

DALLAS COUNTY FIRE CODE



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**DALLAS COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS**

**Robert De Los Santos
Dallas County Fire Marshal**

DALLAS COUNTY FIRE CODE

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PART 1 – AUTHORITY AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1.1 – AUTHORITY AND BASIS FOR REGULATION

The *Dallas County Fire Code* (this Code) is hereby adopted by the Dallas County Commissioners Court, acting in its capacity as the governing body of Dallas County, Texas. The authority to enact and enforce this Code is granted under Chapter 233, Subchapter C, Section 233.061 et seq., of the Texas Local Government Code, as amended. This Code includes the 2024 Edition of the *International Fire Code* (IFC), including Appendices B, C, D, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, and O, which are adopted and incorporated by reference, subject to any additions, insertions, deletions, and amendments specified herein and further detailed in **EXHIBIT A**. This Code may be amended at any time by a majority vote of the Commissioners Court.

SECTION 1.2 – SCOPE

This Code shall apply and be enforced within all unincorporated areas of Dallas County, Texas, as well as on all land and facilities owned or operated by Dallas County, effective upon its adoption. Unless specifically authorized by state law or incorporated by separate provision, this Code does not apply to detached one- and two-family dwellings. However, certain activities or occupancies located on such properties—such as fireworks use, hazardous material storage, or temporary mass gatherings—may still be subject to applicable provisions of this Code where authorized by law.

SECTION 1.3 – PURPOSE

The purpose of this Code is to establish minimum requirements that promote life safety, property protection, and emergency responder safety in both new and existing buildings, structures, premises, and operations located within the unincorporated areas of Dallas County, as well as in buildings and facilities owned or operated by Dallas County, regardless of location. It is intended to safeguard public health, safety, and welfare by regulating the design, construction, substantial improvement, and ongoing use of public buildings, commercial establishments, and multi-family residential dwellings with four (4) or more units. This Code reflects nationally recognized best practices and provides a consistent framework for reducing fire risk and hazardous conditions, ensuring safe egress, and supporting effective emergency response and fire prevention operations throughout Dallas County.

SECTION 1.4 – INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF STANDARDS

- (a) This Code shall be construed liberally to achieve its intended purpose. Where specific standards are not provided in this Code—or in applicable laws, regulations, or Commissioners Court orders—compliance with nationally recognized fire safety standards shall constitute *prima facie* evidence of compliance with the intent of this Code. Acceptable references include the 2024 *International Fire Code* (IFC), 2024 *International Building Code* (IBC), and other codes published by the *International Code Council* (ICC); standards developed by the *National Fire Protection Association* (NFPA); *Underwriters Laboratories* (UL); and *FM Global Property Loss Prevention Data Sheets* (FM Global).
- (b) The codes and standards referenced in this Code shall be those listed in Chapter 80 of the 2024 IFC, as modified by **EXHIBIT A**, and are incorporated by reference and enforceable to the extent specified. Future editions or amendments to referenced codes and standards shall not take effect unless formally adopted by order of the Dallas County Commissioners Court.

- (c) Where conflicts occur between this Code and referenced standards, or between general and specific requirements within this Code, the more specific or stringent provision shall govern.
- (d) If any portion of this Code is held invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.
- (e) Enforcement authority of the Dallas County Fire Marshal is further detailed in PART 3 of this Code.

SECTION 1.5 – ABROGATION AND GREATER RESTRICTIONS

This Code is not intended to repeal, supersede, or invalidate any existing laws, regulations, easements, covenants, or deed restrictions duly enacted or recorded prior to its adoption. Except as otherwise provided in PART 8, where the provisions of this Code conflict with or overlap those of any other applicable local regulation or private restriction, the provision imposing the more stringent life safety or fire protection requirement shall govern, provided it is within the legal authority of Dallas County to enforce.

SECTION 1.5.1 – RELATIONSHIP TO DALLAS COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 106

In addition to this Fire Code, security and emergency requirements for Dallas County property are governed by Dallas County Code Chapter 106 (*Security and Emergencies on County Property*). Chapter 106 establishes standards for building and parking security, elevator emergencies, fire safety procedures, inclement weather, bomb threats, chemical spills, and ozone alerts.

Compliance with this Code does not relieve any person or entity from compliance with Chapter 106. Where the provisions of this Code and Chapter 106 address the same subject matter, both shall apply, and the more restrictive provision shall govern.

SECTION 1.5.2 – COUNTY-OWNED BUILDINGS WITHIN MUNICIPAL LIMITS

Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code § 245.007(a), as amended by the 89th Legislature, any new construction or renovation of County-owned buildings or facilities shall be governed exclusively by the Dallas County Fire Code when:

1. Dallas County has a population of one million (1,000,000) or more;
2. The building or facility is located within the boundaries of a municipality or other political subdivision; and
3. The new construction or renovation is supervised and inspected by a registered engineer or architect licensed in the State of Texas.

In such circumstances, if a county-owned building or facility is located within a municipality, the Fire Code, building code, or permitting requirements of the respective municipality shall not apply to the County project. Enforcement authority rests with the Dallas County Fire Marshal under this Code.

SECTION 1.6 – DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The level of fire protection required by this Code is based on accepted fire science, engineering principles, and nationally recognized standards. While compliance with this Code is intended to reduce fire and life safety risks, it does not guarantee a hazard-free environment or prevent all loss events. This Code shall not be construed to create liability on the part of Dallas County, its officers, employees, or agents for any injury, loss, or damage arising from the administration, interpretation, or enforcement of this Code—provided such actions were taken in good faith and

within the scope of authority. The issuance of any Permit, Certificate of Compliance, or Certificate of Occupancy by Dallas County does not constitute a guarantee of safety, does not imply fire or hazard insurance coverage, and shall not be construed as a warranty of condition, performance, or code compliance beyond the date of inspection or approval.

SECTION 1.7 – FINDINGS OF FACT

The Dallas County Commissioners Court finds that fires have occurred—and are reasonably likely to continue occurring—within its jurisdiction. The safeguards in this Code are necessary to ensure safe egress and protection of life and property. Therefore, this Code is adopted to promote fire and life safety throughout Dallas County.

SECTION 1.8 – ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS AND METHODS

This Code does not prohibit alternative materials or construction methods if approved by the Dallas County Fire Marshal. Alternatives must satisfy the intent of this Code and be equivalent in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, and safety. (*See IFC 2024, Sections 104.2.3 – 104.2.7*)

SECTION 1.9 – APPLICABILITY

- (a) **Construction and Design:** All construction and design provisions of this Code shall apply to:
 - 1. New structures, facilities, and conditions arising after adoption.
 - 2. Existing structures or conditions not legally established or permitted at the time of this Code's adoption.
 - 3. Conditions requiring compliance per IFC Chapter 11.
 - 4. Conditions deemed hazardous to life or property by the Dallas County Fire Marshal.
- (b) **Administrative, Operational, and Maintenance:** All administrative, operational, and maintenance provisions of this Code shall apply to:
 - 1. New and existing operational conditions.
 - 2. Ongoing maintenance and administrative requirements.
- (c) **Substantial Improvement:** Any Substantial Improvement, as defined in PART 2 of this Code, made to an existing building or structure must comply with new construction requirements under this Code.
- (d) **Use and Occupancy:** No structure shall be used or occupied without a fire life safety inspection and the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance (also referred to as a Certificate of Occupancy) and depending on the nature of the construction or operation, a valid permit may also be required. The issuance of any such certificate or permit shall not be construed to legalize any existing violations of this Code or other applicable laws.
- (e) **Application of Residential Code:** Pursuant to Section 233.153 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Dallas County Commissioners Court hereby adopts the 2021 edition of the International Residential Code (IRC) for use in applicable unincorporated areas. Enforcement shall be limited to areas authorized by law and administered by the County Engineer or Dallas County Floodplain Management, as designated by the Commissioners Court.

- (f) **Historic Buildings:** The provisions of this Code relating to the construction, alteration, repair, enlargement, restoration, relocation, or moving of buildings or structures shall not be mandatory for existing buildings or structures identified and classified by the state or local jurisdiction as historic buildings, provided such buildings do not constitute a distinct hazard to life or property. Fire protection in designated historic buildings shall be provided with an approved fire protection plan as required.
- (g) **Subjects Not Regulated by This Code:** Where specific standards or requirements are not set forth in this Code—or where guidance exists within other applicable laws, regulations, ordinances, or codes adopted by the jurisdiction—compliance with relevant standards published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) or other nationally recognized fire safety organizations, as approved, shall constitute prima facie evidence of compliance with the intent of this Code. Nothing in this provision shall be construed to limit the authority of the Dallas County Fire Marshal to evaluate compliance based on site-specific hazards, operational risk, or public safety concerns.

PART 2 – USE OF TERMS

SECTION 2.1 – ABATEMENT

“Abatement” means any action taken by the Dallas County Fire Marshal to remove, reduce, or otherwise eliminate a fire or life safety hazard, nuisance, or condition that violates this Code, including but not limited to securing structures, removing combustibles, or ordering the cessation of hazardous activities.

SECTION 2.2 – BUILDING

“Building” means any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy. The term includes public buildings, commercial establishments, and multi-family dwellings consisting of four (4) or more units.

SECTION 2.3 – CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE/ CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY

“Certificate of Compliance” (also referred to as a “Certificate of Occupancy”) means a certificate issued by the Dallas County Fire Marshal confirming that a building or substantial improvement is compliant with this Code, as of a specific date and for a specific occupancy classification. This certificate may be recorded in the Real Property Records as outlined in Section 7.4(b). A Certificate of Compliance shall not be construed to authorize the continuation of any future fire or life safety hazard. Any such conditions remain subject to enforcement by the Dallas County Fire Marshal.

