



AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

2021 International Fire Code Adoption

2021 International Fire Code

Local Amendment Adoption

The Our Mission Goes Beyond Our Name is the cornerstone of the Austin Fire Department. A leader in the fire service, AFD is on the cutting-edge of technology and training. A leader in the fire service, the Austin Fire Department protects lives and property through extensive fire prevention and safety education efforts, in addition to a quick and effective response to emergencies.



Proposed Adoption

In accordance with ICC latest publication, Austin Fire Department is on track to implement the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC) on **September 1, 2021**.



Coordinate and Clarify

Goal: To clarify previously adopted local amendments with changing technology and published code and coordinate changed or outdate references to other adopted codes and standards.

Reasons for amendments:

1. To support operating procedures for Operations, both in and outside of structures
2. Clarification purposes
3. Provide higher level of safety for properties utilizing hazardous materials



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 1

Historically, AFD has amended out the required operational permits required by section 106. This has been revised to section 105 in the 2021 IFC, so references were updated to correspond. Similar to other sections of the chapter as it was reformatted in published code.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 1

Minimum Aggregate Quantity table for hazardous materials operational permit, as required by section 105.5.22.2 has been updated to reflect the new and changing technology for battery systems and when an operational permit will be required for these systems.

Flammability	Rating	Quantity
4	Extreme	0.5 pounds or 5 gallons
3	High	12 pounds or 10 gallons
2	Moderate	60 pounds or 120 gallons
Toxicity	Rating	Quantity
4	Extreme	0.35 ounces or 0.3 fluid ounces
3	High	10 pounds or 1 gallon
2	Moderate	110 pounds or 55 gallons
Instability	Rating	Quantity
4	Extreme	0.35 ounces or 0.3 fluid ounces
3	High	10 pounds or 1 gallon
2	Moderate	110 pounds or 55 gallons
Carbon Dioxide System		101 pounds
Compressed gases and liquefied compressed gases		100 cubic feet @ NTP
Cryogenic fluids		1 gallon
Stationary and Mobile Energy Storage System (ESS)		Energy Capacity or Quantity
<u>Capacitor ESS - nameplate rating</u>		<u>3 kWh</u>
<u>Flow batteries - nameplate rating</u>		<u>20 kWh</u>
<u>Lithium ion ESS - nameplate rating</u>		<u>20 kWh</u>
<u>Nickel metal hydride - nameplate rating</u>		<u>70 kWh</u>
<u>Other battery technologies - nameplate rating</u>		<u>10 kWh</u>
<u>Other electrochemical ESS technologies - nameplate rating</u>		<u>3 kWh</u>
<u>Stationary lead-acid batteries - flooded and valve regulated, and Nickel-Cadmium ESS. Mobile ESS utilizing lead acid battery technology are exempt.</u>		<u>15 gallons</u>



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 2 and 3

Chapter 2 – removed definition of ‘Blaster’s License’. The requirement for a Blaster’s License is being removed from the 2021 IFC Local Amendments Ordinance therefore the definition is no longer needed.

Chapter 3 – No changes to current adopted amendments.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 4

Current local amendment 408.12 AED in high rise buildings relocated as proposed amendment 611. More intuitive to be located in Chapter 6 – Building Service and Systems.

New section 409 for First Responder Emergency Plans. New initiative by Emergency Planning department to create walkable maps for large and complex buildings and multi-family structures to aid First Responders in navigating unfamiliar buildings.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 4

Added new proposed amendment for First Responder Emergency Plans – section 409

409 FIRST RESPONDER EMERGENCY PLANS

409.1 Scope. First Responder Emergency Plans shall be plans assembled by AFD to aid First Responders in familiarity with the building and its fire safety features in the event of an emergency. Plans will also aid with annual maintenance inspections.

409.2 Building Floor Plans. At the completion of new projects, the Architect/Engineer shall submit to AFD an electronic set of building floor plan as-builts in an approved format (PDF, DWG, DXF).

