# ORDER ADOPTING 2021 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE

WHEREAS, the Board of Emergency Services Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 ("District") are authorized, pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code § 775.036 to adopt and enforce a fire code; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to adopt a fire code and to provide for its enforcement in furtherance of protecting the health and safety of those residing within the territory of the District and in furtherance of preventing fires and medical emergencies;

It is, therefore, ORDERED that:

# Section 1. Adoption of Code

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in other provisions of this Order, the following documents are hereby adopted and incorporated and made a part hereof as though fully set forth herein as provisions of the fire code applicable and enforceable throughout the territory of the District, except within the corporate limits of any municipality located in the territory of the District that has previously adopted a fire code, if any:
  - (1) The 2021 International Fire Code ("IFC") and appendices B, C, D and L as promulgated by the International Code Council, Inc; and
  - (2) Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 30 of the 2021 International Building Code ("IBC"), published by the International Code Council, Inc.
- (b) The remaining provisions of this Order, together with all provisions incorporated in this Order by reference shall constitute the Fire Code of the District ("Fire Code" or "Code").
- (c) In the event of a conflict between the IFC or any other code or provision incorporated in this Order and the express provisions of this Order, the express provisions of this Order prevail.

## Section 2. Administration

- (a) The Fire Chief of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 ("Fire Chief" or "Fire Code Official"), together with such assistants and agents of the District or third parties as the District may designate, are authorized to enforce this Order, to take all actions required or authorized in provisions incorporated in this Order by reference, and to conduct all inspections, review all plans, accept all applications for a permit or approval authorized or required by the terms of this Order, and take any action necessary to fully implement and enforce this Order and the Code adopted hereunder.
- (b) The Fire Chief shall submit monthly activity reports to the District, covering inspection, review, and enforcement activities conducted during the prior month. The Fire Chief shall keep an accurate account of all fees, fines, and other funds collected and received pursuant to this Order, the names of the persons upon whose account the same were paid, the date and amount thereof, together with the location of the building or premises to which they relate.

- (c) The District shall maintain approved plans, specifications, and other reports required by this Order in the central offices of the District for a period of not less than five years following the date such documents were submitted to the District or prepared by the District, or as otherwise required by statute, law, rule, or regulation of the State of Texas.
- (d) The District may provide for inspection and other acts necessary to carry out the intent of this Order, including, but not limited to, hiring employees, retaining contractors, or entering into any necessary agreements with any individual or entity to implement and enforce the Fire Code adopted throughout the District.

## Section 3. Right of Entry

- (a) Whenever necessary to make an inspection to enforce any of the provisions of this Order for the prevention of fires and medical emergencies, or whenever the Fire Chief has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in any building or upon any premises any condition in violation of this Order, the Fire Chief or a designated agent may enter such building or premises at all reasonable times to inspect same or to perform any duty imposed on the Fire Chief by this Order; provided that if such building or premises is occupied, they first present proper credentials and demand entry; and, except during construction of the improvement to be inspected, if such building or premises are unoccupied, the agent of the District shall make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other person(s) having charge or control of the building or premises and demand entry. If such entry is refused, the Fire Chief or designated agent shall have recourse to every remedy provided by law to secure entry.
- (b) No owner or occupant or any other person having authority to control access to any building or premises shall fail or neglect, after demand for entry is made as provided in this Section 3, to promptly permit entry therein by the Fire Chief, or the authorized agent of the Fire Chief, for the purpose of inspection and examination pursuant to this Order. The District, the Fire Chief, or a designated agent may take any action, at law or in equity, available under the Fire Code of the District to enforce this section and any other applicable section as set forth herein or otherwise allowed under any applicable statute, law, rule, or regulation.

#### **Section 4. Stop Work Orders**

Whenever any work or construction is being done contrary to the provisions of this Order or without any permit or approval required by this Order, the Fire Chief or a designated agent of the District may order the work or construction stopped by notice in writing served on any person(s) engaged in performing or causing the work to be performed. Whenever work or construction is stopped in accordance with this Section 4, a written notice to stop work issued by the District shall be posted on the property in a manner reasonably visible to any person to perform any work on the property. All persons shall then cease all work or construction on the property until authorized to proceed by the Fire Chief. Any person failing to comply with a notice to stop work or removing any notice to stop work from any premises without permission of the Fire Chief shall be guilty of a Class C Misdemeanor, as defined in Texas Penal Code § 12.23.

# Section 5. Identification of District, Commissioners, and Appellate Body

- (a) Whenever the terms "jurisdiction", "authority having jurisdiction", "department", or "bureau of fire prevention" are used in the IFC, the term(s) will be a reference to the District. All regulatory authority established by the provisions of the IFC incorporated in this Order is established for the District.
- (b) Any reference in the provisions of the IFC incorporated in this Order to the "executive body" means the Board of Emergency Services Commissioners of the District.
- (c) Any reference in the provision of the IFC incorporated in this Order to the "board of appeals" or other appellate body established by the IFC means the appellate body or panel, as applicable, referred to in Section 7 of this Order.