SECTION 2.4 – CERTIFICATE OF NON-COMPLIANCE

“Certificate of Non-Compliance” means a certificate issued by the Dallas County Fire Marshal indicating that a building or substantial improvement is not in compliance with this Code as of a specific date. This certificate may be recorded in the Real Property Records as outlined in Section 7.4(b).

SECTION 2.5 – CONSTRUCTION

“Construction” begins on the date ground is broken or, if no ground is broken, on the date that:

- (a) the first materials are added to the original property;
- (b) foundation pilings are installed; or

- (c) a manufactured building or relocated structure is placed on a foundation.

SECTION 2.6 – DALLAS COUNTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Dallas County Director of Public Works is responsible for any duties designated for a “County Engineer” in this Fire Code or any Exhibit or Appendix thereof.

SECTION 2.7 – DALLAS COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL

“Dallas County Fire Marshal” means the person appointed by the Dallas County Commissioners Court to serve as the County Fire Marshal, or an employee designated by the Fire Marshal to perform any duties prescribed under this Code. The term “Fire Marshal” as used throughout this Code shall be construed to refer to the Dallas County Fire Marshal unless otherwise specified.

SECTION 2.8 – DALLAS COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL’S OFFICE

“Dallas County Fire Marshal’s Office” means the office established under Chapter 352 of the Texas Local Government Code. The Office is authorized by the Commissioners Court to provide fire prevention, inspection, investigation, and life safety enforcement services to unincorporated areas of Dallas County and to buildings owned or operated by Dallas County.

SECTION 2.9 – FIRE CODE OFFICIAL

“Fire Code Official” is synonymous with the Dallas County Fire Marshal or a designee. Only the appointed Fire Marshal has the authority to overrule decisions of subordinates or to grant variances subject to appeal before the Commissioners Court. The Dallas County Fire Marshal or any related officer, inspector, or investigator commissioned by Dallas County under Subchapter B, Chapter 352, Local Government Code is a peace officer pursuant to Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 2A.001(30).

SECTION 2.10 – FIRE MARSHAL’S ORDER

A “Fire Marshal’s Order” means a written directive issued by the Dallas County Fire Marshal or an authorized designee pursuant to this Code or applicable state law, including Texas Local Government Code §§ 352.016 and 352.0165. A Fire Marshal’s Order identifies specific fire or life safety hazards and requires immediate or time-bound corrective action to abate the hazard. Failure to comply with a Fire Marshal’s Order may result in enforcement actions, including civil or criminal penalties.

SECTION 2.11 – HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

“Hazardous Materials” means any substance, material, or waste that, by reason of its physical or chemical properties, poses a risk to life, health, property, or the environment. This includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Flammable or combustible liquids and solids
- (b) Compressed gases
- (c) Explosives
- (d) Corrosive, toxic, or reactive substances
- (e) Oxidizers and organic peroxides

- (f) Radioactive materials
- (g) Cryogenic fluids
- (h) Materials that are unstable, pyrophoric, or water-reactive

This term also includes lithium-ion batteries and other energy storage systems containing regulated hazardous substances, particularly when stored, handled, charged, or disposed of in quantities or configurations that may present a fire, explosion, or chemical hazard, and which shall be evaluated in accordance with IFC Section 1207 and UL 9540, tested using UL 9540A, and installed or managed in accordance with NFPA 855 where applicable.

Hazardous Materials shall include any materials defined or regulated as such under the IFC, NFPA standards, and applicable regulations of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

SECTION 2.12 – MASS GATHERING

“Mass Gathering” means any event, activity, or assembly on private or public property anticipated to attract 2,500 or more persons (or 500+ persons if it is reasonably expected that 51 percent or more attendees are expected to be young than 21 years of age and alcohol is sold, served or consumed), or otherwise meeting the criteria of Chapter 751 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. Mass gatherings require prior approval from the Dallas County Fire Marshal and may be subject to a Mass Gathering Permit as defined by Chapter 751 of the Texas Health and Safety Code or this Code. A mass gathering permit application must include the requirements of Section 751.004 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 2.13 – OPEN BURNING

“Open Burning” means the combustion of materials in an outdoor environment where products of combustion are not directed through a stack, chimney, or other vent. This includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Brush or debris fires
- (b) Bonfires
- (c) Land clearing burns
- (d) Agricultural or ceremonial fires
- (e) Burning in barrels or pits without proper containment or control

Open burning within unincorporated Dallas County shall be conducted only as permitted by the Dallas County Fire Marshal under the fire-safety provisions of this Code. The Fire Marshal may impose conditions necessary to reduce fire hazards, ensure emergency access, and provide adequate means of extinguishment.

Nothing in this section alters or supersedes the jurisdiction of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) under 30 TAC Chapter 111 or applicable state law. All burning must comply with TCEQ regulations and any burn ban imposed by the Dallas County Commissioners Court under Tex. Local Gov’t Code §352.081.

SECTION 2.14 – OPERATION / BUSINESS OPERATION

“Operation” and/or “Business Operation” means any activity, function, or use of a building, structure, facility, premises, or property—whether permanent or temporary, public or private, for-profit or non-profit—that involves an occupancy, process, or condition regulated under this Code. This includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) The initiation, continuation, or expansion of a commercial enterprise, service, or facility conducted for business purposes, including those involving customers, employees, or the production, sale, or distribution of goods and services;
- (b) The hosting of events, gatherings, or assemblies open to the public, members, employees, contractors, or invitees, including religious, educational, recreational, political, or entertainment activities;
- (c) The handling, use, storage, charging, or disposal of hazardous materials, flammable or combustible substances, or other regulated equipment or commodities that pose a fire or life safety risk—including energy systems; or
- (d) Any activity or condition requiring the issuance of an operational permit under PART 4 of this Code.

All operations defined herein are subject to the requirements, inspections, and enforcement authority of the Dallas County Fire Marshal and may not commence or continue without full compliance with applicable codes, permits, and safety conditions.

SECTION 2.15 – PERMIT

“Permit” means a written authorization issued by the Dallas County Fire Marshal allowing a person to perform a specific activity regulated by this Code. Permits may include, but are not limited to, construction permits, operational permits, temporary use permits, or other fire code-related approvals. A permit does not waive the requirement to comply with applicable laws, regulations, or conditions set by the Dallas County Fire Marshal.

SECTION 2.16 – PERSON

“Person” includes any individual, group, corporation, partnership, firm, association, limited liability company, governmental entity, or other legal entity. It does not include a state agency authorized to prevent or extinguish forest and grass fires.

SECTION 2.17 – STOP WORK ORDER

“Stop Work Order” means an official order issued by the Dallas County Fire Marshal requiring that all construction, modification, or activity regulated by this Code be immediately suspended due to non-compliance, unsafe conditions, or failure to obtain necessary permits. Work may not resume until authorized in writing by the Dallas County Fire Marshal.

SECTION 2.18 – SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT

“Substantial Improvement” means:

- (a) Repair, restoration, reconstruction, improvement, or remodeling of a building for which the cost exceeds 50% of the building’s value as determined by the most recent certified tax appraisal roll; or
- (b) A change in occupancy classification or use resulting in an increase in hazard, occupancy load, or required fire protection. The date of substantial improvement begins when materials are first delivered, or work

commences. The Dallas County Fire Marshal may require submission of a certified damage or value assessment to verify compliance.

SECTION 2.19 – TEMPORARY USE

“Temporary Use” means the short-term or limited-duration use of a building, premises, or outdoor space for an activity or occupancy not previously approved for that use, including but not limited to:

- (a) Special events, festivals, or temporary businesses;
- (b) Tents, kiosks, or mobile operations;
- (c) Interim occupancies or exhibitions.

Temporary uses require prior approval and may require an operational permit. The Dallas County Fire Marshal may impose conditions or deny use based on fire or life safety risks.

SECTION 2.20 – UNINCORPORATED AREA

“Unincorporated Area” means any real property located within Dallas County, Texas that lies outside the corporate limits of a municipality. For purposes of this Code, the term also includes buildings and facilities owned or operated by Dallas County, regardless of their location within or outside municipal boundaries.

This Code shall apply to:

- (a) All commercial establishments, public buildings, and multifamily residential dwellings of four (4) or more units constructed in the unincorporated areas of Dallas County; and
- (b) All buildings or facilities owned or operated by Dallas County, regardless of location.

This Code shall not apply to any industrial facility that the Dallas County Fire Marshal determines qualifies for the exemption set forth in Section 233.062(b) of the Texas Local Government Code. In making such a determination, the Dallas County Fire Marshal may consult applicable standards, including those promulgated by the *Occupational Safety and Health Administration* (OSHA) and the 2024 *International Building Code*.

PART 3 – ADMINISTRATION AND DUTIES OF THE DALLAS COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL

SECTION 3.1 – ADMINISTRATION OF THIS CODE

The Dallas County Fire Marshal, or a designee, is authorized to administer and enforce this Code pursuant to Title 7, Subtitle B, Chapter 233, Subchapter C of the Texas Local Government Code and other applicable laws.

SECTION 3.2 – STATUTORY AUTHORITY AND ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION

- (a) The statutory authority of the Dallas County Fire Marshal is preserved and shall be fully exercised, as authorized by law, including independent enforcement of fire safety standards related to the use and operation of buildings after construction. This includes the authority to inspect and issue corrective orders under applicable laws, including Chapter 352 of the Texas Local Government Code.

- (b) The Dallas County Fire Marshal may require additional safety measures not expressly stated in this Code when deemed necessary to protect life, property, or public welfare.
- (c) Nothing in this Code shall be construed to limit or restrict the legal authority of the Dallas County Fire Marshal as provided by state law, adopted codes, or other applicable regulations. This includes—but is not limited to—the authority to interpret this Code, evaluate alternative materials and methods, and take enforcement action to mitigate conditions that present a risk to health, safety, or emergency response.

