



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** November 2, 2010

**TO:** Mayor and Council Members

**FROM:** Fire Prevention Bureau, Fire Department

**SUBJECT:** Introduction Of Ordinance For 2010 Fire Code Adoption

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Santa Barbara Municipal Code Chapter 8.04 to Adopt by Reference the 2009 Edition of the International Fire Code, Including Appendix Chapter 4 and Appendices B, BB, C, CC, and H of that Code, and The 2010 California Fire Code with Local Amendments to Both Codes.

### **DISCUSSION:**

In 2007, the State of California and local jurisdictions within the state adopted the International Fire Code, with state and local amendments. The International Fire Code is part of a greater series of model codes that includes the International Building Code, also published by the International Code Council (ICC). Both were adopted by the State under Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, Part 9 and Part 2 respectively. The codes are on a three year revision cycle and the new codes will go into effect statewide on January 1, 2011. The State of California has completed amendments to the codes as of July 1, 2010 and under state law local jurisdictions (particularly charter cities) have 180 days to further amend them before they become law. In 2007, the City of Santa Barbara further amended the codes based on local conditions and adopted the current Code on November 13, 2007. Later, Council approved further amendments to the code to adopt residential fire sprinkler provisions.

Since July 2010, staff has been in the process of reviewing the 2010 California Fire Code, and making amendments of our own to adapt the code to local climatic and topographical conditions. Local jurisdictions are allowed to amend California-adopted sections of the code, but are limited to making the amended sections more stringent. For any sections relating to building standards we must make findings for the change. The findings are based on our unique climate, topography or geology and must describe conditions that require additional life safety protection. Sections of the International code that are not adopted by the state may be amended in any manner to meet local needs.

Our approach to the Fire Code, as always, was to make as few amendments as possible. Some are administrative in nature, such as language added to preserve our existing joint Building Division / Fire Department Board of Appeals. Very few additional adjustments to the code were necessary in this cycle, and our draft adopting ordinance is very similar to the ordinance adopted in 2007. Many of the changes were prompted by changes in the State code, such as the adoption of the California Residential Code, which require us to separate residential and commercial sprinkler requirements previously adopted. Residential sprinkler requirements now appear as part of the adopting ordinance for that code. The Residential and Building Codes are companion documents to the Fire Code and are presented under a separate item on the Council agenda. A summary of local amendments to the California Fire Code appears as an attachment to this document.

On October 19, 2010, staff presented a draft of the ordinance to the Ordinance Committee. The summary of local amendments was explained and the Ordinance Committee voted unanimously to send the ordinance to the full City Council for introduction.

Staff recommends that the Council introduce and subsequently adopt the ordinance, by reading of title only. If the Council does so, the Ordinance will be presented for formal adoption on November 9, 2010. The City's ordinance would be effective as of January 1, 2011, when the state codes go into effect.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** Summary of Local Amendments, 2010 Fire Code

**PREPARED BY:** Joseph Poiré, Fire Marshal

**SUBMITTED BY:** Andrew DiMizio, Fire Chief

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office

# Attachment

## Santa Barbara City Fire Department

### 2009 International Fire Code / 2010 California Fire Code Adoption Summary of Amendments

November 2, 2010

MC = Municipal Code, CFC = International or California Fire Codes

#	Chapter/Section	Title	Concept	Type( <u>new</u> , <u>existing</u> <u>CFC / MC</u> <u>deleted or</u> <u>revised</u> )	Findings
1	Chapter 1, Division II / Sec. 103.1	Fire Prevention Bureau Personnel and Police	Formerly adopted as an appendix, this chapter was adopted by the State as Chapter 1, Division II. Part of the organization of the Fire Prevention Bureau, carried over from the existing code, citing authority of fire code officials.	Existing, CFC / MC	NA
2	Chapter 1 Div II Sec. 104.10	Fire Investigations	Existing language from the 2007 California Fire Code, with minor word changes for clarity, citing authority to investigate.	Existing, CFC / MC	NA
3	Chapter 1/ Division II Sec.108	Board of Appeals	Base code appeal sections, deleted to allow for local appeals sections below.	Deleted	NA
4	Chapter 1/ Division II Sec. 114.1.1 through 114.1.8	Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals	Readopts existing local provisions for a joint Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals.	Existing, CFC / MC,	NA
5	Chapter 1/ Division II Sec. 109.3	Violation Penalties	Completes the IFC section 109 by describing violations of the code as a misdemeanor, consistent with current language.	Existing, CFC / MC	NA
6	Chapter 3 / Section 308.1.4	Open Flame cooking devices	Deleted and new sections added below as in the 2007 adoption	Existing, MC	NA
7	Chapter 3 / Section 308.1.4.1	Open Flame cooking Devices	New title section 308.1.4.1, in part due to renumbering of the CFC. IFC 308.1.4 prohibited charcoal barbeques on most apartment patio's and decks within 10 feet of any combustible element, a section that is unenforceable. Not adopted by the state.	MC / Existing	NA
8	Chapter 3 / Section 308.1.4.1	Liquefied- petroleum gas fueled cooking devices.	Amends the section to allow standard sized (5 gallon) propane barbeques on apartment decks / balconies.	MC / Existing	NA
9	Chapter 4	Emergency Planning and Preparedness	As in 2007, this chapter not adopted either locally or at the state level. Chapter 4 conflicts with or duplicates state regulations (Title 19) in several sections; has additional requirements	Deleted	NA

			in conflict with or not desirable under local conditions.		
10	Chapter 5 / Section 503.1 through 503.5.2	Fire Apparatus Access Roads	Amends the access sections to meet existing local requirements of 20 feet in width for commercial and 16 feet in width for residential to within 150 feet of exterior walls. Minor changes to the exceptions allowed for the 150 foot requirement, adding language to #1 that maintains current local standards for grade, cross slope turning radius and dead ends.	Existing, CFC / MC, minor revisions	Yes
11	Chapter 5 / 503.5.1.1 and 503.5.1.2	Secured Gates and barricades	One section amended, one added to the access roadways, dealing with the closure of certain roadways due to fire danger. Minor revisions to the “tampering” with locked gates section and the new section prohibits parking vehicles in a manner that blocks closed gates.	Existing MC	Yes
12	Chapter 5 / Section 505.1.1	Premise Identification, Mixed use occupancy	Refers to local municipal code section 8.04.030 regarding mixed use occupancy signs to clarify that they are required in both existing and new construction.	Existing MC	Yes
13	Chapter 5 / Section 505.3	Directory	Maintains the existing requirement for a project directory when required by the fire code official. Minor wording changes.	Existing MC	Yes
14	Chapter 5 / Section 507.through 507.5.6	Required Water Supply	The basic fire flow requirements of Chapter 5 were adopted by the state, along with Appendix B of the International; Code. The state then leaves local jurisdictions to either use Appendix B or any “approved method” without further definition. These sections outline the locally approved method and are a readoption of our existing fire-flow requirements for new construction.	Existing MC	Yes
15	Chapter 9 / Section 903.2	Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems	The California Fire Code provisions in Chapter 9 are less stringent than our existing requirements, in some cases allowing for assembly occupancies up to 12,000 square feet without sprinklers. Changes in Chapter 9 are similar to changes we made in 2007 when we amended to code with local sprinkler requirements, both commercial and later, residential. This year the state divided sprinkler requirements and assigned residential sprinklers to the newly adopted 2010 California Residential Code. We therefore moved our own residential sprinkler requirements to that code, under Section R313. Our commercial requirements remain in this chapter of both the Fire and Building Codes.	Existing MC, CFC, CBC and newly adopted Cal. Residential Code	Yes
16	Chapter 9 / Section 907.2.27	Fire Alarm Detection Systems	This section is a minor revision of our existing requirement for an automatic detection fire alarm in mixed use occupancies. We first authored this section in response to the proliferation of residential units above commercial occupancies throughout the city.	Existing, MC, CFC	Yes

			The concept is to alert the residents in the event of a fire condition in the business occupancies below, especially at night when the business is closed.		
17	Chapter 33 / 3301.1.2	Explosives and Blasting Agents	Limits storage by Zone, excludes most of the city. Storage is limited to the industrial zone near the airport, by permit only	Existing MC	NA
18	3301.2 and 3301.3	Fireworks, Prohibition	State law allows for "safe and sane" fireworks. Maintains the current prohibition on all fireworks within the city limits, including safe and sane. Provides for confiscation.	Existing MC	Yes
19	Chapter 49 / Sections 4901 through 4709.13	Requirements for Wildland Interface Areas	These sections were adopted in 2007 as Chapter 47, renumbered to match the state's adopted version of the code. One sentence added to clarify the requirements for enforcement of defensible space over property lines	Existing MC	Yes
20	Municipal Code Section 8.04.030 A and B	Fire Prevention Development Standards	A) Fire Zone 2 allows for on site water and other requirements in areas where there is no municipal water supply. B) Requires the mixed use occupancy sign, which identifies the presence of dwelling units for first responders when a new building combines residential and commercial occupancies. No proposed changes.	Existing MC	Yes