409.2.1 Existing Buildings. Existing buildings shall have 3 years to submit building floor plan of AFD.

409.3 Plan Requirements. Building floor plans submitted to AFD shall contain the following information, as applicable:

- a) Locations of exits, exit passageways and horizontal exits.
- b) Location of fire alarm control panel and remote annunciator panel.
- c) Location of fire department connection.
- d) Location of all standpipes and hose valve connections.
- e) Rated wall locations.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 5

503.1 Where required. Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided and maintained in accordance with Sections 503.1.1 through 503.91.5. Where required fire apparatus access roads are located on property other than a public right-of-way, the required fire apparatus access road shall be located within the legal boundaries of the property unless otherwise approved by the fire code official.

503.1.1 Buildings and facilities. Exception 3

Where approved by the fire code official, the fire apparatus access roads for a facility, building or portion of a building hereafter constructed, may be located on adjacent property(s), provided the fire apparatus access roads on the adjacent property(s) are bound in perpetuity to any and all associated properties necessary to comply with the fire apparatus road requirements herein by either a Unified Development Agreement (UDA) or a Joint Use Access Easement (JUAE) that is approved and recorded with the county in which the properties are located.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 5

503.1.5 Official records. All required fire apparatus access roads that are not located within a public right-of-way shall be registered with the City of Austin fire department.

505.1 Address identification. New and existing buildings shall be provided with approved address identification in accordance with the City of Austin Fire Protection Criteria Manual, fire protection rules.

507.3 Fire flow. Fire flow requirements for buildings or portions of buildings and facilities shall be determined in accordance with IFC Appendix B of the Fire Code



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 5

~~507.5.3 Private fire service mains and water tanks.~~

~~507.5.7 Fire protection equipment and fire hydrants~~

~~507.6 Protection of potable water systems.~~

~~507.6.1 Special inspections.~~



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 5

510.1 Emergency responder radio communication coverage in buildings. ~~All buildings shall have approved radio coverage for emergency responders within the building based upon the existing coverage levels of the public safety communications system of the jurisdiction at the exterior of the building. This section shall not require improvement of the existing public safety communication system.~~ Approved in-building, two-way emergency responder communication coverage for emergency responders shall be provided in all new buildings. In-building, two-way emergency responder communication coverage within the building shall be based on the existing coverage levels of the public safety communication systems utilized by the jurisdiction, measured at the exterior of the building. This section shall not require improvement of the existing public safety communication systems.

Exceptions:

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

Removed current amendment sections 510.1.1 and 510.1.2 – Time Frames. Not needed for new buildings, and covered in Chapter 11 for existing buildings.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 6

~~603.3.2 Fuel oil storage inside buildings.~~

~~603.3.2.1 Quantity limits~~

~~603.3.2.2 Restricted use and connection~~

~~603.3.2.3 Installation~~

~~603.3.2.4 Tanks in basements.~~

605.4. Fuel oil storage systems for building heating systems shall be installed and maintained in accordance with this code. Tanks and fuel-oil piping systems shall be installed in accordance with the Mechanical Code. Aboveground storage tanks and piping for generators shall comply Chapter 57.

605.4.1.2 Fuel oil storage for stationary generators

605.4.2.2 Quantity limits.

605.4.2.3 Restricted use and connection.

605.4.2.6 Separation.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 9

Taking all of Chapter 9 from the IBC and integrating into the IFC.

901.5 Installation acceptance testing

903.2.4.2 Group F-1 distilled spirits and beverages. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout a Group F-1 fire area used for the manufacture or mixing of over 20% by volume (15.8% by weight) of ethyl alcohol distilled spirits in an aqueous solution in a volume exceeding the Maximum Allowable Quantity per Control Area.