SECTION 3.3 – DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

Pursuant to *Texas Local Government Code* Chapters 233 and 352, and other applicable laws, the Dallas County Fire Marshal, shall have primary responsibility for the administration, enforcement, and oversight of this Code.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Issuing permits required under this Code, including but not limited to construction, operational, and temporary use permits;
- (b) Conducting inspections, fire investigations, hazard assessments, and compliance reviews;
- (c) Enforcing fire and life safety regulations, including those related to hazardous materials, emergency access, building egress, and fire protection systems;
- (d) Maintaining official records, reports, and documentation related to permits, inspections, violations, enforcement actions, and appeals;
- (e) Developing, implementing, and updating fire safety policies, operational procedures, and inspection protocols in accordance with adopted standards;
- (f) Coordinating with other County departments, municipalities, public safety agencies, and regulatory authorities to ensure consistent enforcement and public safety outcomes;
- (g) Responding to emergencies, complaints, and referrals involving fire hazards, code violations, or public safety concerns;
- (h) Educating the public, property owners, and business operators regarding fire prevention, code compliance, and safe practices;
- (i) Exercising discretion to impose additional safety requirements or corrective actions where conditions pose a threat to life, health, or property.

SECTION 3.3 – ROLE OF OTHER COUNTY OFFICIALS

The Dallas County Fire Marshal is responsible for all administrative decisions, determinations, and duties under this Code. The Dallas County Fire Marshal may consult with and obtain assistance from other Dallas County officials as

needed but is not required to conform to their recommendations. Any decision of the Dallas County Fire Marshal may be appealed pursuant to the procedures outlined in PART 5 of this Code.

PART 4 - PERMITS

SECTION 4.1 – PERMITS REQUIRED

No person shall operate, construct, substantially improve, install, alter, or modify any building, structure, system, or condition regulated by this Code within the unincorporated areas of Dallas County without first obtaining the appropriate permit from the Dallas County Fire Marshal.

- (a) **Building Permits** are required prior to initiating any new construction, substantial improvement, or installation of fire protection systems, equipment, or features subject to this Code, pursuant to IFC Section 105. This includes, but is not limited to, fire alarms, sprinklers, suppression systems, or other elements affecting fire and life safety.
- (b) **Operational Permits** are required for any activity, use, or process that poses fire or life safety risks as regulated by this Code, pursuant to IFC Section 105. This includes, but is not limited to, temporary uses, business operations, and hazardous materials storage. Property owners or their authorized agents must apply to the Dallas County Fire Marshal and receive approval before commencing such operations.

All applicable permit fees shall be determined by the Dallas County Fire Code Fee Schedule approved by the Dallas County Commissioners Court and published on the official Dallas County website.

SECTION 4.2 – APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

Applications for permits under this Code—whether for construction or operational activities—must be submitted on forms prescribed by the Dallas County Fire Marshal and include all required supporting documentation.

- (a) **Building Permits:** Applicants seeking a building permit for new construction, substantial improvement, or installation/modification of fire protection systems shall submit the following:
 - 1. A completed Fire Code Design and Compliance Review Sheet, signed and sealed by a licensed architect or engineer registered in the State of Texas;
 - 2. Two complete sets of scaled construction and site plans for each level of the proposed structure or system, detailing:
 - a. Construction type and class of interior finish;
 - b. Location and dimensions of all required exits, including spacing and type; and
 - c. Placement of fire alarms, sprinkler systems, emergency lighting, and other required life safety systems;
 - 3. Payment of the applicable permit fee, as set by the fee schedule approved by the Dallas County Commissioners Court and published on the official County website.

4. Any additional plans, specifications, or clarifications reasonably requested by the Dallas County Fire Marshal based on the complexity or hazard classification of the project.
- (b) **Operational Permits:** Applicants seeking an operational permit for any regulated use or activity (e.g., business operations, hazardous materials, or temporary use, etc.) shall submit the following:
1. A completed Operational Permit Application, signed by the applicant or authorized representative, describing the nature of the activity, intended occupancy classification, and specific operations to be conducted;
 2. A site plan or floor plan showing the location of the activity or hazard, including fire protection systems, hazardous materials storage, egress routes, and other safety-related features;
 3. Any additional supporting documents requested by the Dallas County Fire Marshal, which may include safety data sheets (SDS), inventories of hazardous materials, written emergency procedures, or equipment specifications; and
 4. Payment of the applicable permit fee, as set by the fee schedule approved by the Dallas County Commissioners Court and published on the official County website.

The Dallas County Fire Marshal may require additional inspections, documentation, or revisions if necessary to ensure compliance with the intent and requirements of this Code, based on site-specific risk factors or technical complexity.

SECTION 4.3 – DETERMINATION OF PERMIT ELIGIBILITY

Upon receipt of a permit application, the Dallas County Fire Marshal shall evaluate whether the proposed construction, substantial improvement, temporary use, or business operation meets the minimum requirements of this Code based on the submitted documentation.

- (a) If the proposed activity complies with all applicable provisions of this Code—and any required inspections have been completed—the Dallas County Fire Marshal shall issue the appropriate permit upon receipt of the applicable permit fee, as set by the fee schedule approved by the Dallas County Commissioners Court.
- (b) If the proposed activity does not meet the requirements of this Code, the application shall be denied, and the applicant will be notified in writing of the deficiencies or reasons for denial. The applicant may revise and resubmit the application in accordance with the Dallas County Fire Marshal's feedback.

SECTION 4.4 – ISSUANCE OF PERMITS

- (a) **Approval and Issuance.** Once the Dallas County Fire Marshal determines that a permit application meets the requirements of this Code, the permit shall be issued upon receipt of the applicable permit fee as approved by the Dallas County Commissioners Court. To ensure coordination with Dallas County's land use and floodplain regulations, permits issued under this Code may be issued as an addendum to any development permit required under the Dallas County Floodplain Management Regulations. When applicable, the permit approval may be integrated with the broader development permitting process to allow for a single, comprehensive approval.

- (b) **Posting of Permits.** The permit holder shall post the issued permit at the jobsite or activity location in a place visible from the nearest public road or street for the entire duration of the permitted work or activity.
- (c) **Address Visibility.** The permit holder shall display and maintain the site's street address in accordance with IFC §505.1 so that it is visible from the public right-of-way.
- (d) **Permit Modifications.** Any change to the scope, design, layout, occupancy, or use under a permit shall be submitted in writing with revised plans for Fire Marshal review before work proceeds. Approved modifications shall be documented in the official permit record.
- (e) **Permit Conditions.** All permits are conditioned upon compliance with this Code, federal and state law, and any specific permit requirements. Violations may result in suspension, revocation, or enforcement under PART 6 of this Code.

SECTION 4.5 – INSPECTIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

- (a) **Inspection Authority:** The Dallas County Fire Marshal may conduct inspections before, during, and after permitted activities—scheduled or unscheduled—to verify compliance with this Code.
- (b) **Building Permits:**
 - 1. The permit holder shall employ an ICC-Certified Building Inspector, licensed Engineer, Architect, or ICC-Certified Building Official (ICC-CBO) to conduct phased inspections and maintain inspection logs.
 - 2. Upon completion, the permit holder shall submit an as-built certification signed and sealed by a licensed Engineer, Architect, or ICC-CBO stating the building complies with this Code.
 - 3. Required documentation for fire protection systems shall be included in accordance with State Fire Marshal regulations.
 - 4. The as-built certification shall serve as a request for final inspection. Upon approval, the Dallas County Fire Marshal shall issue a Certificate of Compliance and release utilities. No building or structure shall be occupied until this certificate is issued.
- (c) **Operational Permits:**
 - 1. A fire and life safety inspection is required before the start of any operational activity.
 - 2. Annual operational permits require reinspection and renewal each year.
 - 3. Temporary operational permits shall remain valid only for the duration approved by the Dallas County Fire Marshal.
- (d) **Re-inspections and Fees.** Additional inspections due to non-compliance, incomplete work, or failed inspections may result in reinspection fees as approved by the Dallas County Commissioners Court.

SECTION 4.6 – TERM, EXPIRATION, AND EXTENSION OF PERMITS

Permits issued under this Code are valid only for the time periods specified below and are subject to expiration, renewal, or revocation based on compliance with applicable requirements and conditions.

- (a) **Building Permits:** A building permit for construction or substantial improvement shall become null and void unless construction is initiated within 180 calendar days of the date of issuance. The permit shall remain active only if progress is continuous and compliant. Upon written request and justification, the Dallas County Fire Marshal may grant up to two (2) extensions of six (6) months each.
- (b) **Operational Permits – Ongoing Business Operations:** An operational permit for business operations is valid for one (1) year from the date of issuance and may be renewed annually, subject to reinspection and approval by the Dallas County Fire Marshal. Continued compliance with all applicable provisions of this Code is required.
- (c) **Operational Permits – Temporary Activities:** An operational permit for temporary activity, or condition—such as temporary tents, hot work, hazardous material storage, or other fire or life safety hazards associated with construction or special events—shall be obtained prior to commencing the activity. The permit duration shall be determined by the Dallas County Fire Marshal and shall not exceed the time necessary to safely complete the temporary operation.

SECTION 4.7 – REVOCATION OF PERMITS

The Dallas County Fire Marshal may suspend or revoke any permit issued under this Code upon finding that:

- (a) Continued operation constitutes an imminent hazard to life, property, or the environment;
- (b) The permit was obtained through materially false statements, misrepresentations, or omissions; or
- (c) The permit holder has violated any applicable provision of this Code or failed to comply with permit conditions.

A written notice of revocation shall be issued to the permit holder, stating the basis for the action and outlining the process for appeal under PART 5 of this Code. Revocation may take effect immediately when necessary to protect public safety, but the permittee shall retain the right to request a hearing in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Code.

