Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting: November 2, 2017   Item Number: **021**

Public Hearing and Possible Action

Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance adopting the 2015 International Fire Code and related local amendments.

Lead Department	Austin Fire Department.
Fiscal Note	There is no financial impact for this item.
Prior Council Action	June 6, 2013 - Council adopted the 2012 International Fire Code with local amendments.
For More Information	Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr 974-0131; Carl Wren 974-0191.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	July 27, 2016 - Approved by the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals on a 7- 0 vote with Commissioners Bess, Cannatti and Kiracofe absent.

Additional Backup Information:

The International Fire Code provides statewide minimum requirements for life safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosion or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures and premises and provides safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

Key Changes to the Published Code:

- Section 409 Adds language that clarifies the process and enforcement for Temporary Change of Use Permits for Special Events.
- Section 907.2 Clarifies language on manual fire alarm boxes and allows alternative means for compliance.
- Section 907.2.7 Language is codified in the 2015 Fire Code, so removed for redundancy.
- Section 907.2.8.2 Clarifies "exterior exit access."
- Section 907.5.2.1.1 Adds language that requires alarms to be audible on balconies associated with an occupiable space.
- Section 907.6.1 Adds Surge Protection Devices to protect Data Communications and Fire Alarm Circuits to protect the circuits from lightning strikes.
- Section 909.22 Adds design requirements for Smoke Control Systems in pressurized stairs and vestibules.
- Section 1025.6 Adds and Clarifies 6 alternative methods of compliance permitted for egress lighting for certain occupancies.