Agenda Item #: 5B-1

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	December 1, 2026	[ ] Consent [ ] Workshop	[ ] Regular [X] Public Hearing
Department:	Fire Rescue		

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: an Ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, repealing and replacing Sections 12-56 and 12-57 of Chapter 12, Article IV, of the Palm Beach County Code (codifying Ordinance 2023-042); providing for incorporation of recitals and findings; providing for the adoption of the updated Florida Fire Prevention Code with local amendments thereto; providing for repeal of laws in conflict; providing for savings clause; providing for severability; providing for inclusion in the Code of laws and ordinances; and providing for an effective date.

Summary: Pursuant to Chapter 633, Florida Statutes, the State Fire Marshal has or will adopt an updated Florida Fire Prevention Code every three years, which establishes the statewide minimum firesafety code, with an anticipated effective date of December 31, 2026. This updated Florida Fire Prevention Code is based on updated Florida editions of the National Fire Protection Association's Fire Code (NFPA 1) and Life Safety Code (NFPA 101). The proposed Palm Beach County Local Amendments to the updated Florida Fire Prevention Code are recommended by the County's Fire Marshal and approved by the Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments. Both the proposed and existing Local Amendments establish the scope and authority of the Bureau of Safety Services; requirements for life safety features and fire protection features within buildings; collection of fees for plan review and inspection services; and a Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments. **Countywide (RM)**

Background and Policy Issues: Florida law requires that local governments with firesafety responsibilities enforce the Florida Fire Prevention Code's statewide minimum firesafety code, and authorizes local governments to adopt local amendments that are more stringent than and strengthen the requirements of the minimum firesafety code. The Local Amendments proposed in this Ordinance update the current Local Amendments for the purposes of clarification, applicability, public safety, and changes in technology.

Attachments:
1. Final Ordinance, with Palm Beach County Local Amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code attached as Appendix A
2. Summary of the proposed changes to the Local Amendments
3. Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments approval recommendation letter

Recommended by:	Division Chief/Fire Marshal	10.26.26 Date
Approved by:	Fire Rescue Administrator	10.28.26 Date
Approved by:	Deputy County Administrator	11/4/26 Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues	($2,717,479)	($3,620,000)	($3,620,000)	($902,521)	
Program Income (County)					
In-Kind Match (County)					
NET FISCAL IMPACT	($2,717,479)	($3,620,000)	($3,620,000)	($902,521)	
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)					

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes X No ___
Does this item include the use of Federal Funds? Yes ___ No X
Does this item include the use of State Funds? Yes ___ No X

Budget Account No.: Fund 1300 Dept 440 Unit 4241 RevSource 4222/4223/4224

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact is based on previous activity levels for the fee types revised by the Local Amendments to become effective December 31, 2026. The fiscal impact for Fiscal Year (FY) 2030 is prorated for nine months and future fiscal years have been kept flat until the next update in FY 2030.

The Community Risk Reduction Division (1300-440-4241) generated $3,866,300 in revenues related to services provided by the Division in FY 2026. This figure includes fees for excessive false alarms, existing inspections, occupational license inspections, plan review, annual alarm recertification and water verification.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: Karen Magienda 10/26/26

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:

10/29/2026
OFMB 10/29/26 DA 10/29

Contract Development and Control 10/30/26 ZG 10.30.26

B. Legal Sufficiency

Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)

ORDINANCE NO. R2026 –_____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTIONS 12-56 AND 12-57 OF CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE IV, OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE (CODIFYING ORDINANCE 2023-042); PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS AND FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE UPDATED FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE WITH LOCAL AMENDMENTS THERETO; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR CAPTIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 633, Florida Statutes, every three years the State Fire Marshall adopts in Rule Chapter 69A-60, Florida Administrative Code, an updated Florida Fire Prevention Code, which establishes the statewide minimum firesafety code and incorporates Florida editions of the National Fire Protection Association's Fire Code (NFPA 1 Fire Code) and Life Safety Code (NFPA 101 Life Safety Code); and;

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the State Fire Marshall will adopt the updated Florida Fire Prevention Code to be effective December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 633, Florida Statutes, authorizes governments to adopt more stringent local amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code which strengthen the requirements of the minimum firesafety code; and

WHEREAS, the County's Fire Marshall and Fire Code Advisory Board recommend that the Board of County Commissioners adopt local amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code and set forth in **Appendix A** attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, at a duly advertised public hearing, the Board of County Commissioners heard and considered the comments of all parties wishing to be heard on this matter; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners hereby finds and determines that said local amendments are more stringent than and strengthen the Florida Fire Prevention Code's minimum firesafety code in accordance with Sections 633.202 and 633.208, Florida Statutes, and that adopting said local amendments will serve the public interest and general welfare

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

SECTION 1. The foregoing recitals and findings are hereby confirmed and incorporated herein.

SECTION 2.

Section 12-56 of Chapter 12, Article IV, of the Palm Beach County Code is hereby repealed and replaced in its entirety to read as follows:

(a) In accordance with F.S. §§ 633.202 and 633.208, the updated Florida Fire Prevention Code to be effective on or about December 31, 2026, which has been or will be adopted by the State Fire Marshal in Rule Chapter 69A-60 of the Florida Administrative Code, as may be amended, including the Florida editions of NFPA 1 Fire Code and NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, is deemed adopted by the County by reference as the minimum fire safety code, and is hereby amended by the Palm Beach County Local Amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code as adopted and incorporated by Section 12-57. The updated Florida Fire Prevention Code as amended by the Palm Beach County Local Amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code may be hereinafter referred to as "this Code."

(b) The provisions of this Code shall be in full force and effect in Palm Beach County within the boundaries of any fire-rescue municipal service taxing unit (MSTU) established by ordinance, including within the unincorporated area and within the boundaries of any municipality that is lawfully included within any such MSTU; and within any municipality that has entered into an interlocal agreement for fire protection services from Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue and enacted an ordinance to adopt the Palm Beach County Local Amendments within the municipality, unless otherwise provided by the interlocal agreement.

SECTION 3. Section 12-57 of Chapter 12, Article IV, of the Palm Beach County Code is hereby repealed and replaced in its entirety to read as follows

The Palm Beach Local Amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code set forth in **Appendix A** attached hereto are hereby adopted and incorporated herein and made part hereof as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION. 6. Repeal of laws in Conflict: Any laws or ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance which Palm Beach County is authorized to repeal are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 6. Savings Clause: Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the provisions of 12-56 and 12-57, Chapter 12, of the Palm Beach County Code, as originally enacted, amended, and in place prior to this ordinance are hereby specifically preserved, and shall remain in full force and effect, for the limited purpose of enforcing any alleged violations of said law which occurred prior to its repeal or replacement.

SECTION 7. Severability: if any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance is for any reason held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional, inoperative or void, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this ordinance.

SECTION 8. Inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances: The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of laws and ordinances of Palm Beach County, Florida. The sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish such, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section", "article", or any other appropriate word.

SECTION 9. Captions: The captions, section headings, and section designations used in this Ordinance are for convenience only and shall have no effect on the interpretation of the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 9. Effective Date: The provisions of this ordinance shall become effective December 31, 2026, or upon the State Fire Marshal's adoption of the updated Florida Fire Prevention Code, or upon the date this Ordinance is filed with the Department of State, whichever date is latest.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of palm Beach County, Florida, on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Attest:
Yvette Drucker
Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

By: _____
Clerk

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

By: _____ _____
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

_____
County Attorney

Filed with the Department of State on the ___ day of _____, 20____

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PALM BEACH COUNTY LOCAL AMENDMENTS

TO THE

FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE

Based on

NFPA 1, *Fire Code*, Florida Edition

NFPA 101®, *Life Safety Code*®, Florida Edition

APPENDIX A

Effective: December 31, 2026

FIRE RESCUE STAFF

Patrick J. Kennedy, Fire Rescue Administrator
David Woodside, Assistant Fire Chief
David DeRita, Division Chief/Fire Marshal
Cathy Solis, Administrative Assistant I

PALM BEACH COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Ryan Maher, Assistant County Attorney I

FIRE CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

Vacant, General Contractor
Peter Leduc, West Palm Beach Fire Department Municipal Fire Representative Roger Held, Building Official – Town of Jupiter
Ivan R. Gomez, Architect
Michael Crawford, Fire Sprinkler Representative
Anthony Caliendo, Fire Alarm Contractor
Vacant, Mechanical Engineer
Martin Perrone, Citizen Representative

FIRE RESCUE FIRE CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Patrick J. Kennedy, Fire Administrator
David Woodside, Assistant Fire Chief
Dave DeRita, Division Chief/Fire Marshal
Dave Collado, Plan Review/New Construction Supervisor
Pamela Summers, Existing Inspections Supervisor
Harry Fenwick, Fire Investigations Supervisor
Elyse Carhart, Community Education Supervisor
Greg Piche, Plan Review Lead Fire Inspector
Cindi Campbell, Existing Inspections Lead Fire Inspector
Dennis Rudolph, Existing Inspections Lead Fire Inspector
Wesley Jolin, Fire Inspector III
Kane Corbett, Fire Inspector III

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CHAPTER 1
ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT

1.1 Scope.

1.1.1 The scope includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Inspection of permanent and temporary buildings, processes, equipment, systems, and other fire and related life safety situations
2. Investigation of fires, explosions, hazardous materials incidents, and other related emergency incidents
3. Review of design and construction plans, drawings, and specifications for life safety systems, fire protection systems, access, water supplies, processes, hazardous materials, and other fire and life safety issues
4. Fire and life safety education of fire brigades, employees, responsible parties, and the general public
5. Existing occupancies and conditions, the design and construction of new buildings, remodeling of existing buildings, and additions to existing buildings
6. Design, installation, alteration, modification, construction, maintenance, repairs, servicing, and testing of fire protection systems and equipment
7. Installation, use, storage, and handling of medical gas systems.
8. Access requirements for fire department operations
9. Hazards from outside fires in vegetation, trash, building debris, and other materials
10. Regulation and control of special events, including, but not limited to, the assemblage of people, exhibits, trade shows, amusement parks, haunted houses, outdoor events, and other similar temporary and permanent occupancies
11. Interior finish, decorations, furnishings, and other combustibles that contribute to fire spread, fire load, and smoke production
12. Storage, use, processing, handling, and on-site transportation of flammable and combustible gases, liquids, and solids
13. Storage, use, processing, handling, and on-site transportation of hazardous materials
14. Control of emergency operations and scenes
15. Conditions affecting firefighter safety
16. Arrangement, design, construction, and alteration of new and existing means of egress

Exception: The scope of this Code for detached one (1) and two (2) family dwellings and for single-use non-commercial agricultural structures on property zoned for single-family dwellings shall include only sub-sections 2, 3 (water supplies and access), 4, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15 of Section 1.1.1.

1.1.2 Title. In accordance with Sections 633.202 and 633.208, Florida Statutes, the Florida Fire Prevention Code (FFPC) adopted by the State Fire Marshal in Rule Chapter 69A-60 of the Florida Administrative Code, as may be amended, including the Florida editions of NFPA 1 Fire Code and NFPA 101® Life Safety Code®, is deemed adopted by reference as the minimum fire safety code, and is amended as set forth herein and referenced below by the NFPA 1 section number. The amendments adopted herein shall be known as the "Palm Beach County Local Amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code.", and may be hereinafter referred to as "this Code."

