

# Proposed Fire Code Amendments

2022 | First Reading: February 8<sup>th</sup> Council Session

# Background

- 2015 Fire Code presented and adopted in April 2020
- Additional corrections and clarifications needed to be made
- Staff met w/ Chamber / Developer Alliance in July 2021
- September 18, 2021 Animal Care Facility Tragedy
- Additional code review to address “silent” sections of International Code
- Met with stakeholders and families in October 2021
- Building Standards Commission review/support on October 21, 2021
- Proposed code changes distributed through Developer Alliance in Nov/Dec
- Additional meetings with community stakeholders
- Council workshop and feedback on January 25, 2022
- Legislative consideration on February 8, 2022 with changes discussed on January 25

# Overview

- Section 1 - Administrative and structural review of general proposed code amendments
- Section 2 - Animal Care Facility proposed code amendments

# Proposed General Fire Code Amendments

Section 1

# Minor numerical changes

The following corrections were made in the proposed amendments and were not included within the detailed Building Code Change worksheets. However, these corrections are intended to be included in the adopted fire code amendments.

- 903.2.8.**5** Bed and Breakfast
- D10**6**.7.**3.2** Remoteness
- 913.5.**1.5** Test Header
- 912.**7.8** Fire Department Connection

# Mobile Food Vendors (new subsection)

## 105.5.7.19

- AN OPERATION PERMIT IS REQUIRED WHEN AN ENCLOSED TRAILER, OR ENCLOSED TRUCK THAT USES PROPANE OR ANY OTHER HEAT SOURCE TO PREPARE FOOD FOR SALE. THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE PREPACKAGED FOOD.



# Parking – 503.3.3

- 503.3.3 Certain subdivision street fire lanes- In subdivision streets where parking is not allowed on one side or both sides of the street, fire lanes are required shall be marked and maintained in the following manner: **PRIVATE STREETS CAN CHOOSE EITHER OPTION 1 OR 2. PUBLIC STREETS MUST DO OPTION 1.**
- A sign 12-inches wide and 18-inches in height with red lettering on a white reflective background and border in red stating **"FIRE LANE - TOW AWAY ZONE." ~~ALONG WITH THE WORDS: "THIS SIDE OF THE STREET OR BOTH SIDES OF THE STREET."~~** The words "fire lane" by themselves are not acceptable. Sign shall be mounted conspicuously along the edge of the fire lane. Sign must be at the beginning of a street and spaced no more than 250 feet apart at a minimum height of 7 feet above finished grade.
- Red stripes and curbs will contain the wording "NO PARKING - FIRE LANE" or "FIRE LANE - TOW AWAY ZONE" or combination of similar wording painted in is four-inch white letters. The words "fire lane" by itself is not acceptable. Wording must not be spaced more than 30' apart.

# Parking – 503.4.1

503.4.1 ENFORCEMENT. The Fire Chief, Fire Code Official, or Chief of Police, or designees are authorized to issue parking citation for any vehicle or similar obstruction., ~~or to have said~~ **UNAUTHORIZED** vehicle **OR OBSTRUCTION MAY BE** removed by towing it away without further notice., ~~s~~Such vehicle or obstruction may be redeemed by payment of the towage and storage charges at the owner's expense. No parking citations shall be voided, nor shall the violator be relieved of any penalty assessed by a judge of the municipal court for any violation of this provision by the redemption of the obstruction from the storage facility.

# Parking – 503.9

503.9 SPECIAL EVENT FIRE LANES. No person shall park a vehicle in any lane designated by the posting of a sign which complies with 503.3.4 option iii markings "fire lane markings" and being

**A STREET WITH PORTIONS DESIGNATED AS A SPECIAL EVENT FIRE LANE BY THE FIRE CODE OFFICIAL.**

~~the portions of the following streets:~~

~~NORTH SIDE OF 3RD, 4TH, 5TH, 6TH, 7TH, 8TH, 9TH, 10TH, AND 11TH STREETS EAST OF MARTIN LUTHER KING STREET AND WEST OF COLLEGE STREET.~~

~~WEST SIDE OF FOREST STREET, ROCK STREET, MAIN STREET, CHURCH STREET, MYRTLE STREET, ELM STREET, AND ASH STREET NORTH OF UNIVERSITY STREET AND SOUTH OF 2ND STREET.~~

All cars parked **OR OBSTRUCTIONS LOCATED IN A SPECIAL EVENTS FIRE LANE** in violation of this section may be towed at the owner's expense.

# Private Fire Mains 507.2.1

Private fire service mains and appurtenances shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 24 (2019 Ed).

