



MEMORANDUM

TO: Flagstaff City Council
FROM: FM/BC P. Staskey
DATE: 09/25/16
SUBJECT: Updates on International Fire Code Adoption Project

The following are updates, and attached exhibits on the council adoption project per notes taken from the first read minutes dated September 20, 2016

1. Outreach Update

- On September 21, Community Risk Reduction (CRR) staff met with local business leaders at a regular meeting hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. The Fire Dept. updated the group on the proposed code adoption. The discussion was positive. The group asked what specially would be changing for local business owners. We highlighted the items that went out in our first outreach letter dated Sept. 14. This included updates to inspection and testing of fire protection equipment and bulk CO2 system requirements. The group understood the goal and purpose of these items and there was no additional discussion. The second item brought up by the group was minimum street width, and cul-de-sac width requirements found in Chapter 5 (503.2.1-Deminsions) and Appendix D of the 2012 IFC. Again CRR explained the purpose of these requirements and the fact that minimum street widths of 20 feet were in the 2006 IFC adoption. Cul-de-sac minimums are mandated by the state due to the 2012 state adoption in January of this year.
- On September 22nd, a second update letter went out to 245 businesses on bulk storage CO2 tanks as well as information providing public input on the proposed adoption of the fire code. (See attached letter.) This information was also distributed on the fire department and city Facebook pages this weekend.
- CRR received two follow-up phone calls this past week and 1 interaction with a local restaurant owner who was at the September 20th meeting. The basis of the feedback was clarification on the difference between an insulated bulk CO2 system and a non-insulated CO2 system. On further

clarification neither business owner will fall under the new proposed requirement. The interaction with the restaurant owner was positive and he understood and supported the safety concerns of the amendment.

2. Clarification on Insulated Liquid Carbon Dioxide Systems (5303.16.10.1)

The type of container regulated by the new provision is the insulated bulk ONLY. See the examples below.



The Dewar Tank

Insulated Bulk CO2 Tank



DOT- Non-insulated CO2 50 LB Tank

The previous language in paragraph D of the amendment has been changed to provide clarity.

Two other points to consider on this issue are as follows.

- Once the amendment is adopted the business owner has the option to use insulated bulk storage CO2 system or a system using standard DOT non-insulated tanks. The opportunity to choose a bulk system can be weighed against costs of a detection system, product costs, efficiency of operations, and the amount of carbon dioxide used during peak business times.
- If a business chooses to use an insulated bulk CO2 system, CRR will work with business owners to ensure compliance, over a reasonable time frame.

Out of 245 bars in restaurants in Flagstaff, CRR is aware of approximately 27 bulk CO2 systems. These 27 businesses will be impacted by the new requirements.

3. Chapter 12 Special Events

Per council request our division has developed a Significant Changes Matrix, specifically for Chapter 12 Special Events. (See attached) This matrix displays proposed changes to the code. It details 2012 state fire code sections that apply, present practices in review of special events, as well as updates to codify our special event review process, and ensures safety of operations. CRR has met with the recreation division to get their input on the matrix and to set up multiple options for our local special event planners to offer feedback, and gain understanding of the updates. An open house meeting has been set up with them on Friday, September 30, at 11:00 AM at city hall. We will bring any feedback to the next council meeting. (See attached letter).

I have also attached the current special events check sheet CRR uses in reviewing all large special events. Also attached is an electronic location of a document entitled "Special Events Contingency Planning Job Aid (2010)" put out by Federal Emergency Management Association as it is a resource for much of the material in Chapter 12.