1.3 Application.

1.3.1.1 The provisions of this Code shall be in full force and effect in Palm Beach County within the boundaries of any fire rescue municipal service taxing unit (MSTU) established by ordinance, including within the unincorporated area and within the boundaries of any municipality that is lawfully included within any such MSTU; and within any municipality that has entered into an interlocal agreement for fire protection services from Palm Beach County Fire Rescue and enacted an ordinance to adopt the Palm Beach County Local Amendments within the municipality, unless otherwise provided by the interlocal agreement.

1.3.8 There is hereby established a Fire Prevention Bureau, known as the Community Risk Reduction Division (CRRD), which shall be under the direction of the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ). The functions of this Division are to be the following:

1. To inspect buildings/businesses as set forth in Table 1.3.8.1 for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any violations of the provisions of this Code. The Division will follow the schedule set forth in Table 1.3.8.1 forthwith to the extent reasonably practicable,
2. To review plans and conduct subsequent inspections to assure compliance with this Code,
3. To investigate the origin, cause, and circumstances of any fire, and
4. To provide public education in the areas of fire and life safety.

TABLE 1.3.8.1 SCHEDULE OF FIRE INSPECTIONS

Buildings/Businesses subject to this Code are to be inspected to ensure fire and life safety code compliance, per the following schedule:

Occupancy Type	Inspection Schedule
Assembly	Annual
Educational	Annual
Day Care	Annual
Health Care	Annual
Ambulatory Health Care	Annual
Detention/Correctional	Annual
Residential Board and Care	Annual
Apartments	Annual
Hotel Dormitories	Annual
Lodging or Rooming Houses	Annual
Mobile Food Truck	Annual
Mercantile - Shell	Annual
Mercantile - TNB	Every three (3) years
Business - Shell	Annual
Business - TNB	Every three (3) years
Industrial/Manufacturing	Annual
Storage	Annual
Special Property Use	Annual
Wholesale Fireworks	Semi-Annual
Mulching Facilities	Semi-Annual

Additional inspections may be scheduled by the AHJ based on new construction, alterations to building construction or occupancy, or in response to complaints or observed fire code violations. Inspection Fees shall be assessed in accordance with Table 1.14.7 of this Code.

1.4 Equivalencies, Alternatives, and Modifications.

1.4.6.1 All fire safety systems, equipment, and devices installed in lieu of or as an alternative to other code requirements, as permitted by this code, shall be considered required systems, and shall comply with the appropriate standard.

1.7 Authority.

1.7.7.4 Before conducting an inspection of a building, structure, or premises, the AHJ shall obtain consent from the owner, occupant, or other person having charge thereof, or obtain an inspection warrant pursuant to Florida Law, except in those instances where an emergency exists.

1.7.11.4 Florida's Public Records Law shall govern what information will be made part of the public record.

1.7.16.1.1 The authority to order immediate evacuation of an occupied building or the summary abatement of a hazardous condition, as provided in sections 1.7.8, 1.7.16, and 1.16.5, shall reside only with the AHJ or the AHJ's designee. The immediate evacuation or summary abatement shall be limited to the action necessary to remove, abate, or remedy the imminently dangerous condition or to remove occupants from the imminently dangerous condition. Such an order shall be immediately effective and shall recite with particularity the facts supporting the immediate evacuation or summary abatement.

1.7.16.1.2 Anyone whose property interests are adversely affected by the summary abatement or immediate evacuation shall be entitled to a subsequent hearing before the Fire Code Board of Appeals, as is established by Section 1.10 of this Code. Upon the Fire Code Board's receipt of a written notice requesting a hearing to review an immediate evacuation or summary abatement order, the Fire Code Board shall set such a hearing for a date no later than five (5) working days from the Fire Code Board's receipt of the written notice. The Fire Code Board's written decision, with its supporting factual findings, shall be mailed by certified mail to the appellant within two (2) working days after the hearing. In all other respects, the procedures of Section 1.10 shall apply.

1.7.19 Permitting and Inspection. The inspection or permitting of any building or plan by any jurisdiction under the requirements of this Code shall not be construed as a warranty of the physical condition of such building or the adequacy of such plan. No jurisdiction nor any employee thereof shall be liable in part for damages for any defect or hazardous or illegal condition or

inadequacy in such building or plan, nor for any failure of any component of such building, which may occur subsequent to such inspection or permitting, pursuant to this Code.

1.7.20 Administrative Orders. From time to time, when deemed necessary, the AHJ or the AHJ's designee, with the approval of the Fire Rescue Administrator, may issue Administrative Orders for the purpose of interpreting, implementing, and administering the provisions of this Code. All Administrative Orders shall be kept on file in the office of the AHJ for public distribution. Such orders shall become effective upon approval by the Fire Rescue Administrator.

1.7.21 In accordance with Section 633.208(3)(d), Florida Statutes, any substantially affected party shall be entitled to a hearing before the AHJ to challenge a Palm Beach County Local Amendment as provided for therein. The challenge must be filed in writing with the AHJ, must state with specificity the basis for the challenge, and shall contain such data and documentation upon which the challenging party seeks to rely. Unless the AHJ agrees to stay enforcement of the Local Amendment, or other good cause is shown, the challenging party shall be entitled to a hearing within forty-five (45) days of the AHJ's receipt of the challenge. The challenging party shall be notified of the date and location of the hearing.

The AHJ shall be authorized to conduct hearings on Local Amendment challenges brought pursuant to Section 633.208(3)(d), Florida Statutes. At the hearing, the AHJ shall provide the challenging party and County staff an opportunity to present testimony and evidence. All testimony shall be under oath. The formal rules of evidence shall not apply but fundamental due process shall be observed and shall govern the proceedings. The burden of proof shall be on the challenging party, but the Local Amendment shall not be presumed to be valid or invalid. The AHJ shall render a written decision containing a summary of the testimony and evidence presented and the AHJ's findings and conclusions.

The AHJ's decision may be appealed by the challenging party to the Fire Code Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days after the AHJ's issuance of a written order. Such appeal shall not be a hearing de novo. The appeal shall be limited to appellate review of the record created before the AHJ. The Board shall reverse the decision of the AHJ only if it determines that there is no substantial competent evidence to support the AHJ's decision.

If the written order of the AHJ or the Fire Code Board of Appeals determines

that the challenged Local Amendment or any part thereof does not comply with the applicable statutory requirements, then said Local Amendment or part thereof shall be deemed void effective as of the date of the written order. Such holding shall not affect the remainder of the Local Amendments or this Code.

The decision of the Fire Code Board of Appeals under this subsection shall be final action which may be appealed by the challenging party to the State Department of Financial Services in accordance with Section 633.208(3)(d), Florida Statutes.

1.10 Fire Code Board of Appeals. Section 10.1 is amended and replaced in its entirety to read as set forth herein.

1.10.1 Fire Code Board of Appeals Created. There is hereby created a Fire Code Board of Appeals, hereinafter referred to as the "Fire Code Board", consisting of eight (8) members who are qualified by training and experience to vary the application of the provisions of this Code, act on related matters, and perform such other duties as established herein. The Board shall be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. All members must reside within Palm Beach County at the time of appointment and while serving on the Fire Code Board and shall be qualified electors of Palm Beach County. The Fire Code Board shall adopt rules and regulations for governing the conduct of its business. The AHJ shall designate a representative to act as Secretary to the Fire Code Board. Public Notice of all Fire Code Board meetings shall be provided. All Fire Code Board meetings shall be open to the public and shall comply with the applicable requirements of the Florida "Government in the Sunshine" and "Public Records" laws. Minutes shall be taken at each meeting. The Fire Code Board shall be subject to the uniform policies and procedures established by the Board of County Commissioners as currently set forth in Resolution No. 2013-0193, as may be further amended by action of the Board of County Commissioners. All Fire Code Board meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order. Fire Code Board members shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the state Ethics Code and the applicable provisions of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics.

1.10.1.1 Membership. The membership of the Fire Code Board of Appeals shall be as follows:

1. One (1) Florida or Palm Beach County certified general contractor.
2. One (1) Palm Beach County municipal fire service representative.

3. One (1) Palm Beach County municipal building official.
4. One (1) registered architect.
5. One (1) certified fire sprinkler contractor.
6. One (1) certified fire alarm contractor.
7. One (1) registered engineer, practicing in the mechanical field.
8. One (1) citizen of Palm Beach County, not eligible under other membership categories.

Where a member is required to be registered or certified, the same shall be issued by the State of Florida unless otherwise specified.

1.10.1.1.1 Term. The members shall serve no more than three (3) consecutive three (3) year terms. Any vacancy occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term and shall not count towards the member's term limits. The members' terms shall begin on October 1 and end on September 30. Current members' terms shall expire on September 30 of the year in which their terms expire.

1.10.1.1.2 Removal/Absences. All members shall be subject to the rules adopted by the Board of County Commissioners governing Board participation and attendance.

1.10.1.1.3 Vote Calculation. Each member shall have a full vote.

1.10.1.1.4 Chair. The Fire Code Board shall select one of its members to serve as chair and one member to serve as vice chair.

1.10.2 Review of Code.

1.10.2.1 Recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. The Fire Code Board shall review this Code and make recommendations, in the form of specific amendments, to the Board of County Commissioners for corrections, additions, substitutions, or deletions to said Code for the purposes of clarification, applicability, public safety, and changes in technology, so as to maintain this Code as an effective and responsive document.

1.10.2.2 Fire Code Advisory Board. When serving solely in its advisory capacity, the Fire Code Board shall be known as the Fire Code Advisory Board and shall be composed of the same members as the Fire Code Board. Persons appointed to the Fire Code shall be deemed to be likewise appointed to the

Fire Code Advisory Board.

1.10.3 Appeals

1.10.3.1 Means of Appeal. Whenever it is claimed that the provisions of this Code do not apply or have been misapplied, or when it is claimed that the true intent and meaning of this Code or any of the regulations there under have been misconstrued or misapplied, or when it is claimed that a decision is unreasonable or arbitrary as it applies to alternatives, the owner or his duly authorized agent may appeal the decision of the AHJ to the Fire Code Board of Appeals. A notice of appeal shall be in writing and shall be filed with the AHJ within thirty (30) days after the decision is rendered by the AHJ. Appeals shall be on forms provided by the AHJ.

1.10.3.2 Procedures on Appeal.

1.10.3.2.1 Hearing. Upon receipt of the notice of appeal by the AHJ, a hearing shall be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Fire Code Board, with notice to the appellant, the AHJ, and the members of the Fire Code Board, at least five (5) working days prior to said hearing. Special meetings may also be called by the Board, provided that five (5) working days' notice is given to both parties. If the applicant requires a special meeting to be called, the appeal fee shall be one hundred dollars ($100.00). Both the appellant and the AHJ, or their representatives, shall attend the hearing and may present evidence.. The Fire Code Board shall consider each appeal on its own merits and shall base its decision only on the evidence presented at said hearing.

1.10.3.2.2 Fire Code Board Action. The Fire Code Board, upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the votes present, shall either:

1. Affirm the decision of the AHJ;
2. Modify the decision of the AHJ; or
3. Reverse the decision of the AHJ and affirm the appellant's position

The Board's decision, together with the reasons therefor, shall be transcribed in writing, and a copy thereof shall be sent by certified mail to the appellant or challenging party within ten (10) days after the hearing. Such decisions shall constitute final local action, subject to appellate review as provided by law.

