

AGENDA ITEM # _____

DATE: May 18, 2015

COAC NUMBER: 15-5571

**CITY OF GOODYEAR
CITY COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution declaring as public records International Fire Code (2012 Edition) and Amendment 1 thereto filed with the City Clerk and Ordinance amending Section 5-2-1 to adopt the International Fire Code 2012 Edition and amendments thereto and to amend Article 5-3 related to penalties

STAFF PRESENTER: Ed Kulik, Chief Building Official and David Smith, Fire Marshal/Plans Examiner

COMPANY

CONTACT:

RECOMMENDATION:

1. ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 15-1698 DECLARING AS PUBLIC RECORDS INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE (2012 EDITION) AND AMENDMENT 1 THERETO FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK.
2. ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 15-1320 AMENDING SECTION 5-2-1 OF ARTICLE 5-2 OF CHAPTER 5 OF THE GOODYEAR CITY CODE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE (2012 EDITION), AND FOR THE ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE (2012 EDITION); TO AMEND ARTICLE 5-3 OF CHAPTER 5 OF THE GOODYEAR CITY CODE TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES, REMEDIES AND ACTIONS FOR VIOLATIONS OF ANY PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 5-2 OF CHAPTER 5 OF THE GOODYEAR CITY CODE; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF EXISTING ORDINANCES OR PORTIONS THEREOF THAT CONFLICT WITH ARTICLES 5-2 AND/OR 5-3 OF CHAPTER 5 OF THE GOODYEAR CITY CODE AS AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR THE PRESERVATION OF EXISTING RIGHTS AND DUTIES; PROVIDING FOR CORRECTIONS OF SCRIVENERS ERRORS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF JULY 1, 2015.

PURPOSE:

To provide for the adoption of the International Fire Code (2012 Edition) and amendments thereto.

BACKGROUND AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT:

PURPOSE OF BUILDING AND FIRE CODES

Building and fire codes promote health, welfare and safety of our community by requiring that best practices are followed in the construction, alteration repair, use occupancy and maintenance of buildings and structures within the community. By

adopting up-to-date building codes, the citizens, design professionals and builders can take advantage of current construction technologies, materials and methods and can benefit from updated building safety requirements such as exiting, structural issues and fire and life safety concerns. Moreover, consistency and uniformity of codes is important among the Valley and State jurisdictions because it makes it easier for designers and contractors who build in these cities, and allows for more consistent enforcement by Building Safety personnel. Conformance to the MAG Building Codes Committee's recommendation will allow for uniformity and consistency throughout the Valley.

The fire code regulates conditions hazardous to life, property or public welfare in the occupancy of structures and premises establishing regulations affecting or relating to structures, processes, premises and safeguards regarding the hazard of fire and explosion arising from storage, handling or use of structures, materials, or devices. Annual fire inspection of commercial occupancies in Goodyear raises awareness of fire code issues, thereby educating owners/occupants regarding fire protection in their businesses and protecting their customers. Follow up also ensures concerns noted are corrected toward continued compliance with the safeguards in the fire code.

EXISTING AND UPDATED CODES

The City's Fire Code was last updated on January 22, 2007. That last update was based upon the 2006 International Fire Code. It was adopted in conjunction with the other uniform codes promulgated by the International Code Council and the National Fire Protection Association. When adopted together, these documents work in harmony and provide comprehensive code requirements for regulated buildings and structures.

The International Fire Code has been updated by the International Code Council. Staff is proposing the adoption of the 2012 edition of the International Fire Code because it includes improved standard code language encompassing technological and engineering advances as approved by the International Code Council (ICC) through the code development process and is correlated for consistency with other ICC codes being presented to the Council for approval.

The proposed local amendments to the fire code include seven notable changes to the model code as follows:

1. Automatic fire sprinkler system requirements were modified to provide fire suppression to all commercial buildings and to exempt them from residential structures with a total square footage of less than or equal to 5,000. This change is provided to maintain the standards currently adopted by the City of Goodyear.
2. The use groups R-4 condition 1 and R-4 condition 2 with 6 to 10 occupants were created and adopted in 2006 IFC for State Licensed Facilities. All State Licensed Facilities with 6 to 10 occupants are now considered Use Group R-4 and require a fire suppression system in accordance with NFPA 13R with the attic and garage fire suppressed. A fire suppression system in accordance to NFPA 13D or in accordance with the IRC are no longer valid for this use. The result is that the

owners have the flexibility to care for 6 to 10 occupants that are State Licensed as direct care, personal care, supervisory care or behavioral care.

3. Fire plan submittal for fire sprinkler and fire alarm installation drawings shall bear a minimum review Certification of a National Institute for Certification of Engineering Technologies (NICET) Level III in Fire Sprinkler and Fire Alarm Systems. This change will maintain the current standard as a reasonable approach to the submittal process and reduce plan submittal cost for the customers.
4. In addition to the Fire Lane Signage as designed in the City of Goodyear Engineering Design Standards and Policies Manual, markings for fire apparatus access roads has been amended to provide an alternative to the Fire Code Official for identifying fire apparatus access roads with curb paints with signage.
5. Firefighter Air Systems (FAS) was deleted from the amendments as noted in the adoption of the 2006 International Fire Code and a new appendix “K” “Requirements for Firefighter Breathing Air Replenishment System” is being adopted. This appendix is included in a newer edition of the Fire Code, but staff is proposing that this appendix be adopted now as it provides a better explanation of the requirements for the installation and maintenance of the system in high-rise buildings. Staff is proposing that Firefighter Breathing Air Replenishment Systems be required in all new buildings and structures that meet any of the following: (i) building or structure with five (5) floors or more above grade; (ii) high rise buildings as defined by the International Building Code as adopted and amended by the governing authority; or (iii) underground buildings or structures or components thereof, totaling ten thousand (10,000) square feet or more that are either more than two (2) floors below grade or more than thirty (30) feet below grade.
6. Where a portion of the facility or building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction is more than 400 feet (122m) from a fire hydrant on a fire apparatus access road, as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the facility or building, on-site fire hydrants and mains shall be provided where required by the fire code official. This is as written in the IFC with no exceptions.
7. Emergency Responder Radio Coverage is now mandatory in the 2012 International Fire Code for new buildings. This will better ensure radio coverage for emergency responders, especially in larger buildings and commercial developments.

Additional amendments included in the proposed code update either existed in the previous fire code, provide consistency with other codes adopted by the City, or clarify current code language. In addition, a penalty of double the permit fee is included if work commences before necessary permit(s) have been obtained.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

On January 22, 2007, the fire code was approved by the City Council. On March 2, 2015, Council was briefed on the updated fire code being presented today and changes to fees for building related permit fees, including fire permit fees.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

None.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution 15-1698 Declaring Public Records – International Fire Code 2012 Edition and amendment thereto
 - a. The International Fire Code 2012 Edition is on file with the City Clerk
 - b. Amendment 1 to International Fire Code 2012 Edition
2. Ordinance 15-1320 International Fire Code 2012