a critical need for
23 the system such as a direct effect on life safety that can not be adequately addressed by
24 other types of suppression systems, and (ii) an approved method of testing that does not
25 include the intentional release of Halon gas.

26 **904.11 Commercial cooking systems.** The automatic fire-extinguishing system for
27 commercial cooking systems shall be of a type recognized for protection of commercial
28 cooking equipment and exhaust systems of the type and arrangement protected. Each pre-
29 engineered automatic dry- and wet-chemical extinguishing system shall be tested in
30 accordance with UL 300 and listed and labeled for its intended application. Other types
31 of extinguishing systems shall be listed and labeled for specific use as protection for
32 commercial cooking operations. The system shall be installed in accordance with this
33 code, its listing and the manufacturer's installation instructions. Automatic fire
34 suppression systems of the following types shall be installed in accordance with the
35 referenced standard indicated, as follows:

- 36 1. Carbon-dioxide extinguishing systems, NFPA 12.
- 37 2. Automatic sprinkler system, NFPA 13.

- 1 3. Foam-water sprinkler system or foam-water spray systems, NFPA 16.
- 2 4. Dry-chemical extinguishing systems, NFPA 17.
- 3 5. Wet-chemical extinguishing systems, NFPA 17A.

4 **Exception 1:** Factory-built commercial cooking recirculating systems that are
5 tested in accordance with UL 710B, and listed and installed in accordance with
6 Section 304.1 of the International Mechanical Code.

7 **Exception 2:** With the concurrence of the Building Official, commercial cooking
8 equipment used intermittently for periods which total less than 6 hours per week
9 may be served by a Type II ventilation hood without fixed fire suppression. A
10 portable fire extinguisher rated for commercial cooking applications shall be
11 provided.

12 **905.1 General.** Standpipe systems shall be provided in new buildings and structures in
13 accordance with this section. Fire hose threads used in connection with new fire
14 standpipe systems shall be approved and shall be National Standard Hose Thread. Except
15 as otherwise approved by the fire chief, existing standpipe fire hose threads shall be
16 national standard hose thread. The location of fire department hose connections shall be
17 approved. In buildings used for high-piled combustible storage, fire protection shall be in
18 accordance with Chapter ~~2332~~.

19 **905.1.1 Hose.** With the concurrence of the Building Official, hoses need not be installed
20 or maintained on standpipes of any class when the occupancy does not provide training in
21 the use of standpipe hose and the employees, residents, or other regular occupants of the
22 occupancy are trained/instructed to evacuate and evacuation drills are conducted at
23 intervals agreed on by the owner/agent and the Fire Department

24 **905.3.1 Building height.** Class III standpipe systems shall be installed throughout
25 buildings where the floor level of the highest story is located more than 30 feet (9144
26 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, or where the floor level of
27 the lowest story is located more than 30 feet (9144mm) below the highest level of fire
28 department vehicle access.

29 **Exceptions:**

- 30 1. Class I standpipes are allowed in buildings equipped throughout with an
31 automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or
32 903.3.1.2.
- 33 2. Class I manual standpipes are allowed in open parking garages where the
34 highest floor is located not more than 150 feet (45 720 mm) above the
35 lowest level of fire department vehicle access.

1 3. Class I manual dry standpipes are allowed in open parking garages that are
2 subject to freezing temperatures, provided that additional hose connections
3 are located as required for Class II standpipes in accordance with Section
4 905.5.

5 4. Class I standpipes are allowed in basements equipped throughout with an
6 automatic sprinkler system.

7 5. In determining the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, it shall not
8 be required to consider:

9 5.1. Recessed loading docks for four vehicles or less, and

10 5.2. Conditions where topography makes access from the fire department
11 vehicle to the building impractical or impossible.

12 **905.3.4.1 Hose and cabinet.** If hose is installed, the 1½-inch (38 mm) hose connections
13 shall be equipped with sufficient lengths of 1½-inch (38 mm) hose to provide fire
14 protection for the stage area. Hose connections shall be equipped with an approved
15 adjustable fog nozzle and be mounted in a cabinet or on a rack.

16 **905.4 Location of Class I standpipe hose connections.** Class I standpipe hose
17 connections shall be provided in all of the following locations:

18 1. In every required stairway, a hose connection shall be provided for each floor level
19 above or below grade. Hose connections shall be located at an intermediate floor level
20 landing between floors, unless otherwise approved by the fire code official.

21 2. On each side of the wall adjacent to the exit opening of a horizontal exit.

22 **Exception:** Where floor areas adjacent to a horizontal exit are reachable from exit
23 stairway hose connections by a 30-foot (9144 mm) hose stream from a nozzle attached to
24 100 feet (30 480 mm) of hose, a hose connection shall not be required at the horizontal
25 exit.

26 3. In every exit passageway, at the entrance from the exit passageway to other areas
27 of a building.

28 **Exception:** Where floor areas adjacent to an exit passageway are reachable from exit
29 stairway hose connections by a 30-foot (9144 mm) hose stream from a nozzle attached to
30 100 feet (30 480 mm) of hose, a hose connection shall not be required at the entrance
31 from the exit passageway to other areas of the building.

32 4. In covered mall buildings, adjacent to each exterior public entrance to the mall and
33 adjacent to each entrance from an exit passageway or exit corridor to the mall. In open
34 mall buildings, adjacent to each public entrance to the mall at the perimeter line and
35 adjacent to each entrance from an exit passageway or exit corridor to the mall.

1 5. Where the roof has a slope less than four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33.3-
2 percent slope), a hose connection shall be located to serve the roof or at the highest
3 landing of a stairway with stair access to the roof provided in accordance with Section
4 1009.16. An additional hose connection shall be provided at the top of the most
5 hydraulically remote standpipe for testing purposes.

6 6. Where the most remote portion of a nonsprinklered floor or story is more than 150
7 feet (45 720 mm) from a hose connection or the most remote portion of a sprinklered
8 floor or story is more than 200 feet (60 960 mm) from a hose connection, the fire code
9 official is authorized to require that additional hose connections be provided in approved
10 locations.

11 **905.5.3 Class II system hose.** If installed, the minimum diameter for standpipe hose
12 shall be 1½-inch (38 mm) and such hose shall be listed for this service.

13 **906.1 Where required.** Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in the following
14 locations. Before the installation of Halon fire extinguishers in new occupancies or
15 processes, the applicant must submit a demonstration of need acceptable to the chief
16 detailing a critical need for this type of extinguisher such as a direct effect on life safety
17 that cannot be adequately addressed by other types of extinguishing agents.

- 18 1. In all Group A, B, E, F, H, I, M, R-1, R-2, R-4 and S occupancies.

19 **Exception:** In all Group E occupancies equipped throughout with quick- response
20 sprinklers, portable fire extinguishers shall be required only in locations specified
21 in Items 2 through 6.

- 22 2. Within 30 feet (9144 mm) of commercial cooking equipment.
- 23 3. In areas where flammable or combustible liquids are stored, used or
24 dispensed.
- 25 4. On each floor of structures under construction, except Group R-3
26 occupancies, in accordance with Section 1415.1.
- 27 5. Where required by the sections indicated in Table 906.1.
- 28 6. Special-hazard areas, including but not limited to laboratories, computer
29 rooms and generator rooms, where required by the fire chief.

30 **907.2 Where required—new buildings and structures.** An approved manual,
31 automatic or manual and automatic fire alarm system installed in accordance with the
32 provisions of this code and NFPA 72 shall be provided in new buildings and structures in
33 accordance with Sections 907.2.1 through 907.2.23 and provide occupant notification in
34 accordance with Section 907.6, unless other requirements are provided by another section
35 of this code. The fire alarm control panel or a full function remote annunciator shall be
36 installed at the main entrance for use by fire department personnel.

1 A minimum of one manual fire alarm box shall be provided in an approved location to
2 initiate a fire alarm signal for fire alarm systems employing automatic fire detectors or
3 water-flow detection devices. The automatic fire detectors shall be smoke detectors.
4 Where other sections of this code allow elimination of fire alarm boxes due to sprinklers,
5 a single fire alarm box shall be installed. The manual fire alarm box is required to provide
6 a means for fire watch personnel to initiate an alarm during a sprinkler system
7 impairment event. The manual fire alarm box may be located in an area that is accessible
8 to the public.

9
10 **Exceptions:**

- 11 1. The manual fire alarm box is not required for fire alarm systems dedicated to
12 elevator recall control and supervisory service.
- 13 2. Automatic heat detection required by this section shall not be required if
14 automatic sprinkler protection installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1
15 or 903.3.1.2 is provided and connected to the building fire alarm system.
- 16 3. Where ambient conditions prohibit installation of automatic smoke
17 detection, other automatic fire detection shall be allowed.

18 | **907.2.1.2-3 Electrical Shunt for Amplified Sound Conditions.** For venues with
19 amplified music or sound systems, in Group A occupancies having an occupant load of
20 300 or more, electrical shunts shall be provided to de-energize the music or sound
21 systems upon alarm activation as necessary to demonstrate compliance with the audibility
22 requirements of NFPA 72.

23 **907.2.3.1. Common Areas Within Day Care and Child Care Facility Occupancies.**
24 **These occupancies shall be provided a fire alarm system per IFC Amendment Section**
25 **907.2.6.4, in addition to the requirements of 907.2.3.**

26 **907.2.6.4 Common Areas Within Day Care Occupancies.** Day care occupancies shall
27 be protected by a fire alarm system which monitors smoke detectors installed in
28 accordance with this section, the listing of the detectors and NFPA 72. Detectors must be
29 placed on each story in front of doors to the stairways and at no greater spacing than the
30 detector's listed spacing in the corridors of all floors containing the day care facility.
31 Detectors must also be installed in lounges, recreation areas and sleeping rooms in the
32 day care occupancy and as required by the Building Code. Alarms shall be visible and
33 audible throughout the day care facility.

34 **Exceptions:**

- 35 1. Day cares housed within a single room.

- 1 2. A Group E day care housed within and serving the students of an E
2 occupancy, such as an after school program, summer program, or similar
3 function, are permitted to comply with the alarm and detection requirements
4 of section 907.2.3.
- 5 3. Day cares serving less than 12 children when operated within the single
6 family residence of the day care operator, provided that the dwelling is
7 protected with interconnected hard wired smoke alarms located as required
8 by this section and powered as required for a new home in accordance with
9 the International Residential Code and NFPA 72. When such residential day
10 cares serve hearing impaired children, parents, or guardians, the
11 interconnected single station smoke alarms shall be listed for visual alarm
12 service.
- 13 4. Single story day care occupancies serving 30 or fewer children with multiple
14 remote at grade exits as defined by the Building Code may be provided with
15 a smoke detection system complying with the State of Texas licensing
16 standards provided that the operation of any detection device will cause the
17 operation of an alarm device within every area listed above. When such
18 small day cares serve hearing impaired children, parents, or guardians, the
19 alarm signals shall be produced by devices listed for visual alarm service.

20 **907.2.7 Group M.**

21 A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance
22 with Section 907.6 shall be installed in Group M occupancies where one of the following
23 conditions exists:

- 24 1. The combined Group M occupant load of all floors is 500 or more persons .
- 25 2. The Group M occupant load is more than 100 persons above or below the lowest
26 level of exit discharge .

27 **Exceptions:**

- 28 1. A manual fire alarm system is not required in covered mall buildings complying
29 with Section 402 of the International Building Code.
- 30 2. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped
31 throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section
32 903.3.1.1 and the occupant notification appliances will automatically activate
33 throughout the notification zones upon sprinkler water flow.
- 34 3. Duct smoke detectors installed in separate lease spaces of large shell buildings
35 need not be connected to monitoring panels where the only fire alarm system
36 installed in the building is the required monitoring for a fire sprinkler system and
37 the sprinkler monitoring system is located inside a different lease space.