1.10.3.2.3 Tie Vote. In the event the Fire Code Board is deadlocked in a tie

vote, the appellant may request that the Fire Code Board defer final action until the next regular meeting date or a specific date certain. The appellant shall be entitled to one (1) such deferral as of right. The matter shall be deferred and heard de novo, unless the majority then present at the time deferral is requested vote for the matter to be determined upon the record only at the upcoming hearing after deferral.

1.10.3.3 Decisions.

1.10.3.3.1 The Fire Code Board shall provide for reasonable interpretation of the provisions of this Code and rule on appeals from decisions of the AHJ. The Fire Code Board may approve an equivalent alternative in accordance with Section 1.4 of this Code.

1.10.3.3.2 Action. The Fire Code Board shall, in every case, reach a decision without unreasonable or unnecessary delay. If a decision of the Fire Code Board reverses or modifies a refusal, order, or disallowance of the AHJ, the AHJ shall immediately take action in accordance with such decision.

1.10.3.3.3 AHJ Order Stayed; Exception. Pending disposition of an appeal the AHJ's order or decision that is the subject of the appeal shall be stayed unless the AHJ certifies, under oath, based upon available data, that an extreme danger to life or property exists warranting immediate compliance with this Code. Such certification must be in writing and filed with the Fire Code Board within ten (10) days after the certification is made.

1.10.4 Conflict Resolution.

1.10.4.1 Any conflict between the Florida Building Code and the FFPC, as applied to a specific project, shall be resolved in accordance with Section 553.73(11), Florida Statutes.

1.10.4.2 The Fire Code Board is hereby designated and authorized to perform the local administrative board functions set forth in Section 553.73(11), Florida Statutes. In accordance with Section 553.73(11), Florida Statutes, the duties and functions of the Fire Code Board shall include the following:

1. To hear and render decisions in appeals of conflict decisions made jointly by the local AHJ and the local building official, in accordance with Section 553.73(11), Florida Statutes.
2. To resolve conflicts between the building code and the fire code, in

accordance with Section 553.73(11), Florida Statutes, in those instances where the local AHJ and the local building official are unable to agree on a resolution of said conflict.

1.10.4.3 If the County has, or does, designate another local board to perform the functions set out in Section 553.73(11), Florida Statutes, then said board and the Fire Code Board shall rotate the duty to fulfill the functions as set forth in this Section 1.10.4 and in Section 553.73(11), Florida Statutes, on an annual basis or as otherwise agreed to by the AHJ and the local building official.

1.10.4.4 Any conflict between the Building Code and the Fire Code that involves the County's local amendments to either Code shall likewise be resolved in the manner set forth in Section 553.73(11), Florida Statutes, and this Section 1.10.4.

1.10.5 Additional Powers and Functions. The Fire Code Board is hereby authorized and empowered to:

1. Hear and rule upon appeals from orders of the AHJ in Local Amendment challenges brought pursuant to Section 1.7.21 of this Code and Section 633.208(3)(d), Florida Statutes;
2. Hear and rule upon appeals from decisions of the AHJ as authorized by this Code;
3. Hear and rule upon appeals relating to excessive alarm activations as provided in Section 10.6.4 of this Code;
4. Perform any other functions authorized by this Code or applicable law.

1.10.6 Fireworks Board of Appeals. The members of the Fire Code Board shall serve ex officio as members of the Fireworks Board of Appeals and perform the functions of that Board, all as set forth in Chapter 12, Article III of the Palm Beach County Code, as it may be amended from time to time.

1.10.7 Conduct of Quasi-Judicial Hearings. Whenever the Fire Code Board is acting in a quasi-judicial capacity, the County's Procedures for Conduct of Quasi-Judicial Hearings shall apply, as set forth in Resolution 2018-0198, as may be amended from time to time, to the extent not inconsistent with this Section 1.10 or other legal requirements.

1.10.8 Any decision of the Fire Code Board shall be final and reviewable in the manner prescribed by law.

1.12 Permits and Approvals.

1.12.6.1.1 Permit-Related Violations. When a violation is cited for work performed without a required permit, the violation shall not be deemed corrected or satisfied upon the application for or issuance of a permit. Compliance shall only be achieved upon final approval and closure of the applicable permit, including all required inspections and documentation, as determined by the AHJ.

1.12.7.4 Any permit authorized to be issued by the AHJ pursuant to this Code shall be subject to immediate suspension, revocation, or denial by the AHJ upon the AHJ's determination that conditions exist which make the permitted activity imminently dangerous to life or property. The AHJ's order immediately suspending or revoking a permit shall cite with particularity the facts supporting the suspension or revocation. The suspension or revocation shall be effective immediately upon notice to the permittee at the location indicated on the permittee's application. Upon such immediate suspension or revocation of a permit, the permittee shall be entitled to appeal the decision of the AHJ at a subsequent hearing before the Board of Appeals and Adjustments. Upon the Board's receipt of a written notice requesting a hearing with respect to an immediate permit suspension or revocation, the Board shall set such a hearing for a date no later than ten (10) working days from the Board's receipt of the written notice. The Board's written decision shall be mailed to the permittee by certified mail within two (2) working days after the hearing. In all other respects, the procedures of Section 1.10 shall apply.

1.14 Plan Review.

1.14.1.1 Plan Review. The AHJ shall examine or cause to be examined all plans for construction, alteration, or remodeling of any structure, except one- and two-family detached dwellings, including any installed system, and shall ascertain by such examination whether the construction indicated and described is in compliance with the requirements of this Code. Such plans shall include, but not be limited to, construction drawings, specifications, computations, and additional data as deemed necessary by the AHJ. All project site plans and civil plans shall be reviewed in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

1.14.1.2 Annual Facility Plan Review Approval. In lieu of an individual plan review for existing facilities, the Fire Marshal may authorize an annual facility plan review approval to facilitate the Building Department's permitting of temporary structures. The plan review approval application shall contain a

general description of the parameters of work intended to be performed during the year. The annual plan review approval shall be subject to an annual fee and shall be valid for one year from the date of issuance. Any deviations from the approval will require that plans be reviewed in accordance with the Building Department policies and procedures. Inspections will be required, and the Fire Marshal shall retain the right to make inspections at the facility as deemed necessary.

1.14.6 Plans Rejection. If the plans submitted for review do not conform to the requirements of this Code or other fire-related laws or ordinances, the AHJ shall reject said plans and provide in writing the reason(s) for rejection. Plans must then be resubmitted for review in accordance with the Building Department policies and procedures.

1.14.7 For all work for which plans must be reviewed, as set forth in Section 1.14.1 of this Code, and for all services associated therewith, a fee shall be paid as required at the time of submission of the plans or as required services are performed. For all inspections conducted pursuant to Section 1.3.8 of this Code, a fee shall be imposed for each building, based upon fixed property use. All fees shall be in accordance with Table 1.14.7.1.

TABLE 1.14.7.1
PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE – FEE SCHEDULE

Section I, Plan Review Fees	
A. Plan Review Fees, based on the Valuation of the Proposed Work, as follows:	**Fee**
1. $0 - $10,000	1% total valuation of $10,000 with a minimum fee of $100
2. $10,001 - $300,000	$100 for the 1st $10,000 plus 0.5% of the balance of the value
3. $300,001 - $600,000	$1,550 for the 1st $300,000 plus 0.25% of the balance of the value
4. $600,001 - $1,000,000	$2,300 for the 1st $600,000 plus 0.125% of the balance of the value

5. Greater than $1,000,001	$2,800 for the 1st $1Million plus 0.1% of the balance of the value
B. Plan Review Fee Examples with Estimated Valuations of:	
1. $10,000 and under	$100
2. $100,000	$550
3. $200,000	$1,050
4. $300,000	$1,550
5. $400,000	$1,800
6. $500,000	$2,050
7. $600,000	$2,300
8. $700,000	$2,425
9. $800,000	$2,550
10. $900,000	$2,675
11. $1,000,000	$2,800
12. $1,100,000	$2,900
13. $1,200,000	$3,000
14. $2,000,000	$3,800
15. $2,100,000	$3,900
C. Plan Review	
1. Revision, Pre-Permit	20% of the original fee
2. Excessive Review, Pre-Permit	$10/page min $50
3. Revision, Post Permit	$10/page min $50
4. Re-stamp	$2.50/page min $10
5. Invalid Permit	30% of the original fee. If construction has commenced, payment of a fee for the remaining construction is based on the original schedule.
D. Plan Review Fees, Other	
1. Design Review	Greater of $250 or $2.50/Page, paid in advance, no refunds
2. Civil Drawing / Site Plans)	$500
3. Expedited Plan Review fee - A written request for an expedited plan review based on a specific need of the customer, such as potential employee layoff, financial hardship, and time constraints. The AHJ, or their designee, shall have sole authority	$125/3-hour min + original review fee

to approve or deny the request, subject to the availability of personnel.	
4. Emergency Action Plan Review / CLF Review* **Plan review fee includes the CLF Compliance inspection fee.*	$110
E. Life Safety Plan Review / Occupant Load Calculation	$50
F. Refunds - Refunds will be granted only on plan review fees in excess of one hundred ($100.00) dollars. For plan review fees in excess of one hundred ($100.00) dollars, fifty (50%) percent of the fee is refundable upon a valid application and permits. No refund shall be granted once work has commenced. This section shall not apply to plans that do not require Fire Department plan review.	50% of Fee Collected
Section II, Construction Related Fees	
A. Fire Department Water Supply for the determination of adequacy of water supply, distance to the closest fire station, and/or any other pertinent insurance information	$25
B. Water Flow Tests, ALL Hydrants	$300
C. Completion Agreement, fee assessed for each incomplete code item at the time of execution of the completion agreement	$250
D. Failure to obtain a permit	4X Original Fee
E. Re-inspection fee starting with the second re-inspection and all subsequent re-inspections thereafter associated with uncorrected violations. Fee will increase by increments of $75, up to $300 for each re-inspection. All subsequent re- inspections will be $300.	$75
F. Unproductive Inspection	$75
G. Pre-site Inspection	$75
H. Business Tax Receipt Application Inspection	$75
I. After-Hours Inspection/per inspector - a written request for a construction-related inspection completed outside of normal Monday through Friday hours of operation of the Fire Safety Specialist. The request must state the need. The AHJ, or their designee, shall have sole authority to approve the request, subject to the availability of personnel.	$125/3-hour min
J. Temporary Structures	$50
Section III, Special Events / Details	
A. Flame Effect Before an Audience	$100/hr. (min. 3 hours)

B. Use of Pyrotechnics before a proximate audience	$200/hr. (min. 3 hours)
C. Public display of outdoor Fireworks	$500 Flat, $400/hr. Crew, $400 Standby Engine
** **For other events, subsections D through G apply at the applicable rates set forth in the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Warranty, Vehicle and Staff Charges Rate Schedule in effect at the time of the event.**	**
D. Fire Engine	**
E. Quint/Ladder/Aerial Truck	**
F. Rescue Truck	**
G. Personnel, Per Person with 3-Hour Minimum	**