PART 5 – APPEALS AND HEARING PROCEDURES

SECTION 5.1 – APPEALS

Any applicant who is denied a permit under this Code may appeal the denial pursuant to the procedures outlined in this Section. The term “Appellant” refers to the person or entity initiating the appeal. Before seeking judicial relief, the Appellant must first exhaust all administrative remedies provided herein. Submission of a permit application

constitutes a waiver of the Applicant's right to challenge the validity of this Code in court prior to exhausting the appeal process outlined below.

- (a) **Appeals of Denials by Dallas County Fire Marshal Designee:** If a permit is denied by a designee or appointee of the Dallas County Fire Marshal, the Appellant may submit a written appeal to the Dallas County Fire Marshal. The written appeal must state the specific reasons the permit should be approved and include any supporting documentation.
- (b) **Appeals of Denials by the Dallas County Fire Marshal:** If the Dallas County Fire Marshal denies the permit application, the Appellant may seek direct review of the decision by the Dallas County Commissioners Court pursuant to Section 5.2.

SECTION 5.2 – REVIEW BY COMMISSIONERS COURT

If an Appellant seeks to appeal the decision of the Dallas County Fire Marshal, a written objection must be filed with the Dallas County Commissioners Court Administrator within ten (10) calendar days from the date the Dallas County Fire Marshal—not a designee—issues a written denial of the permit. Upon receipt of the written objection, the Commissioners Court Administrator shall place the appeal on the agenda for consideration at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Dallas County Commissioners Court, to occur within thirty (30) calendar days or the next meeting following a break by the Dallas County Commissioners Court, whichever is sooner. Notice of the hearing date shall be sent to the Appellant via First Class U.S. Mail to the address provided on the permit application or in the written appeal. During the hearing, the Commissioner's Court shall review the Dallas County Fire Marshal's decision and may either affirm or reverse it based on the evidence and arguments presented. The Dallas County Fire Marshal's decision shall remain in effect unless and until it is reversed by a majority vote of the Commissioners Court.

SECTION 5.3 – VARIANCES

If any person seeks an exception to any provision of this Code, that person shall request a variance from the Dallas County Fire Marshal. The Dallas County Fire Marshal shall deny or grant the variance. Variances will be granted only if the following are met:

- (a) the applicant has shown good and sufficient cause;
- (b) it has been determined that failure to grant the variance would result in an exceptional hardship to the applicant; and
- (c) granting of a variance will not result in an increased risk of fire, additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, or create nuisances, cause fraud or victimize the public.

***Economic hardship shall not constitute the sole basis for granting a variance.**

If the Dallas County Fire Marshal issues a variance, the Dallas County Fire Marshal shall only issue a variance to the extent minimally necessary, considering any possible fire hazards, to afford relief to the person requesting the variance. If a variance is granted, a permit shall be issued, and the permittee shall conform to all applicable provisions of this Code except the specific Sections for which a variance is granted. If the Dallas County Fire Marshal denies a variance, the applicant for the variance may make a written objection (appeal) in the same manner as provided in Section 6.2 of this Code.

PART 6 – VIOLATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

SECTION 6.1 – UNLAWFUL ACTS

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to erect, construct, alter, repair, remove, demolish, or utilize any building, occupancy, premises, or system regulated by this Code—or to cause such actions to be performed—in violation of any provision of this Code.

No person shall initiate work on any fire protection system, whether at a new construction site or within an existing structure, without first obtaining a building permit or receiving written authorization from the Dallas County Fire Marshal's Office. Routine maintenance that does not alter system function is exempt from this requirement.

Likewise, no person shall commence any operation, use, or activity requiring an operational permit under this Code without first obtaining the appropriate permit from the Dallas County Fire Marshal.

Any individual, firm, contractor, subcontractor, property owner, developer, or other responsible party found to be conducting construction or operational activities in violation of this Code shall be held liable for such violations.

If work or activity begins without the required permit, additional fees may be assessed as approved by the Dallas County Commissioners Court. Payment of increased fees shall not absolve any person or entity from full compliance with this Code, nor shall it preclude the imposition of additional penalties as provided herein.

SECTION 6.2 – RESPONSIBILITY FOR CORRECTION AND ABATEMENT OF VIOLATIONS

The responsibility for correcting and abating violations of this Code rests with the property owner or the owner's authorized agent. If a hazardous condition in violation of this Code is created or permitted by an occupant, the occupant shall be held responsible for abating that condition.

SECTION 6.3 – NOTICE OF VIOLATION, FIRE MARSHAL ORDER, OR CITATION

Where the Dallas County Fire Marshal finds a building, premises, vehicle, storage facility or outdoor area that is in violation of this Code, the Dallas County Fire Marshal is authorized to prepare a written notice of violation, Fire Marshal's Order, or citation, describing the conditions deemed unsafe and, where compliance is not immediate, specifying a time for re-inspection or appearance in court.

- (a) **Service:** A notice of violation issued pursuant to this Code shall be served on the *owner*, the owner's authorized agent, operator, occupant or other person responsible for the condition or violation, either by personal service, mail or by delivering the same to, and leaving it with, some person of responsibility on the premises. For unattended or abandoned locations, a copy of such notice of violation shall be posted on the premises in a conspicuous place at or near the entrance to such premises and the notice of violation shall be mailed by certified mail with return receipt requested or a certificate of mailing, to the last known address of the *owner*, the owner's authorized agent, or occupant.
- (b) **Compliance with Orders and Notices:** A notice of violation issued or served as provided by this Code shall be complied with by the *owner*, the owner's authorized agent, operator, occupant or other person responsible for the condition or violation to which the notice of violation pertains. In cases of extreme danger to persons or property, immediate compliance is required. If the building or other premises is not owner occupied, under lease, or otherwise, and the order or notice requires additions or changes in the building or premises which

would immediately become real estate and be the property of the owner of the building or premises, such orders or notices shall be complied with by the owner unless the owner and the occupant have agreed otherwise at which event the occupant shall comply.

- (c) **Prosecution of Violations.** If the notice of violation is not complied with promptly, the Dallas County Fire Marshal is authorized to request the legal counsel of the Criminal District Attorney to institute the appropriate legal proceedings at law or in equity to restrain, correct or abate such violation or to require removal or termination of the unlawful occupancy of the structure in violation of the provisions of this code or of the order or direction made pursuant hereto.
- (d) **Unauthorized Tampering.** Signs, tags or seals posted or affixed by the Dallas County Fire Marshal shall not be mutilated, destroyed or tampered with, or removed, without authorization from the issuer.
- (e) **Fire or Life Safety Hazards** Fire Marshal Order(s) issued pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 352.016 shall be IMMEDIATELY complied with. Failure to comply with a Fire Marshal's Order issued under Texas Local Government Code Sections 352.016 or 352.0165 is a criminal offense.

SECTION 6.4 – VIOLATION PENALTIES AND ABATEMENT

Any person who violates any provision of this Code may be subject to enforcement action initiated by the Dallas County Fire Marshal. Upon identification of a violation, the Dallas County Fire Marshal may refer the matter to the Dallas County Criminal District Attorney for appropriate legal remedies, including but not limited to:

- (a) **Injunctive Relief and Civil Penalties:** Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §§ 233.066 and 233.067, the County may file suit to enjoin further violation and may seek a civil penalty of up to two hundred dollars (\$200) per day for each day the violation continues.
- (b) **Filing of Certificate of Non-Compliance:** For unresolved violations, the County may file a Certificate of Non-Compliance in the Real Property Records of Dallas County. Once the violation is remedied, any person may request the issuance and filing of a Certificate of Compliance, subject to a fee as specified in Section 7.3 of this Code. This filing is a notice mechanism only and does not create a lien or encumbrance on title. The violator shall bear all costs associated with enforcement and compliance.
- (c) **Criminal Referral:** If a building is occupied without the required final occupancy inspection, or if a violation of Texas Local Government Code § 352.016 is identified, the Dallas County Fire Marshal may submit the case to the Criminal District Attorney for potential prosecution under § 352.022 of the same Code.

In addition to the penalties described above, and subject to this Code and Texas Local Government Code §§ 233 and 352, the Dallas County Fire Marshal may be authorized to take any necessary action to prevent unlawful construction; restrain, correct, or abate code violations; prevent illegal occupancy of any structure or premises; and halt any unlawful act, business operation, or occupancy on or about a premises.

SECTION 6.5 – VIOLATION OF CONDITIONS OF REGULATIONS

Any person who becomes aware of a potential violation of this Code may submit a formal complaint to the Dallas County Fire Marshal for investigation and appropriate action.

SECTION 6.6 – UNSAFE BUILDINGS

When, during an inspection, the Dallas County Fire Marshal determines that any premises, structure, building system, or portion thereof constitutes a clear and imminent threat to human life, safety, or health, the Dallas County Fire Marshal shall issue a written Notice or Fire Marshal's Order in accordance with PART 6 of this Code. If the Dallas County Fire Marshal determines that the identified hazardous conditions constitute an *immediate* threat to life or public harm, the Dallas County Fire Marshal is authorized to refer property owners or responsible parties to the Dallas County Attorney's Office immediately for any and all available remedies.