# Section 6. Permits/Approvals/Inspections

All applications for any permit and all requests for any approval required by the terms of this Order shall be submitted in writing to the central administrative offices of the District on a form prescribed or authorized by the Fire Chief, along with payment of the applicable fee. The fees applicable for permits, approvals, and inspections shall be established from time to time as set forth in Section 10. A permit authorizing construction of an improvement expires on the date one year after issuance of the permit unless construction of the permitted improvement has commenced prior to that date and the construction continues without interruption until competed. A permit for handling, storing, processing, or using any hazardous material or hazardous process may be issued and remain valid for a period not to exceed three years. Subject to the right of appeal provided in this Order, the Fire Chief, or a designated agent of the District, will determine and decide the issuance of all permits and approvals, the duration of any permits, subject to the maximum duration authorized by this Section and compliance with all provisions of this Order. A permit or approval will be issued in cases where compliance with all applicable provisions of this Order have been demonstrated.

#### Section 7. Appeals

- (a) The Commissioners of the District shall appoint at least three residents or owners of property in the territory of the District to serve as members of an appellate body to hear and decide a complaint of any person aggrieved by a decision of the Fire Chief, or a designated agent of the District, regarding any request for a permit or approval, any decision to stop work, or stop use, and any decision to abate, repair, rehabilitate, demolish, or remove an unsafe structure or premises. All members of the appellate body must be present for a quorum. Any Commissioner of the District may serve as a member of the appellate body. Members of the appellate body shall serve for a period of two years or until their successor is appointed.
- (b) The appellate body shall hear the timely appeal of any decision of the Fire Chief or other authorized agent of the District. A request to appeal a decision shall be submitted in writing addressed to the President of the Board of Emergency Services Commissioners of the District and delivered to the District's central administrative offices not more than 30 days after the date of the decision or action that is the subject of the appeal. A request to appeal shall be presumed delivered 3 days after the date

of mailing and include the mailing address and work or resident telephone number of the appellant, for the purpose of receiving notice of a hearing on the appeal. A notice of appeal shall not stay the decision or action from which the appeal is taken.

- (c) The Commissioners shall appoint the appellate panel to hear an appeal at its next regularly scheduled meeting held not less than five days and not more than 35 days after receipt of the appeal. The hearing of an appeal shall be scheduled not later than 21 days following the meeting of the Board of Commissioners at which the appellate panel is appointed to hear the appeal. If no meeting of the Board of Commissioners occurs during the period after a request for appeal is submitted as required by this subsection (c), the President of the Board of Emergency Services Commissioners shall appoint an appellate panel to hear the appeal and shall schedule the appeal hearing. An appointment of an appellate panel may include alternate appointments in case one or more appointees are unable to serve at the place and time scheduled for the appeal hearing.
- (d) Except as provided in subsection (g), the Commissioners, or the President of the Board of Emergency Services Commissioners, as applicable, will provide written notice of the date, time, and place of the appeal hearing not less than ten days prior to the date of the hearing.
- (e) An appellant may present evidence in support of the appeal and cross-examine opposing witnesses. The Fire Chief, or a designated agent of the District, may present evidence in support of such decision or action and cross-examine witnesses. The appellate panel shall make all determinations regarding the admissibility of evidence and credibility of witnesses and may make reasonable rulings regarding the conduct of the hearing and the manner that evidence is presented. The appellate panel may be assisted by legal counsel for the District in making evidentiary rulings and determining reasonable procedures to conduct the hearing.
- (f) The appellate panel may affirm, reverse, or modify the decision from which an appeal is taken. The decision of the majority of the appellate panel shall be the decision of the appellate panel. The panel may reverse a decision only if, in the opinion of the majority of the appellate panel: (I) the decision appealed is manifestly unjust; or (II) special circumstances make strict application of the rule that is the basis of the original decision impractical and the reversal of the decision is in conformity with the intent and purpose of this Order; and reversal of the original decision would not result in a greater threat of danger to the life or safety of any persons.
- (g) If the Fire Chief determines in a written order served on the owner of property that a structure constitutes an imminent threat to the life or safety of any persons, the Fire Chief or a designated agent of the District may require the demolition or removal of such structure not later than ten days following the date notice of the written order is served on the owner of the affected property. The owner may request an emergency appeal of the decision in writing delivered to the central administrative offices of the District at any time prior to the expiration of the ten-day period. If an emergency appeal is requested timely, the President of the Board of Emergency Services Commissioners is authorized to appoint an appellate panel and schedule a hearing of the emergency appeal as soon as practicable and serve notice of the time, date and place of the appeal on the owner not less than two days prior to the date of the hearing of the emergency appeal.

# Section 8. Amendments to IFC. The following sections of the IFC are hereby amended as follows:

## **SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION**

# (1) 101.2.1 Appendices.

Provisions in the appendices shall not apply unless specifically adopted. Appendices, B, C, D and L are adopted subject to the amendments listed below.

## (2) 102.7 Referenced codes and standards.

The codes and standards referenced in this Code shall be those that are listed in Chapter 80, and the codes and standards shall be considered to be part of the requirements of this Code to the prescribed extent of each such reference and as further regulated by Sections 102.7.1 and 102.7.2. The Fire Code Official is authorized to administratively adopt the most recent edition of a code or standard referenced in Chapter 80.

## (3) 104.1 General.

The Fire Code Official is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this Code and shall have the authority to render interpretations of this Code, and to adopt policies, procedures, rules and regulations, and publish bulletins, in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies, procedures, rules and regulations, and bulletins, shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this Code. The Fire Code Official is authorized to develop administrative rules, and publish bulletins, to supplement the requirements of this Code and adopted standards referenced by this Code. Should a conflict occur between this Code, or a referenced standard, and administrative rules or bulletins adopted by the Fire Code Official, the requirements of the administrative rule or bulletin shall govern.