Section IV, Existing Property / Structure Inspections (based on the fixed property use) and Table 1.3.8, Schedule of Fire Inspections	
The fees below will not be imposed for Existing Property/Structure Inspections conducted within six (6) months of a Business Tax Receipt Application Inspection.	
A. Assembly with the following Occupant Loads:	
1) 50 - 299	$110
2) 300 - 1,000	$150
3) 1,001 - 5,000	$200
4) 5,001 and greater	$250
B. Educational Schools / Day Cares with the following square footage:	
1) 0 - 10,000	$50
2) 10,001 - 20,000	$75
3) 20,001 - 50,000	$150

4) 50,001 - 100,000	$250
5) 100,001 - 200,000	$300
6) 200,001 and greater	$350
C. Health Care / Hospitals / Nursing Homes / Ambulatory Health Care, etc., with the following square footage:	
1) Under 5,000	$75
2) 5001 - 15,000	$100
3) 15,001 - 30,000	$150
4) 30,001 - 100,000	$200
5) 100,001 - 200,000	$250
6) 200,001 - 500,000	$300
7) 500,001 and greater	$350
D. Residential Board and Care with the following square footage:	
1) Under 5,000	$75
2) 5,001 - 15,000	$100
3) 15,001 - 30,000	$150
4) 30,001 - 100,000	$200
5) 100,001 - 200,000	$250
6) 200,001 - 500,000	$300
7) 500,001 and greater	$350
E. Detention / Correctional:	
1) Under 15,000	$100
2) 15,001 - 30,000	$150
3) 30,001 - 100,000	$200
4) 100,001 - 200,000	$250

5) 200,001 - 500,000	$300
6) 500,001 and greater	$350
F. Lodging / Rooming Houses / Hotel / Dormitories with the number of units or rooms:	
1) 0 - 16	$55
2) 17 - 100	$75
3) 100 - 500	$150
4) 501 and greater	$200
G. Mercantile / Business and Storage with the following square footage:	
1) Under 5,000	$50
2) 5,001 - 15,000	$75
3) 15,001 - 30,000	$100
4) 30,001 - 100,000	$125
5) 100,001 - 200,000	$150
6) 200,001 - 500,000	$175
7) 500,001 and greater	$200
H. Industrial / Manufacturing with the following square footage:	
1) Under 15,000	$65
2) 15,001 - 30,000	$150
3) 30,001 - 100,000	$175
4) 100,001 - 200,000	$200
5) 200,001 - 500,000	$250
6) 500,001 and greater	$300
I. Hazardous Material Facilities with the following square footage:	
1) 5,000 and under	$75
2) 5001 - 15,000	$125
3) 15,001 - 30,000	$175

4) 30,001 - 100,000	$250
5) 100,001 - 200,000	$300
6) 200,001 - 500,000	$350
7) 500,001 and greater	$400
J. Outside Storage of Forest Products with the following Acreage:	
1) 0 - 5	$50
2) Greater than 5 and up to 10	$100
3) Greater than 10	$150
K. Multi-Family Residential Properties with Fire Protection Systems having the following number of Units:	
1) 0 - 25	$25
2) 26 - 50	$50
3) 51 - 100	$75
4) 101 and greater	$100
5) High Rise	$200
L. Wholesale Fireworks	$50
M. Commercial LP Gas Facilities, All	$55
N. Mobile Food Truck, Initial / Annual Safety Inspection	$110
O. Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations, Other	$25
P. Re-inspection fee starting with the second re-inspection and all subsequent re-inspections thereafter associated with uncorrected violations. Fee will increase by increments of $75, up to $300 for each re-inspection. All subsequent re- inspections will be $300	$75
Q. Unproductive Inspection	$75
R. Central Station Application	$115

1.14.8 Buildings Under Construction. The permit holder or the permit holder's agent shall notify the AHJ to conduct the following building inspections and such other inspections as may be necessary. The AHJ shall either approve that portion of the construction or notify the permit holder or the permit holder's agent of any corrections required to comply with this Code.

1. Frame Inspection: To be made at the time of the Building

Department inspection. Items to be inspected shall include, but not be limited to:

a. Fire hydrant location(s)
b. Fire Department access
c. Stair rough-ins (dimensions)
d. Egress windows
e. Smoke detector locations
f. Fire alarm device locations

2. Fire Protection Systems: To be inspected and tested upon completion of that system, or portion of the system, prior to the final fire safety inspection.
3. Final Fire Safety Inspection: To be made upon completion of the building and all installed systems.

1.14.9 Certificate of Occupancy. Once all provisions of this Code have been met, a letter of Fire Code Compliance shall be issued by the AHJ to the Building Official prior to the Building Official issuing a Certificate of Occupancy for the premises for which the building permit had been issued.

1.16 Notice of Violations and Penalties.

1.16.6 Code Compliance. The provisions of this Code and any orders issued pursuant thereto may be enforced by any means lawfully available including, but not limited to, Chapter 162, Florida Statutes, Chapter 8.5 of the Palm Beach County Code, Article 10 of the Palm Beach County Unified Land Development Code, and Section 125.69, Florida Statutes, all as may be amended or re-codified from time to time; the issuance of cease and desist orders; and seeking injunctions in court. Additionally, provisions of this Code may be enforced through the citation process as authorized in Section 633.214, Florida Statutes. It is the purpose of this Code to provide additional cumulative remedies. Each violation of this Code shall constitute a separate offense and be punishable as such.

1.16.7 Fire Safety Specialist/Fire Inspector Designation. The AHJ and such Fire Safety Specialist and/or Fire Inspector that the AHJ may designate are hereby designated as code compliance officers for the purpose of issuing citations under the code compliance systems set forth in Chapter 8.5 of the Palm Beach County Code and Article 10 of the Palm Beach County Unified Land Development Code, all as may be amended or re-codified from time to time.

1.18 Requirements Not Covered by Code. Where provisions of this Code do not address specific situations involving protection of life and property from the hazards of fire, smoke, and explosion, compliance with nationally accepted standards of good practice shall be evidence of compliance with the intent of this Code.

CHAPTER 3

DEFINITIONS

3.1.1.1 Tense, Gender, and Number.
For the purpose of this Code, certain abbreviations, terms, phrases, words, and their derivatives shall be construed as set forth in this Chapter. Words used in the present tense include the future tense. Words in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter. Words in the feminine and neuter genders include the masculine. The singular number includes the plural, and the plural number includes the singular. Words not defined herein shall have the meanings stated in NFPA Standards, the Florida Building Code, or shall be defined using their ordinarily accepted meaning within the context in which they are used.

3.2.2 Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). The AHJ shall be the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Administrator or his designee.

3.3.1.1 Costs. Those necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by the County in connection with investigating, mitigating, minimizing, removing or abating discharges of hazardous substances, including, but not limited to, the following: actual labor expenses of County personnel or its authorized agents; expenses of equipment operation and rental; and expenses of expendable items including, but not limited to, firefighting foam, chemical extinguishing agents, absorbent material, sand, recovery drums, acid suits, acid gloves, goggles and protective clothing.

3.3.14.3 Fire Area. A portion of a building that is separated from the rest by a four (4) hour fire wall that may be constructed to the maximum height allowed based on occupancy and the type of construction. The said wall shall be independent of adjoining occupancies or types of construction. The four (4) hour fire wall shall comply with NFPA 221 and the Florida Building Code, Building Chapter 7. A horizontal/floor system designed with a four (4) hour fire resistance rating does not comply with the prescriptive requirements of NFPA 221.

3.3.42.1 Central Station Certificate of Compliance. A document issued for existing fire alarm systems (typically installed prior to January 1, 2005) that verifies the system is connected to and monitored by an NFPA 72–compliant central station but does not verify approval by the AHJ. The certificate identifies the Alarm Service Company (Prime Contractor) and the Service Center (Central Station Monitoring Company) responsible for monitoring services.

3.3.42.2 Certificate of Monitoring. A document issued by a fire alarm company for insurance or general monitoring purposes that does not verify compliance with NFPA 72 central station requirements or approval by the AHJ.

3.3.42.3 3rd Party Central Station Service Certificate. A certificate issued by an approved, certified, nationally recognized testing laboratory verifying that the fire alarm system, installation, and central station monitoring services comply with applicable NFPA 72 requirements. The certificate shall identify the testing laboratory, protected property, Alarm Service Company (Prime Contractor), system description, and the approved central station providing monitoring services.

3.3.50.7 Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations. A Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operation shall mean any public or private food service establishment operating from a self-propelled or otherwise movable vehicle, trailer, mobile kitchen, cart, conveyance, tent, canopy, or portable unit that can be moved from place to place, whether motorized or nonmotorized, and utilized for the preparation, heating, cooking, storage, display, or vending of food or beverages.

Such operations may consist of self-contained utilities and equipment, including, but not limited to, gas, water, electricity, refrigeration equipment, generators, liquid waste disposal systems, cooking equipment, heating equipment, fuel-fired appliances, LP-gas systems, electrical systems, or solid-fuel cooking operations utilizing wood, charcoal, pellets, or similar materials, as determined by the AHJ.

Types of Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations shall include, but not be limited to, mobile food trucks, food trailers, food carts, catering vehicles, cold food preparation operations, ice cream and beverage vendors, pizza vendors utilizing solid-fuel cooking equipment, barbecue vendors utilizing smokers, and similar mobile or temporary food service operations as determined by the AHJ.

3.3.105.1 False Alarm. Any alarm or signaling activation that occurs in the

absence of a potentially hazardous or emergency condition requiring emergency response.

3.3.135.1 Gross Floor Area. The total square footage of a building's footprint as measured from the outside walls. This building measurement shall not include additional building floors; however, in multi-story buildings, the square footage of the largest floor shall be used to determine the gross floor area for purposes of determining applicability under Section 13.3.1.1.1.

3.4.1.1.1 Special Event. A special event is a gathering of human beings, generally lasting from a few hours to a few days, designed to celebrate, honor, discuss, sell, teach, encourage, observe, entertain, or influence human endeavors.

3.4.5.1.1 Defend-In-Place. The operational response to an emergency in a building, in which the initial action does not involve evacuation of the building occupants to the exterior of the building.

3.5 Unproductive Inspection. An unproductive inspection is any fire safety inspection that has been planned, coordinated, or scheduled but the work is incomplete and cannot be inspected. This may occur due to insufficient preparation by the building owner, manager, occupant, contractor, or other responsible parties. Examples include, but are not limited to: absence of approved or stamped plans; no permit available on-site; the project or site not ready for inspection; restricted or locked access; failure of the responsible party to appear; or the occupancy not operational at the time of inspection.

3.5.1.1. Excessive Review. Fire plans resubmitted greater than two (2) successive times without correcting the original comments.

CHAPTER 4
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

4.5.11 Special Events. Each special event that requires or has the potential to require the use of fire department personnel and/or equipment shall apply for a Special Events permit. All fees associated with the special event permit will be based on Table 1.14.7 of the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Fee Schedule.

4.5.11.1 All Special Events, as defined in paragraph 3.4.1, where fifty (50) or

more people are expected, may require a special events permit from the jurisdiction where the event is located.

4.5.11.2 All Special Events to which Fireworks, Flame Effects, or Pyrotechnics are used shall submit a permit application to Palm Beach County Fire Rescue a minimum of fifteen (15) business days prior to the event date and time.