903.2.8.3 Group R-4 Condition 2.

903.2.9.3 Group S-1 distilled spirits or wine.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 9

~~904.134 Domestic cooking facilities~~ Returning to published code, but keeping exception for Foster Care facilities <6.

~~905.3.4.1 Hose and cabinet~~ Returning to published code.

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

1. In every required interior exit stairway, a hose connection shall be provided for each story above and below grade plane. Hose connections shall be located at the intermediate floor landing unless otherwise approved by the fire code official.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 9

~~907.2.13.2 Two-Way, In-Building Wired Fire Department Communication System~~ New buildings, specifically high rises will be required to have a ERRC system and move away from hard-wired communication system.

~~907.6.5 Monitoring.~~

Retaining smoke control section 909.22 amendments, but replacing into 909.20.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 9

[916.1 Gas detection system](#)

[916.4 Power connections.](#)

[916.5 Emergency and standby power.](#)

[916.6 Gas detector locations.](#)

[916.6.1 Gas detector selection.](#)

[916.7 Gas sampling.](#)

[916.8 System activation.](#)

[916.10 Fire alarm system connections.](#)



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 10

1001.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall specify the requirements of means of egress and shall apply to the design, installation of means of egress. For those requirements, refer to Chapter 25-12 Article 1 Building Code for combined amendments and the 2021 International Building Code Chapter 10. Refer to section 1032 of the International Fire Code for maintenance of the means of egress.

Chapter 10 moved to IBC. Exception is section 1032 Maintenance of Means of Egress



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 11

Shifted amendment due to re-organized and added section.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 12

Chapter 12 – Energy Systems was added in the 2018 IFC. Previous amendments for section 608 were relocated to this chapter and amended, mostly focused on section 1207.

1207.1.1 Scope. ESS having capacities exceeding the values in Table 1207.1.1 shall comply with this section.

**TABLE 1207.1.1
ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (ESS) THRESHOLD QUANTITIES**

<u>TECHNOLOGY</u>	<u>ENERGY CAPACITY^a</u>
<u>Capacitor ESS</u>	<u>3 kWhr</u>
<u>Flow Batteries^b</u>	<u>20 kWhr</u>
<u>Lead-acid batteries, all types</u>	<u>See Section 1207.1.2, item 3</u>
<u>Lithium-ion batteries</u>	<u>20 kWhr</u>
<u>Nickel metal hydride (Ni-MH)</u>	<u>70 kWhr</u>
<u>Nickel-cadmium batteries (Ni-Cd)</u>	<u>See Section 1207.1.2, item 3</u>
<u>Other battery technologies</u>	<u>10 kWhr</u>
<u>Other electrochemical ESS technology</u>	<u>3 kWhr</u>

a. Energy capacity is the total energy capable of being stored (nameplate rating), not the usable energy rating. For units rated in amp-hours, kWhr shall equal rated voltage time amp-hour rating divided by 1,000

b. Shall include vanadium, zinc-bromine, polysulfide-bromide and other flowing electrolyte-type technologies.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 12

1207.1.2 Permits.

1207.1.2.1 Communication Utilities

-1207.1.6 Fire Remediation-

1207.1.6.1 Fire Mitigation Personnel.

1207.1.6.3 Responsibility for Unauthorized Discharge.

1207.1 General

1207.5.3. Elevation

1207.5.4 Fire detection

TABLE 1207.6 - ELECTROCHEMICAL ESS TECHNOLOGY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Feature	Section	BATTERY TECHNOLOGY				OTHER ESS AND BATTERY TECHNOLOGIES ^a	CAPACITOR ESS ^b
		Lead-Acid	Ni-CD & Ni-MH	Lithium-Ion	Flow		
Exhaust ventilation	1207.6.1	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Explosion control	1207.6.3	No	Yes ^a	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Safety caps	1207.6.4	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Spill control & neutralization	1207.6.2	Yes ^c	Yes ^c	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thermal runaway	1207.6.5	Yes ^d	Yes	Yes ^e	No	Yes ^e	Yes
Thermal runaway detection system	1207.6.7	No	No	Yes	No	No	No