~~A manual fire alarm system shall be installed in Group M occupancies having an occupant load of 500 or more persons or more than 100 persons above or below the lowest level of exit discharge. The initiation of a signal from a manual fire alarm box shall initiate alarm notification appliances as required by Section 907.10.~~

Exceptions:

~~1. A manual fire alarm system is required in covered mall buildings complying with Section 402 of the International Building Code.~~

~~2. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system and the alarm notification appliances will automatically activate upon sprinkler water flow.~~

~~3. Duct smoke detectors installed in separate lease spaces of large shell buildings need not be connected to monitoring panels where the only fire alarm system installed in the building is the required monitoring for a fire sprinkler system and the sprinkler monitoring system is located inside a different lease space.~~

907.2.8.1 Manual fire alarm system. A manual fire alarm system shall be installed in Group R-1 occupancies.

Exceptions:

1. A manual fire alarm system is not required in buildings not more than two stories in height where all individual sleeping units and contiguous attic and crawl spaces are separated from each other and public or common areas by at least 1-hour fire partitions and each individual sleeping unit has an exit directly to a public way, exit court or yard.

2. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required throughout the building when the following conditions are met:

2.1. The building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.

2.2. The notification appliances will activate upon sprinkler water flow; and

2.3. At least one manual fire alarm box is installed at an approved location.

3. Audibility requirements shall not be applicable on balconies less than 100 square feet in area, or on balconies where the least dimension is ~~less than 5'~~ (wide balconies) or less.

907.2.8.2 Automatic smoke detection system. An automatic smoke detection system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.6 shall be

1 installed throughout all group R-1 occupancies. Listed system-type automatic detectors
2 shall be installed within interior corridors serving sleeping units and within furnace
3 rooms and common areas such as, recreational rooms, laundry rooms, ~~furnace rooms~~, and
4 similar areas served by such interior corridors providing access to and egress from
5 sleeping units.

6 **Exception:** An automatic smoke detection system is not required in buildings that
7 do not have interior corridors serving sleeping units, where each sleeping unit has a
8 means of egress door opening directly to an exit or to an exterior exit access that
9 leads directly to an exit, and where recreational rooms, laundry rooms, furnace
10 rooms, and similar areas are not located within or along the egress paths from
11 sleeping units.

12 **907.2.9 Group R-2.** Fire alarm systems and smoke alarms shall be installed in Group R-2
13 occupancies as required in Section 907.2.9.1 and 907.2.9.2.

14 **907.2.9.1 Manual and automatic fire alarm system.** A manual and automatic fire alarm
15 system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with 907.6 shall be
16 installed in Group R-2 occupancies where:

- 17 1. Any dwelling unit or sleeping unit is located three or more stories above the
18 lowest level of exit discharge;
- 19 2. Any dwelling unit or sleeping unit is located more than one story below the
20 highest level of exit discharge of exits serving the dwelling unit or sleeping
21 unit; or
- 22 3. The building contains more than 16 dwelling units or sleeping units.

23 Listed system-type automatic detectors shall be installed within furnace rooms and
24 common areas such as recreational rooms, laundry rooms, ~~furnace rooms~~, interior
25 corridors serving as the primary access and egress for dwelling units, and similar areas.

26 **Exceptions:**

- 27 1. A fire alarm system is not required in buildings not more than two stories in
28 height where all dwelling units or sleeping units and contiguous attic and
29 crawl spaces are separated from each other and public or common areas by
30 at least 1-hour fire partitions and each dwelling unit or sleeping unit has an
31 exit directly to a public way, exit court or yard.
- 32 2. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required throughout the building when all
33 the following conditions are met:
 - 34 2.1. The building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler
35 system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or Section 903.3.1.2;

1 2.2. The notification appliances will automatically activate throughout the
2 notification zones upon sprinkler water flow; and

3 2.3. At least one manual fire alarm box is installed at an approved
4 location.

5 3. A separate fire alarm system is not required in buildings that do not have
6 interior corridors serving dwelling units and are protected by an approved
7 automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with 903.3.1.1 or
8 903.3.1.2, provided that sprinkler system activation results in a local alarm
9 designed to notify all occupants and dwelling units have a means of egress
10 door opening directly to an exterior exit access that leads directly to the
11 exists or are served by open ended corridors designed in accordance with
12 Section 1026.6, exception 4.

13 4. Audibility requirements shall not be applicable on balconies less than 100
14 square feet in area, or on balconies where the least dimension is 5' or less
15 (~~narrow balconies~~).

16 **907.2.9.2 Smoke alarms.** Single- and multiple-station smoke alarms shall be installed in
17 accordance with section 907.2.11.

18 **907.2.13.2 Fire department wired communications system.** An approved two-way,
19 fire department wired communication system designed and installed in accordance with
20 NFPA 72 shall be provided for fire department use. It shall operate between a fire
21 command center complying with Section 508 and elevators, elevator lobbies, emergency
22 and standby power rooms, fire pump rooms, areas of refuge and inside enclosed exit
23 stairways. The fire department communication device shall be provided at each floor
24 level within the enclosed exit stairway.

25 **907.5.1 Protection of fire alarm control unit.** In areas that are not continuously
26 occupied, a single smoke detector shall be provided at the location of each fire alarm
27 control unit, notification appliance circuit power extenders, and supervising station
28 transmitting equipment.

29 **Exceptions:**

30 1. Where ambient conditions prohibit installation of automatic smoke
31 detection, a heat detector shall be permitted.

32 2. The smoke detector shall not be required at the location of notification
33 appliance circuit power extenders where the building is equipped throughout
34 with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or
35 903.3.1.2.

36 ~~**907.6.2.3.4 Group R-2.** In Group R-2 occupancies required by Section 907 to have a fire
37 alarm system, alarm signals shall be audible throughout the dwelling units and sleeping~~

1 ~~units, including on exterior balconies where the area of the balcony exceeds 100 sq ft or~~
2 ~~the least dimension of the balcony exceeds 5 feet. Dwelling units and sleeping units shall~~
3 ~~be provided with visible alarm notification appliances or the capability to support such~~
4 ~~appliances in accordance with ICC A117.1 as required by Federal and State laws and~~
5 ~~regulations. (See published language.)~~

6 **907.7.5 Monitoring.** Fire alarm systems required by this chapter or by the International
7 Building Code shall be monitored by an approved supervising station in accordance with
8 NFPA 72, or by a local alarm which gives audible and visual signals at a constantly
9 attended location. Reporting procedures and personnel training records for local alarm
10 systems monitored at a constantly attended location shall be maintained for review and
11 approval by the Fire Department.

12 **Exception:** Supervisory service is not required for:

- 13 1. Single- and multiple-station smoke alarms required by Section 907.2.11.
- 14 2. Automatic sprinkler systems in one- and two-family dwellings.

15 **907.7.6 Annunciation and control.** The main fire alarm control panel or an full function
16 remote annunciator shall be install at the main entrance or at an approved location near
17 the main entrance of buildings with fire alarm systems.

18 **909 Smoke Control Systems.** Smoke control systems shall be designed and installed as
19 specified in Section 909 of the Building Code as amended.

20 **912.1 Installation.** Fire department connections shall be installed in accordance with the
21 NFPA standard applicable to the system design and shall comply with Sections 912.1.1
22 through 912.6.

23 **912.1.1 Number of Hose Connections.** Fire department connections (FDC's) shall
24 include a minimum of two (2) 2½ inch (63.5 mm) female National Standard Hose Thread
25 (NST) inlet connections. Where system design flow rates exceed 500 gpm (1,893 lpm), a
26 minimum of one FDC inlet connection shall be installed for each 250 gpm (946 lpm) or
27 portion thereof.

28 **Exception:** Where permitted by other sections of this code or associated standards,
29 a single 1½ inch or 2½ inch FDC inlet is acceptable for residential fire sprinkler
30 systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13R. When an FDC is installed, a
31 single 1½ inch inlet is acceptable for residential system installed in accordance with
32 NFPA 13D.

33 **912.3 Access.** Immediate access to fire department connections shall be maintained at all
34 times and without obstruction by fences, bushes, trees, walls or any other fixed or
35 moveable object for a minimum of 3 feet (914 mm). Access to fire department
36 connections shall be approved by the fire chief.

1 **Exception:** Fences, where provided with an access gate equipped with a sign
2 complying with the legend requirements of Section 912.4 and a means of
3 emergency operation. Locks, if installed shall be openable by use of a fire
4 department Knox Key. The gate and means of emergency operation shall be
5 approved by the fire chief and maintained operational at all times.

6 **912.3.1 Locking fire department connection caps.** The fire code official is authorized
7 to require locking caps on fire department connections for water-based fire protection
8 systems. The locking caps shall be manufactured by an approved manufacturer and used
9 and maintained as designed.

10 **912.3.1.2 Locking fire department connection caps in existing buildings or**
11 **structures.** The fire code official is authorized to require locking caps on fire department
12 connections (FDC) for water-based fire protection systems serving existing buildings
13 where the fire department has observed obstructions placed in the FDC or where the FDC
14 is missing caps. The locking caps shall be manufactured by an approved manufacturer
15 and used and maintained as designed. **(Probably should be moved to chapter 11.)**

16 **912.4.1 Fire Department Connection Placard – for existing structures.** In addition to
17 the signage required in 912.4, an all weather, permanent, system placard shall be placed
18 in a visible location adjacent to the fire department connection on all structures over 10
19 floors in height and/or structures with a fire department connection requiring pressures
20 exceeding 150psi. The placard text shall be white reflective letters, 1 ½ inch minimum
21 height, on either a red or black background. The placard shall contain the following
22 information. (A new amendment.)

- 23 1. Required system pressure at FDC inlet.
- 24 2. Area of building served by FDC
- 25 3. System PRV locations
- 26 4. [B 403.3.1] 914.3.1 Automatic sprinkler system. Buildings and structures shall
27 be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with
28 Section 903.3.1.1 and a secondary water supply where required by Building Code
29 Section 403.3.2 ~~903.3.5.2.~~

30 **Exception:** An automatic sprinkler system shall not be required in spaces or areas of:

- 31 1. Stand alone Open parking garages in accordance with Section 406.5 of the
32 International Building Code.
- 33 2. Telecommunications equipment buildings used exclusively for
34 telecommunications equipment, associated electrical power distribution
35 equipment, batteries and standby engines, provided that those spaces or areas are
36 equipped throughout with an automatic fire detection system in accordance with
37 Section 907.2 and are separated from the remainder of the building by not less

1 than 1-hour fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 of the
2 International Building Code or not less than 2-hour horizontal assemblies
3 constructed in accordance with Section 711 of the International Building Code, or
4 both.

5 **[B 403.5.3.1] 914.3.7 Stairway communications system.** A telephone or other two-way
6 communications system connected to an approved constantly attended station shall be
7 provided at not less than every floor in each required stairway where the doors to the
8 stairway are locked.

9 **Exception:** The stairway communication system is not required in high rise
10 buildings when all the following conditions are met;

- 11 a. Area of refuge communication system terminal, installed and maintained per
12 International Building Code Sec. 1007.6.3, is located immediately adjacent
13 to each floor level landing.
- 14 b. The area of refuge communication terminal is connected to an approved
15 constantly attended station.
- 16 c. The door between the stair and the vestibule (area of refuge) cannot be
17 locked.

18 An approved sign is provided at each floor level landing inside the stairwell.

19 **1002.1-2 Supplemental Definitions.** The following supplemental definitions are defined
20 in section 202.1. For the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code,
21 these definitions shall have the meanings shown in section 202.1. The definitions in the
22 2009/2012 IFC are adopted as published except that the supplemental definitions are
23 added or amended.

24 ~~The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used~~
25 ~~elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein. The definitions in the 2009 IFC~~
26 ~~are adopted as published except that the definitions for “STAIR” and “EXTERIOR~~
27 ~~STAIR” are amended as follows.~~

28 **STAIR.** A change in elevation, consisting of two or more risers.