#### (4) 105.5.32 Mobile food preparation vehicles.

A permit is required for mobile food preparation vehicles.

#### (5) 105.6.25 Electronic access control systems.

Construction permits are required to install or modify an electronic access control system utilizing controlled egress, delayed egress, or electromagnetic locking devices (See Chapter 10 of the IFC). A separate construction permit is required for to install or modify a fire alarm system that may be connected to the access control system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this Code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

#### (6) 106.1 Submittals.

Construction documents and supporting data shall be submitted in an application for a permit and in a form and detail as required by the Fire Code Official. The construction documents shall be prepared by a registered design professional where required by the statutes of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed. When not required by statute, construction documents shall be prepared by a registered design professional when required by the Fire Code Official.

#### (7) 107.3 Permit Valuations.

DELETED IN FULL.

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

## (1) 307.1 General.

A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any open burning unless conducted and approved in accordance with regulations established by the Fire Code Official.

#### (2) 307.1.1 Authorization.

All outdoor burning shall be conducted in accordance with this Code, 30 Texas Admin. Code, Chapter 111, subchapter B (the "Texas Outdoor Burning Rules"), and supplemental rules adopted by the Fire Code Official. If a conflict should arise between this Code, the supplemental rules adopted by the Fire Code Official and the Texas Outdoor Burning Rules, then the more stringent rule shall apply. Where required by state or local law or regulations, open burning shall only be permitted with prior approval from the Fire Code Official, and state or local air and water quality management authority, provided that all conditions specified in the authorization are followed.

# (3) 307.2.1 Authorization.

DELETED IN FULL.

#### (4) 307.3 Extinguishment authority.

Any outdoor fire regulated by this section may be extinguished if it creates or adds to a hazardous situation as determined by the Fire Code Official or first responders, if smoke emissions are offensive to others, or if applicable safety guidelines are not followed.

#### (5) 307.4.4 Permanent Outdoor Firepit.

Permanently installed outdoor firepits shall not be installed within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material.

**Exception:** Permanent outdoor firepits installed at one- and two-family dwellings.

#### (6) 307.5 Attendance.

Open burning, bonfires, recreational fires, and the use of portable outdoor fireplaces and permanent outdoor fire pits shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

# (7) 308.1.4. Open-flame and heat producing devices.

Open-flame and heat producing devices shall not be stored or operated on balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction.

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

# (8) 308.1.4 Open-flame cooking devices.

Exceptions 2 and 3 are DELETED IN FULL.

## (9) 308.1.7 Religious ceremonies.

When, in the opinion of the Fire Code Official, adequate safeguards have been taken, participants in religious ceremonies are allowed to carry hand held candles. Hand-held candles shall not be passed from one person to another while lighted. Use of open flame devices in any Assembly, Educational, or Institutional Occupancy, (except for religious ceremonies), is prohibited unless approved and permitted by the Fire Code Official.

## (10) 311.2.2 Fire protection.

Fire protection systems shall be maintained in an operable condition at all times. Any impairment to, or malfunction of, a fire protection system shall be immediately reported to the fire department.

#### (11) 319.1 General.

Mobile food preparation vehicles shall comply with this section.

## **(12) 319.4 Fire protection.**

When required by the Fire Code Official, fire protection shall be provided in accordance with Sections 319.4.1 and 319.4.2.

#### (13) 319.8.1 Maximum aggregate volume.

The maximum aggregate capacity shall not exceed the limits established by the Fire Code Official.

#### **EMERGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS**

## (1) 403.11.2 Public safety plan.

Where the Fire Code Official determines that an indoor or outdoor gathering of persons has an adverse impact on public safety, or where such gatherings adversely affect public safety services of any kind, the Fire Code Official shall have the authority to order the development of a public safety plan which provides an approved level of public safety for the event.

# **FIRE SERVICE FEATURES**

#### (1) 503.1.1 Buildings and facilities.

Approved fire apparatus access roads shall be provided for every facility, building or portion of a building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction. The fire apparatus access road shall comply with the requirements of this section, supplemental regulations established by the Fire Code Official, and Appendix D of this Code. Access roads shall extend to within 150 feet of all portions of the facility and all portions of the

exterior walls of the first story of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building or facility.

#### (2) 503.2.1 Dimensions.

Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 26 feet and an unobstructed-vertical clearance of not less than 14 feet. When required by the Fire Code Official, access roads serving one or two-family dwellings, townhomes, and other residential developments shall be a minimum of 30 feet in width.

**Exception:** The minimum required width and vertical clearance of a fire apparatus access road may be increased when required by the Fire Code Official. The minimum required width of a fire apparatus access road may be reduced when approved by the Fire Code Official.

## (3) 503.3 Marking.

Where required by the Fire Code Official, approved signs or other approved notices shall be provided for fire apparatus roads to identify such roads or prohibit the obstruction thereof. Signs or notices shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility. All required fire lanes shall be provided and maintained with fire lane striping that consists of six-inch (6") wide red background stripe with four-inch (4") high white letters stating "NO PARKING FIRE LANE TOW AWAY" painted upon the red stripe every 25-feet along the entire length of the fire lane, showing the exact boundary of the fire lane. Fire lane markings shall be on the vertical surface of the curb unless otherwise approved by the Fire Code Official.