4.5.11.3 No Special Event shall commence without the approved permit on-site for inspection.

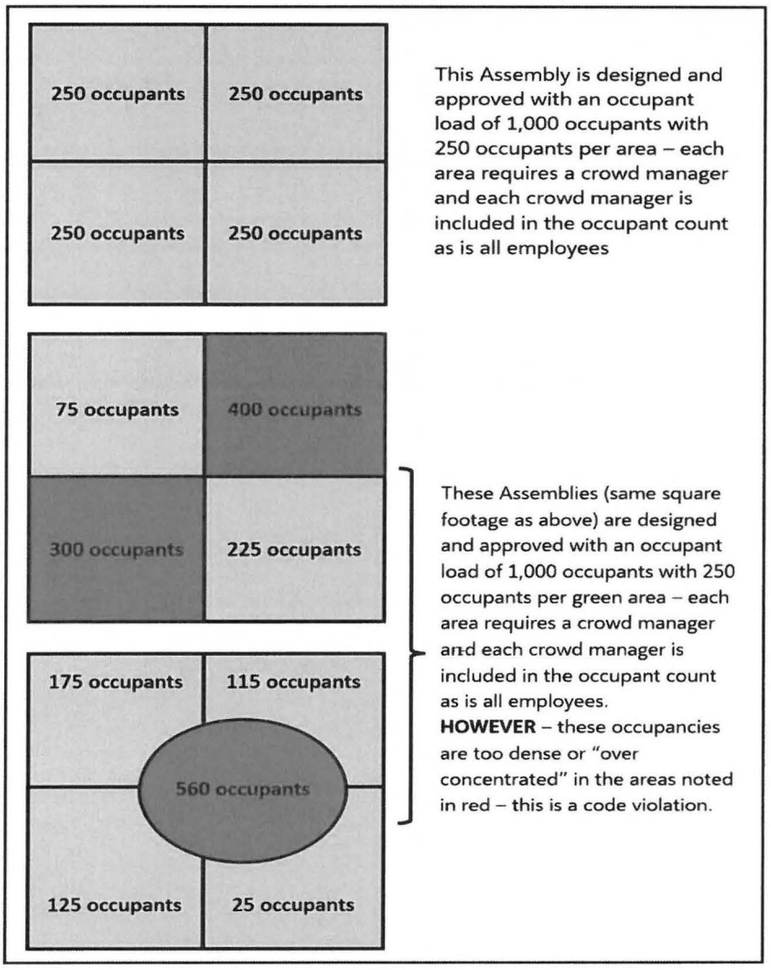
CHAPTER 10
GENERAL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

10.1 Fundamental Requirements

10.1.1.1 Hazardous Waste. Where the storage or accumulation of combustible waste matter used in stores, apartment buildings, factories or other similar places is a hazard or menace of fire, said storage of such material shall be removed daily.

10.1.2.1 Overcrowding/Overconcentration. The number of occupants of any building or portion thereof shall not be permitted to exceed the allowed or posted capacity or density, determined in accordance with this Code as shown in Figure 10.1.2.1.1.

FIGURE 10.1.2.1.1, OCCUPANT DENSITY



10.3.1.1 Stocking. Stocking Approval is issued exclusively by the Building Department. The Fire Rescue requirements include a fully functional fire sprinkler system with a Fire Alarm system, tamper and flow monitoring, and pull station(s).

10.6 Reporting of Fires and Other Emergencies.

10.6.5 Annual Certification of Central Stations.

10.6.5.1 Central stations providing monitoring services for required fire alarm systems within the jurisdiction shall annually certify to the AHJ that they meet all of the following requirements:

1. The central station shall maintain a current NFPA 72-compliant listing specifically for Fire Alarm System Central Station Service.
2. The central station shall provide and maintain a minimum of two (2) independent and approved means of retransmitting a fire alarm signal from the protected premises to the Fire Rescue Dispatch Center.
3. The central station shall maintain either:
    a. A local telephone number within the service area of the Fire Rescue Dispatch Center; or provides the fire department with a toll-free number, by which the fire department can contact the central station; and
    b. A toll-free telephone number provided to the fire department for direct contact with the central station.
4. An application, along with the current Central Station Certificate of Compliance, shall be submitted to the AHJ annually between October 1 and November 30, and immediately upon any change affecting compliance with this section. The required application fee per schedule Table 1.14.7.1.

10.6.5.2 Central stations that fail to provide the AHJ with acceptable certification documentation, including a completed application and a current Central Station Certificate of Compliance, shall not be permitted to monitor required fire alarm systems within the fire department's jurisdiction.

10.6.5.3 Central stations that monitor required alarm systems shall maintain a record of inspections and repairs in a form as prescribed by the AHJ. Said records are to be located at a location acceptable to the AHJ, with copies maintained at the central station facility.

10.6.6 Excessive False Alarm Activations.

10.6.6.1 Maximum No. of False Alarm Activations in a 12-Month Period. The activation of more than three (3) false alarms from an automatic fire detection system or medical alarm system within a twelve (12) month period shall be considered excessive. This period shall begin on October 1 and continue through September 30 of the following year. No person shall allow, cause, or otherwise permit the prevention or impairment of the transmission of an alarm signal from an automatic fire detection system or medical alarm system. This requirement shall apply to any system under the control of, or serving, a building or premises occupied by such person.

10.6.6.2 Charges for Excessive False Alarm Activations in Residential Structures. The activation of four (4) or more false alarms within a twelve (12) month period will be handled according to the following:

1. For the fourth through sixth alarm activation within a twelve (12) month period, the alarm user or building owner shall be assessed a one hundred dollar ($100.00) fee per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to Palm Beach County.
2. For the seventh through ninth alarm activation within a twelve (12) month period, the alarm user or building owner shall be assessed a two hundred dollar ($200.00) fee per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to Palm Beach County.
3. For the tenth and each successive alarm activation within a twelve (12) month period, the alarm user or building owner shall be assessed a three hundred dollar ($300.00) fee per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to Palm Beach County.
4. The tenth and each successive alarm activation within a twelve (12) month period shall be determined to be a public nuisance. In such cases, the AHJ may:
    a. Process a complaint for each occurrence through the Palm Beach County Code Compliance Special Master for corrective action;
    b. Enter into an agreement with the owner to implement appropriate corrective actions to remedy said nuisance(s); or
    c. Pursue any other legally available remedies.
5. Funds documented as expended by the owner for corrective action shall, upon receipt of documentation by the AHJ, be deducted from the debt owed to Palm Beach County for excessive alarm activations.
6. The provisions of this section shall not apply to required alarm systems during the initial two (2) months following acceptance of the fire alarm system by the AHJ.
7. Alarm activations occurring during a declared natural disaster or state of emergency shall not be counted towards excessive alarm activation fees. In the event of a hurricane, the natural disaster period shall begin upon the issuance of a hurricane watch and continue for five (5) calendar days thereafter.

The AHJ shall determine the number and frequency of such alarm activations and notify the alarm user or building owner of any amounts owed pursuant to the provisions of this Code. The County may initiate proceedings to collect

said fees after the AHJ has made a demand thereof.

10.6.6.3 Charges for Excessive False Alarm Activations in Commercial Structures. The activation of four (4) or more false alarms within a twelve (12) month period shall be handled according to the following:

1. For the fourth through sixth alarm activation within a twelve (12) month period, the alarm user or building owner shall be assessed a two hundred fifty dollar ($250.00) fee per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to Palm Beach County.
2. For the seventh through ninth alarm activation within a twelve (12) month period, the alarm user or building owner shall be assessed a five hundred dollar ($500.00) fee per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to Palm Beach County.
3. For the tenth and each successive alarm activation within a twelve (12) month period, the alarm user or building owner shall be assessed a one thousand dollar ($1,000.00) fee per occurrence, which shall be considered a debt owed to Palm Beach County.
4. The tenth and each successive alarm activation within a twelve (12) month period shall be determined to be a public nuisance. In such cases, the AHJ may:
   a. Process a complaint for each occurrence through the Palm Beach County Code Compliance Special Master for corrective action;
   b. Enter into an agreement with the owner to implement corrective actions to remedy said nuisance(s); or
   c. Pursue any other legally available remedies.
5. Funds documented as expended by the owner toward corrective action shall, upon receipt of documentation by the AHJ, be deducted from the debt owed to Palm Beach County for excessive alarm activations.
6. The provisions of this section shall not apply to required alarm systems during the initial two (2) months following acceptance of the fire alarm system by the AHJ.
7. Alarm activations occurring during a declared natural disaster or state of emergency shall not be counted towards excessive alarm activation fees. In the event of a hurricane, the natural disaster period shall begin upon issuance of a hurricane watch and continue for five (5) calendar days thereafter.

The AHJ shall determine the number and frequency of such false alarm activations and notify the alarm user or building owner of any amounts owed

pursuant to the provisions of this Code. The County may initiate proceedings to collect said fees after the AHJ has made a demand thereof.

10.6.6.4 Notice and Appeal. The AHJ shall deliver a written notification advising of the excessive false alarm activation and fee amount, if any, to the address of the excessive false alarm activation location by mail or hand delivery, or by posting in a conspicuous place at or near the premises' entrance if the site is unattended or abandoned. Any such notice shall be deemed sufficient notice to both the alarm user and the building owner.

The alarm user or building owner may challenge any excessive false alarm activation and fee determination, if any, by first seeking review by the AHJ. A written request for such review must be filed with the AHJ within ten (10) days of the alarm user or building owner's receipt of the excessive false alarm activation notice. The AHJ shall review all evidence presented by the alarm user or building owner and determine whether the excessive false alarm activation determination and fee, if any, are supported by a preponderance of the evidence, including any documentation of funds expended for corrective action. The alarm user or building owner may appeal the decision of the AHJ to the Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments in accordance with the provisions and procedures set forth in Section 1.10 of this Code.

10.9 Smoking

10.9.1.1 Vaping. Where vaping is considered a fire hazard, the AHJ shall be authorized to order the owner to post "No Vaping" signage in a conspicuous location where vaping is prohibited.

10.10 Open Flames, Candles, Open Fires, and Incinerators

10.10.1.5 Applications for Open Burning Permits. All open burning shall be regulated in accordance with applicable Florida Statutes and regulations. Applicants shall be issued an open burning permit only upon submittal of written authorization from the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Forest Service, or the AHJ. Permit holders for commercial/residential land clearing, prescribed burning, and agricultural burning shall obtain daily burn authorization from the AHJ.

10.10.8 Incinerators and Fireplaces.
10.10.8.1 Incinerators, outdoor fireplaces, permanent barbecues, fire pits,

grills, and similar structures shall not be built, installed, or maintained without prior approval of the AHJ.

10.10.8.2 Approved incinerators, outdoor fireplaces, permanent barbecues, fire pits, grills, and similar structures shall be maintained in good repair and in a safe condition at all times.

10.10.8.3 Openings in incinerators, outdoor fireplaces, permanent barbecues, fire pits, grills, and similar structures shall be provided with an approved spark arrester, screen, or door.

10.10.8.4 Commercial/off-the-shelf devices that are listed with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or an equivalent nationally recognized testing laboratory may be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

10.11.4 Building Addresses. Approved numerical and/or alphabetical addresses shall be posted for all new and existing buildings in such a fashion that they are plainly visible and legible from the street or roadway. All address numbers and/or letters shall be posted on a contrasting background and shall be consistently placed where practical. All building numbers and/or letters shall be a minimum of eight (8) inches in height. Address numbers and/or letters shall be permanently affixed to the structure, unless an alternate location or method is approved by the AHJ. Any newly assigned, modified, or updated address shall comply with the requirements of this section.