29 ~~**STAIRWAY EXTERIOR.** A stairway that is open on at least two adjacent sides with~~
30 ~~75% of the side with free area, except for required structural columns, beams, handrails~~
31 ~~and guards. The adjoining areas shall be either yards, courts or public ways. The other~~
32 ~~sides of the exterior stairway need not be open.~~

33 **Table 1004.1.2**

34 **MAXIMUM FLOOR AREA ALLOWANCES PER OCCUPANT**

OCCUPANCY	FLOOR AREA IN SQ. FT.
-----------	-----------------------

	PER OCCUPANT
Accessory storage areas, mechanical equipment room	300 gross
Agricultural building	300 gross
Aircraft hangars	500 gross
Airport terminal	
Baggage claim	20 gross
Baggage handling	300 gross
Concourse	100 gross
Waiting areas	15 gross
Assembly Gaming floors (keno, slots, etc.)	11 gross
Assembly with fixed seats	See Section 1004.7
Assembly without fixed seats	
Concentrated (standing room)	7 net
Queuing line	7 net
Unconcentrated (tables and chairs)	15 net
Bowling centers, allow 5 persons for each lane including 15 feet of runway, and for additional areas	7 net
Business areas	100 gross
Courtrooms—other than fixed seating areas	40 net
Day care	35 net
Dormitories	50 gross
Educational	
Classroom area	20 net
Shops and other vocational room areas	50 net
Exercise rooms	50 gross
H-5 Fabrication and manufacturing areas	200 gross
Industrial areas	100 gross
Institutional areas	
Inpatient treatment areas	240 gross
Outpatient areas	100 gross
Sleeping areas	120 gross
Kitchens, commercial	200 gross
Library	
Reading rooms	50 net

Stack area	100 gross
Locker rooms	50 gross
Mercantile	
Areas on other floors	60 gross
Basement and grade floor areas	30 gross
Storage, stock, shipping areas	300 gross
Parking garages	200 gross
Residential	200 gross
Skating rinks, swimming pools	
Rink and pool	50 gross
Decks	15 gross
Stages and platforms	15 net
Accessory storage areas, mechanical equipment room	300 gross
Warehouses	500 gross

1004.2 Increased occupant load. The occupant load permitted in any building, or portion thereof is permitted to be increased from that number established for the occupancies in Table 1004.1.1 provided that all other requirements of the code are also met based on such modified number and the overall occupant load shall not exceed one occupant per 7 square feet (0.65 m²) of occupiable floor space. Where required by the fire code official, an approved aisle, seating or fixed equipment diagram substantiating any increase in occupant load shall be submitted. Where required by the fire chief, such diagram shall be posted.

1004.3 Posting of occupant load. Every room or space that is an assembly occupancy shall have the occupant load of the room or space posted in a conspicuous place, near the main exit or exit access doorway from the room or space. Posted signs shall be of an approved legible permanent design and shall be maintained by the owner or authorized agent. See also section 403.1.3 concerning advanced ticket sales limitations.

1030.2 Reliability. Required exit accesses, exits or exit discharges shall be continuously maintained free from obstructions or impediments to full instant use in the case of fire or other emergency when the areas served by such exits are occupied. Security devices, including drop bars, affecting means of egress shall require approval of the fire chief. Doors utilizing drop bars must have signage on the exterior of the door stating “Door equipped with drop bar”. Doors utilizing drop bars must have signage on the interior of the door stating “Drop bar must be removed when building is occupied”. When security devices are not in use, they must be secured in a manner where unauthorized use is prevented, such as:

- a. Locking bar in a keeper near the door

- 1 b. Securing bar in an office, locked closet, or similar location not accessible to
2 the general public

3 Approval to use security devices outside the scope of this code may be revoked for
4 failure to meet the letter and intent of these rules.

5 ~~**46021102.1 Supplemental Definitions.** The definitions in the 20092012 IFC are adopted
6 as published except that supplemental definitions are added or amended. The following
7 supplemental definitions are defined in section 202.1.1. For the purposes of this chapter
8 and as used elsewhere in this code, these definitions shall have the meanings shown in
9 section 202.1.1. The following words and terms shall, for the purpose of this chapter and
10 as used elsewhere in this code, have the meaning shown herein.~~

11 ~~**EXISTING.** Buildings, facilities or conditions that are already in existence, constructed
12 or officially authorized prior to the adoption of this code.~~

13 ~~**INDEPENDENT EXIT/INDEPENDENT STAIRWAY/INDEPENDENT EXIT
14 RAMP.** An independent exit, independent stairway, or independent exit ramp is an exit
15 or egress component that does not require the occupant to travel within 10 feet (3.048 m)
16 of another apartment's door or window at any point in the path of egress.~~

17 ~~**46031103.5.3 Group B ambulatory health care facilities.** An automatic sprinkler
18 system shall be installed throughout all existing fire areas containing a Group B
19 ambulatory health care facility occupancy when the facility is designed to allow either of
20 the following conditions to exist at any time:~~

- 21 1. Four or more care recipients are incapable of self-preservation.
22 2. One or more care recipients who are incapable of self-preservation are
23 located at other than the level of exit discharge serving such occupancy.

24 ~~**46031103.5-6 Standpipes.** Existing structures with occupied floors located more than 50
25 feet (15 240 mm) above or below the lowest level of fire department access shall be *the*
26 equipped with standpipes installed in accordance with Section 905. The standpipes shall
27 have an approved fire department connection with hose connections at each floor level
28 above or below the lowest level of fire department access. The fire chief is authorized to
29 approve the installation of manual standpipe systems to achieve compliance with this
30 section where the system is demonstrated to be capable of providing the required hose
31 flow and pressure at the highest standpipe outlet while the fire department is providing
32 the water supply to the fire department connection (FDC) at a maximum FDC inlet
33 pressure of 150 psi (10.3 bar).~~

34 ~~**46031103.67.6 Group R-2.** An automatic or manual fire alarm system that activates the
35 occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.6 shall be installed in
36 existing Group R-2 occupancies more than three stories in height or with more than 16
37 dwelling or sleeping units. A plan for achieving compliance shall be completed within~~

1 12 months of the ~~discovery of the deficiency effective date of this ordinance or the~~
2 ~~annexation of an affected property whichever is later~~. Compliance shall be achieved
3 within ~~36-24~~ months of the ~~discovery of the deficiency effective date of this ordinance or~~
4 ~~the date of annexation of an affected property, whichever is later~~.

5 **Exceptions:**

- 6 1. A fire alarm system is not required in existing R-2 occupancies where each
7 living unit is separated from other contiguous living units by fire barriers
8 having a fire-resistance rating of not less than 0.75 hour, and where each
9 living unit has either its own independent exit or its own independent
10 stairway or ramp discharging at grade. When conditions warrant, the fire
11 chief is authorized to accept an alternate minimum distance from the egress
12 path to nearby doors and windows of apartments.
- 13 2. A separate fire alarm system is not required in buildings that are equipped
14 throughout with an approved supervised automatic sprinkler system installed
15 in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2 and having a local alarm
16 to notify all occupants.
- 17 3. A fire alarm system is not required in buildings that do not have interior
18 corridors serving dwelling units and are protected by an approved automatic
19 sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1,1 or 903.3.1.2,
20 provided that dwelling units either have a means of egress door opening
21 directly to an exterior exit access that leads directly to the exits or are served
22 by open-ended corridors designed in accordance with Section 1023.6,
23 Exception 4.

24 **46031103.78.3 Power source.** In Group R occupancies, single-station smoke alarms
25 shall receive their primary power from the building wiring provided that such wiring is
26 served from a commercial source and shall be equipped with a battery backup. Smoke
27 alarms with integral strobes that are not equipped with battery backup shall be connected
28 to an emergency electrical system. Smoke alarms shall emit a signal when the batteries
29 are low. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than as
30 required for overcurrent protection.

31 **Exceptions:**

- 32 1. Smoke alarms are permitted to be solely battery operated in existing
33 buildings in locations where smoke alarms were not required to be powered
34 by the building wiring under the code in effect at the time of construction
35 and where no construction is taking place.
- 36 2. Smoke alarms are permitted to be solely battery operated in buildings that
37 are not served from a commercial power source.

- 1 3. Smoke alarms are permitted to be solely battery operated in existing areas of
2 buildings in locations where smoke alarms were not required to be powered
3 by the building wiring under the code in effect at the time of construction
4 and undergoing alterations or repairs that do not result in the removal of
5 interior walls or ceiling finishes exposing the structure.

6 **1103.9 Carbon monoxide alarms.** Where interior work requiring a permit is done
7 Existing in an existing Group I or R ~~occupancies~~ occupancy located in a building
8 containing a fuel-burning appliance or a building which has an attached garage ~~shall be~~
9 ~~equipped with~~ single-station carbon monoxide alarm(s) shall be installed in the unit(s) in
10 which the work was performed. The carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed as complying
11 with UL 2034, and be installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 720 and the
12 manufacturer's instructions. An open parking garage, as defined in the International
13 Building Code, or an enclosed parking garage ventilated in accordance with Section 404
14 of the International Mechanical Code shall not be deemed to be an attached garage. In R
15 occupancies, the carbon monoxide alarm(s) may be solely battery operated.

16 **Exception:** Sleeping units or dwelling units which do not themselves contain a fuel-
17 burning appliance or have an attached garage, but which are located in a building with a
18 fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage, need not be equipped with single-station
19 carbon monoxide alarms provided that:

- 20 1. The sleeping unit or dwelling unit is located ~~more than~~ one story or more above or
21 below any story that contains a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage; and
22 ~~2. —~~ The sleeping unit or dwelling unit is not connected by duct work or ventilation
23 shafts to any room containing a fuel-burning appliance or to an attached garage; and/or
24 ~~3.~~ The building is provided with a common area carbon monoxide alarm system.

25 **15032403.5 Mixing and Blending Area.** Mixing, blending, and similar operations
26 involving less than 10 gallons of Class I or Class II liquids, outside of a room approved
27 for inside use, dispensing and mixing in accordance with 3405.3.7, must be performed in
28 an area meeting the following requirements:

- 29 1. All electrical service within 10 feet of the mixing operations must meet the
30 Class I, Division II requirements of the Electrical Code.
- 31 2. Ventilation for the area must be adequate to maintain flammable vapors
32 under 25 percent of the lower explosive limit of the most volatile material in
33 use. A line of site partition of one-hour construction must separate the
34 mixing and blending operations from other spray finishing operations and
35 flammable liquids storage.

1 | **CHAPTER ~~2223~~**

2 | **MOTOR FUEL-DISPENSING FACILITIES, REPAIR GARAGES,**
3 | **AND AUTOMOBILE WRECKING YARDS**

4 | **~~22012301.1~~ Scope.** Automotive motor fuel-dispensing facilities, marine motor fuel-
5 | dispensing facilities, fleet vehicle motor fuel-dispensing facilities, automobile wrecking
6 | yards, and repair garages shall be in accordance with this chapter and the International
7 | Building Code, International Fuel Gas Code and the International Mechanical Code. Such
8 | operations shall include both operations that are accessible to the public and private
9 | operations.

10 | **2304.1 Supervision of dispensing.**

11 | The dispensing of fuel at motor fuel-dispensing facilities shall be conducted by a
12 | qualified attendant who is a TCEQ certified UST Operator or shall be under the
13 | supervision of a qualified attendant who is a TCEQ certified UST Operator at all times or
14 | shall be in accordance with Section 2304.3.

15 | **2304.2 Attended self-service motor fuel-dispensing facilities.**

16 | Attended self-service motor fuel-dispensing facilities shall comply with Sections
17 | 2304.2.1 through 2304.2.5. Attended self-service motor fuel-dispensing facilities shall
18 | have at least one qualified attendant-TCEQ certified UST Operator on duty while the
19 | facility is open for business. The attendant's primary function shall be to supervise,
20 | observe and control the dispensing of fuel. The attendant shall prevent the dispensing of
21 | fuel into containers that do not comply with Section 2304.4.1, control sources of ignition,
22 | give immediate attention to accidental spills or releases, and be prepared to use fire
23 | extinguishers.
24 |
25 |

26 | **~~22052305.1.3~~ Tank fill connections.** Delivery of flammable liquids to tanks shall be
27 | made by means of approved liquid- and vapor-tight connections between the delivery
28 | hose and tank fill pipe. Where tanks are equipped with any type of vapor recovery
29 | system, all connections required to be made for the safe and proper functioning of the
30 | particular vapor recovery process shall be made. Such connections shall be made liquid
31 | and vapor tight and remain connected throughout the unloading process. Vapors shall not
32 | be discharged at grade level during delivery.

33 | **~~22052305.2.1~~ Inspections.** Flammable and combustible liquid fuel dispensing and
34 | containment equipment shall be ~~periodically~~ inspected at least once every sixty (60) days
35 | in accordance with the regulations of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
36 | (TCEQ) in order to verify that it is in proper working order and not subject to leakage.