- a. Protection shall be provided unless documentation acceptable to the fire code official is provided in accordance with Section 104.8.2 that provides justification why the protection is not necessary based on the technology used.
- b. Applicable to vented-type (i.e., flooded) nickel-cadmium and lead-acid batteries.
- c. Not required for vented-type (i.e., flooded) lead-acid batteries.
- d. Thermal runaway protection is permitted to be part of a battery management



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 12 1207.6.2.3 Special provisions for Lead-Acid ESS

1207.6.6 Thermal Runaway Detection System

1207.6.6.1 When Required. A thermal runaway detection system shall be provided for lithium-ion battery storage systems with an energy capacity greater than 20 kWh.

EXCEPTION: Group R-3 & R-4 occupancies.

1207.6.6.1 Approvals. Devices designed to detect the thermal runaway of a lithium-ion cell containing a flammable or combustible liquid shall be listed in accordance with UL 2075, Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors.

1207.6.6.2 Performance. The thermal runaway detector shall activate upon detection of gas vapors produced by flammable or combustible liquid in a lithium-ion cell at the start of a thermal runaway event. Upon detection of a thermal runaway event the detection system shall shutdown the ESS rack releasing flammable or combustible gas vapors and transmit a supervisory fire alarm signal. Detection of a thermal runaway event shall activate the mechanical ventilation when it is provided as method of explosion control. Thermal runaway detectors shall operate independently of the ESS Energy Storage Management System.

1207.6.6.3 Annunciation. The thermal runaway detector shall be capable of identifying the ESS rack where thermal runaway occurred.

1207.9.1 Rooftop Installations



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 27

2701.4 Existing buildings and existing fabrication areas. Existing buildings and existing fabrication areas shall comply with this chapter.

Exceptions:

1. Transportation and handling of HPM in corridors and enclosures for stairways and ramps shall be allowed where in compliance with Section 2705.3.2 and the Building Code.
2. The aggregate quantity of flammable, pyrophoric, toxic and highly toxic gases in a single fabrication area allowed in Table 2704.2.2.1 Footnote d. shall be limited to 9000 cubic feet at NTP.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 50

5001.7.2 Permit Required. 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 chapter without a permit. Section 5001.6.3 also applies.

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.
3. Registered Industrial Plants Businesses with an Annual Permit through the Development Services Department may perform work in accordance with the provisions of the building code and rules governing the facilities.



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 50

5003.2.2.3 Emergency isolation. Where gases or liquids having a hazard ranking of Health Class 3 or 4, Flammability Class 4 or Instability Class 3 or 4 in accordance with NFPA 704 are carried in pressurized piping above 15 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) (103 kPa), an approved means of leak detection and emergency shutoff or excess flow control shall be provided. Where the piping originates from within a hazardous material storage room or area, the excess flow control shall be located within the storage room or area. Where the piping originates from a bulk source, the excess flow control shall be located as close to the bulk source as practical.

Exceptions:

1. Piping for inlet connections designed to prevent backflow.
2. Piping for pressure relief devices



Chapter 25-12: Local Amendments to the International Fire Code

Chapter 50 & 56

[Section 5005.1.12](#) - Returning to published code.

Chapter 56 - Removing previous amendments as they were outdated in both code and practice. Section 5607 is specific to blasting requirements and is locally amended as needed based on experience from previous implosion demolitions.



2015 International Fire Code

Proposed Local Amendments

Major changes in code related to Energy Storage Systems and how AFD reviews and handles system inspection and taking all of Chapter 9 from IBC and transferring Chapter 10 from IFC. Other changes as they appear in the draft amendments are:

- Published code maintenance and clean up
- Existing local amendment maintenance and clean up



2015 International Fire Code

Proposed Local Amendments

Questions?

Thank you for your time!