10.11.4.1 Unit Identification.

1. In multi-unit commercial buildings, all unit identification numbers and/or letters shall be a minimum of six (6") inches in height.
2. In multi-family residential buildings, all unit identification numbers and/or letters shall be a minimum of four (4") inches in height.
3. In multi-unit buildings, two (2) stories or greater, directional unit identification signage shall be posted outside of each elevator and/or stairwell where multiple directions of travel are available.
4. Monument signs shall display the range of addresses from the lowest to the highest address. The numbers shall be a minimum of eight (8") inches in height.
5. All required unit identification numbers, letters, and signage shall be constructed of durable, weather-resistant materials and permanently affixed to the structure, unless an alternate location or method is approved by the AHJ.

FIGURE 10.11.4.1.1, ADDRESSING SIGNAGE

All building numbers and/or letters shall be a minimum of eight (8") inches in height and contrasting in color to the background



In multi-unit commercial buildings, all unit identification numbers/letters (front and back entrances) shall be a minimum of six (6") inches in height



In multi-family residential buildings, all unit identification numbers/letters shall be a minimum of four (4") inches in height.



All marquee/signboard numbers and/or letters shall be a minimum of eight (8") inches in height.



Monument signs shall have the range of addresses from the lowest to the highest address. The numbers shall be a minimum of 8" in height



10.11.4.1.2 Additional Posting.

1. All multi-unit buildings with rear access shall have the building address and applicable unit identification numbers and/or letters posted at the rear of the structure.
2. Where property layout, landscaping, or driveway design limits visibility of the address, additional signage shall be posted to clearly identify buildings and/or the direction of travel, in a location or by a method approved by the AHJ.
3. Where a building utilizes a roadside marquee/signboard, the full building address shall be posted on such marquee/signboard.
4. Where a building utilizes multiple addresses, including but not limited to multi-occupant mercantile buildings, the address range shall be posted in accordance with this section.
5. All marquee/signboard numbers and/or letters shall be a minimum of eight (8") inches in height.
6. All required building address and unit identification numbers and/or letters, and associated signage, shall be constructed of durable, weather-resistant materials and shall be permanently affixed to the structure, unless an alternate location or method is approved by the AHJ.

10.11.5 Fire Protection System Signage Requirements.

10.11.5.1 Fire Protection System Rooms. Rooms containing a fire alarm control panel, fire pump, or fire riser shall be provided with permanent identification signage. Signage shall consist of either a white background with red lettering or a red background with white lettering. Lettering shall be a minimum of four (4") inches in height.

10.11.5.2 Fire Department Connection (FDC) Identification. The building fire department connection (FDC) shall be provided with permanent identification signage installed directly behind the FDC to ensure visibility to responding fire crews. Signage shall consist of either a white background with red lettering or a red background with white lettering. Lettering shall be a minimum of six (6") inches in height. Where the FDC could be mistaken for another building, as determined by the AHJ, the building address shall be included on the signage in lettering a minimum of four (4") inches in height.

FIGURE 10.11.5, FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS.

1. Fire Alarm Control Panel Identification Signage.



2. Fire Pump Room Identification Signage.



3. Fire Sprinkler Riser Room Signage.



4. Fire Department Connection Identification Signage.



10.12 Seasonal and Vacant Buildings and Premises.

10.12.1.2 Vacant/Abandoned Building Identification. A building that is more than two (2) stories in height or over 10,000 sq. ft. that has been designated as

vacant or abandoned shall be entered into the CAD (Computer-Aided Dispatch) System as such.

10.19 Storage of Combustible Materials

10.19.7.1 Vehicles Powered by LP & CNG Gas. Vehicles and trailers powered by liquefied petroleum and compressed natural gas may be displayed inside a building when in accordance with the guidelines in NFPA 58.

10.19.8 Motor Vehicles Inside Buildings. When a motor vehicle is displayed inside a mercantile or assembly building, the purpose of which is other than the retail sale of said motor vehicle, the following conditions must be met:

1. Fuel tanks shall be drained to less than 1/4 of tank capacity; (fuel tanks for diesel-powered vehicles need not be drained)
2. Fuel caps shall be taped shut or fitted with a locking cap;
3. The "hot" lead of the battery shall be disconnected.
4. Electric Vehicles shall:

a. Not be plugged into a charging station.
b. Be in a non-driving mode or system.
c. Not be able to be started.

10.19.8.2 Display of Gasoline-Powered Equipment inside a Building.

Gasoline-powered equipment shall not be placed on display within a covered mall or a place of assembly unless approval is obtained from the AHJ. The position of such equipment within the mall or place of assembly shall be subject to compliance with the conditions of the approval.

CHAPTER 11
BUILDING SERVICES

11.1 Electrical Fire Safety.

11.1.1.2 This section shall be enforced in cooperation with the authority responsible for enforcing the electrical code.

11.1.1.3 Abatement of Electrical Hazards. When any electrical hazards are identified, measures to abate such conditions shall be taken. All identified electrical conditions in permanent wiring shall be brought to the attention of the

authority enforcing the electrical code.

11.1.2.2.1.1 Electrical Safety Evaluation. Where the AHJ determines that there is sufficient evidence that existing electrical wiring, fixtures, appliances, or equipment creates a potentially unsafe condition, the AHJ may issue a written notice to the property owner or the owner's agent requiring an evaluation of the existing electrical wiring, fixtures, appliances, or equipment, or portion thereof, by a qualified person. The electrical safety evaluation shall be performed by a licensed electrical contractor or other qualified person acceptable to the AHJ and shall be documented by a signed statement on company letterhead confirming that an inspection was conducted and indicating whether electrical code violations were identified. Where no violations are identified, submission of the statement shall satisfy the requirement. Where violations are identified, documentation shall specify the violations and confirm that they have been corrected prior to case closure. Where permits are required, documentation verifying that the work was properly permitted and inspected shall be provided. Where applicable, the requirements of NFPA 70E shall apply.

11.1.7.3.1.1 Electrical Room Signage. Doors providing access to electrical control panel rooms or rooms containing electrical shutoff devices shall be marked with a permanently affixed, plainly visible, legible sign identifying the space. Acceptable wording shall include "ELECTRICAL ROOM" or other wording approved by the AHJ. Lettering shall be a minimum of one (1") inch in height and shall be provided in contrasting colors.

11.1.9 Electrical Motors. All electrical motors shall be maintained in a manner free from accumulations of oil, waste, and other debris that will interfere with required motor ventilation or create a fire hazard.

11.1.10 Access. A minimum of thirty-six (36") inches of clearance shall be provided in front of electrical control panels for access. Floor markings of contrasting color to the floor shall be installed to designate the required clearance.

11.1.11 Junction and Electrical Outlet Boxes. Open junction boxes and open wiring splices shall be prohibited. Approved covers shall be provided for all switch and electrical outlet boxes.

11.7.2.2 Portable Generators/Combustion Engines. Portable generators

shall be positioned so that the exhaust is directed as follows:

1. At least twenty (20') feet in any direction away from any openings or air intakes.
2. Combustion Engines. Portable combustion engines shall not be located or operated within twenty (20') feet of any building or on a rooftop.

11.10 In-Building Emergency Responder Communication Enhancement System.

11.10.4 In all new and existing buildings and structures, a minimum radio signal strength of –102dBm in the frequency band of 700-800 MHz shall be maintained. Where this signal strength cannot be achieved, a 700-800 MHz bi-directional amplified system with a 24-hour run-time on battery or UPS shall be installed.

11.10.5 Two-way communications and Fire Alarm (FA) annunciator shall be provided within twenty-five (25') feet of the outside entry door, without any intervening doors, for system monitoring where applicable.

11.10.6 All circuits and wiring, to include antennas, shall be required to meet survivability requirements (with the exception of the donor antenna due to high wind conditions occurring during a Hurricane).

11.10.7 An RF scan is required every five (5) years after initial installation to ensure system integrity.

11.10.8 A service contract is required for all new and existing systems.

11.10.9 A sequence of operations shall be maintained at the BDA control panel for actions to be taken upon notification of any trouble conditions.

11.10.10 Systems with the capability to monitor indoor antenna circuits shall send a trouble signal to the FACP when conditions warrant.

CHAPTER 12
FEATURES OF FIRE PROTECTION

12.9.1.1 Defend-in-Place. Where buildings are required to be subdivided into

smoke compartments, the primary method for ensuring the safety of occupants shall be accomplished by a defend-in-place concept. The concept includes, but is not limited to, elements related to moving building occupants from an area of immediate danger to a safe location within the building and containment of the emergency or dangerous condition. The defend-in-place strategy shall be permitted only where the building is designed, constructed, and maintained with the required smoke compartments, fire-resistance-rated assemblies, fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, and other life safety features necessary to support occupant relocation and protection. Individual fire sprinkler system zones and fire alarm system zones shall coincide with each separate smoke compartment boundary. A detailed facility Emergency Action Plan shall be submitted with the permit Construction Documents.

CHAPTER 13
FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

13.1.4 Fire Protection Systems Accessibility. A minimum of sixty (60") inches of clear space shall be maintained to permit access to and operation of fire protection equipment, fire department inlet connections, or fire protection system control valves. The fire department shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to fire protection equipment.

13.1.6.1 Fire Alarm Records. Where fire alarm system records are stored in locations subject to adverse conditions, they shall be placed in a protective device approved by the AHJ.

13.1.11.1 Fire Watch Requirements. In the event of a failure, impairment, alteration, unauthorized removal, activation requiring restoration, or other reduction in the effectiveness of a required fire protection system; an excessive number of false alarms; a required fire protection system remaining in trouble or supervisory status; or other hazardous conditions or reductions in life safety as determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), the AHJ may issue a written notice to the property owner or the owner's agent requiring an approved fire watch until the condition is corrected.

A fire watch shall consist of one or more on-site persons designated by the property owner or the owner's agent and approved by the AHJ, whose sole responsibility shall be to continuously monitor the property for fire conditions, hazardous conditions, and reductions in life safety; notify occupants and the

fire department of an emergency; and utilize portable fire extinguishers to control incipient-stage fires.

Fire watch personnel shall be identifiable and have no duties other than fire watch patrols. Fire watch personnel shall maintain at least one means of direct communication capable of contacting emergency services at all times.

Fire watch duties, including patrol frequency, duration, staffing, documentation, communication methods, and termination, shall be conducted in accordance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code and procedures established or approved by the AHJ.

Unless otherwise directed by the AHJ, the following occupancies shall be patrolled at intervals not exceeding fifteen (15) minutes, with results documented on a fire watch log:

1. Multi-family residential occupancies;
2. Institutional occupancies;
3. Occupied assembly occupancies; and
4. Other occupancies as determined by the AHJ.

All other occupancies shall be patrolled at intervals not exceeding thirty (30) minutes, with results documented on a fire watch log.

The property owner shall be responsible for all costs associated with the fire watch, including the hiring or assignment of AHJ-approved fire watch personnel, maintenance of required documentation, and correction of the condition requiring the fire watch.

The fire watch shall remain in effect twenty-four (24) hours per day until terminated by the AHJ.