THE INSTALLATION OF ALL PRIVATE FIRE LINES SHALL BE BY A SPRINKLER CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION UNDERGROUND (SCR-U) LICENSED COMPANY.



# Hydrants – 507.5.7

Private fire hydrant maintenance shall be in accordance w/ NFPA 291.

- A. All private hydrant barrels will be painted red with the bonnet painted using the hydrant flow standard in paragraph c of this section to indicate flow. It will be the customer's responsibility to test and maintain their private fire hydrant(s).
- B. HYDRANTS THAT ARE FED FROM A PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM PUMP/OR STORAGE TANK SHALL BE CHROME YELLOW.**
- C. NON-POTABLE WATER HYDRANT SHALL BE PAINTED SAFETY PURPLE.**
- D. All private fire hydrants should be inspected, maintained, and flow tested annually and color coded to indicate the expected fire flow from the hydrant during normal operation. Such color applied to the fire hydrant by painting the bonnet the appropriate color for the expected flow condition.
- E. Hydrant Flow Coding Standard. Public hydrants will have the bonnets painted silver, the hydrants will be flow tested, and the bonnet painted **BASED ON RESIDUAL PRESSURE OF 20 PSI**, using the hydrant flow standard.



# Backflow Protection – 903.3.10

Modifications to water-based fire protection systems without backflow protection will require the installation of a backflow preventer per the City of Georgetown's plumbing code. **ALL FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS WITH A FDC SHALL HAVE A REDUCED PRESSURE ZONE OR REDUCED PRESSURE DETECTOR ASSEMBLY INSTALLED.**

# Smoke Alarms – 907.2.11

Administrative correction to reinstate subsection 907.2.11

~~SUBSECTION 907.2.11, SINGLE AND MULTIPLE STATION SMOKE ALARMS, DELETED. THE FIRE CODE, SUBSECTION 907.2.11, SINGLE AND MULTIPLE STATION SMOKE ALARMS IS HEREBY DELETED IN ITS ENTIRETY.~~

# FD Connection – 912.1.1

Number of hose connections. Fire department connections shall include a minimum of one 5" STORZ connections for a system with a demand up to 500 GPM. Systems with a demand greater than 500 GPM shall require an additional 2.5" connection for each 250 gallons of system demand. **THIS APPLIES TO EXTRA HAZARD GROUP 1 & 2, STORAGE OCCUPANCIES.**



# Liquified Petroleum Gas – Chapter 61

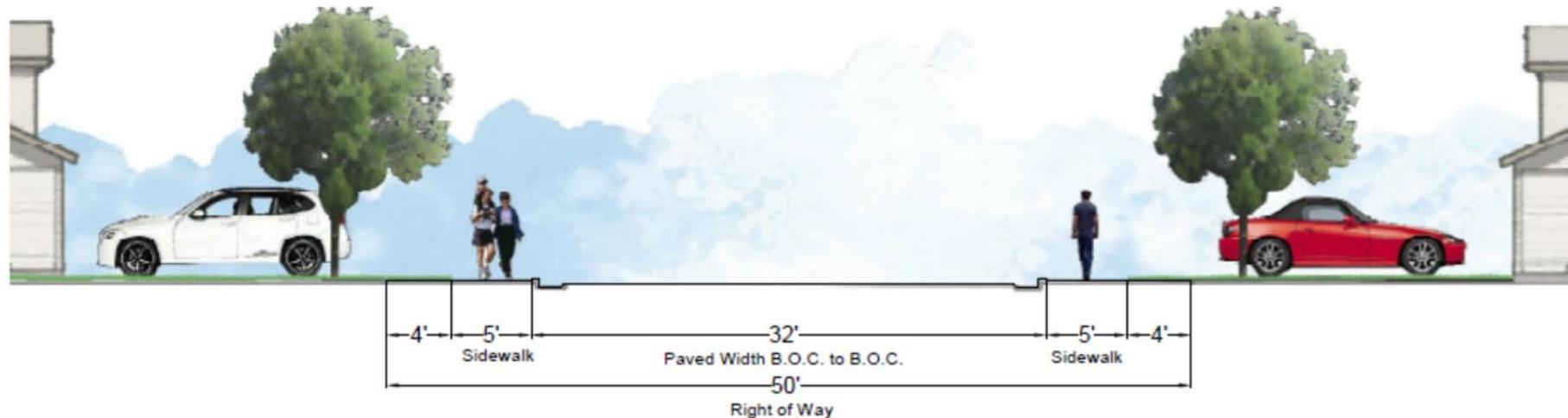
Delete entirety of Chapter 61 Liquified Petroleum Gases.