# (4) 503.6 Security gates.

The installation of security gates across a fire apparatus access road shall be approved by the Fire Code Official. Where security gates are installed, they shall have an approved means of emergency operation. The security gates and the emergency operation shall be maintained operational at all times. Electric gate operators, where provided, shall be listed in accordance with UL 325. Gates intended for automatic operation shall be designed, constructed and installed to comply with the requirements of ASTM F2200. When required by the Fire Code Official, defective gates shall be secured in the open position until repaired.

#### (5) 505.1 Address Identification.

New and existing buildings shall be provided with approved address and building identification. The address and building identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property. Address and building identification characters shall contrast with their background. Address and building numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. Numbers shall not be spelled out. Each character shall be not less than 6 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch. Where required by the Fire Code Official, address and building identification shall be provided in additional approved locations to facilitate emergency response. Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the public

way, an approved means shall be used to identify the structure. Address and building identification shall be maintained.

## (6) 507.5.1 Where required.

Fire hydrants shall be installed in approved locations. Where a portion of the facility or building hereafter constructed, or moved into or within, the jurisdiction is more than 300 feet from a 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. When more than one hydrant is required, spacing for additional hydrants shall be in accordance with Appendix C of this Code. When a fire department connection is provided to supply an automatic fire sprinkler system or fire standpipe system, fire hydrants shall be installed in an approved location to facilitate emergency operations.

**Exceptions:** 1. For Group R-3 occupancies, the distance requirement shall be 600 feet.

- 2. The Fire Code Official is authorized to increase the dimension of 300 feet when the building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
- 3. The Fire Code Official is authorized to increase the dimension of 300 feet when hydrant spacing cannot be accomplished because of location on property, topography, waterways, nonnegotiable grades or other similar conditions. The Fire Code Official is authorized to require an approved alternative means of fire protection to compensate for increased hydrant spacing.

# (7) 507.5.1.1 Hydrant for standpipe systems.

DELETED IN FULL.

## (8) 509.3. Main Electrical Disconnect.

The main electrical disconnect for each building shall be installed on the exterior of the building in an approved location. In lieu of the main disconnect, a remote shunt trip may be installed to disconnect electrical service when approved by the Fire Code official.

#### (9) 510.4.2 System design.

The in-building, two-way emergency responder communication coverage system shall be designed in accordance with Section 510. When required by the Fire Code Official, emergency responder communication coverage system shall comply with the most recent edition of NFPA standard 1221 and supplemental regulations established by the Fire Code Official. (See Section 104.1 as amended).

#### INTERIOR FINISH, DECORATIVE MATERIALS AND FURNISHINGS

#### (1) 803.4 Fire-retardant coatings.

When approved by the Fire Code Official, the required flame spread or smoke-developed index of surfaces in existing buildings shall be allowed to be achieved by application of

approved fire-retardant coatings, paints or solutions to surfaces having a flame spread index exceeding that allowed. Such applications shall comply with NFPA 703 and the required fire-retardant properties shall be maintained or renewed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The fire-retardant paint, coating or solution shall have been assessed by testing over the same substrate to be used in the application.

## (2) 803.11 Foam plastic materials.

Foam plastic materials shall not be used as interior wall and ceiling finish. Foam plastic material shall be allowed if it is separated from the interior of the building by an approved thermal barrier in accordance with Section 2603.4 of the IBC. Fire-retardant coatings shall not be utilized as an approved thermal barrier. Foam plastic materials shall not be used as interior trim unless specifically allowed by Section 804.2.

# (3) 803.11.1 Foam plastic combustibility characteristics.

DELETED IN FULL

# (4) 803.11.2 Thermal barrier for foam plastics.

DELETED IN FULL.

#### (5) 807.5.2.3 Artwork in classrooms.

Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on walls of classrooms to not more than 20 percent of the specific wall area to which they are attached. The amount of wall area covered can be increased to 50 percent in buildings protected by an automatic fire sprinkler system.

#### (6) 807.5.5.3 Artwork in classrooms.

Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on walls of classrooms to not more than 20 percent of the specific wall area to which they are attached. The amount of wall area covered can be increased to 50 percent in buildings protected by an automatic fire sprinkler system.

# FIRE PROTECTION AND LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS

#### (1) 901.4 Fire protection and life safety systems.

Fire protection and life safety systems shall be installed, repaired, operated, and maintained in accordance with this Code, the IBC, and supplemental regulations established by the Fire Code Official. (See Section 104.1 as amended).

# (2) 901.4.7 **Pump and riser room.**

A dedicated room shall be provided for fire pumps and automatic sprinkler system risers. Pump and riser rooms shall be provided with exterior access and the exterior access door shall face an access drive marked as a fire lane. Pump rooms shall comply with the construction requirements specified in NFPA Standard 20. Fire pump rooms and automatic sprinkler system riser rooms shall be designed with adequate space for all equipment necessary for the installation, as defined by the manufacturer, with sufficient working space around the stationary equipment. Clearances around equipment to

elements of permanent construction, including other installed equipment and appliances, shall be sufficient to allow inspection, service, repair or replacement without removing such elements of permanent construction or disabling the function of a required fire-resistance-rated assembly. Fire pump and automatic sprinkler system riser rooms shall be provided with a door(s) and an unobstructed passageway large enough to allow removal of the largest piece of equipment.