37 | **~~22052305.3~~ Spill control.** Provisions shall be made to prevent liquids spilled during
38 | dispensing operations from flowing into buildings or off of the property on which the

1 tank is located. Acceptable methods include, but shall not be limited to, grading
2 driveways, raising doorsills, or other approved means.

3 | **22062306.7.6.2 Testing.** The automatic closing function of automatic closing fuel
4 delivery hose nozzles that dispense Class I, II, and III liquids shall be tested an annual
5 basis.

6 | **Section 22122312**

7 | **AUTOMOBILE WRECKING YARDS**

8 | **22122312.1 SCOPE.** Automobile wrecking yards shall comply with this section and the
9 International Building Code. For rubbish handling operations, see Chapters 3 and 29.

10 | **22122312.2 FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS.** Fire apparatus access roads shall
11 be constructed and maintained throughout the site in accordance with Section 503.

12 | **22122312.3 WELDING AND CUTTING.** Welding and cutting operations shall be in
13 accordance with Chapters 26 and 30.

14 | **22122312.4 HOUSEKEEPING.** Combustible rubbish accumulated on the site shall be
15 collected and stored in approved containers, rooms or vaults of noncombustible materials.
16 Combustible vegetation, cut or uncut, shall be removed when determined by the chief to
17 be a fire hazard.

18 | **222312.5 FIRE PROTECTION.** Offices, storage buildings and vehicles used for site
19 operations shall each be provided with at least one portable fire extinguisher with a rating
20 of not less than 4-A:40-B:C. When required by the chief, additional portable fire
21 extinguishers shall be provided in specific use areas in accordance with NFPA 10.

22 | **222312.6 TIRES.** Tires shall be stored on racks in an approved manner or shall be piled
23 in accordance with Chapter 25.

24 | **222312.7 BURNING OPERATIONS.** The burning of salvage vehicles and salvage or
25 waste materials shall be in accordance with Chapter 3 and federal, state or local air
26 quality control regulations.

27 | **222312.8 MOTOR VEHICLE FLUIDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

28 | **222312.8.1 General.** The storage, use and handling of motor vehicle fluids and
29 hazardous materials, such as those used to operate air bags and electrical systems, shall
30 be in accordance with Section 22422312, Section 224+2311, Chapter 2750, and Chapter
31 3457.

32 | **222312.8.2 Motor Vehicle Fluids.** Motor vehicle fluids shall be drained from salvage
33 vehicles when such fluids are leaking. Storage and handling of motor vehicle fluids shall
34 be done in an approved manner. Flammable and combustible liquids shall be stored and
35 handled in accordance with Section 222311, Chapter 2750, and Chapter 3457.

1 | **222312.8.3 Mitigation for Vehicle Fluid Leaks.** Supplies or equipment capable of
2 | mitigating leaks from fuel tanks, crankcases, brake systems and transmissions shall be
3 | kept available on site. Single- use plugging, diking and absorbent materials shall be
4 | disposed of as hazardous waste and removed from the site in a manner approved by
5 | federal, state or local requirements.

6 | **222312.8.4 Air Bag Systems.** Removed air bag systems shall be handled and stored in
7 | accordance with Chapter 2750.

8 | **222312.8.5 Lead-acid Batteries.** Lead-acid batteries shall be removed from salvage
9 | vehicles when such batteries are leaking. Lead-acid batteries that have been removed
10 | from vehicles shall be stored in an approved manner.

11 | **222312.8.6. Container Destruction.** Destruction of vehicle containers containing liquids
12 | or gases defined as flammable or combustible by this code is prohibited unless the
13 | containers are properly drained and the by-product stored or disposed of in accordance
14 | with Chapter 27, are filled with an inert material or purged, and at the time of destruction,
15 | have a vapor content less than 25 percent of the by-product's lower explosive limit or an
16 | oxygen content of less than 10 percent.

17 | **24033103.5 Use periods.** Temporary tents, air supported, air-inflated or tensioned
18 | membrane structures of any size that are independent of and separated by at least 20 feet
19 | (6096 mm) from any building as specified in Section 2403.8.2 shall not be erected for a
20 | period of more than 180 days within a 12-month period on a single premises. Temporary
21 | tents, air supported, air-inflated or tensioned membrane structures of any size that are in
22 | any way attached to or within 20 feet (6096 mm) of a building shall not be issued a
23 | permit for a continuous period of more than 30 days or for a total of more than 90 days
24 | within a 12-month period on a single premises. Tents, air supported, air-inflated or
25 | tensioned membrane structures used for periods exceeding these limits shall be
26 | considered buildings or structures regulated by the Building Code and shall be required to
27 | be erected under a building permit and obtain a certificate of occupancy.

28 | **24033103.8.2 Location.** Tents or membrane structures shall not be located within 20 feet
29 | (6096 mm) of lot lines, buildings, other tents or membrane structures, parked vehicles or
30 | internal combustion engines. For the purpose of determining required distances, support
31 | ropes and guy wires shall be considered as part of the temporary membrane structure, or
32 | tent.

33 | **Exceptions:**

- 34 | 1. Separation distance between membrane structures and tents not used for
35 | cooking, is not required when the aggregate floor area does not exceed
36 | 15,000 square feet (1394 m²).
- 37 | 2. Membrane structures or tents need not be separated from buildings when all
38 | of the following conditions are met:

- 1 2.1. The aggregate floor area of the membrane structure or tent shall not exceed
2 10,000 square feet (929 m2).
- 3 2.2. The aggregate floor area and total height of the building and membrane
4 structure or tent shall not exceed the allowable floor area or the allowable
5 height, in stories or feet, including increases as indicated in the International
6 Building Code.
- 7 2.3. Required means of egress are provided for both the building and the
8 membrane structure or tent including travel distances.
- 9 2.4. Fire apparatus access roads are provided in accordance with Section 503.
- 10 2.5. Occupant load is, for the purposes of complying with Chapters 9 and 10 of
11 the Building Code and Fire Code, based on the aggregate of the building
12 floor area and the area under the membrane structure or tent.

13 | **275001.1.2** This Article regulates the handling and storage of hazardous materials in
14 aboveground storage facilities. Underground storage facilities are regulated by Chapter
15 14-3 of the Austin City Code of 1992, as amended.

16 | **275001.2 Material classification.** Hazardous materials are those chemicals or substances
17 defined as such in this code. Definitions of hazardous materials shall apply to all
18 hazardous materials, including those materials regulated elsewhere in this code. For
19 descriptions and examples of materials included in hazard categories, see Appendix E.
20 For the purposes of interpreting the term "highly toxic", the chief shall use the NFPA
21 Standard No. 704 rating of 4. On written request of an permit applicant or permit holder,
22 the chief may substitute alternative specifications and guidelines for the standards
23 normally used in determining hazard ratings as outlined in Section 105.6, provided the
24 applicant or permit holder submits suitable evidence that the proposed alternative will
25 meet or exceed the requirements of this Chapter.

26 | **275001.2.3 Radioactive Materials.** Storage of radioactive materials shall be in
27 accordance with the provisions set forth by the Texas Department of Health, Bureau of
28 Radiation Control. For the purposes of building design, occupancies using or storing
29 radioactive materials, with the potential of being designated a "Radiation Area" under
30 Federal or State law or regulations, shall comply with the construction requirements of a
31 Group H, Division 4 occupancy unless more stringent requirements are imposed by
32 Federal or State regulations.

33 | **275001.5 Permits.** No person, firm, or corporation may store, dispense, use, or handle
34 hazardous materials in more than the quantities named in Section 105.6 unless a valid
35 permit has been issued under this Chapter.

36 When required by the fire chief, permit holders shall apply for approval to permanently
37 close a storage, use or handling facility. Such application shall be submitted at least 30

1 days prior to the termination of the storage, use or handling of hazardous materials. The
2 fire chief is authorized to require that the application be accompanied by an approved
3 facility closure plan in accordance with Section 275001.6.3.

4 **275001.5.1 Hazardous Materials Management Plan.** Where required by the fire chief,
5 an application for a permit shall include a Hazardous Materials Management Plan
6 (HMMP). The HMMP shall include a facility site plan clearly designating the following:

- 7 1. Locations of and access to each storage and use area.
- 8 2. Maximum amount of each material stored or used in each area and the range
9 of container sizes used.
- 10 3. Location of emergency equipment, including emergency isolation and
11 mitigation valves and devices , and product conveying piping containing
12 liquids or gases, other than utility-owned fuel gas lines and low-pressure fuel
13 gas lines. The normal position of valves (on/off or open/closed) shall be
14 provided for position indicating valves.
- 15 4. Location where liaison will meet emergency responders.
- 16 5. Facility evacuation meeting point locations.
- 17 6. The general purpose of other areas within the building.
- 18 7. Storage plan showing the intended storage arrangement, including the
19 location and dimensions of aisles, the location of all aboveground and
20 underground tanks and their appurtenances including, but not limited to,
21 sumps, vaults, below-grade treatment systems and piping.
- 22 7. The hazard classes in each area.
- 23 8. Locations of all control areas and Group H occupancies.
- 24 9. Emergency exits.

25 The plans shall be legible and drawn approximately to scale. Separate distribution
26 systems are allowed to be shown on separate pages.

27 **275001.5.2 Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement (HMIS).** Where required by the
28 fire chief, an application for a permit, shall include an HMIS, such as Superfund
29 Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) Title III, Tier II Report or other
30 approved statement. The HMIS shall include the following information:

- 31 1. Manufacturer's name.
- 32 2. Chemical names, product or trade names, hazardous ingredients.
- 33 3. United Nations (UN), North America (NA) and the Chemical Abstract
34 Service (CAS) identification number (as applicable and as available).

4. Maximum quantities stored or used on-site at one time, including amounts in use-closed systems and amounts in use-open systems.
5. Location where stored or used.
6. Container sizes.
7. Hazard classifications including the NFPA 704 rating of each chemical.

275001.7 Permit Procedure. A hazardous materials permit shall be granted after:

1. The applicant has filed with the Fire Department a completed hazardous materials permit application, in accordance with [275001.5](#) and this section; and
2. The applicant has paid the application fee as established by the City Council.

275001.7.1 Application. A Hazardous Materials Permit Application shall include the following:

1. General information including the name, address, and telephone number of the facility, the number of employees, hours of operation, and a name and emergency telephone number of the primary emergency contact person;
2. An HMMP in accordance with [275001.5.1](#) which includes a facility site plan and a storage map. The storage map shall identify the location of hazardous materials storage areas, and access to the materials;
3. A Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement (HMIS) in accordance with [275001.5.2](#).

275001.7.1.1 The facility site plan required in Section [275001.5.1](#) may be omitted from applications when, in the opinion of the fire chief, the plan will not provide additional information necessary to prevent an actual or potential hazard to the public health, safety, or welfare (including the health, safety, or welfare of firefighters) or to facilitate the Fire Department's response in the event of an emergency involving hazardous materials at the facility.

275001.7.2 No person, firm, or corporation may install, repair, abandon, remove, place temporarily out of service, close, or substantially modify a storage facility or other area required to be permitted under this Article without a permit. (See Section [275001.6.3](#).)

Exceptions:

1. Routine maintenance.
2. For emergency repair work performed on an emergency basis, application for permit shall be made within two working days of commencement of work.

1 3. Registered Industrial Plants may perform work in accordance with the
2 provisions of the building code and rules governing the facilities.

3 Permit holders shall apply for approval to close bulk storage, use, or handling facility at
4 least 30 days before the termination of the storage, use, or handling of hazardous
5 materials. The applicant shall include any change or alteration of the facility closure plan
6 filed under Section 275001.6.3 of this Chapter. This 30 day period may be waived by the
7 chief.

8 | **275001.7.3 Permit Effective Date.** The Fire Department shall grant or deny a permit
9 application no later than 60 days after receipt of the completed application. The
10 Department will provide written confirmation to the applicant demonstrating receipt of
11 the application within 30 days of receipt of the application. If the Department fails to
12 grant or deny the permit within 60 days, the permit is considered to be issued and in
13 effect. The Fire Department shall inspect the business for satisfactory storage and use of
14 hazardous materials. The operation of a facility under a permit issued before inspection
15 constitutes the permission of the facility owner/operator for the chief to enter on the
16 facility for the purpose of conducting the required inspection. Refusal to allow the
17 inspection shall constitute a prima facie cause to revoke the permit under Section 105.6.