- (a) **Evacuation:** The Dallas County Fire Marshal in charge of an incident is authorized to order the immediate evacuation of any building or premises determined to pose an imminent danger to its occupants. All persons notified shall vacate the structure or premises immediately and shall not enter or re-enter until authorized by the Dallas County Fire Marshal. Failure to comply with such an evacuation order constitutes a violation of this Code.
- (b) **Record:** The Dallas County Fire Marshal shall document the nature of any unsafe condition and file a report identifying the structure, occupancy, and specific hazardous conditions found during the inspection.
- (c) **Notice:** If an unsafe condition is identified, the Dallas County Fire Marshal shall serve written notice to the property owner or authorized agent describing the hazardous condition, specifying required corrective actions, and establishing a deadline for compliance. The notice shall also require the recipient to indicate acceptance or rejection of the terms immediately.
- (d) **Summary Abatement Authority:** Where conditions exist that are deemed hazardous to life and property, the Dallas County Fire Marshal is authorized to abate summarily such hazardous conditions that are in violation of this Code.
- (e) **Responsibility for Abatement:** The owner, owner's authorized agent, operator, or occupant of a building or premises deemed unsafe shall be responsible for correcting or abating the hazardous condition by means of repair, rehabilitation, demolition, or other approved corrective actions.
- (f) **Utility Disconnection Authority:** The Dallas County Fire Marshal has authority to order the disconnection of utility services to a building, structure, or system when necessary to mitigate an immediate hazard or to facilitate emergency operations. The Dallas County Fire Marshal shall notify the serving utility and, where possible, the owner or the owner's authorized agent and the occupant of the building, structure or service system of the decision to disconnect prior to taking such action. If not notified prior to disconnection, then the owner, the owner's authorized agent or occupant of the building, structure or service system shall be notified in writing as soon as practical thereafter.

SECTION 6.7 – STOP WORK ORDER

- (a) **Order:** Where the Dallas County Fire Marshal finds any work regulated by this Code is being performed in a manner contrary to the provisions of this Code, or is being performed in a dangerous or unsafe manner, the Dallas County Fire Marshal is authorized to issue a Stop Work Order.
- (b) **Form and Delivery:** A Stop Work Order shall be issued in writing and delivered to the property owner, the owner's authorized agent, or the person performing the work. Upon issuance, all cited work shall immediately cease. The order shall specify the reasons for the work stoppage and the conditions that must be met before work may resume.

- (c) **Emergencies:** Where an emergency exists, the Dallas County Fire Marshal shall not be required to give a written notice prior to stopping the work. Written confirmation of the Stop Work Order shall follow as soon as reasonably possible.
- (d) **Noncompliance:** Any person who shall continue any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition —shall be subject to a fine of not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per violation.

PART 7 - FORMS, RECORDS, AND FEES

SECTION 7.1 – FORMS

Forms to be used in the administration of this Code shall be promulgated by the Dallas County Fire Marshal.

SECTION 7.2 – MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The Dallas County Fire Marshal shall maintain all applications for, and file copies of, permits for a retention period of three (3) years. Drawings and specifications on file with the Dallas County Fire Marshal may be destroyed after the completion of the structure.

SECTION 7.3 – FEES

Fees for permits and inspections shall be established and approved by separate order of the Dallas County Commissioners Court. The Fire Code fee schedule shall be made publicly available on the official Dallas County website.

Fees must be paid at the time plans are submitted for review unless other arrangements have been approved by the Dallas County Auditor. Accepted methods of payment include exact cash, cashier's check, money order, or personal check. If a personal check is returned for insufficient funds, the related permit(s) shall be considered null and void.

All fees collected under this Code shall be deposited in a special fund within the County treasury pursuant to Texas Local Government Code § 233.065(c). Monies in this fund shall be used exclusively for the administration and enforcement of this Fire Code.

PART 8 - SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION

The provisions of this Code are declared to be severable. If any word, phrase, clause, sentence, section, provision, or part of this Code is held to be invalid, unconstitutional, or otherwise unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such ruling shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining portions of this Code. It is the express intent of the Dallas County Commissioners Court that this Code would have been adopted with the invalid portion omitted.

Furthermore, if any provision of this Code is interpreted to exceed the legal authority of Dallas County, such provision shall be construed and applied only to the extent permitted by applicable law.

EXHIBIT A

ADDITIONS, INSERTIONS, DELETION AND CHANGES TO INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE 2024 EDITION APPLY AS STATED.

CHAPTER 1 – Scope and Administration

SECTION 101 – Scope and General Requirements: *Subsection 101.1 is amended to read as follows:*

101.1 Title

These regulations shall be known as the Dallas County Fire Code, hereinafter referred to as “this Code”.

CHAPTER 2 - Definitions

SECTION 201 – GENERAL: *Subsection 201.3 is amended to read as follows:*

201.3 Terms defined in other codes

Where a term is not defined in this Code but is defined in any code or standard referenced in the International Fire Code—such as the International Building Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Mechanical Code, International Plumbing Code, or other nationally recognized codes, including those listed in Chapter 80 (Referenced Standards)—the definition provided in the applicable referenced code shall apply.

SECTION 202 – GENERAL DEFINITIONS: *This section is amended to include the following revised or additional definitions:*

- **Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).** A system consisting of lithium-ion batteries, controls, and associated equipment used to store electrical energy for later use. (Refer to NFPA 855)
- **Cul-de-sac.** A dead-end street with a turn-around at the closed end.
- **Dead-ends.** A street or alley that has no regular exit or outlet. A closed end street.

- **Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS).** A dedicated infrastructure, including one or more electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) units, designed to provide electrical energy for charging plug-in electric vehicles (EVs). EV charging stations are classified as:
 - (a) **Level 1 EVCS.** Operates at 120 volts AC, typically used in residential settings.
 - (b) **Level 2 EVCS.** Operates at 208-240 volts AC, commonly found in commercial, workplace, and multifamily locations.
 - (c) **DC Fast Charging (DCFC).** Operates at 400+ volts DC, providing high-power rapid charging.
- **Energy Storage System, Mobile (ESS-M).** A battery energy storage system (BESS) that is integrated into or associated with EV charging stations to provide supplemental or backup power.
- **High-Rise Building.** A building that has floors used for human occupancy located more than 65 feet above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.
- **Inductive Wireless Charging System.** A charging system that transfers power wirelessly to an electric vehicle without the use of physical connectors.
- **Lithium-Ion Battery:** A rechargeable battery that uses lithium-ion technology for energy storage, including prismatic, pouch, and cylindrical cell formats. (NFPA 855 §3.3.42)
- **Mobile Food Vendor Vehicle.** Vehicles, trailers, and push carts which are used for the preparation, serving or sales of consumable items also known as Mobile Food Units (MFUs), and as otherwise defined in Texas Administrative Code §228.2(19).
- **Mobile Food Vendor Vehicle Park.** A property set up with the intent to operate five or more mobile food vendor vehicles and could include buildings, restrooms, common dining areas or other supporting buildings or structures.
- **Safety Interrupt Device (SID) for EVCS.** A manually operable and readily accessible emergency power shutdown device designed to cut power to an EV charging station in the event of an emergency.
- **Self-Service Storage Facility.** Real property designed and used for the purpose of renting or leasing individual storage

- **State of Charge (SOC):** The ratio of the current capacity of a battery to its nominal or full charge capacity, expressed as a percentage. (NFPA 855 §3.3.68)
- **UL 9540A:** A test method developed by Underwriters Laboratories for evaluating thermal runaway fire propagation in battery energy storage systems.

CHAPTER 3 – General Requirements

SECTION 307 – OPEN BURNING AND RECREATIONAL FIRES AND PORTABLE OUTDOOR FIREPLACE: *Subsections 307.1, 307.1.1, 307.2, 307.2.1, 307.2.3, 307.3, 307.4, 307.4.1, 307.4.2, and 307.5 are amended, and Subsections 307.1.2& 307.4.4 are added to read as follows:*

307.1 General.

A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any open burning unless conducted and approved in accordance with this section.

307.1.1 Prohibited open burning.

Open burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor, emissions, or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fire hazardous shall be prohibited.

307.1.2 Exception for Fires Used for Recreation, Ceremony, Cooking, and Warmth

Outdoor burning shall be authorized for fires used solely for recreational or ceremonial purposes, or in the noncommercial preparation of food, or used exclusively for the purpose of supplying warmth during cold weather. Such burning shall be subject to the requirements of §111.219(7) of Texas 30 TAC Chapter 111 (relating to General Requirements for Allowable Outdoor Burning).

307.2 Permit required.

A permit shall be obtained from the Dallas County Fire Marshal in accordance with Section 105.5 prior to kindling a fire for recognized agricultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control of disease or pest, open burning or a bonfire. Application for such approval shall only be presented by and permits issued to the owner of the land, or their designee, upon which the fire is to be kindled. The Dallas County Fire Marshal may revoke any permit that is found not to be following this section, causing said permit to be null and void and any fees related to the permit shall not be refunded.

307.2.1 Authorization.

All outdoor burning in unincorporated Dallas County shall be done in accordance with Texas Outdoor Burning Rule Title 30 Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC) Sections 111.201 through 111.221. If a conflict should arise between this Code and the Texas Outdoor Burning Rule Title 30 Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC) Sections 111.201 through 111.221, then the more stringent rule shall apply. Where required by state or local law or regulations, open burning shall only be permitted with prior approval from the state and/or local air and water quality management authority provided that all conditions specified in the authorization are followed.

307.2.2 - DELETED

307.2.3 Restricting outdoor burning.

It shall be unlawful for a person, firm or corporation to ignite or burn materials when the Dallas County Fire Marshal or proper authority has determined a "No Burn Day" or when the Dallas County Commissioners Court has an "Outdoor Open Burning Ban" in effect pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 352.081.

307.3 Extinguishment authority.

Where open burning creates or adds to a hazardous situation, or a required permit for open burning has not been obtained, the Dallas County Fire Marshal is authorized to order the extinguishment of the open burning operation.

307.4 Location.

The location for open burning shall not be less than 300 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 300 feet of any structure.

Exceptions:

1. Fires in approved containers that are not less than 25 feet from a structure.
2. The minimum required distance from a structure shall be 25 feet where the pile size is 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height.

307.4.1 Bonfires.

A bonfire shall not be conducted within 300 feet of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 300 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition. Fires found to be out of control or that are being conducted in an unsafe manner will be extinguished by the assigned Fire Department and cost will be charged back to the permit holder.

307.4.2 Recreational Fires.

Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible materials. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

307.4.4 Trench burns.

Trench burns shall be conducted in air curtain trenches and in accordance with Section 307.2 and the State requirements for trench burns.

