A U S T I N C I T Y C O U N C I L

AGENDA



Thursday, May 27, 2010

Public Hearings and Possible Actions **Item No. 94**
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and consider second/third readings of an ordinance repealing and replacing Article 7 of City Code Chapter 25-12 to adopt the 2009 International Fire Code and local amendments.

For More Information: Carl Wren, 974-0191; Don Smith 974-0180

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals and Environmental Board.

Prior Council Action: December 15, 2005 - Council adopted the 2003 International Fire Code.
March 11, 2010 - Council set the public hearing for April 8, 2010.
April 8, 2010 - Council approved first reading to adopt the 2009 International Fire Code and local amendments.

On April 8, 2010, the City Council approved first reading of an ordinance adotping the 2009 International Fire Code and local amendments. The Council directed that the code revisions be written to address the issue of reactivation of expired building permits.

The Fire Code establishes minimum requirements for providing a reasonable level of life safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosion or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures and premises and to provide safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

The proposed ordinance establishes local amendments to address particular installations and establishes more stringent standards as recommended by the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals and by the Environmental Board.

The proposed amendments will address the following:
a) Adds language to clarify the types of documents required for approval of fire protection system installation and AFD's approval of construction permits;
b) provides for annual operational permits for fire protection systems such as fire alarm and sprinkler systems;
c) provides clear guidance on when and how temporary membrane structures can be erected and used;
d) provides guidance on how to construct and maintain live/work units in support of increasing mixed use development;
e) identification requirements for buildings or premises that present hazards that impact responding firefighters even though they may not present unusual hazards to building occupants;
f) new provisions to clearly require medical direction and training for occupants of buildings required to provide automated external defibrillators;
g) requirements for ensuring that emergency responders will ultimately be able to communicate by radio throughout buildings within the city;
h) allows greater flexibility in locating and protecting fuel tanks for standby and emergency power supplies (standby and emergency generators);
i) clarifies the requirements for fire and smoke alarms in day care occupancies;

j) provides guidance for alternative security devices in certain assembly occupancies.