18 | **275001.7.4 Permit Term and Renewal.** A permit is granted for a term of three years
19 from the date of issuance. Permits may be renewed every three years on the anniversary
20 of permit issuance. At the discretion of the fire chief, a permit may be issued for a shorter
21 period. The fee assessed for the permits shall be prorated for the appropriate time. If a
22 permit is issued for a shorter period at the request of the applicant, an additional handling
23 fee may be assessed, not to exceed the actual cost of clerical processing time.

24 | **275001.7.5 Annexation Procedure.** A facility brought under regulation by this Article
25 through annexation shall file a permit application with the Fire Department no later than
26 90 days after the effective date of annexation. The Department shall grant or deny a
27 permit application submitted under this subsection no later than six months after receipt
28 of the completed application. If the Department fails to grant or deny the permit within
29 the period, the permit is considered to be issued and in effect. The Fire Department shall
30 inspect the business for satisfactory storage or use of hazardous materials. The operation
31 of a facility under a permit issued before inspection constitutes the permission of the
32 facility owner/operator for the fire chief to enter on the facility for the purpose of
33 conducting the required inspection. Refusal to allow the inspection shall constitute a
34 prima facie cause to revoke the permit under Section 105.6.

35 | **275001.7.6 Permit Denial.** If the Fire Department denies a permit, the Department shall
36 notify the applicant in writing of the action. The notification must include a statement of
37 the Department's reasons for the action.

38 | **275001.7.7 Transfer.** A permit may be transferred to a new owner or operator of a
39 business at the same location if the new owner or operator by letter to the Fire

1 Department accepts responsibility for all obligations under this Article at the time of the
2 transfer of the business. All permit transfers are subject to the approval of the fire chief.

3 | **275001.7.8 Fees.** No permit may be granted, renewed or continued in effect until the fee
4 as established by the City Council has been paid. The fee shall be paid at the time an
5 application is filed.

6 | **275001.7.9 Amendment.** Any information required to be submitted by this Article shall
7 be amended or supplemented no later than 30 days after the occurrence of an event that
8 would render the information inaccurate. An amendment or supplement is not required in
9 the following cases unless the change(s) would affect the ability of emergency response
10 personnel to safely respond to an emergency:

- 11 1. To record minor changes in the quantities of hazardous materials stored;
- 12 2. To record the temporary storage of hazardous materials at the facility; or
- 13 3. To record a temporary change of hazardous materials storage location.

14 | **275002.1 Supplemental Definitions.** The definitions in the 2012 IFC are adopted as
15 published except that supplemental definitions are added or amended. The following
16 supplemental definitions are defined in section 202.1.1. For the purposes of this chapter
17 and as used elsewhere in this code, these definitions shall have the meanings shown in
18 section 202.1.1. The following words and terms shall for the purposes of this chapter,
19 Chapters 28 through 44 and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown
20 herein. These definitions are provided in addition to or as replacements for terms defined
21 in Section 302.1 of the 2009 International Fire Code as published.

22 | **APPLICABLE STANDARDS.** ~~The published standards or codes of nationally~~
23 ~~recognized organizations to the extent the standards or codes are set forth in the Fire~~
24 ~~Protection Criteria Manual and are expressly applicable to a particular business or~~
25 ~~industry and industrial practices generally accepted by businesses within a particular~~
26 ~~industrial group or subgroup to the extent the industrial practices are not inconsistent with~~
27 ~~federal and state law. However, on written request of an applicant or permit holder,~~
28 ~~alternative specifications and guidelines may be substituted for the Applicable Standards~~
29 ~~in specific situations by the fire chief where the permit applicant or holder provides~~
30 ~~suitable evidence that the proposed alternatives will meet or exceed the requirements of~~
31 ~~this Article.~~

32 | **BULK STORAGE.** ~~Storage of material(s) in a specific area in excess of the following~~
33 ~~aggregate quantity limits:~~

34 ~~Liquids: 500 gallons~~

35 ~~Solids: 2,000 pounds~~

36 ~~Gas: 12,000 cubic feet~~

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"

1 **PERMANENT STORAGE.** ~~Storage for a period of over 30 days.~~

2 **PERMIT.** ~~A permit issued under this Article, including the permit application, and any~~
3 ~~amendment for other uses of this term and other types of permits, see Section 105 of this~~
4 ~~code.~~

5 **PROCESS VESSEL.** A container, including the associated piping, used or designed to
6 be used to contain or promote a chemical or physical reaction.

7 **Table 27503.1.1(1) Footnote i**

- 8 i. The maximum allowable quantity for fuel oil storage may be increased in
9 accordance with Section 606.3.2.

10 **27503.3.1.4 Responsibility for cleanup.** The person, firm or corporation responsible
11 for an unauthorized discharge shall institute and complete all actions necessary to remedy
12 the effects of such unauthorized discharge, whether sudden or gradual, at no cost to the
13 jurisdiction. When deemed necessary by the fire chief, cleanup may be initiated by the
14 fire department or by an authorized individual or firm. Costs associated with such
15 cleanup shall be borne by the owner, operator or other person responsible for the
16 unauthorized discharge. Such costs shall include but shall not be limited to:

- 17 1. Chemical absorbent or adsorbent materials;
- 18 2. Chemical neutralizers;
- 19 3. Chemical resistant suits, gloves, or boots;
- 20 4. Chemical containment drums;
- 21 5. Vapor suppression foams;
- 22 6. Containment tools;
- 23 7. Chemical detection devices; and
- 24 8. Personnel costs for incident related overtime activities.

25 **27503.9.8 Separation of incompatible materials.** Incompatible materials in storage
26 and storage of materials that are incompatible with materials in use shall be separated
27 when the stored materials are in containers having a capacity of more than 5 pounds (2
28 kg) or 0.5 gallon (2 L). Separation shall be accomplished by:

- 29 1. Segregating incompatible materials in storage by a distance of not less than
30 20 feet (6096 mm).

31 **Exception:** Segregation of less than exempt amounts of corrosive and oxidizing
32 materials, when such materials are necessary to maintain swimming pools for
33 Group R occupancies, may be accomplished by a minimum separation of 5 feet
34 (1524 mm).

2. Isolating incompatible materials in storage by a noncombustible partition extending not less than 18 inches (457 mm) above and to the sides of the stored material.
3. Storing liquid and solid materials in hazardous material storage cabinets.
4. Storing compressed gases in gas cabinets or exhausted enclosures in accordance with Sections [275003.8.5](#) and [275003.8.6](#). Materials that are incompatible shall not be stored within the same cabinet or exhausted enclosure.

[275004.2](#) Spill control and secondary containment for liquid and solid hazardous materials.

Tanks, rooms, buildings or areas used for the storage of liquid or solid hazardous materials shall be provided with spill control and secondary containment in accordance with Sections [275004.2.1](#) through [275004.2.3](#).

Exceptions:

1. Outdoor storage of containers on approved containment pallets in accordance with Section [275004.2.3](#).
2. Liquids that are a gas at NTP

[275004.2.1](#) Spill control for hazardous material liquids. Tanks, rooms, buildings or areas used for the storage of hazardous material liquids in excess of the lesser of the maximum allowable quantities established by Tables [275003.1.1\(1\)](#) and [275003.1.1\(2\)](#) or limits specifically set in Chapters [28-51](#) through [44-67](#) shall be provided with spill control to prevent the flow of liquids to adjoining areas. Floors in indoor locations and similar surfaces in outdoor locations shall be constructed to contain a spill from the largest single vessel by one of the following methods:

1. Liquid-tight sloped or recessed floors in indoor locations or similar areas in outdoor locations.
2. Liquid-tight floors in indoor locations or similar areas in outdoor locations provided with liquid-tight raised or recessed sills or dikes.
3. Sumps and collection systems.
4. Other approved engineered systems.

Except for surfacing, the floors, sills, dikes, sumps and collection systems shall be constructed of noncombustible material, and the liquid-tight seal shall be compatible with the material stored. When liquid-tight sills or dikes are provided, they are not required at perimeter openings having an open-grate trench across the opening that connects to an approved collection system.

1 | **275004.2.2 Secondary containment for hazardous material liquids and solids.** Where
2 | required by Table 275004.2.2 tanks, buildings, rooms or areas used for the storage of
3 | hazardous materials liquids or solids shall be provided with secondary containment in
4 | accordance with this section when the quantity of materials exceeds the maximum
5 | allowable quantity as established by Tables 275003.1.1(10 and 275003.1.1(2) or limits
6 | specifically set in Chapters 28-51 through 4467.

7 | **275004.2.2.1 Containment and drainage methods.** The tank, building, room or area
8 | shall contain or drain the hazardous materials and fire protection water through the use of
9 | one of the following methods:

- 10 | 1. Liquid-tight sloped or recessed floors in indoor locations or similar areas in
11 | outdoor locations.
- 12 | 2. Liquid-tight floors in indoor locations or similar areas in outdoor locations
13 | provided with liquid-tight raised or recessed sills or dikes.
- 14 | 3. Sumps and collection systems.
- 15 | 4. Drainage systems leading to an approved location.
- 16 | 5. Other approved engineered systems.

17 | **275004.2.2.2 Incompatible materials.** Incompatible materials used in open systems shall
18 | be separated from each other in the secondary containment system. Incompatible
19 | materials are allowed to be combined when they have been rendered acceptable by an
20 | approved means for discharge into the public sewer.

21 | **275004.2.2.5 Monitoring.** An approved monitoring method shall be provided to detect
22 | hazardous materials in the secondary containment system. The monitoring method is
23 | allowed to be visual inspection of the primary or secondary containment, or other
24 | approved means. Where secondary containment is subject to the intrusion of water, a
25 | monitoring method for detecting water shall be provided. Where monitoring devices are
26 | provided, they shall be connected to approved visual or audible alarms.

27 | Leak-detecting devices must be tested annually by the owner or occupant of the property
28 | on which the devices are located. Test results shall be maintained on the premises and be
29 | available to the fire chief on request.

30 | **275004.2.2.6 Drainage system design.** Drainage systems shall be in accordance with the
31 | City of Austin Plumbing Code and all of the following:

- 32 | 1. The slope of floors to drains in indoor locations, or similar areas in outdoor
33 | locations shall not be less than 1 percent.
- 34 | 2. Drains from indoor storage areas shall be sized to carry the volume of the
35 | fire protection water as determined by the design density discharged from
36 | the automatic fire-extinguishing system over the minimum required system

1 design area or area of the room or area in which the storage is located,
2 whichever is smaller.

- 3 3. Drains from outdoor storage areas shall be sized to carry the volume of the
4 fire flow and the volume of a 24-hour rainfall as determined by a 25-year
5 storm.
- 6 4. Materials of construction for drainage systems shall be compatible with the
7 materials stored.
- 8 5. Incompatible materials used in open systems shall be separated from each
9 other in the drainage system. Incompatible materials are allowed to be
10 combined when they have been rendered acceptable by an approved means
11 for discharge into the public sewer.
- 12 6. Drains, including overflow from secondary containment, shall terminate in
13 an approved location away from buildings, valves, means of egress, fire
14 access roadways, adjoining property storm drains, waterways and critical
15 environmental features (CEF's). Tanks shall be set back at 150 feet (45,720
16 mm) from any recognized waterway or CEF.

17 | **275005.1.8.1** Gas cabinets, exhausted enclosures, and exhaust ducts with a cross sectional
18 dimension of 10 inches or greater shall be internally sprinklered.

19 | **305306.2 Interior supply location.** Medical gases shall be stored in areas dedicated to
20 the storage of such gases without other storage or uses. Where containers of medical
21 gases in quantities greater than 300 ft³ (8.5 m³) and less than 1500 ft³ (42.5 m³) are located
22 inside buildings, they shall be in a 1-hour exterior room, a 1-hour interior room or a gas
23 cabinet in accordance with Section ~~3053~~06.2.1, ~~3053~~06.2.2, or ~~3053~~06.2.3, respectively.
24 Where containers of medical gases in excess of 1500 ft³ (42.5 m³) and less than 3,000 ft³
25 (85 m³) are located inside a building, they shall be protected by a local application fire
26 sprinkler system in addition to the room or cabinet enclosure required by ~~3053~~06.2.1,
27 ~~3053~~06.2.2 or ~~3053~~06.2.3. Rooms or areas where medical gases are stored or used in
28 quantities exceeding 3000 ft³ (85 m³) per control area shall be in accordance with the
29 International Building Code for high-hazard Group H occupancies.