13.1.11.2 Fire Watch Documentation. A fire watch log shall be maintained for the duration of the fire watch and shall be made available to the AHJ upon request. The fire watch log shall contain, at a minimum:

1. The name and address of the property;
2. The date of the fire watch;
3. The printed name of each individual conducting the fire watch;

4. Contact information for fire watch personnel;
5. The time each patrol was conducted;
6. The results of each patrol; and
7. Documentation of any fire, life safety, or hazardous conditions identified during the patrol.

The AHJ shall be permitted to require submission of fire watch logs and supporting documentation in a format approved by the AHJ.

13.1.11.2 Fire Watch Termination. Upon completion of all required repairs, restoration of affected systems, and submission of any required documentation, the owner or the owner's representative shall contact the Office of the Community Risk Reduction Division to request termination of the fire watch. Upon inspection of the property and/or receipt of all required documentation, the AHJ shall make the final determination regarding the termination or continuance of the fire watch.

13.1.13 Installation of Non-Required Fire Safety Systems and/or Equipment. When non-required fire safety systems are to be installed, said systems shall (a) require a permit from the AHJ; and (b) be installed as an engineered system or installed in accordance with a standard of recognized good practice. Non-required fire safety systems need not include all design features or components of a required system.

13.1.14 Fire Department Connection "FDC" Location. All new fire department connection installations shall be located not more than one hundred (100') feet from a fire hydrant, measured along fire department vehicle access. Fire department vehicle access shall be determined by the AHJ.

13.1.15 Underground Piping and Tracing Requirements. All newly installed underground piping supplying water-based extinguishing systems that utilize plastic compounds, shall be identified by tracing tape or an approved method from the point of connection to the base of the riser.

13.2 Standpipe Systems

13.2.2.1.1 Where a listed pressure regulating device and/or a pressure-reducing valve is required for the fire department standpipe hose connection it shall be a listed field-adjustable device and not factory set.

13.2.2.1.2 All tools and appliances used to alter the pressure of field-adjustable devices for firefighting operations shall be located in the fire pump room. The tools shall be readily accessible for firefighter use.

13.2.2.1.3 Standpipe systems equipped with pressure-reducing hose valves shall provide a minimum of two fire department connections.

13.2.2.7 In residential-type occupancies, when acceptable to the AHJ, standpipe hose cabinets may have the fire hose removed and not replaced. Cabinets shall then be marked, "FD Hose Connection." When fire extinguishers are located in the same cabinet as the standpipe connection, the cabinet shall then be marked "Fire Extinguisher and FD Hose Connection."

13.3 Automatic Sprinkler.

13.3.1.1.1 Automatic Sprinkler Systems Installation.

Automatic Sprinkler Systems Shall Be Installed:

1. In newly constructed enclosed commercial buildings, five thousand (5,000) square feet and larger.
2. In storage occupancies where the storage height has the potential to equal or exceed twelve (12') feet.
3. In hazardous (Group H) occupancies as defined by the building code.
4. In existing buildings larger than five thousand (5,000) square feet, undergoing expansion or addition where the expansion or addition is greater than 25% of the original gross floor area.
5. In existing buildings less than five thousand (5,000) square feet, undergoing expansion or addition where the new total gross floor area exceeds four thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine (4,999) square feet, and the addition or expansion is greater than 25% of the original gross floor area, unless such building or addition is otherwise required to be sprinklered by the code or otherwise by law.
6. Townhouses that do not have individually recorded lots for each dwelling unit and are not deeded fee simple.

13.3.1.2.1 Dual Water Supply. In all new NFPA 13D fire sprinkler systems that are installed in structures, other than one and two-family dwellings, where dual-purpose water supply piping supplies both the domestic water and the fire

sprinkler system, a system or method shall be installed to automatically shut off the water supply to the domestic system only, or the domestic supply demand must be added to the hydraulic calculations.

13.3.1.2.2 Sprinkler Renovation. When fire sprinkler renovations occur to an area or compartment where the area or compartment is protected by standard response sprinklers and over fifty (50%) percent of the fire sprinklers are replaced, all sprinklers in the area or compartment shall be replaced with quick response sprinkler heads. The requirement shall apply to light-hazard sprinkler designs only.

13.3.1.2.3 For fire sprinkler systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13, a floor control valve shall be provided for each floor over 5000 square feet in area.

13.3.1.2.4 Fire sprinkler drawings submitted for plan review shall be at a scale of 1/8 inch per foot minimum or greater.

13.3.2.1.1 Minimum Design Requirements. All sprinkler systems shall be designed at a point not greater than ninety (90%) percent of the tested water supply curve.

13.3.2.6.6 Extension of Automatic Sprinklers to Porch or Balcony. In residential occupancies where a porch or balcony is part of a living unit and has the potential to be enclosed, the sprinkler system shall be extended to the porch or balcony.

Exception: one (1) and two (2) family detached dwellings.

13.3.3.2.1 All required NFPA 13D fire sprinkler systems installed in structures shall be inspected, tested, and maintained in accordance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code, NFPA 101, 32.2.3.5.8.1 through 32.2.3.5.8.15.

Exception: Structures subject to the Uniform Fire Safety Standards under Florida Statutes 633.206.

13.7 Detection, Alarm, and Communication Systems.

13.7.1.10.5 Information Transmitted by Monitoring Stations. Monitoring stations, when reporting alarms, shall transmit to the fire department dispatch

center or other location as designated by the AHJ the following information:

1. Complete address of the alarm.
2. Type of call (i.e., fire alarm, water flow, medical emergency).
3. Alarm user's telephone number.
4. Monitoring station telephone number.
5. Name of Monitoring station operator.
6. Change in status of active alarms (i.e., additional signals, alarm reset).
7. Any other information as requested by the fire department.

13.7.1.10.6 The fire department shall be notified by an approved central station monitoring facility when any water flow occurs in an automatic sprinkler system. This requirement does not apply to detached one- and two-family dwellings equipped with non-required systems.

13.7.1.10.7 Fire Department Notification for Fire Alarm System Renovations and/or Alterations. For all existing fire alarm systems undergoing renovations/alterations, when the fire department is required to be notified, such notification shall be accomplished through an NFPA 72 compliant central station monitoring service approved by Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. In addition, after renovations/alterations are performed, a new Record of Completion shall be required. If the fire alarm system was previously 3rd party certificated by an approved, certified, nationally recognized testing laboratory, the 3rd party certificate must be 43 updated and posted near the fire alarm control panel. The 3rd party certificate identifies the approved, certified, nationally recognized testing laboratory, the Protected Property, the Alarm Service Company (Prime Contractor), the System description and details, and the Palm Beach County Approved Central Station. If the system was not previously 3rd party certificated, the Central Station Certificate must be posted near the fire alarm control panel. The Central Station Certificate identifies the Alarm Service Company (Prime Contractor) and the Service Center (Central Station Monitoring Company providing the monitoring services.) All certificates must be within the current expiration date.

13.7.1.10.8 Fire Department Notification for Fire Alarm Systems Fully Replaced and/or Newly Installed Fire Alarm Systems. For all fire alarm systems fully replaced and/or newly installed fire alarm systems, when the fire department is required to be notified, such notification shall be accomplished through an NFPA 72 compliant central station monitoring service approved by Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. In addition, a new Record of Completion shall

be required. The Prime Contractor is responsible for installing a fire alarm system that meets the standards of and is certificated through an approved, certified, nationally recognized testing laboratory. Also, the Prime Contractor will be responsible for all NFPA 72 compliances related to the installation, inspections, testing, functionality, central station services, and after hour runner response services. All 3rd party certificated fire alarm systems must report to a central station with the same testing laboratory listing as the fire alarm system. The 3rd party certificate must be posted near the fire alarm control panel, and be within the current expiration date.

13.7.1.10.9 Alarm Signals Received. All alarm signals received by Central Station Monitoring Facilities from an addressable fire alarm system shall report the type of initiating device.

13.7.1.14.1 Carbon Monoxide Detectors. In dwelling units that charge battery-operated golf carts or electric vehicles in a garage that is not properly vented, a carbon monoxide detector shall be installed and tied into the fire alarm system if one is present.

13.7.1.14.2 In buildings equipped with a full fire alarm system, required carbon monoxide detectors and/or systems shall be tied into the building fire alarm system. Signals shall report to central station as an alarm and initiate emergency forces response. Occupant notification shall be in accordance with NFPA 72 23.8.6.1.3

13.7.1.14.3 Carbon monoxide detectors/alarms are cross-sensitive to hydrogen, an explosive gas that can be released during the recharging of lead-acid batteries. Where households include recharging stations (e.g., for golf carts), the CO detector/alarm should be located away from the recharging station and between it and any living quarters.

13.7.3.1.1.6 Surge Protection Devices. Surge protection shall be provided on applicable power sources entering the building that tie into the fire alarm equipment.

1. Surge protection devices shall be replaced every five (5) years.
2. Surge protection devices shall be marked with the date installed in an approved manner.
3. Devices shall be listed for the intended purpose and installed per the

manufacturer's specifications.

13.7.3.1.1.7 Environmental Installation Requirements. All Fire Alarm Control Panels, Power supplies, Communications systems, and Notification Equipment shall be installed in an environmentally friendly space that is, at a minimum, mechanically vented to meet the equipment manufacturer's requirements for temperature and humidity.

13.7.4.1.6.5 For new installations and for existing installations, duct detectors shall report to the fire alarm control panel as a supervisory signal.

CHAPTER 14
MEANS OF EGRESS

14.15.3 Means of Escape. A window shall not serve as the secondary means of escape when opening onto a sunroom as defined in the Florida Building Code, a porch or balcony enclosure, or an addition. Openings enclosed with insect screening only is considered outside.

CHAPTER 16
SAFEGUARDING CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION AND DEMOLITION OPERATIONS

16.4.3.1.1.1 Water For Firefighting. Where underground water mains and hydrants are to be provided, they shall be installed, completed, and in service prior to commencing construction work on any structure. If the permanent water supply is not installed, tested, and approved prior to vertical construction, an approved temporary water supply is required. As a temporary alternative to fire hydrants, portable water tanks (+20,000 gallons) with a 4-1/2" threaded male hose connection will be considered by Fire Rescue. A single tank shall represent the equivalent of a single fire hydrant. Multiple tanks may be required. Tanks shall be resistant to heat, punctures, rodents, and vandalism. Tank specifications and a detailed site plan showing fire department access roads, proposed tank locations, and distances of tanks to buildings to be protected shall be reviewed and approved by Fire Rescue prior to implementation.

16.4.3.1.3.1.1 Construction may commence prior to the underground water mains and hydrants being installed and in service when approved by the AHJ.

CHAPTER 18
FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS AND WATER SUPPLY

18.2.2.1.1 Access Boxes. All buildings within the jurisdiction of Palm Beach County Fire Rescue that are equipped with a fire alarm, fire suppression system, access control, or elevators shall be provided with a Knox Rapid Entry System, referred to as a Knox Box. The building owner shall ensure that current, operable access devices for all vital areas of the building are maintained within the Knox Box for emergency use. These keys shall include, but are not limited to, the main entrance, electrical and mechanical rooms, elevator machine rooms, elevator emergency operation keys, and any rooms containing fire protection systems, such as fire alarm control panels and fire sprinkler control valves. Commercial structures must provide emergency responders with access to all areas where occupants may be present to enable emergency operations and the rendering of emergency medical care. The types of keys or access devices permitted, including remote-opening devices, card keys, key codes, and traditional keys, shall be subject to approval by the AHJ. The Fire Marshal's Office must be contacted to program and place the required keys inside the Knox Box.