## (3) 901.6.1 Standards.

Fire protection and life safety systems shall be inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with the referenced standards listed in Table 901.6.1 and supplemental regulations established by the Fire Code Official. (See Section 104.1 as amended).

#### (4) 901.6.4 False and Nuisance Alarms.

False alarms and nuisance alarms shall not be given, signaled or transmitted or caused or permitted to be given, signaled or transmitted in any manner.

# (5) 903.1.2 Fire pump required.

When required by the Fire Code Official, an approved fire pump, installed in accordance with this Code and NFPA standard 20, shall be provided for an automatic fire sprinkler system with a system demand of 1000 GPM or more.

(6) 903.2.6 Group I. An *automatic sprinkler system* shall be provided throughout buildings with a Group I *fire area*.

**Exceptions:** Exceptions 2 and 3 are DELETED IN FULL.

#### (7) 903.2.8.4 Care facilities.

In residential care facilities with three or more occupants unrelated to the owner or operator, an automatic fire sprinkler system shall be installed. An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 shall be permitted. Attached porches, decks, balconies, and garages shall be provided with approved protection. The Fire Code Official or applicable authority having jurisdiction may approve a reasonable accommodation or modification to the sprinkler requirement if the modification provides an equivalent level of occupant safety. Requests for reasonable accommodations or modifications to the sprinkler installation requirement such as demonstrated alternative escape paths or additional time granted for sprinkler system installation due to financial inability may be submitted to the applicable authority having jurisdiction. Existing facilities with reasonable accommodations previously approved by the Fire Code Official must complete installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system within a timeframe approved by the Fire Code Official.

(8) 903.2.8.5 Townhouses constructed as rental units in multifamily developments. Townhouses constructed as rental units in a multifamily development shall be protected by an automatic fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with Sections 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.

# (9) 903.2.9.5 Self-Service Storage Facility.

An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all self-service storage facilities.

**Exception**: Self-service storage facilities, with a fire area not exceeding 12,000 square feet and not greater than one story above grade plane, where all storage spaces can be accessed directly from the exterior.

# (10) 903.2.11.3 Buildings 55 Feet or more in Height.

An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout buildings, other than penthouses in compliance with Section 1511 of the International Building Code, located 55 feet or more above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, measured to the finished floor.

**Exception:** EXCEPTION TO 903.2.11.3 is DELETED in full.

## (11) 903.3.1.1.1 Exempt Locations.

When approved by the Fire Code Official, automatic sprinklers may be omitted from rooms or areas where the application of water constitutes a serious life or fire hazard or where sprinklers are considered undesirable because of the nature of the contents. When automatic sprinkler protection is omitted from a room or area, alternate fire protection measures shall be provided as required by the Fire Code Official.

# (12) 903.3.1.1.3 Protection for Attics and Combustible Concealed Spaces.

Automatic sprinkler protection shall be provided in attics and combustible concealed spaces, or these spaces shall be filled throughout with noncombustible insulation. When attic protection is provided, and CPVC piping is installed in the attic space, special applications sprinklers shall be provided to protect the attic space. An approved method for freeze protection shall be provided for automatic sprinklers and piping installed in non-conditioned attics and concealed spaces.

## (13) 903.3.1.2.1 Balconies and decks.

For dwelling units and sleep rooms, sprinkler protection shall be provided for exterior balconies, decks, and patios. Sprinkler protection shall be provided for closets or storage areas accessed from balconies, decks, and patios of dwelling units and sleep rooms. Sidewall sprinklers that are used to protect such areas shall be permitted to be located such that their deflectors are within 1 inch to 6 inches below the structural members, and a maximum distance of 14 inches below the deck of the exterior balconies that are constructed of open joist construction.

#### (14) 903.3.1.2.2 Areas located outside dwelling units and sleep rooms.

Sprinkler protection shall be provided in all breezeways, corridors, stairs, mechanical rooms, electrical rooms and storage areas. When required by the Fire Code Official, sprinkler protection shall be provided for exterior projections which are combustible and non-combustible projections which may cover combustible materials, including temporary parking of vehicles. When approved by the Fire Code Official, complete

protection of the exterior projections shall not be required. When complete protection is not required, protection may be accomplished through the use of dry, sidewall sprinklers served by the building wet pipe system.

## (15) 903.3.1.3 NFPA 13D sprinkler systems.

Automatic sprinkler systems installed in one- and two-family dwellings; Group R-3; Group R-4, Condition 1; and townhouses shall be permitted to be installed throughout in accordance with NFPA 13D. See Section 903.2.8.5 for townhouses constructed as rental units in a multifamily complex classified as an R-2 occupancy.

# (16) 905.3.1 Height.

Except when approved by the Fire Code Official, Class II and Class III standpipe systems shall not be installed. Class I standpipe systems shall be installed throughout buildings where any of the following conditions exist:

- 1. Four or more stories are above or below grade plane.
- 2. The floor level of the highest story is located more than 30 feet above the lowest level of the fire department vehicle access.
- 3. The floor level of the lowest story is located more than 30 feet below the highest level of fire department vehicle access.

# (17) 905.3.4 Stages.

When required by the Fire Code Official, Class I hose connections, installed in accordance with NFPA 14, shall be provided for a stage exceeding 1000 square feet in floor area. Class II and Class III hose connections shall not be installed.