30 | **305306.2.1 One-hour exterior rooms.** A 1-hour exterior room shall be a room or
31 enclosure separated from the remainder of the building by fire barriers constructed in
32 accordance with Section 707 of the International Building Code or horizontal assemblies
33 constructed in accordance with Section 711 of the International Building Code, or both,
34 with a fire-resistance rating of not less than 1 hour. Openings between the room or
35 enclosure and interior spaces shall be self-closing smoke- and draft-control assemblies
36 having a fire protection rating of not less than 1 hour. Rooms shall have at least one
37 exterior wall that is provided with at least two vents. Each vent shall not be less than ~~36~~
38 ~~72~~ square inches (0.~~023-046~~ m²) in area. One vent shall be within ~~6-12~~ inches (~~152-304.8~~
39 mm) of the floor and one shall be within ~~6-12~~ inches (~~152-304.8~~ mm) of the ceiling.

1 Rooms containing medical gases in excess of 1500 ft³ (42.5 m³) and less than 3,000 ft³
2 (85 m³) shall be provided with at least one local application automatic sprinkler to
3 provide container cooling in case of fire.

4 | **305306.2.2 One-hour interior room.** When an exterior wall cannot be provided for the
5 room, the room shall be exhausted through a duct to the exterior. Supply and exhaust
6 ducts shall be enclosed in a 1-hour-rated shaft enclosure from the room to the exterior.
7 Approved mechanical ventilation shall comply with the International Mechanical Code
8 and be provided at a minimum rate of 1 cubic foot per minute per square foot [0.00508
9 m³/(s × m²)] of the area of the room. Rooms containing medical gases in excess of 1500
10 ft³ (42.5 m³) and less than 3,000 ft³ (85 m³) shall be provided with at least one local
11 application automatic sprinkler to provide container cooling in case of fire.

12 | **305306.2.3 Gas cabinets.** Gas cabinets shall be constructed in accordance with Section
13 **275003.8.6** and the following:

- 14 1. The average velocity of ventilation at the face of access ports or windows
15 shall not be less than 200 feet per minute (61 m/s) with a minimum of 150
16 feet per minute (46 m/s) at any point of the access port or window.
- 17 2. Connected to a ducted exhaust system with exhaust ducts enclosed in a 1-
18 hour shaft enclosure to the exterior.
- 19 3. Internally sprinklered when the quantity of medical gases exceeds 1500 ft³
20 (42.5 m³).

21 | **305306.3 Exterior supply locations.**

22 Oxidizer medical gas systems located on the exterior of a building shall be located in
23 accordance with Section **40046304.2.1**.

24 | **315404.2 Outdoor storage.** Outdoor storage of corrosive materials shall be in
25 accordance with Sections **275001**, **275003**, **275004** and this chapter.

26 | **Exception:** Up to 10 gallons of corrosive liquids may be stored outside of
27 buildings without spill control, drainage, and secondary containment provided:

- 28 1. The volume of individual containers is less than 5 gallons;
- 29 2. The containers are constructed of metal or plastic; and
- 30 3. The containers are located a minimum of 10 feet from property lines, exit
31 openings, and storm water drains.

32 | **315404.2.1 Above-ground outside storage tanks.** Above-ground outside storage tanks
33 of corrosive liquids shall be provided with secondary containment in accordance with
34 Section **275004.2.2**.

1 | **325504.3.1.1 Stationary Containers.** Stationary containers shall be separated from
2 | exposure hazards in accordance with the provisions applicable to the type of fluid
3 | contained and the minimum separation distance indicated in Table 325504.3.1.1. Storage
4 | of flammable cryogenic fluids, including liquefied natural gas (LNG), in aggregate
5 | quantities exceeding 15,000 gallon (56,781 L) water capacity is prohibited outside of a
6 | light industry (LI) zoning district except as provided in this Section.

7 | The placement of aboveground or below ground containers of flammable cryogenic
8 | fluids, including liquefied natural gas (LNG), in aggregate quantities exceeding 15,000
9 | gallon water (56,781 L) capacity may be considered for other locations on a case-by-case
10 | basis provided zoning issues, secondary containment, and fire exposures are satisfactorily
11 | addressed including the identification of hazard ratings in accordance with Appendix F.
12 | Where the nearest off-site exposure(s) is(are) less than 500 feet (152.4 m) from the
13 | container(s) the placement may be permitted outside of a light industry (LI) zoning
14 | district by the fire chief only after notification of owners/occupants of properties within
15 | 500 feet (152.4 m) , requesting their input in order to assess the potential effect on the
16 | community. Notice to adjacent property owners shall be accomplished in accordance with
17 | the established procedures outlined in the Land Development Code for notice of
18 | applications and administrative actions or decisions.

19 | **335601.1.6 Jurisdiction.** This Chapter applies within the City of Austin. The doing or
20 | performing of any act in violation of this Chapter is additionally defined as a nuisance
21 | and prohibited within the City of Austin and within 5,000 feet (1,524 m) outside the city
22 | limits. The fire chief shall enforce this Article to prevent and summarily abate and
23 | remove the nuisance in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code Section
24 | 217.042. This section does not apply within any portion of the five thousand foot (1,524
25 | m) area that is contained within the territory of another municipality as defined in the
26 | Texas Local Government Code Section 1.005.

27 | **335601.2.4 Financial responsibility.** Before a permit is issued, as required by Section
28 | 335601.2, the applicant shall file with the Austin Fire Department Prevention Division a
29 | public liability insurance policy in the principal sum of \$1,000,000 for personal injuries
30 | and \$500,000 for property damage. The policy shall be current and shall name the City of
31 | Austin as an additional insured for the purpose of the payment of all damages to persons
32 | or property which arise from, or are caused by, the conduct of any act authorized by the
33 | permit upon which any judicial judgment results. The fire chief is authorized to specify a
34 | greater or lesser amount when, in his or her opinion, conditions at the location of use
35 | indicate a greater or lesser amount is required. Government entities shall be exempt from
36 | this bond requirement.

37 | **335601.2.5 Permit Denial.** When in the opinion of the fire chief there is a substantial
38 | danger to life, health, or property in the immediate area exposed to the blasting, fire
39 | works display or use of pyrotechnic materials for which a permit is being requested, the
40 | request shall be denied.

1 | **335601.2.6 License Required.** The fire chief may in the interest of public safety require
2 | that the persons engaged in the use of explosives meet specific licensing requirements
3 | (See Section 335601.9) as a condition of the permit.

4 | **335601.2.7 Permit Application.** To obtain a permit the licensed blaster must file with
5 | the fire chief an application in writing on a form to be furnished by the fire chief. Each
6 | application must describe the proposed work, the location of the work, and the other
7 | pertinent information as may be required.

8 | **335601.2.8 Permit Review.** The fire chief may require written comments on each permit
9 | application from the various affected City of Austin departments. When in the opinion of
10 | the fire chief the departments have a valid objection to the issuance of a permit, no permit
11 | may be approved until the objection has been resolved to the satisfaction of the fire chief.

12 | **335601.2.9 Permit Fees.** Permits authorized by the provisions of Section 335601.2 may
13 | be issued only on payment of the appropriate fee as established by the City Council. City
14 | of Austin departments are not required to pay permit fees when engaged in the work
15 | described in this section.

16 | **335601.4 Qualifications.** Persons in charge of magazines, blasting, fireworks display, or
17 | pyrotechnic special effect operations shall not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs
18 | which impair sensory or motor skills, shall be at least 21 years of age, and shall
19 | demonstrate knowledge of all safety precautions related to the storage, handling or use of
20 | explosives, explosive materials or fireworks. Persons actively involved in or responsible
21 | for blasting, fireworks displays, or the production of pyrotechnic special effects or
22 | displays shall meet all applicable federal, state and local license requirements for the
23 | work or activity being performed.

24 | **335601.9. Blasting Licenses.**

25 | **335601.9.1. General.** No person may engage in the use of explosive material within the
26 | City of Austin unless that person is licensed under this article or is under the direct
27 | supervision of a person licensed under this article.

28 | **335601.9.2.** No person may engage in the use of explosive material within the City of
29 | Austin unless that person meets the specific license requirements of the blasting permit
30 | granted by Section 335601.2, or be under the direct supervision of a person so licensed.

31 | **335601.9.3.** A license issued under this section is valid for a period of one year.

32 | **335601.9.4.** A license may be renewed each year on presentation of credible
33 | documentary proof that the license holder has been actively engaged in blasting
34 | operations in the preceding year.

35 | **335601.9.5.** The license application fee and license application renewal fee shall be
36 | established by action of the City Council.

1 | **335601.9.6.** No license may be assigned or transferred.

2 | **335601.9.7.** After taking the Class "S" examination, a person holding a current Class "B"
3 | license may convert it to a Class "S" license at any time without payment of fee. A Class
4 | "B" license holder may convert to a Class "S" license at renewal time. The fee for this
5 | conversion will be the set Class "S" renewal fee.

6 | **335601.9.8.** If an applicant for a blasting license fails to pass the examination, the
7 | applicant is not eligible for re-examination for a period of 30 days. If an applicant fails to
8 | pass the examination at any subsequent time, the applicant is not eligible for another
9 | examination for a period of six months following the failure. Another license application
10 | fee must be paid for each test after the third test administered.

11 | **335601.9.9.** A Class "C" license holder may not be named on a blasting permit as the
12 | responsible blaster except on a permit for blasting operations involving uninhabited areas.
13 | An uninhabited area is a point without a person, animal, structure, or road within a
14 | distance of 500 feet.

15 | **335601.9.10.** A Class "S" license holder is restricted to blasting operations involving
16 | swimming pools and septic systems.

17 | **335601.9.11.** Class "B" and Class "C" license holders are restricted from blasting
18 | operations involving swimming pools and septic systems unless a Class "S" release is
19 | attached to their license. To obtain a Class "S" release, a Class "B" or Class "C" license
20 | holder must pass the Class "S" blaster's examination.

21 | **335601.9.12.** All work performed by persons licensed under this article must be done in
22 | strict compliance with all federal and state laws and City of Austin ordinances. Violation
23 | of any law or ordinance will be cause for the fire chief to revoke or suspend a license
24 | granted under this article. Whenever the fire chief believes that any grounds for
25 | revocation or suspension of a license exist, he shall give written notice to the holder of
26 | the license. The fire chief will hold a hearing at which the license holder may appear
27 | either personally or by representative and present evidence and make statements. If the
28 | fire chief's decision is to revoke or suspend the license, the holder may appeal in
29 | accordance with Section 103.1.4 of this code.

30 | **335601.9.13.** The fire chief may stop blasting operations in the interest of public health or
31 | safety. In addition, the fire chief may seize, take, remove or cause to be removed at the
32 | expense of the owner, explosive materials offered or exposed for sale, stored, possessed,
33 | used, or transported in violation of this code.

34 | **335601.10 Blaster Classifications and Requirements.**

35 | **335601.10.1. General Requirements for All License Classes.** Applicant must:

- 36 | 1. Be at least 21 years of age;

2. Be in adequate physical and mental condition to perform the work required;
3. Achieve a passing score on a test appropriate to the license class desired;
4. Be able to understand and give written and oral directions in the English language;
5. Not have been convicted of a felony or two or more misdemeanors within two years preceding the date of application for license, containing intoxication as an element of the offense.
6. Have a working knowledge of federal, state, and local laws and regulations pertaining to explosive materials;
7. Have no revoked, suspended, or terminated blaster's license, or any criminal action involving blasting activities pending in a federal, state, or municipal court of law; and,
8. Pay the license application fee in accordance with the schedule established by the City Council.

