

## **Supplement to Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the 2015 International Fire Code (IFC)**

Staff of the Madison Fire Department conducted a review of the changes to the 2015 IFC prior to consulting with the City Attorney's Office relative to adoption of the newest version of the IFC. The publication "Significant Changes to the International Fire Code, 2015 Edition" as published by the International Code Council served as the reference document for the review.

The following IFC changes summary was prepared by the Fire Department:

**Chapter 1 – Administration** - No changes

**Chapter 2 – Definitions** - No changes

**Chapter 3 – General Fire Safety** - One addition allows more flexibility for the owner. Another addition addresses storage in plenums.

**Chapter 4 – Emergency Planning** - One modification to consolidate requirements and update text for consistency

**Chapter 6 – Building Services and Systems** - Nine changes. Six of the changes correlate language between the IFC and other existing standards such as the Building Code, ANSI and National Fire Protection Association standards. One modification exempts certain cooking appliance from the IFC. One addition, requires flexible gas connections paule for commercial cooking appliances on castors.

**Chapter 8 – Interior Finish** - One modification to reorganize and clarify section 807, Decorative Materials Other Than Decorative Vegetation in New and Existing Buildings

**Chapter 9 – Fire Protection Systems** - Twenty-nine changes. The changes include clarifications (7), modifications (8) and additions (14). Of the fourteen additions, eight correlate IFC requirements with existing standards such as the Building Code, NFPA, UL and ASME. Three additions allow more options for the owner and design professional. Other additions include permission to remove some hose lines from buildings, work to reduce false alarms and address specialized (water mist) fire systems.

**Chapter 10 – Means Of Egress** - With the exception of specialized door locking hardware, the State Building Code is the prevailing standard for this chapter. The lone modification to locking systems clarifies requirements and by using consistent terminology. An existing MGO 34 amendment to Chapter 10 of the IFC, specifies how the chapter applies to existing buildings.

**Chapter 11 – Existing Buildings** - Existing MGO 34 languages states this chapter does not apply.

**Chapter 23 – Fuel Dispensing and Garages** - One change amends the IFC to align with industry standards.

**Chapter 31 – Tents** - Two additions address the structural stability of tents and stage canopies. The changes correlate with the Building Code.

**Chapter 32 – High-Piled Storage** - Two changes clarify the link to NFPA 13 for design provisions. One change limits the length of dead-end aisles in new storage buildings.

**Chapter 33 – Fire Safety During Construction and Demolition** - An addition establishes safety requirements for purging and cleaning flammable gas piping systems.

**Chapter 35 – Welding and Hot Work** – One change adds safety requirements for welding and cutting operations on flammable and combustible storage tanks.

**Chapter 50 – Hazardous Materials** – Table 5003 is amended to address consumer fireworks, combustible fibers, unstable reactive materials, alcohol-based hand rubs, and gas rooms. The change relative to alcohol-based hand rubs is captured in a footnote that exempts the chemical from additional requirements. The other hazards or chemicals are not routinely stored or used in large quantities in Madison.

**Chapter 51 – Aerosols** – A change will now allow aerosol products in containers up to 33.8 fluid ounces. Previously, plastic aerosol containers of this size were not allowed.

**Chapter 54 – Compressed Gas** – This text change adds some safety requirements of the IFC to address the life safety hazards of large carbon dioxide systems in beverage dispensing systems.

**Chapter 57 – Flammable and Combustible Liquids** – The code change here deletes requirements for some unnecessary hardware on protected above-ground storage tanks.

**Chapter 58 – Flammable Gases** – The change to this chapter adds a section for Hydrogen Fuel Gas Rooms. The requirements are consistent with existing industry standards.