### (18) 905.3.9. Distance.

The Fire Code Official is authorized to require installation of an approved Class I standpipe system where any portion of a building's interior area is located more than 200 feet of travel, vertically and horizontally, from the nearest point of fire department vehicle access. This distance shall be measured along an approved path of travel from the point of vehicle access to the most remote portion of the building.

#### (19) 905.4 Location of Class I standpipe hose connections.

Class I standpipe hose connections shall be provided in approved locations. Unless otherwise required by the Fire Code Official, Class I standpipe hose connections shall be provided in all of the following locations:

- 1. In every required exit stairway, a hose connection shall be provided for each story above and below grade plane. Hose connections shall be located at the main floor landing unless otherwise approved by the Fire Code Official.
- 2. On each side of the wall adjacent to the exit opening of a horizontal exit.
- 3. In every exit passageway, at the entrance from the exit passageway to other areas of a building.
- 4. In covered mall buildings, adjacent to each exterior public entrance to the mall and adjacent to each entrance from an exit passageway or exit corridor to the mall. In open mall buildings, adjacent to each public entrance to the mall at the perimeter line and adjacent to each entrance from an exit passageway or exit corridor to the mall.

- 5. Where the roof has a slope less than 4 units vertical in 12 units horizontal, a hose connection shall be located to serve the roof or at the highest landing of an interior exit stairway with access to the roof provided in accordance with Section 1011.12.
- 6. Where the most remote portion of a non-sprinklered floor or story is more than 150 feet from a hose connection or the most remote portion of a sprinklered floor or story is more than 200 feet from a hose connection, the Fire Code Official is authorized to require that additional hose connections be provided in approved locations.

# (20) 905.5 Location of Class II standpipe hose connections. DELETED IN FULL.

# (21) 905.6 Location of Class III standpipe hose connections. DELETED IN FULL.

## (22) 905.8 Dry standpipes.

Dry standpipes shall not be installed except when approved by the Fire Code Official. Dry standpipes shall not be installed in enclosed stairwells.

# (23) 907.2.6.1 Group I-1.

An automatic smoke detection system shall be installed in corridors, waiting areas open to corridors, sleeping units, and habitable spaces. The system shall be activated in accordance with Section 907.5. In sleeping units, the audible alarm activated by a fire alarm system shall be a 520-Hz low-frequency signal complying with NFPA 72.

#### **Exception:**

- 1. For Group I-1, Condition 1 occupancies, smoke detection in habitable spaces is not required where the facility is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
- 2. Smoke detection is not required for exterior balconies.
- 3. In memory care units, when approved by the Fire Code Official, the system may be designed to operate in private mode as defined in NFPA 72. When private mode operation is approved, sleeping unit detectors shall provide a visual display on the corridor side of each sleeping unit and shall provide an audible and visual alarm at the care providers' station attending each unit.

#### (24) 907.2.6.2 Group I-2.

An automatic smoke detection system shall be installed in corridors and sleeping units in Group I-2 facilities. Automatic smoke detection system shall be installed in spaces permitted to be open to the corridors by Section 407.2 of the IBC. The system shall be activated in accordance with Section 907.4. In sleeping units, the audible alarm activated by a fire alarm system shall be a 520-Hz low-frequency signal complying with NFPA 72. When approved by the Fire Code Official, the system may be designed to operate in private mode as defined in NFPA 72. When private mode operation is approved, sleeping unit detectors shall provide a visual display on the corridor side of each sleeping

unit and shall provide an audible and visual alarm at the care providers' station attending each unit.

## (25) 907.2.6.4 Group I-4.

A manual fire alarm system, which initiates the occupant notification signal utilizing an emergency voice/alarm communication system, meeting the requirements of Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6, shall be installed in Group I-4 occupancies. Where automatic sprinkler systems or smoke detectors are installed, such systems or detectors shall be connected to the building fire alarm system.

#### **Exceptions:**

- 1. Emergency voice/alarm communication systems, meeting the requirements of Section 907.5.2.2 and installed in accordance with Section 907.6, shall not be required in Group I-4 occupancies with occupant loads of 100 or less,
- provided that activation of the manual fire alarm system initiates an approved occupant notification signal in accordance with Section 907.5.
- 2. Manual fire alarm boxes shall not be required in Group I-4 occupancies where all of the following apply:
- 2.1. The building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
- 2.2. The emergency voice/alarm communication system or fire alarm system will activate on sprinkler water flow.
  - 2.3. Manual activation is provided from a normally occupied location.

#### (26) 907.2.8 Group R-1.

Fire alarm and smoke detection systems shall be installed in Group R-1 occupancies as required in Sections 907.2.8.1 through 907.2.8.3.

#### (27) 907.2.8.1 Manual fire alarm system.

A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in Group R-1 occupancies.

#### **Exceptions:**

- 1. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required throughout the building where all of the following conditions are met:
- 1.1. The building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2;
  - 1.2. The notification appliances will activate upon sprinkler water flow; and
  - 1.3. Not fewer than one manual fire alarm box is installed at an approved location.

#### (28) 907.2.8.2 Corridor smoke detection system.

An automatic smoke detection system which activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed throughout all interior corridors serving sleeping units.

**Exception:** An automatic smoke detection system is not required in buildings that do not have interior corridors serving sleeping units and where each sleeping unit has a means of egress door opening directly to an exit or to an exterior exit access that leads directly to an exit.