335601.10.2. In addition to the General Requirements, the applicant must satisfy the following requirements for the class license indicated:

335601.10.2.1. Class "A."

1. Has held a Class "B" blaster's license from the City of Austin for at least the preceding two years or the applicant has at least six years of experience in the field of transporting, storing, handling, and using explosive materials during the preceding 10 years, and submits credible documentary proof of the experience, including references.
2. Be knowledgeable in designing blasting programs, in calculating powder factors, and in the deployment and precise use of delay blasting for all phases of construction.
3. Be capable of instructing others in the explosives field.

335601.10.2.2. Class "B." Has held a Class "C" blasters license from the City of Austin for at least the preceding two years or has at least four years of experience in the field of transporting, storing, handling, and using explosive materials within the preceding eight years, and submits credible documentary proof of the experience, including references.

335601.10.2.3. Class "C." Has at least two years of experience in the field of transporting, storing, handling, and using explosive materials within the preceding four years, and submits credible documentary proof of the experience, including references.

335601.10.2.4. Class "S." Has held a Class "B" blasters license from the City of Austin for at least the preceding two years or has at least four years of experience in the field of

1 transporting, storing, handling, and using explosive materials within the preceding eight
2 years, and submits credible documentary proof of the experience, including references.

3 | **335607.4.1** Prior written approval is required for blasting to be conducted on Sunday,
4 legal holidays, or between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. on other days.

5 | **335607.5 Notification.** All blasting operations must be preceded by a preblast
6 notification to the owners or managers of all affected premises. The range of the preblast
7 notification shall be at the discretion of the blaster or as required by the permit.
8 Whenever blasting is being conducted in the vicinity of utility lines or rights-of-way, the
9 blaster shall notify the appropriate representatives of the utilities at least 24 hours in
10 advance of blasting, specifying the location and intended time of such blasting. Verbal
11 notices shall be confirmed with written notice.

12 **Exception:** In an emergency situation, the time limit shall not apply when
13 approved.

14 | **335607.11.1** Approved blasting machines must be used. All other equipment is
15 prohibited.

16 | **335607.12.1** Only blasting trunk wire of 18 gauge minimum may be used while
17 conducting blasting operations under permits.

18 | **335607.16** All exposed blasting cap lead wires in the ground from previous work shall be
19 removed at the end of the work day.

20 | **335607.17** Particle velocities may not exceed the safe levels indicated in Table 335607-
21 A, and in no case shall particle velocities exceed 1.7 inches per second.

22 Monitoring of particle velocities for all blasting operations shall be carried out as
23 required in this section. When particle velocities exceed 0.5 inches per second, blast
24 frequencies shall also be monitored. Air over pressures shall not exceed the values of
25 | Table 335607-B. Particle velocities, frequencies, or air overpressure in excess of the
26 prescribed limits named in this section shall require the immediate suspension of blasting
27 and initiation of corrective measures. The fire chief may grant or require deviations from
28 these limits as required to adequately protect the public safety.

1

Table 335607-A

Frequency (Hertz)	Maximum Peak Particle Velocity (inches per second)
Less (applied to quantity)*fewer than 2	0.2
2.00 - 2.99	0.3
3.00 - 3.99	0.4
4.00 - 19.99	0.7
20.00 - 29.99	1.0
More than 30	1.7

2

Table 335607-B

Lower Frequency Limit of the Measuring System	Maximum Air Blast Overpressure (Decibels)
0.1 Hertz, high pass system	134
2 Hertz, high pass system	133
5-6 Hertz, high pass system	129

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

335607.18 A blast monitor, such as a seismic blast recording machine, is required during all blasting operations for which a permit is issued by the City of Austin. Particle velocity shall be recorded in three mutually perpendicular axes. The maximum particle velocity shall be the maximum of any of the three axes. Blast monitoring shall be performed by an independent company, experienced in planning and implementing blast monitoring programs. The blast monitoring company shall prepare monitoring plans and shall be responsible for ensuring that the monitor sensors are placed properly and that the measuring and recording instruments function properly. The monitoring company shall prepare blast monitoring reports. All monitoring reports shall carry the seal of an engineer licensed in the State of Texas and shall be retained on file by the permit holder. These reports shall be available to the City on request.

1 **Exception:** When, in the opinion of the fire chief, the damage to structures or
2 buildings due to blasting operations is unlikely, the requirements of this subsection
3 may be waived.

4 | **335607.19** Detonating cord may be used only when approved on the blasting permit.
5 Unauthorized use of detonating cord will result in revocation of the blasting permit and
6 the blaster's license.

7 | **335607.20** The fire chief shall set other conditions for the approval of the application that
8 are necessary to adequately protect public health and safety. These conditions may
9 include, but are not limited to, the required class of license for the responsible blaster,
10 reduced allowable particle velocities, reduced allowable air overpressure, additional
11 monitoring, increased insurance protection, hours of operation, type and amount of
12 explosives used, and engineered blasting plans.

13 | **335608.2.3 Permit.** The fee for this permit shall be as established by the City Council.

14 | **345703.4 Spill Control, Drainage Control, and Secondary Containment.**

15 | **345703.4.1 General.** Tanks, buildings, rooms, and areas used for storage, dispensing,
16 use, mixing, or handling of Class I, II, and III-A liquids shall be provided with a means to
17 control spillage and to contain or drain spillage and fire protection water as set forth in
18 Section **275004.2**.

19 **Exception:** Up to 10 gallons of Class I, II, and III liquids may be stored outside of
20 buildings without spill control, drainage, and secondary containment, provided:

- 21 1. The volume of individual containers is less than 5 gallons;
- 22 2. The containers are constructed of metal or plastic; and,
- 23 3. The containers are located a minimum of 10 feet from property lines, exit
24 openings, and storm water drains.

25 | **345703.4.2 Spill Control.** When spill control is required, floors of rooms, buildings or
26 areas containing flammable or combustible liquids must be sloped; constructed with
27 sumps and collection systems; recessed a minimum of 4 inches (101.6 mm); provided
28 with a liquid-tight, raised sill to a minimum height of 4 inches (101.6 mm) to prevent the
29 flow of liquids to adjoining areas; or otherwise constructed to contain a spill from the
30 largest single container or tank. The floor and sill must be constructed of noncombustible
31 material and must be liquid-tight. The liquid-tight seal must be compatible with the
32 material being stored. When raised sills are provided, they are not required at perimeter
33 openings that are provided with an open-grate trench across the opening that connects to
34 an approved drainage control system.

35 | **345703.4.3 Drainage Control.**

1 | **345703.4.3.1 General.** When drainage control is required, rooms, buildings or areas must
2 | be provided with a drainage system to direct the flow of liquids to an approved location
3 | or treatment system, or be provided with secondary containment for the flammable and
4 | combustible liquids and fire protection water.

5 | **345703.4.3.2 Sizing.** Drains shall be sized to carry the sprinkler system design flow rate
6 | over the sprinkler system design area. The slope of drains may not be less than 1 percent.
7 | The drains must be liquid-tight. Materials used to construct drainage systems must be
8 | compatible with the stored materials.

9 | **345703.4.3.3 Incompatible Materials.** Incompatible materials must be separated from
10 | each other in drainage systems.

11 | **Exception:** Incompatible materials are allowed to be combined when they have
12 | been rendered acceptable for discharge by an approved means into the public
13 | sewer.

14 | **345703.4.3.4 Neutralizers and Treatment Systems.** Drainage systems for spillage and
15 | fire-protection water which are directed to a neutralizer or treatment system shall comply
16 | with the following:

- 17 | 1. The system must be designed to handle the maximum worst-case spill from
18 | the single largest container plus the volume of fire protection water from the
19 | system over the minimum design area for a water flow duration of 20
20 | minutes; and
- 21 | 2. Overflow control from the neutralizer or treatment system must direct liquid
22 | leakage and fire protection water to a safe location away from buildings,
23 | material, or fire-protection control valves, means of egress, adjoining
24 | properties or fire apparatus access roadways.

25 | **345703.4.4 Secondary Containment.** When secondary containment is required:

- 26 | 1. Drains must be directed to a containment system or other location designed
27 | as secondary containment for flammable or combustible liquids and fire-
28 | protection water; or
- 29 | 2. The room, building or area must be designed to provide secondary
30 | containment of flammable and combustible liquids and fire-protection water
31 | through the use of recessed floors or liquid-tight, raised sills.

32 | **345703.4.4.1 Sizing of Indoor Containment.** Secondary containment must be designed
33 | to retain the spill from the largest single container plus the design flow rate of the
34 | sprinkler system for the area of the room or area in which the storage is located or the
35 | sprinkler system design area, whichever is smaller. The containment capacity must be
36 | capable of containing the water flow from a discharge having a duration of 20 minutes.

1 | **345703.4.4.2 Sizing of Outdoor Containment.** If the storage area is open to rainfall, the
2 secondary containment shall be designed to accommodate the volume of the largest
3 container or tank plus a 24-hour rainfall as determined by a 25-year storm.

4 | **Exception:** Listed tanks constructed with a integral method of secondary
5 containment.

6 | **345703.4.4.3 Construction of Secondary Containment.** The floor and walls of the
7 secondary containment must be constructed of noncombustible material and must be
8 liquid-tight. The liquid-tight seal must be compatible with the material being stored. In
9 addition to these requirements, walls must be constructed in accordance with Section
10 [7902.2.8.35004.2](#).

11 | **345703.4.4.4 Overflow.** Overflow control from the secondary containment system must
12 direct liquid leakage and fire-protection water to a safe location away from buildings,
13 material or fire-protection control valves, means of egress, fire apparatus access
14 roadways, adjoining properties, storm drains, waterways, and critical environmental
15 features (CEFs). Tanks shall be set back at least 150 feet from any recognized waterway
16 or CEF.

17 | **345703.4.4.5 Monitoring and Leak Detection.**

18 | **345703.4.4.5.1 Method.** A monitoring method capable of detecting hazardous material
19 leakage from the primary containment into the secondary containment must be provided.
20 When visual inspection of the primary containment is not practical, other approved
21 means of monitoring are allowed. When double walled tanks are used to provide
22 secondary containment for Class I and II liquids, automatic leak detection devices must
23 be provided. When secondary containment is subject to the intrusion of water, a
24 monitoring method for detecting the water must be provided. When monitoring devices
25 are provided, they must be connected to distinct visual or audible alarms.

26 | **345703.4.4.5.2 Testing.** Leak-detecting devices shall be tested annually by the owner or
27 occupant of the property on which they were located. Test results shall be maintained on
28 the premises and available to the chief on request.

29 | **345704.2.9.6.1 Locations where above-ground tanks are prohibited.** Storage of Class
30 I and II liquids in above-ground tanks outside of buildings is prohibited outside of a
31 major industry (MI) district..

32 | **Exceptions:**

- 33 | 1. The storage of up to 12,000 gallons (45,425 L) of Class I and II liquids
34 within the limits defined as Light Industrial is allowable provided the tank is
35 listed and labeled protected_aboveground tank, and is installed in accordance
36 with Section [345704.2.9.7](#) and its listing. The product shall be a

1 noncorrosive, nonreactive liquid having a specific gravity equal to or less
2 than 1.

- 3 2. The storage of up to 1,100 gallons (4,164 L) of Class I and II liquids at
4 construction sites is allowed provided the tank is listed, labeled, and installed
5 in accordance with its listing.
- 6 3. The placement of aboveground storage tanks at other locations or of greater
7 capacity may be considered on a case-by-case basis provided zoning issues,
8 secondary containment, and fire exposures are satisfactorily addressed
9 ~~including the identification of hazard ratings in compliance with Appendix~~
10 ~~H-F~~. The placement of aboveground tanks of Class I and II liquids in
11 aggregate quantities exceeding 12,000 gallons (45,425 L) water capacity,
12 where the nearest off-site exposure(s) is(are) less than 500 feet (152.4 m)
13 from the tank(s), may be permitted by the fire chief only after notification of
14 owners/occupants of properties within 500 feet (152.4 m) requesting their
15 input in order to assess the potential effect on the community. Notice to
16 adjacent property owners shall be accomplished in accordance with the
17 established procedures outlined in the Land Development Code for notice of
18 applications and administrative actions or decisions.

19 | **345704.2.10 Drainage and diking.** The area surrounding a tank or group of tanks shall
20 be provided with drainage control or shall be diked to prevent accidental discharge of
21 liquid from endangering adjacent tanks, adjoining property, reaching waterways, or
22 CEF's.