307.5 Attendance.

Open burning, bonfires, or recreational fires shall be constantly attended by a competent adult until the fire is extinguished with no remaining embers. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel with approved bucket, garden hose, or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization. The fire-extinguishing equipment that is available on site shall be comparable to the size of the fire.

CHAPTER 5 Fire Service Features

SECTION 507 – FIRE PROTECTION WATER SUPPLIES: *Subsection 507.1 is amended to read as follows:*

507.1 Required Water Supply.

An approved water supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for protection shall be provided to premises on which facilities, buildings, or portions of buildings are hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction. In the unincorporated areas of Dallas County where water supply is not normally found, a water supply as otherwise required by this section will not be required if the responsible emergency services district or fire department provides a letter stating they can provide sufficient fire flow for the specific project.

CHAPTER 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems

SECTION 907 – FIRE ALARM AND DETECTION SYSTEMS: *Subsection 907.4.2.1.1 is added to read as follows:*

907.4.2.1.1 Manual Fire Alarm Boxes at Exits – Large Warehouses.

For warehouse buildings or portions thereof having a gross floor area greater than 500,000 square feet (46,451 square meters), manual fire alarm boxes (pull stations) shall be installed at

every building exit, including employee-only exits, delivery/service exits, and fire/emergency exits. These pull stations shall be:

- (a) Located on the occupant egress side, within 5 feet (1524 mm) of each exit doorway.
- (b) Mounted at a height of not less than 42 inches (1067 mm) and not more than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the finished floor to the activating handle.
- (c) Unobstructed and clearly visible at all times.

Exception: Where otherwise approved by the fire code official, alternative means of occupant notification may be substituted if they provide equivalent or superior functionality in terms of occupant activation and emergency response.

CHAPTER 12 – Clean Energy Systems

SECTION 1201 – GENERAL: *Subsection 1201.1 is amended to read as follows:*

1201.1 Scope.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to the installation, operation, maintenance, repair, retrofitting, testing, commissioning and decommissioning of energy systems used for generating or storing energy, including but not limited to energy storage systems under the exclusive control of an electric utility or lawfully designated agency. It shall not apply to equipment associated with the generation, control, transformation, transmission, or distribution of energy installations that is under the exclusive control of an electric utility or lawfully designated agency. Energy storage systems regulated by Sections 1207 (as amended) and 1208 (as added) shall comply with this chapter, as appropriate and the technical standards below referenced.

This section governs the fire and life safety requirements for energy systems installed within the jurisdiction of Dallas County, including but not limited to:

Stationary battery storage systems,

1. Fuel cell systems,
2. Photovoltaic (solar) power systems,
3. Lithium-ion battery storage systems, and
4. Electric vehicle charging infrastructure (EVCS).

These systems shall be installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with this Code, the 2024 International Fire Code (IFC), NFPA 855 – *Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems*, and other applicable referenced standards adopted by Dallas County.

SECTION 1207 – LITHIUM-ION BATTERY STORAGE OPERATIONS: *Subsections 1207.1 and 1207.1.4 are amended, and Subsections 1207.1.1.2, 1207.1.3.1, 1207.1.3.2, 1207.1.4.2, 1207.1.4.3, 1207.1.4.4, 1207.1.4.5, 1207.1.5.2, and 1207.1.5.3 are added to read as follows:*

1207.1 General.

This section establishes requirements for the safe storage, handling, and use of lithium-ion batteries, an energy storage system (“ESS”), within Dallas County. These regulations are adopted pursuant to the authority granted under Texas Local Government Code Chapters 233 and 352 and are intended to supplement the *International Fire Code (IFC)* 2024 Edition (Section 1207), as amended by Dallas County. This section applies to all commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities within the jurisdiction of the Dallas County Fire Marshal that store, use, or handle lithium-ion batteries in quantities requiring operational oversight.

1207.1.1.2 Technical Standards.

All lithium-ion battery energy storage systems subject to this section shall be designed, installed, and maintained in accordance with nationally recognized codes and standards. The following technical references shall serve as the basis for evaluating system safety, performance, and hazard mitigation:

- (a) *International Fire Code (IFC) 2024, Chapter 12 – Energy Systems.* Provides general guidance for the regulation and fire protection of electrical energy systems, including stationary battery installations. While not adopted in full, Chapter 12 may be referenced by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) to support risk assessment and compliance decisions.
- (b) *NFPA 855 (2023 Edition) – Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems.* Establishes mandatory criteria for the installation, separation, fire protection, ventilation, and emergency access associated with lithium-ion battery energy storage systems.
- (c) *FM Global Property Loss Prevention Data Sheet 5-33 – Battery Energy Storage Systems.* Provides loss prevention recommendations related to system layout, thermal management, fire detection and suppression, and structural risk mitigation. This guidance may be applied by the AHJ or the facility’s property insurer as a supplemental risk control standard.
- (d) *UL 9540A – Test Method for Evaluating Thermal Runaway Fire Propagation in Battery Energy Storage System.* Shall be required where the AHJ determines thermal runaway hazards warrant further analysis. UL 9540A test results shall inform spacing requirements, containment strategies, suppression needs, and emergency response planning.

- (e) *Other AHJ Recognized Best Practices.* Where appropriate, the Authority Having Jurisdiction may require implementation of recognized best practices, including third-party certification to UL 9540 and UL 1973, use of listed battery management systems (BMS), documented inspection and maintenance procedures, emergency response coordination with local fire departments, and enhanced fire detection and suppression systems tailored to lithium-ion battery hazards.

1207.1.3.1 Threshold Quantities.

A permit is required to store lithium-ion batteries in quantities meeting or exceeding the following thresholds:

1. More than 15 ft³ of lithium-ion batteries;
2. Any storage exceeding 20 kWh total capacity with State of Charge (SOC) over 30%;
3. Any indoor or outdoor commercial storage with bulk shipping, storage in trailers, or palletized bulk loads; and/ or
4. Any facility using or storing battery systems integrated with energy storage or renewable systems.

1207.1.3.2 SOC Thresholds and Special Provisions.

Facilities storing lithium-ion batteries below 30% SOC may qualify for reduced fire protection requirements, provided:

1. SOC is documented via manufacturer certification or third-party SOC report;
2. Batteries remain below 30% SOC at all times prior to shipping, and
3. Compliance is verified during inspection.

1207.1.4 Permits Required.

Permits shall be obtained for lithium-ion battery storage (ESS):

- (a) Construction permits shall be obtained for stationary ESS installation and for mobile ESS charging and storage installations covered by Section 1207.10.1.
- (b) Operational permits shall be obtained for stationary ESS installations and for mobile ESS deployment operations covered by Section 1207.10.3.

1207.1.4.2 Application Requirements.

The permit application shall include:

1. Completed Dallas County Lithium-Ion Battery Operational or Building Permit Application;
2. Site layout plan indicating battery locations;
3. Fire protection and suppression systems descriptions;
4. Third-party SOC documentation or compliance report (if SOC-based exemption claimed); and
5. Emergency response and containment plan.

1207.1.4.3 Inspections and Enforcement.

The Dallas County Fire Marshal is authorized to inspect battery storage locations and enforce compliance under this Code. Inspection summary forms may be issued to identify deficiencies, order abatement of hazards, or suspend operations pending compliance. Re-inspections may incur additional fees as authorized by Commissioners Court.

1207.1.4.4 Penalties.

Failure to obtain a permit, provide documentation, or maintain compliance shall be a violation of this Code and subject to penalties as provided in Section 7.4. Continued violations may result in abatement orders or referral to the District Attorney under Texas Local Government Code §352.022 and/or §233.066.

1207.1.4.5 Forms and Fees.

Permit applications shall be submitted using the County's approved form and accompanied by all required documents. Fees shall be set by separate Commissioners' Court Order and published on the official website.

1207.1.5.2 Fire Protection Requirements.

Storage locations for lithium-ion batteries shall comply with the following minimum fire and life safety measures:

1. *Automatic Fire Detection.* Smoke and/or heat detection installed in accordance with the International Fire Code and NFPA 72.
2. *Fire Suppression.* Automatic sprinkler protection or an approved alternative suppression system designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 855.
3. *Aisle Access.* A minimum of 3 feet of clear and unobstructed aisle access shall be maintained to all battery storage areas.

4. *Separation Distances.* Unless otherwise reduced by UL 9540A test data approved by the Dallas County Fire Marshal, storage shall maintain:
 - (a) 3 feet from noncombustible walls or barriers;
 - (b) 5 feet from lot lines, public ways, or means of egress; and
 - (c) 10 feet from combustible walls, building openings, or rooftop access points.
5. *Signage.* Approved signage shall be posted at each entry stating: “Hazardous Battery Storage – Authorized Personnel Only.”
6. *Portable Fire Extinguishers.* A sufficient number of on-site extinguishers suitable for lithium-ion battery fires (e.g., Class C, clean agent, or other approved type) shall be provided and maintained in accordance with NFPA 10.

1207.1.5.3 Waivers and Alternatives.

The Dallas County Fire Marshal may approve alternative methods of protection per IFC §104.9 if equivalent safety is demonstrated. Waivers must be documented and signed by the Dallas County Fire Marshal.

SECTION 1208 – ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE is added to read as follows:

1208.1 General.

The provisions of this section establish fire protection and emergency response requirements for electric vehicle (EV) charging station installations, including Level 1, Level 2, and DC Fast Charging (DCFC) stations, to mitigate associated hazards. These provisions are enforceable only to the extent authorized under the Dallas County Fire Code and Texas Local Government Code Chapter 233 and Texas Local Government Code Section 352.

1208.2 Technical Standards.

The following nationally recognized standards shall serve as the technical basis for evaluating fire and life safety conditions associated with electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure governed by this section. These standards provide minimum criteria for installation, equipment performance, hazard mitigation, and emergency response coordination:

- (a) *NFPA 70 (National Electrical Code), Article 625 – Electric Vehicle Power Transfer System.* Governs the electrical installation of EV charging systems, including wiring methods, overcurrent protection, grounding, and equipment configuration.

- (b) NFPA 855 – *Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems* Applicable where EV charging systems incorporate battery energy storage. Key provisions include:
1. Minimum separation distances for outdoor ESS installations (§4.4.3)
 2. Listing and testing requirements per UL 9540 (§4.7)
 3. Access provisions for fire department operations (§4.3.8)
 4. Guidance for suppression system installation (§9.2.1)
- (c) UL 9540 – *Standard for Energy Storage Systems and Equipment*. Specifies product safety and performance requirements for energy storage systems and their integration with EV charging components.
- (d) UL 2202 – *Standard for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging System Equipment*. Establishes safety and construction criteria for EV charging stations and associated power conversion equipment.
- (e) *International Fire Code (IFC) 2024, Chapter 12 – Energy Systems (Sections 1201–1207)*. Provides fire protection requirements for electrical energy systems, including EV infrastructure, as enforceable under the Dallas County Fire Code and Texas Local Government Code Chapter 233.
- (f) *IFC 2024 §604.1.1 – Disconnecting Means for Electrical Equipment*. Supports the requirement for accessible manual disconnects, or Safety Interrupt Devices (SIDs), to protect emergency responders during fire or rescue operations.
- (g) *Other AHJ Recognized Best Practices*. Where appropriate, the Authority Having Jurisdiction may recognize emerging or supplemental standards, including but not limited to:
- *DIN SPEC 91489:2024-11* – *Guidelines for the use of fire blankets in EV fire scenarios*;
 - *UL 94* – *Standard for testing flammability of polymeric materials*;
 - *UL 2596* – *Evaluation of thermal barriers used in battery storage and EV applications*

1208.3 Scope.

This section applies to electric vehicle (EV) charging station installations located within the unincorporated area of Dallas County, to the extent authorized under Texas Local

Government Code Chapter 233, and to installations serving Dallas County-owned or operated buildings, facilities, or properties, regardless of location.

1. EV charging station installations located at commercial establishments and/or public buildings;
2. EV charging stations at a multifamily (consisting of four or more units) residential dwelling;
3. Battery-integrated EV charging systems and Inductive (wireless) EV charging systems as installed at commercial, multifamily, or county facilities.

1208.4 Emergency Disconnect – Safety Interrupt Devices (SID).

EV charging stations shall be equipped with a Safety Interrupt Device (SID) capable of manual power disconnection in emergencies. The SID shall:

1. Be manually operable and accessible to emergency responders;
2. Be installed in accordance with NFPA 70 (NEC);
3. Be located within 5 feet of the charger or as approved by the Dallas County Fire Marshal; and
4. Automatically disconnect power when activated.

1208.5 Signage and Labeling.

Required signage includes:

1. “Emergency Power Disconnect Located Here” at the SID location; and
2. “Do Not Block: Fire Department Access Required” for stations in public/shared spaces;
3. All emergency disconnect switches must be clearly marked and illuminated if outdoors.

1208.6 Indoor and Outdoor Fire Separation.

Indoor installations shall:

1. Be separated by a 1-hour fire-resistance-rated wall from occupied areas unless protected by an approved sprinkler system; and
2. Be located at least 10 feet from combustible materials or flammable liquids unless otherwise approved.

Outdoor installations shall:

1. Maintain at least 5 feet clearance from building entrances or exits; and
2. Meet IFC Section 1207 requirements for battery storage when integrated with energy storage.

1208.7 Fire Blankets.

The Dallas County Fire Marshal may require lithium-ion-rated fire blankets for commercial, multifamily, or public EV charging station installations where site-specific conditions present a risk of fire spread, delayed suppression, or limited responder access. The decision to require fire blankets shall be based on an assessment of factors such as proximity to combustible structures, lack of fire suppression systems, or presence of energy storage systems.

When required by the Dallas County Fire Marshal, fire blankets shall:

1. Be lithium-ion rated and sized for passenger vehicle suppression;
2. Be located within 25 feet of the charger in a weatherproof, clearly labeled container; and
3. Be inspected annually and replaced if damaged or deployed.

** The Dallas County Fire Marshal may reference emerging best practices and industry guidelines—such as DIN SPEC 91489:2024-11, UL 94, or UL 2596—to determine the suitability and use of fire blankets in specific applications**

1208.8 Segregation of EV Charging Spaces.

Charging stations shall be physically separated from standard parking areas to reduce fire risk. Locations must allow access for emergency response and alternative suppression methods.

1208.9 EV Charging Stations in Parking Garages.

Installations above the first floor shall be near exterior walls with ventilation or emergency exits. Placement must avoid blocking ingress/egress and allow firefighter access. Site-specific approval is required.

1208.10 BEAM-Style Outdoor Chargers or Other Mobile/Temporary EVCS Units.

Solar-powered, self-contained EV charging units must:

1. Be placed in open-air areas with firefighter access;
2. Maintain a 10-foot clearance from building entrances/exits and combustible materials; and
3. Avoid direct placement near vehicle traffic or pedestrian routes unless approved.

1208.11 Compliance.

New installations shall comply with this section. Existing installations may be required to add emergency disconnects or other safety measures if the Dallas County Fire Marshal determines they are necessary to protect occupants, property, or emergency responders.

1208.12 Permit and Review Limitations.

To the extent permitted by law, fire safety reviews of commercial and multifamily EV charging installations may be conducted under this Code. A separate operational permit shall not be required unless related to an associated hazard or system regulated by this Code (e.g., battery energy storage). No permit shall be construed to regulate electrical performance, connector compatibility, or design features as otherwise regulated or required under Texas Occupations Code Chapter 2311.

1208.13 Exception.

Portable EV chargers not permanently installed are exempt from SID and fire blanket requirements.

1208.14 Preemption Disclaimer.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize Dallas County to regulate, license, or impose design or installation standards for electric vehicle charging equipment in a manner preempted by Texas law, including Texas Occupations Code Chapter 2311 and 16 TAC, Part 4, Chapter 96. This section shall apply only to fire and life safety conditions consistent with the County's authority under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 233.

CHAPTER 56 - Explosives and Fireworks

SECTION 5602.1 – DEFINITIONS: *This section is amended to include the following revised definitions.*

- **Fireworks.** Any composition or device for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect for entertainment purposes by combustion, deflagration, or detonation, and/or activated by ignition with a match or other heat producing device that meets the definition of 1.4G fireworks or 1.3G fireworks under Texas Occupations Code § 2154.001 (6) and (7).

SECTION 5610 – FIREWORKS RETAIL, STORAGE, DISPLAY, AND SALE *is added, with subsections, to read as follows:*

5610.1 General.

The sale, storage, and display of Fireworks are subject to the authority of the Dallas County Fire Marshal to ensure fire and life safety. Pursuant to *Texas Local Government Code §§ 352.016 and 233.061–233.064 and Texas Occupations Code § 2154.2025*, the Dallas County Fire Marshal may conduct inspections, determine the presence of fire hazards, require abatement, and issue corrective orders. In accordance with IFC 2024, Dallas

County Fire Marshal is also authorized to require operational permits for the retail sale, temporary storage, or public display of fireworks in unincorporated areas of Dallas County, consistent with the County's adopted Fire Code and state law.

5610.2 Building Services.

All building services installed in temporary or permanent structures used for the retail sale and storage of Fireworks in unincorporated Dallas County shall comply with this section and all applicable fire and electrical safety regulations.

5610.2.1 Electrical Installations.

All electrical work associated with fireworks stands—including lighting, wiring, panels, outlets, and power sources—must be installed in accordance with the *National Electrical Code (NEC)*. This electrical work must be performed by a licensed electrician and is subject to inspection by the Dallas County Fire Marshal to verify compliance with life safety standards.

5610.2.2 Equipment Listings.

All electrical devices, including lighting fixtures, extension cords, battery-powered equipment, and generators used in or around fireworks stands, shall be *UL-listed or approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory (NRTL)* and used only in accordance with their listing and manufacturer's instructions.

5610.2.3 Temporary Power Authorization.

The Dallas County Fire Marshal may authorize the temporary supply of electrical power to fireworks stands for a period not exceeding 180 days. Authorization may be conditioned on inspection and fire hazard evaluation. Upon a finding of a violation of this Code, which constitutes an imminent hazard or threat to life and safety, the Dallas County Fire Marshal may deny the temporary supply of electrical power per Section 7.6 of this Code.

5610.2.4 Temporary Electrical Conductors.

Any temporary wiring, including power cords and distribution systems, must comply with the *National Electrical Code (NEC)* and shall be installed in a manner that avoids damage, tripping hazards, or contact with combustible materials

5610.3 Portable Generators for Firework Stands.

Portable generators supplying power to consumer fireworks retail sales facilities shall comply with this section.

5610.3.1 Generator Location.

Portable generators used to power fireworks stands shall be located no less than **20 feet** from the stand and placed on cleared ground free of grass, trash, or other combustible materials. Generators shall not obstruct emergency access routes.

5610.3.2 Generator Fuel Storage.

Fuel for portable generators shall be stored in approved, clearly labeled safety containers and positioned at least 20 feet from the fireworks stand. If stored within 50 feet, the fuel quantity shall not exceed 5 gallons. If stored 50 feet or more from the stand, there shall be no quantity limit. All fuel storage shall be secured against unauthorized access and away from heat sources or open flames.

5610.3.3 Limit of Authority.

This section does not limit the authority of the Dallas County Fire Marshal to inspect any retail site location or storage facility to require additional fire protection measures.

5610.3.4 Other codes, standards, and laws.

Unless specifically outlined in this section, all retail fireworks sites shall comply with the other applicable chapters of this Code, the Texas Occupations Code 2154, Texas Local Government Code 352, and the Texas Fireworks Rules.