# (29) 907.2.8.3 Unit smoke detection system.

Single- and multiple-station smoke alarms shall be not be installed in R-1 sleeping and dwelling units. An automatic smoke detection system shall be installed in accordance with Section 907.2.11.7. The audible alarm activated by the fire alarm system shall be a 520-Hz low-frequency signal complying with NFPA 72.

## (30) 907.2.9.1 Manual fire alarm system.

A manual fire alarm system, which activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5, shall be installed in Group R-2 occupancies. In dwelling units, the audible alarm activated by the fire alarm system shall be a 520-Hz low-frequency signal complying with NFPA 72.

**Exception:** Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2 and the occupant notification appliances will automatically activate throughout the notification zones upon a sprinkler water flow.

# (31) 907.2.9.4. Group R-4. Manual fire alarm system.

A manual fire alarm system, which activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5, shall be installed in Group R-4 occupancies. In sleeping units, the audible alarm activated by the fire alarm system shall be a 520-Hz low-frequency signal complying with NFPA 72.

**Exception**: Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2 and the occupant notification appliances will automatically activate throughout the notification zones upon a sprinkler water flow.

## (32) 907.5.2.3.1 Public use areas and common use areas.

Visible alarm notification appliances shall be provided in public use areas, common use areas, and employee work areas. Visible alarms are not required in storage rooms, mechanical spaces, and similar areas which do not exceed 100 ft.² in floor area.

#### (33) 907.6.1.1 Wiring Installation.

When required by the Fire Code Official, fire alarm systems shall be installed in such a manner that a failure of any single initiating device or single open in an initiating circuit conductor will not interfere with the normal operation of other such devices. All signaling line circuits (SLC) shall be installed in such a way that a single open will not interfere with the operation of any addressable devices (Class A). Outgoing and return SLC conductors shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72 requirements for Class A circuits and shall have a minimum of four feet separation horizontal and one foot vertical

between supply and return circuit conductors. The initiating device circuit (IDC) from a signaling line circuit interface device may be wired Class B, provided the distance from the interface device to the initiating device is ten feet or less.

## (34) 910.2 Where required.

Smoke and heat vents or a mechanical smoke removal system shall be installed as required by Sections 910.2.1 and 910.2.2.

# **Exceptions:**

- 1. Frozen food warehouses used solely for storage of Class I and II commodities where protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system.
- 2. Automatic smoke and heat removal shall not be required in areas of buildings equipped with early suppression fast-response (ESFR) sprinklers. When required by the Fire Code Official, an approved manual smoke exhaust system shall be installed in accordance with regulations established by the Fire Code Official.
- 3. Automatic smoke and heat removal shall not be required in areas of buildings equipped with control mode special application sprinklers with a response time index of 50(m × s) 1/2 or less that are listed to control a fire in stored commodities with 12 or fewer sprinklers. When required by the Fire Code Official, an approved manual smoke exhaust system shall be installed in accordance with regulations established by the Fire Code Official.

## (35) 915.1 General.

Carbon monoxide detection shall be installed in new buildings in accordance with Sections 915.1.1 through 915.6 and supplemental regulations established by the Fire Code Official. Carbon monoxide detection shall be installed in existing buildings in accordance with Section 1103.9 and supplemental regulations established by the Fire Code Official. (See Section 104.1 as amended).

# **MEANS OF EGRESS**

#### (1) 1009.1 Accessible means of egress required.

Accessible means of egress shall comply with both this section and the Architectural Barriers Act of the Texas Civil Statutes (Texas Accessibility Standards or TAS). The Fire Code Official is authorized to require the owner, applicant or agent to provide a technical report from a qualified person certifying TAS compliance. Accessible spaces shall be provided with not less than one accessible means of egress. Where more than one means of egress is required by Section 1006.2 or 1006.3 from an accessible space, each accessible portion of the space shall be served by not less than two accessible means of egress.

#### **ENERGY SYSTEMS**

(1) 1201.1 Scope.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to the installation, operation, maintenance, repair, retrofitting, testing, commissioning, and decommissioning of energy systems used for generating or storing energy.

# (2) 1207.1 General.

The provisions in this section are applicable to stationary and mobile electrical energy storage systems ("ESS"). When required by the Fire Code Official, energy storage systems shall comply with the most recent edition of NFPA standard 855 and supplemental regulations established by the Fire Code Official. (See Section 104.1 as amended).

**Exception**: ESS in Group R-3 and R-4 occupancies shall comply with Section 1207.11.

## APPENDIX B – FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS

# (1) Bl05.1 One- and two-family dwellings, Group R-3 and R-4 buildings, and townhomes.

The minimum fire-flow and flow duration requirements for one and two-family dwellings, Group R-3 and R-4 buildings and townhomes, shall be 1,000 gallons per minute for 1 hour. Fire-flow and flow duration for dwellings having a fire-flow calculation area in excess of 3,600 square feet shall not be less than the flow specified in Table B105.1(2).

**Exception:** The Fire Code Official is authorized to approve a reduction in required fireflow when the building is equipped with an approved automatic fire sprinkler system. The amount of fire flow reduction will be determined by the Fire Code Official.

Table B105.1(1): TABLE IS DELETED.

# (2) B105.2 Buildings other than one- and two-family dwellings, Group R-3 and R-4 buildings, and townhouses.

The minimum fire-flow and flow duration for buildings other than one- and two-family dwellings, Group R-3 and R-4 buildings and townhouses shall be as specified in Table B105.1(2).