23 **Exceptions:**

- 24 1. For tank installations having an aggregate volume of less than 50,000
25 gallons, the fire chief is authorized to alter or waive these requirements
26 based on a technical report which demonstrates that such tank or group of
27 tanks does not constitute a hazard to other tanks, waterways, CEF's, or
28 adjoining property, after consideration of special features such as
29 topographical conditions, nature of occupancy and proximity to buildings on
30 the same or adjacent property, capacity, and construction of proposed tanks
31 and character of liquids to be stored, and nature and quantity of private and
32 public fire protection provided.
- 33 2. Drainage control and diking is not required for listed secondary containment
34 tanks.

35 | **345704.2.10.1 Volumetric capacity.** The volumetric capacity of the diked area shall not
36 be less than the greatest amount of liquid that can be released from the largest tank within
37 the diked area plus a 24-hour rainfall as determined by a 25-year storm. The capacity of
38 the diked area enclosing more than one tank shall be calculated by deducting the volume
39 of the tanks other than the largest tank below the height of the dike.

1 **345704.2.11.2 Location.** Flammable and combustible liquid storage tanks located
2 underground, ~~either outside or under buildings,~~ shall be in accordance with all of the
3 following:

- 4 1. Tanks shall be located with respect to existing foundations and supports such
5 that the loads carried by the latter cannot be transmitted to any portion of the
6 area excavated for the installation of the tank.
- 7 2. The distance from any part of an excavated area intended for the installation
8 of a tank for storing liquids to the nearest wall of a basement, pit, cellar, or
9 lot line shall not be less than 3-5 feet (914-1523 mm).
- 10 3. A minimum distance of 2 feet (610 mm), shell to shell, shall be maintained
11 between underground tanks.

12 **345704.2.11.3 Depth and cover.** Excavation for underground storage tanks shall be
13 made with due care to avoid undermining of foundations of existing structures.
14 Underground tanks shall be set on firm foundations and surrounded with at least 6-2 feet
15 inches (152-610 mm) of noncorrosive inert material, such as clean sand or pea gravel well
16 tamped in place or in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Tanks
17 shall be covered with a minimum of 2 feet (610 mm) of earth or shall be covered by not
18 less than 1 foot (305 mm) of earth, on top of which shall be placed a slab of reinforced
19 concrete not less than 4 inches (102 mm) thick.

20 When underground tanks are, or are likely to be, subjected to traffic, they shall be
21 protected against damage from vehicles passing over them by at least 3 feet (915 mm) of
22 earth cover, or 18 inches (457 mm) of well-tamped earth plus 6 inches (152 mm) of
23 reinforced concrete, or 8 inches (203 mm) of asphaltic concrete. When asphaltic or
24 reinforced concrete paving is used as part of the protection, it shall extend at least 2 feet
25 (610 mm) horizontally beyond the outline of the tank in all directions.

26 For tanks built in accordance with Section 345704.2.7, the burial depth and the height of
27 the vent line shall be such that the static head imposed at the bottom of the tank will not
28 exceed 10 psig (68.9 kPa) if the fill or vent pipe is filled with liquid.

29 If the depth of cover exceeds 7 feet (2134 mm) or the manufacturer's specifications,
30 reinforcements shall be provided in accordance with the tank manufacturer's
31 recommendations.

32 Nonmetallic underground tanks shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's
33 instructions. The minimum depth of cover shall be as specified above in this Section.

34 **34045704.2.11.5.1 Inventory control.** Daily inventory records shall be maintained for
35 underground storage tank systems. Fill and withdrawal amounts shall be reconciled
36 monthly.

1 | **37603.2.7 Fire-Extinguishing Systems.** Exterior storage of highly toxic solids and
2 | liquids shall be in noncombustible containers or shall comply with one of the following:

- 3 | 1. The storage area shall be protected by an automatic, open head, deluge fire-
4 | sprinkler system of the type and density named in NFPA 13; or
- 5 | 2. Storage shall be located under a canopy of noncombustible construction,
6 | with the canopied area protected by an automatic fire-sprinkler system of the
7 | type and density specified named in NFPA 13. The storage shall not be
8 | considered indoor storage.

9 | **Exception:** Sprinklers are not required for certain water reactive materials when
10 | sprinklers would not be effective in controlling a fire.

11 | **386101.2 Permits.** The requirements in this Chapter for permits to store or use hazardous
12 | materials within the City of Austin are applicable to a permit to store, use, handle, or
13 | dispense LP-gas, or to install or maintain an LP-gas container.

14 | Permits shall be required as set forth in Sections 105.6. As noted in Section 105.6.20.7 of
15 | these amendments, a permit is not required for non-commercial use at a single family
16 | residence. However, the information concerning location and exposures, as outlined in
17 | the Fire Protection Criteria Manual, shall be provided to the Fire Department by the
18 | owner of the residence.

19 | Where a single container is over 2,000-gallon (7571 L) or the aggregate capacity of
20 | containers is over 4,000 gallon (15,142 L) water capacity, the installer shall submit plans
21 | for the installation.

22 | Distributors shall not fill an LP-gas container for which a permit is required unless a
23 | permit for installation has been issued for that location by the fire chief.

24 | **386104.2 Maximum capacity within established limits.** The storage of LP-gas in
25 | aggregate quantities greater than 2000 gallons (7571 L) water capacity is not permitted
26 | within the city. The storage of LP-gas in aboveground or below ground containers,
27 | greater than 24 gallons (91 L) water capacity and up to a maximum of 2000 gallons (7571
28 | L) water capacity, is prohibited outside of Major Industry (MI) or Light Industry (LI)
29 | districts. Location of containers within a Light Industry zoning district may be approved
30 | by the fire chief, subject to zoning and fire exposure concerns being satisfactorily
31 | addressed.

32 | **Exceptions:**

- 33 | 1. The fire chief may approve the placement of aboveground or below ground
34 | containers for single family residential, multi-family residential or
35 | commercial occupancies on a case-by-case basis, provided the container and
36 | appurtenances are listed and installed in accordance with that listing, and
37 | issues such as zoning and fire exposures are satisfactorily addressed.

1 Guidance for evaluating locations for acceptability is published in the Fire
2 Protection Criteria Manual.

- 3 2. Where the nearest off-site exposure(s) is(are) less than 1,000 feet (304.8 m)
4 from the tank(s), the fire chief may approve the placement of aboveground
5 or below ground containers of LP-gas in aggregate quantities exceeding
6 2000 gallon water capacity only after notification of owners/occupants
7 within 1,000 feet (304.8 m) of the tank(s) to assess the potential effect on the
8 community. Notice to adjacent property owners and occupants shall be
9 accomplished in accordance with the established procedures outlined in the
10 Land Development Code for notice of applications and administrative
11 actions or decisions, with the exception that notice shall be made to a
12 distance of 1000 feet (304.8 m).

13 | **40036303.1.1.1.2.1** A maximum of 110 pounds (49.9 kg) of solid Class 3 oxidizer is
14 allowed in nonresidential detached storage adjacent to Group R occupancies, when such
15 materials are necessary for maintenance purposes associated with swimming pools. The
16 oxidizers shall be stored in approved containers and in an approved manner.

- 17 2. A separate fire alarm system is not required in buildings that are equipped
18 throughout with an approved supervised automatic sprinkler system installed
19 in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2 and having a local alarm
20 to notify all occupants.
- 21 3. A fire alarm system is not required in buildings that do not have interior
22 corridors serving dwelling units and are protected by an approved automatic
23 sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2,
24 provided that dwelling units either have a means of egress door opening
25 directly to an exterior exit access that leads directly to the exits or are served
26 by open-ended corridors designed in accordance with Section 1023.6,
27 Exception 4.

1 **CHAPTER 4780**

2 **REFERENCED STANDARDS**

3 This chapter lists the standards that are referenced in various sections of this document
4 and the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code, as published by the International
5 Code Council (ICC). The standards within Chapter 80 of the published International Fire
6 Code and amended by the City of Austin are listed herein and in the published code by
7 the promulgating agency of the standard, the standard identification, the effective date
8 and title, and the section or sections of this document that reference the standard. The
9 references specifically amended herein replace the reference within the published code.
10 All other references remain as published by the ICC. The application of the referenced
11 standards shall be as specified in Section 102.7.

NFPA

Standard
Reference
Number Title

National Fire
Protection Association
Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02269

Referenced
In Code
Section Number

13—2013 Installation of Sprinkler Systems
13D—2013 Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and
Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes.
13R—2013 Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential
Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height.

903.3.1.1, 903.3.2,
903.3.5.1.1, 903.3.5.2,
904.11, 905.3.4,
907.6.3, 1009.3,
3201.1, 3204.2, Table
3206.2, 3206.9, 3207.2,
3207.2.1, 3208.2.2,
3208.2.2.1, 3208.4,
3210.1, 3401.1, 5104.1,
5106.5.7, 5704.3.3.9,
Table 5704.3.6.3(7),
5704.3.7.5.1,
5704.3.8.4

72—2013 National Fire Alarm Code

903.3.1.3, 903.3.5.1.1
903.3.1.2, 903.3.5.1.1,
903.3.5.1.2, 903.4
508.1.5, Table 901.6.1,
903.4.1, 904.3.5, 907.2,
907.2.6, 907.2.9.3,
907.2.11, 907.2.13.2,
907.3, 907.3.3, 907.3.4,
907.5.2.1.2, 907.5.2.2,

907.6, 907.6.1, 907.6.2,
907.6.5, 907.7, 907.7.1,
907.7.2, 907.8, 907.8.2,
907.8.5, 1101.1

B105.1 One- and two-family dwellings. The minimum fire-flow requirements for detached one- and two-family dwellings having a fire-flow calculation area which does not exceed 3,600 square feet (344.5 m²) and separated from adjacent homes and structures by at least 10 feet (3.05 m) shall be 1,000 gallons per minute (3785.4 L/min).

B105.1.1 The minimum fire-flow requirements one- and two-family dwellings, including townhomes, having a fire-flow calculation area which does not exceed 3,600 square feet (344.5 m²) and separated from adjacent homes and structures by less than 10 feet (3.05 m) shall be 1,500 gallons per minute (3785.4 L/min).

B105.1.2 Fire-flow and flow duration for dwellings having a fire-flow calculation area in excess of 3,600 square feet (344.5 m²) shall not be less than that specified in Table B105.1.

Exception: A reduction in required fire flow of 50 percent, as approved, is allowed when the building is provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

APPENDIX F HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, HAZARD RANKING

F101.1 Scope. Assignment of levels of hazards to be applied to specific hazard classes as required by NFPA 704 shall be in accordance with this appendix. The appendix is based on application of the degrees of hazard as defined in NFPA 704 arranged by hazard class as for specific categories defined in Chapter 2 of the International Fire Code and used throughout.

F101.2 General. The hazard rating of a material is required to be included in the hazardous materials inventory and shall be determined by evaluating the potential for harm and the relative toxicity of the material or mixture of materials as a whole. NFPA Standard 704, "Standard System for the Identification of the Fire Hazards of Materials" shall be used to the extent possible in identifying degree of hazard and is declared to be part of this code as if set forth in full in this section. MSDS's, published data (Irving Sax, etc.), Table F101.2, or Appendix E shall be used when NFPA 704-~~2007-2012~~ does not apply or provides insufficient guidance, e.g. oxidizers. See also Sections 105.6.21 and ~~2701.5001.2~~.

As noted in Section 4.2 of NFPA 704, there could be specific reasons to alter the degree of hazard assigned to a specific material; for example, ignition temperature, flammable range or susceptibility of a container to rupture by an internal combustion explosion or to metal failure while under pressure or because of heat from external fire. As a result, the

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

degree of hazard assigned for the same material can vary when assessed by different people of equal competence.

The hazard rankings assigned to each class represent reasonable minimum hazard levels for a given class based on the use of criteria established by NFPA 704. Specific cases of use or storage may dictate the use of higher degrees of hazard in certain cases.

PART 2. This ordinance takes effect on _____, ~~2010~~2012.

PASSED AND APPROVED

_____, ~~2010-2012~~ § _____ § _____

Lee Leffingwell
Mayor

APPROVED: _____
David Allan Smith
City Attorney

ATTEST: _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk