

Affordability Impact Statement 2024 International Fire Code & Local Amendments Date: 6/21/2024

Proposed Regulation

The proposed adoption of the 2024 International Fire Code (IFC) and its local amendments will replace the current 2021 IFC and corresponding local amendments. The IFC, developed by the International Code Council, serves as a model fire code and is widely used as a base standard by many jurisdictions across the United States, including Austin. It addresses safety and maintenance concerns for buildings through prescriptive and performance-based requirements. The goal of the IFC is to protect public health and safety while minimizing unnecessary costs and avoiding favoritism toward specific construction materials or methods. The City of Austin seeks to minimize the number of local amendments to the model code, though amendments may be made due to City Council mandate, business needs, clarification purposes, and to benefit the City's Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating.

Land Use/Zoning Impacts on Housing Costs

The proposed changes are expected to have a **neutral** impact on housing costs related to land use and zoning. The 2024 IFC and local amendments will ensure that new developments adhere to up-to-date safety measures and construction methods.

Impact on Development Cost

The proposed changes are expected to have a neutral impact on development costs. The Fire Department does not foresee any additional financial impacts associated with adopting the 2024 IFC. Reducing the number of local amendments will help standardize the Fire Code across jurisdictions, increasing predictability and consistency throughout the region.

Impact on Affordable Housing

The proposed changes would have a neutral impact on affordable housing. No increased financial impacts are anticipated for affordable housing development.

City Policies Implemented

None

Other Housing Policy Considerations None.

Manager's Signature