\*Deletion is due to jurisdictional oversight with Texas Railroad Commission

# Fire Apparatus Access Roads

The Fire Code, Appendix D103.6.2 Roads More Than 26 feet wide is hereby amended to read as the following.

FIRE LANE SIGNS AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION D103.6 SHALL BE POSTED ON ONE SIDE OF FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS MORE THAN 26 FEET WIDE (7925 MM) AND LESS THAN 31 FEET WIDE (9754 MM). MEASURED FROM BACK OF CURB TO BACK OF CURB.



# Animal Care Facility Proposed Code(s)

Section 3



# New Definitions (202)

**ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITY.** FACILITIES USED FOR TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT HOUSING OF ANIMALS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A SERVICE, PARTICIPATING IN A SPORT, OR FOR PROVIDING GENERAL BOARD AND CARE. ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES DO NOT INCLUDE ANIMAL OR PET CARE BY PET OWNERS CARING FOR THEIR OWN ANIMALS AT THEIR OWNED OR RENTED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, AND THESE FACILITIES DO NOT INCLUDE GROUP U AGRICULTURAL USES FOR THE CARE AND FEEDING OF THE AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS OWNER'S OWN LIVESTOCK.

**CONSTANT SUPERVISION.** FOR GROUP B ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES, CONSTANT SUPERVISION MEANS 24-HOUR ON-SITE STAFF THAT IS CAPABLE OF RESPONDING TO PROBLEMS OR EMERGENCIES THAT COULD IMPACT THE SAFETY OR LIVES OF THE ANIMALS BEING HOUSED OR CARED FOR.

# Business Group B Occupancies - 202

Business Group B occupancy includes, among others, the use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for office, professional or service-type transactions, including storage of records and accounts. Business occupancies shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Airport traffic control towers
- Ambulatory care facilities
- Animal **HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES, INCLUDING SHELTERS, BREEDING, GROOMING, DAYCARE** hospitals, kennels and pounds
- Banks
- Barber and beauty shops
- Car wash

\*The balance to remain unchanged

# Automatic Sprinklers - 903

Administrative Change - Delete 903.2.13 and replaced at 903.2.2

903.2.~~13~~**2**. Group B. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided for Group B occupancies where the fire area exceeds 10,000 square feet (929 m<sup>2</sup>).

903.2.2.**1**. Ambulatory care facilities. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout the entire floor containing an ambulatory care facility where either of the following conditions exist at any time:

Four or more care recipients are incapable of self-preservation, whether rendered incapable by staff or staff has accepted responsibility for care recipients already incapable.

One or more care recipients that are incapable of self-preservation are located at other than the level of exit discharge serving such a facility.

In buildings where ambulatory care is provided on levels other than the level of exit discharge, an automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout the entire floor where such care is provided as well as all floors below, and all floors between the level of ambulatory care and the nearest level of exit discharge, including the level of exit discharge.

# Automatic Sprinklers – 903.2.2.2

New subsection added:

903.2.2.2. ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES. AN AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 903.3 AND 903.4 SHALL BE PROVIDED IN FIRE AREAS CONTAINING AN ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITY WHEN THE ANIMALS ARE NOT PROVIDED WITH CONSTANT SUPERVISION.

## EXCEPTIONS:

1. AN AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM IS NOT REQUIRED IN ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES SERVING 30 OR FEWER ANIMALS WHERE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET.
  - A. WALLS AND CEILINGS HAVE A CLASS A FINISH AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 803, AND
  - B. THE FACILITY IS PROVIDED WITH A SUPERVISED FIRE ALARM SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 907.2.2.2.
  
2. AN AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM IS NOT REQUIRED IN ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES SERVING 50 OR FEWER ANIMALS WHERE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET.
  - A. THE FACILITY IS OF 1-HOUR FIRE RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BOUNDARY WALLS OF THE KENNEL AREA, AND
  - B. WALLS AND CEILINGS HAVE A CLASS A FINISH AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 803, AND
  - C. THE FACILITY IS PROVIDED WITH A SUPERVISED FIRE ALARM SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 907.2.2.2.
  
3. AN AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM IS NOT REQUIRED IN ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE EVERY ANIMAL HAS IMMEDIATE AND UNOBSTRUCTED ACCESS TO AN EXTERIOR AREA OF SAFETY APPROVED BY THE FIRE CODE OFFICIAL AND THE FACILITY IS PROVIDED WITH A SUPERVISED FIRE ALARM SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 907.2.2.2.

