



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 25-0615, **Agenda Item #:** 39.

4/10/2025

Posting Language

Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance repealing and replacing Article 7 (*Fire Code*) of City Code Chapter 25-12 (*Technical Codes*) to adopt the 2024 International Fire Code and local amendments; and creating offenses. Funding: This item has no fiscal impact.

Lead Department

Austin Fire Department.

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

June 3, 2021 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20210603-056 adopting the 2021 International Fire Code and local amendments on Mayor Pro Tem Harper-Madison's motion, Council Member Ellis' second on a 10-0 vote. Council Member Kelly was absent.

February 27, 2025 - Council set the public hearing for March 27, 2025, on Council Member Velasquez's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Fuentes' second on an 11-0 vote.

March 27, 2025 - Council conducted a public hearing but took no action.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

July 11, 2024 - Building & Fire Code Board of Appeals recommended adoption of the 2024 International Fire Code and related local amendments on a 6-0 vote.

Additional Backup Information:

The International Fire Code (IFC) provides minimum requirements to address the design and construction of commercial buildings. The proposed ordinance reduces local amendments and clarifies existing amendments. The Austin Fire Department Fire Marshal's Office obtained stakeholder feedback through the Public Input platform.

Significant changes for the 2024 International Fire Code include:

- Adds definition and requirements for Flammable Gas; Category 1A and 1B.
- Open parking garage sprinkler requirements.
- Fire protection requirements of storage of lithium batteries in B, F-1, M and S-1 occupancies.

Highlights of the local amendments include:

- Adopting the 2021 IFC requirements for CO detection and systems.
- Deleting Mass Notification requirements for E occupancies

- Animal Care Facility fire protection requirements.
- Maximum allowable quantity for hazardous materials on rooftops.
- Alternative surface fire lane requirements.