CHAPTER 80 – Reference Standards

CHAPTER 80 – Reference Standards: *This Chapter is amended to include the following reference standards:*

- 2019 NFPA 13 Fire Sprinklers – commercial buildings
- 2019 NFPA 13R/D Fire Sprinklers – residential up to 4-stories and single-family dwellings
- 2019 NFPA 72 Fire Alarm
- 2018 NFPA 10 Portable Fire Extinguishers
- 2018 NFPA 12 Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems
- 2018 NFPA 12A Halon 1301 Extinguishing Systems
- 2019 NFPA 14 Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems
- 2017 NFPA 15 Water Spray Fixed Systems
- 2019 NFPA 16 Installation of Foam-Water Sprinkler and Foam-Water Spray Systems
- 2021 NFPA 17 Dry Chemical Extinguishing Systems
- 2021 NFPA 17A Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems
- 2019 NFPA 20 Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection
- 2018 NFPA 22 Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection
- 2019 NFPA 24 Installation of Private Fire Service Mains

- 2020 NFPA 25 Inspection/Testing of Water Based Fire Protection Systems
- 2021 NFPA 30 Flammable and Combustible Liquids
- 2023 NFPA 70 (NEC Art. 625) – Electric Vehicle Charging Installations
- 2023 NFPA 88A – Standard for Parking Structures (fire protection of EV charging stations in parking garages)
- 2018 NFPA 92 Smoke Control Systems
- 2021 NFPA 96 Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking
- 2019 NFPA 110 Emergency and Standby Power Systems
- 2023 NFPA 855 – Standards for the Installations of Storage Stationary Energy Systems
- 2018 NFPA 2001 Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems
- 2021 UL 94 – Standard for Testing Flammability of Polymeric Materials
- 2017 UL 2202 Rev.1 – Standard for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging System Equipment
- 2012 UL 2231 Rev.1 & 2 – Standard for Personnel Protection Systems for EVSE
- 2022 UL9540A – Test Method for Evaluating Thermal Runaway Fire Propagation in Battery Energy Storage System.
- 2018 UL 2596 – Evaluation of Thermal Barriers Used in Battery Storage and EV Applications
- 2021 FM Global Data Sheet 5-33 – Lithium-Ion Batteries Storage and Protection Guidelines
- DIN SPEC 91489:2024-11 – Guidelines for the Use of Fire Blankets in Electric Vehicle Fire Scenarios [Recognized under AHJ Discretion for fire blanket deployment guidance in accordance with IFC §104.9.

APPENDIX A – BOARD OF APPEALS

APPENDIX A – BOARD OF APPEALS is deleted in its entirety.

APPENDIX B – FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS

APPENDIX B – FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS: *Subsections B105.1 and B105.2 is amended to read as follows:*

B105.1 One- and two-family dwellings.

The minimum fire-flow requirements for one- and two-family dwellings having a fire-flow calculation area which does not exceed 3,600 square feet (344.5 m²) shall be 1,000 gallons per minute (3785.4 L/min). Fire-flow and flow duration for dwellings having a fire-flow calculation area in excess of 3,600 square feet (344.5 m²) shall not be less than that specified in Table B105.1.

Exception: A reduction in required fire flow of 50 percent, as approved, is allowed when the building is provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

TABLE B105.1 MINIMUM REQUIRED FIRE-FLOW AND FLOW DURATION FOR BUILDINGS

FIRE-FLOW CALCULATION AREA (square feet)					(gallons per minute)^c	FLOW DURATION (hours)
Type IA and IB^b	Type IIA and IIIA^b	Type IV and V-A^b	Type IIB and IIIB^b	Type V-B^b		
0-22,700	0-12,700	0-8,200	0-5,900	0-3,600	1,500	2
22,701-30,200	12,701-17,000	8,201-10,900	5,901-7,900	3,601-4,800	1,750	
30,201-38,700	17,001-21,800	10,901-12,900	7,901-9,800	4,801-6,200	2,000	
38,701-48,300	21,801-24,200	12,901-17,400	9,801-12,600	6,201-7,700	2,250	
48,301-59,000	24,201-33,200	17,401-21,300	12,601-15,400	7,701-9,400	2,500	

59,001-70,900	33,201-39,700	21,301-25,500	15,401-18,400	9,401-11,300	2,750	
70,901-83,700	39,701-47,100	25,501-30,100	18,401-21,800	11,301-13,400	3,000	3
83,701-97,700	47,101-54,900	30,101-35,200	21,801-25,900	13,401-15,600	3,250	
97,701-112,700	54,901-63,400	35,201-40,600	25,901-29,300	15,601-18,000	3,500	
112,701-128,700	63,401-72,400	40,601-46,400	29,301-33,500	18,001-20,600	3,750	
128,701-145,900	72,401-82,100	46,401-52,500	33,501-37,900	20,601-23,300	4,000	4
145,901-164,200	82,101-92,400	52,501-59,100	37,901-42,700	23,301-26,300	4,250	
164,201-183,400	92,401-103,100	59,101-66,000	42,701-47,700	26,301-29,300	4,500	
183,401-203,700	103,101-114,600	66,001-73,300	47,701-53,000	29,301-32,600	4,750	
203,701-225,200	114,601-126,700	73,301-81,100	53,001-58,600	32,601-36,000	5,000	
225,201-247,700	126,701-139,400	81,101-89,200	58,601-65,400	36,001-39,600	5,250	
247,701-271,200	139,401-152,600	89,201-97,700	65,401-70,600	39,601-43,400	5,500	
271,201-295,900	152,601-166,500	97,701-106,500	70,601-77,000	43,401-47,400	5,750	
295,901-	166,501-	106,501-	77,001-	47,401-	6,000	

Greater	Greater	115,800	83,700	51,500		
—	—	115,801- 125,500	83,701- 90,600	51,501- 55,700	6,250	
—	—	125,501- 135,500	90,601- 97,900	55,701- 60,200	6,500	
—	—	135,501- 145,800	97,901- 106,800	60,201- 64,800	6,750	
—	—	145,801- 156,700	106,801- 113,200	64,801- 69,600	7,000	
—	—	156,701- 167,900	113,201- 121,300	69,601- 74,600	7,250	
—	—	167,901- 179,400	121,301- 129,600	74,601- 79,800	7,500	
—	—	179,401- 191,400	129,601- 138,300	79,801- 85,100	7,750	
—	—	191,401- Greater	138,301- Greater	85,101- Greater	8,000	

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m², 1 gallon per minute = 3.785 L/m, 1 pound per square inch = 6.895 kPa.

- (a) The minimum required fire flow shall be reduced by 25 percent for Group R.
- (b) Types of construction are based on the *International Building Code*.
- (c) Measured at 20 psi.

B105.2 Buildings other than one- and two-family dwellings.

The minimum fire-flow and flow duration for buildings other than one- and two-family dwellings shall be as specified in Table B105.1.

Exception: A reduction in required fire-flow of up to 75 percent, as approved, is allowed when the building is provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2. The resulting fire-flow shall not be less than 1,500 gallons per minute (5678 L/min) for the prescribed duration as specified in Table B105.

APPENDIX C – FIRE HYDRANT LOCATIONS AND DISTRIBUTION

APPENDIX C – FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS: Subsections C102.1 and C103.1 are amended to read as follows:

SECTION C103 – NUMBER OF FIRE HYDRANTS

C102.1 Number of Fire Hydrants

The number of fire hydrants available to a building shall be not less than the minimum specified in Table C102.1, or the rules of the jurisdiction in whose Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) the project is located, whichever is more stringent

SECTION C103 – FIRE HYDRANT SPACING

C103.1 Hydrant spacing.

The average spacing between fire hydrants shall not exceed that listed in Table C102.1, or the rules of the jurisdiction in whose Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) the project is located, whichever is more stringent.

Exception: The Dallas County Fire Marshal is authorized to accept a deficiency of up to 10 percent where existing fire hydrants provide all or a portion of the required fire hydrant service.

Regardless of the average spacing, fire hydrants shall be located such that all points on streets and access roads adjacent to a building are within the distances listed in Table C102.1.

TABLE C102.1 NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF FIRE HYDRANTS

FIRE – FLOW REQUIREMENTS (gpm)	MINIMUM NUMBER OF HYDRANTS	AVERAGE SPACING BETWEEN HYDRANTS	FROM ANY POINT ON STREET OR ROAD FRONTAGE TO A HYDRANT
1,750 or less	1	500	250
2,000 – 2,250	2	450	225
2,500	3	450	225
3,000	3	400	225

3,500 – 4,000	4	350	210
4,500 – 5,000	5	300	180
5,500	6	300	180
6,000	6	250	150
6,500 – 7,000	7	250	150
7,500 or more	8 or more	200	120

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 gallon per minute = 3.785 L/m.

- (a) Reduce by 100 feet for dead-end streets or roads.
- (b) Where streets are provided with median dividers which can be crossed by fire fighters pulling hose lines, or where arterial streets are provided with four or more traffic lanes and have a traffic count of more than 30,000 vehicles per day, hydrant spacing shall average 500 feet on each side of the street and be arranged on an alternating basis up to a fire-flow requirement of 7,000 gallons per minute and 400 feet for higher fire-flow requirements.
- (c) Where new water mains are extended along streets where hydrants are not needed for protection of structures or similar fire problems, fire hydrants shall be provided at spacing not to exceed 1,000 feet to provide for transportation hazards.
- (d) Reduce by 50 feet for dead-end streets or roads.
- (e) One hydrant for each 1,000 gallons per minute or fraction thereof.

APPENDIX E – HAZARD CATEGORIES

APPENDIX E – HAZARD CATEGORIES is deleted in its entirety

APPENDIX F – HAZARD RANKING

APPENDIX F – HAZARD RAKING is deleted in its entirety