# Fire Detection – 907.2.2.2

New subsection added:

907.2.2.2 ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES. FIRE AREAS CONTAINING AN ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITY SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH AN ELECTRONICALLY SUPERVISED AUTOMATIC SMOKE DETECTION SYSTEM. IN SPACES PROVIDED WITH A SOURCE OF HEAT OR LIGHT BUT OTHERWISE UNCONDITIONED SPACES, IN LIEU OF SMOKE DETECTION THE ALARM SYSTEM MAY BE ACTIVATED BY QUICK RESPONSE HEAT DETECTORS WITH A RESPONSE TIME INDEX OF LESS THAN 100 (E.G. RTI CLASSIFICATION OF “QUICK”, “ULTRA FAST”, “V-FAST”).

EXCEPTION: SMOKE DETECTORS AND/OR QUICK RESPONSE HEAT DETECTORS ARE NOT REQUIRED WHERE THE BUILDING IS EQUIPPED THROUGHOUT WITH AN AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 903.3 AND 903.4 AND ACTIVATION OF THE AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM ACTIVATES NOTIFICATION APPLIANCES AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 907.2.2.2.1.

# Fire Detection – 907.2.2.2.1

New subsection added:

907.2.2.2.1 NOTIFICATION APPLIANCES SHALL PROVIDE AUDIBLE AND VISUAL ALARM SIGNALS IN OFFICE AREAS AND OTHER AREAS WITHIN THE FIRE AREA WHERE NO ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR. NOTIFICATION APPLIANCES WITHIN AREAS WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR SHALL PROVIDE ONLY VISUAL ALARM SIGNALS.

# Carbon Monoxide Detection – 915.1.1(.3)

915.1.1 Where required. Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in Group I-1, I-2, I-4 and R occupancies, **IN GROUP B FIRE AREAS CONTAINING AN ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITY**, and in classrooms in Group E occupancies in the locations specified in Section 915.2 where any of the conditions in Sections 915.1.2 through 915.1.6 exist.

915.1.2 Fuel-burning appliances and fuel-burning fireplaces. Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, and classrooms that contain a fuel-burning appliance or a fuel-burning fireplace.

915.1.3 Forced-air furnaces. Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, and classrooms served by a fuel-burning, forced-air furnace.

Exception: Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, and classrooms where carbon monoxide detection is provided in the first room or area served by each main duct leaving the furnace, and the carbon monoxide alarm signals are automatically transmitted to an approved location.

# Carbon Monoxide Detection – 915.1.4

Fuel-burning appliances outside of dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, and classrooms. Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, and classrooms located in buildings that contain fuel burning appliances or fuel-burning fireplaces.

Exceptions:

1. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, and classrooms where there are no communicating openings between the fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace and the dwelling unit, sleeping unit, **ROOM OF THE ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITY WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, or classroom.
2. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, and classrooms where carbon monoxide detection is provided in one of the following locations:
  - 2.1. In an approved location between the fuel burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace and the dwelling unit, sleeping unit, **ROOM OF THE ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITY WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, or classroom.
  - 2.2. On the ceiling of the room containing the fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace.

# Carbon Monoxide Detection – 915.1.5

915.1.5 Private garages. Carbon monoxide detection shall be provided in dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, and classrooms in buildings with attached private garages.

Exceptions:

1. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required where there are no communicating openings between the private garage and the dwelling unit, sleeping unit, **ROOM OF THE ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITY WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, or classroom.
2. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, and classrooms located more than one story above or below a private garage.
3. Carbon monoxide detection shall not be required where the private garage connects to the building through an open-ended corridor.
4. Where carbon monoxide detection is provided in an approved location between openings to a private garage and dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, or classrooms, carbon monoxide detection shall not be required in the dwelling units, sleeping units, **ROOMS OF ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITIES WHERE ANIMALS ARE HOUSED OR CARED FOR**, or classrooms.

# Carbon Monoxide Detection – 915.3

Detection equipment. Carbon monoxide detection required by Sections 915.1 through 915.2.3 shall be provided by carbon monoxide alarms complying with Section 915.4 or carbon monoxide detection systems complying with Section 915.5.

**ELECTRONICALLY SUPERVISED CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTION SYSTEMS COMPLYING WITH SECTION 915.5 SHALL BE PROVIDED IN GROUP B FIRE AREAS CONTAINING AN ANIMAL HOUSING OR CARE FACILITY WHEN THE ANIMALS ARE NOT PROVIDED WITH CONSTANT SUPERVISION.**

# Thank you

For your questions and feedback