**Exception**: The Fire Code Official is authorized to approve a reduction in required fireflow when the building is equipped with an approved automatic fire sprinkler system. The amount of fire flow reduction will be determined by the Fire Code Official.

#### APPENDIX D – FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS

### (1) D103.l Access Road width.

The minimum road width of a fire apparatus access road shall be 26 feet, exclusive of shoulders. When required by the Fire Code Official, access roads serving one or two-family dwellings, townhomes, and other residential developments shall be a minimum of 30 feet in width.

**Exception**: The minimum required width or vertical clearance of a fire apparatus access road may be increased when required by the Fire Code Official. The minimum required width of a fire apparatus access road may be reduced when approved by the Fire Code Official.

## (2) D103.5 Fire apparatus access road gates.

Gates securing fire apparatus access roads shall be approved by the Fire Code Official prior to installation. Gates shall be maintained in an operative condition and repaired or replaced when defective. When required by the Fire Code Official, defective gates shall be secured in the open position until repaired.

# (3) D107.1 One- or two-family dwelling residential developments.

Developments of one or two-family dwellings, with lots more than one-half acre in size, where the number of dwelling units exceeds 30, shall be provided with two separate and approved fire apparatus access roads. Developments of one or two-family dwellings, with lots less than one-half acre in size, where the number of dwelling units exceeds 99, shall be provided with two separate and approved fire apparatus access roads.

# <u>APPENDIX L – REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRE FIGHTER AIR REPLENISHMENT</u> SYSTEMS

## (1) L101.1 Scope.

When required by the Fire Code Official, fire fighter air replenishment systems ("FARS") shall be provided in accordance with this appendix.

#### **Section 9. Penalties**

- (a) A violation of any provision of this Order shall be a Class C Misdemeanor, as defined in Texas Penal Code § 12.23. Each day that a violation of this Order continues is a separate violation.
- (b) In addition to the criminal enforcement provisions of this section, the District may bring a civil action for the enforcement of this Order in any court of competent jurisdiction to enjoin any violation of this Order or to impose a civil penalty in an amount of up to \$2,000.00 for each day that a violation of this Order continues.

#### Section 10. Fees

Any fees for the permitting, review, and inspection of occupancies or applications shall be established by separate resolution from time to time by the District, without the necessity of amending this Order. For purposes of this Order, the initial fees related to the implementation and enforcement of the Fire Code shall be as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes.

# Section 11. Maintenance of Order

A copy of this Order together with all provisions incorporated herein will be maintained at the central administrative offices of the District for inspection and use by interested persons. The District will

inform any person inquiring where copies of the IFC and other provisions incorporated in this Order may be purchased from the publisher thereof.

# Section 12. Severability

It is the intention of the Board of Emergency Services Commissioners of the District that all provisions set forth or incorporated in this Order are fully severable. In the event that any provision of this Order or any provision incorporated in this Order by reference is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be void or unenforceable, such void or unenforceable provision shall be severed as though it never formed a party of this Order, and all other provisions of this Order remain in full force and effect.

# Section 13. Conflicts

All Orders that conflict with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed and all other orders of the District not in conflict with the provisions of this Order remain in full force and effect.

# **Section 14. Notice/Publication**

The Fire Chief shall arrange for any notice or publication of this Order required by applicable law, if any, and maintain proof thereof in the records of the District.

# Section 15. Effective Date

This Order shall be effective the 1st day of April, 2022.

Robert Turner, Board Secretary

TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2

By:

Michael Bessner, Board President

ATTEST:

Fire Code - Adopted 2022

# EXHIBIT A

# **FEES**

# **CERTIFICATE FOR ORDER**

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF TRAVIS

The undersigned officer of the Board of Commissioners ("Board") of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 ("District") hereby certifies as follows:

The Board of the District convened in a regular meeting on the 14 day of 2022, at the Pflugerville Fire Department, located at 203 E. Pecan St., Pflugerville, Texas, and the following officers and members of the Board:

Michael Bessner - President
Rico Reyes - Vice President
Robert Turner - Secretary
Mike Howe - Treasurer

April Griffin - Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

were present, except Commissioner(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, thus constituting a quorum.

Among other business, an:

# ORDER ADOPTING FIRE CODE

was introduced for the consideration of the Board. It was then moved and seconded that the Order Adopting Fire Code ("Order") be adopted, and, after discussion, the motion prevailed and carried by majority vote.

2. A true, full and correct copy of the Order adopted at the meeting described above is attached to this certificate. The Order has been recorded in the District's minutes of the meeting. The persons named in the paragraph above are the duly chosen, qualified and acting officers and members of the Board as indicated in paragraph 1. Each of the officers and members of the Board was notified officially and personally, in advance, of the time, place and purpose of the Board meeting and that the Order would be introduced and considered for adoption at the meeting. Each of the officers and members consented, in advance, to holding the meeting for such purpose. The meeting was open to the public as required by law, and public notice of the time, place and subject of the meeting was given as required by Chapter 551 of the Government Code.

Certificate for Order Fire Code - Adopted 2022 SIGNED AND SEALED this 14 day of April , 2022.

(SEAL)

Robert Turner, Secretary Board of Commissioners

STATE OF TEXAS \$

COUNTY OF TRAVIS \$

This instrument was acknowledged before me on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2022, by Robert Turner, Secretary of the Board of Commissioners of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2, on behalf of the District.

(Seal)



Notary Public Signature