18.2.2.1.2 Access Box Installation. The installation height shall be between forty-eight (48") and sixty (60") inches from the finished grade to the center of the Knox Box. The Fire Marshal's Office shall be contacted regarding the proper location and placement of the required Knox Box.

18.2.2.1.3 Access Box Requirements. Access Boxes shall be provided for each building equipped with a fire alarm system, a fire suppression system, or elevators. All Knox Boxes located within the jurisdiction of Palm Beach County Fire Rescue shall be compatible with the Knox eLock System.

18.2.2.2.1 Access to Existing Gated Subdivisions or Developments. In existing communities, where fire department access is provided through gated security, the gate must remain accessible to fire rescue through an approved key access system where the AHJ determines that the closure of the gate would increase Fire Rescue response time to an emergency.

18.2.2.2.2 Access to New Gated Subdivisions or Developments. In all new gate installations, new gated communities, subdivisions, or developments where fire department access is provided through one or more gate(s) that are not manned 24/7/365, a Click2Enter "C2E" system shall be installed as the primary access system for fire rescue entry into the community and an approved key switch system shall be installed as a secondary access system. These systems shall simultaneously open all gates and/or traffic arms within the fire department vehicle access lane. The gates and/or traffic arms shall remain open until restored to the normal position by the fire department. The location of the control units shall be determined by the AHJ. If at any time the primary or secondary access system is not functioning, the gate(s)/traffic arm(s) shall be left in the open position until such time as they are repaired.

18.2.2.2.3 Gate Access System Operational Requirements. All fire department gate access systems, including key switches, Click2Enter "C2E" systems, and other AHJ-approved access devices, shall be designed and programmed to provide a minimum two (2) minute gate hold-open period upon activation. The gate(s) and/or traffic arm(s) shall remain fully open for the duration of the hold-open period to allow responding fire rescue apparatus to safely enter without premature closure. The hold-open period shall not be reset or shortened unless initiated by the fire department or approved by the AHJ.

18.2.2.2.4 Fire Department Access Lane Identification and Signage. Where fire department access is provided through gated entrances, approved signage shall be installed to clearly identify the fire department access lane. Signage shall be mounted in advance of the gate, at a height between five (5') and seven (7') feet above finished grade and oriented to indicate the correct lane of travel. Where multiple lanes or gates exist, additional signage shall be provided as necessary to ensure responding units approach the correct fire department access point. Where a Gate Key Switch is provided, a visible sign shall identify the lane controlled by the switch, including whether it serves the Resident or Guest lane, to assist responding fire rescue personnel. Signage location, size, and wording shall be subject to approval by the AHJ.

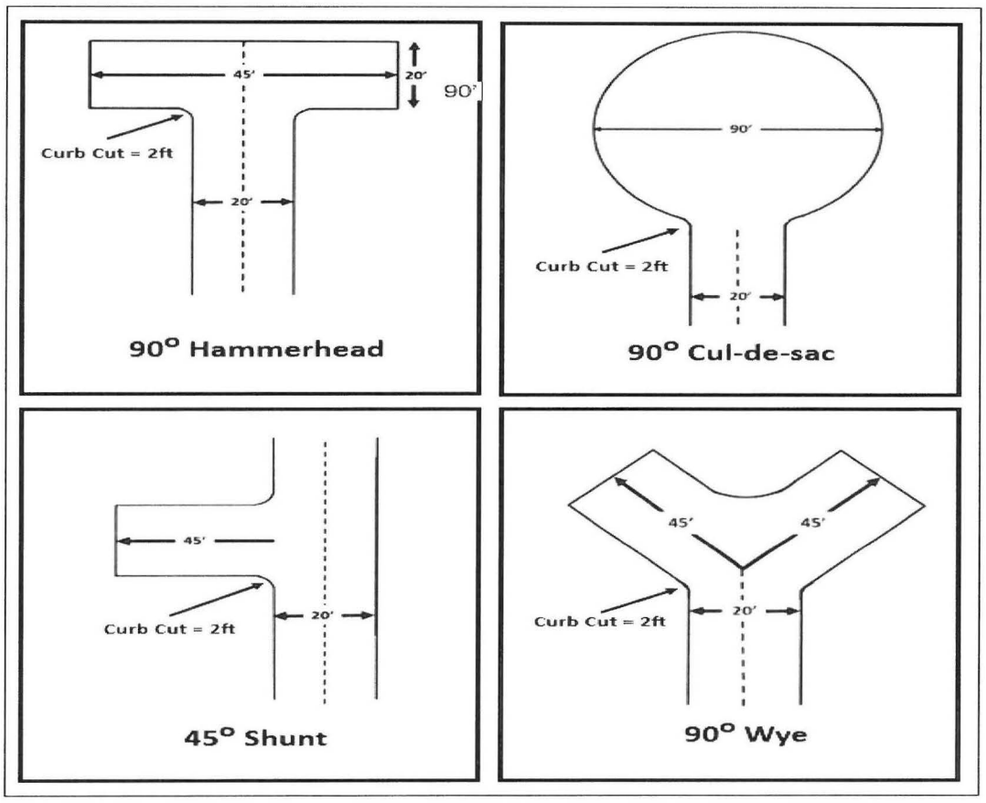
18.2.2.2.5 Gate Access Device Location and Installation. Fire department gate access devices, including key switches and C2E activation points, shall be installed in locations approved by the AHJ and shall meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Devices shall be readily visible, clearly identifiable, unobstructed by landscaping, fencing, or parked vehicles, and accessible without requiring responders to exit the apparatus or cross opposing traffic lanes, where feasible.
2. Manual gate access devices shall be mounted on the fire department approach side of the gate at a height between thirty-six (36") inches and forty-eight (48") inches above finished grade, unless otherwise approved by the AHJ.

18.2.3.5.3.1 The turning radius for a fire department access road shall be a minimum of forty-five (45') feet outside and a maximum of twenty (20') feet inside.

18.2.3.5.4 Dead Ends. Dead-end fire department access roads in excess of 150 ft. in length shall be provided with approved provisions for the turning around of fire apparatus. Turnarounds of the following dimensions shall be provided; ninety (90') foot diameter cul-de-sac, ninety (90') foot wye, forty- five (45') foot shunt, and ninety (90') foot hammerhead. Diagrams of the same appear in Figure 18.2.3.5.4. During construction, when combustibles are brought onto the site in such quantities as deemed hazardous by the AHJ, access roads and a suitable temporary supply of water acceptable to the AHJ shall be provided and maintained. Where the access roadway cannot be provided, an approved fire protection system or systems shall be installed as required and approved by the AHJ.

FIGURE 18.2.3.5.4.1, DEAD ENDS



18.2.3.5.7.1 Traffic Calming Devices. Traffic calming devices, where installed, shall comply with the most current engineering plans approved by the Palm Beach County Traffic Division. The AHJ shall have the authority to require modifications or additional provisions where necessary to maintain adequate emergency vehicle access, response capability, or public safety.

See Figure 18.2.3.5.7.1 and Figure 18.2.3.5.7.2 for details. Speed humps should not be installed within four hundred (400') feet of a traffic signal or within one hundred fifty (150') feet from an intersection or stop sign. Minimum distance between speed humps is four hundred (400') feet, and the maximum should be eight hundred (800') feet.

FIGURE 18.2.3.5.7.1, SPEED HUMPS

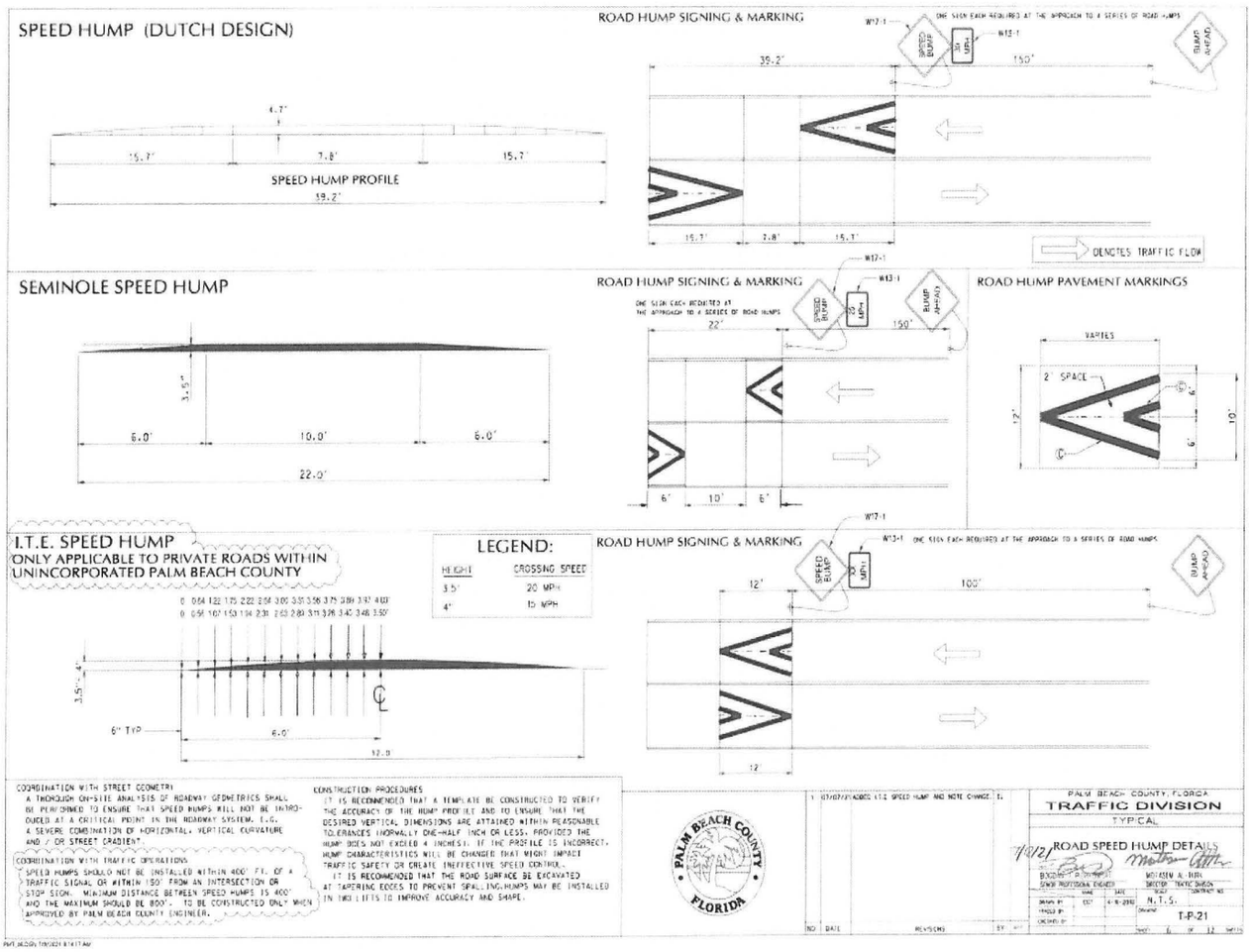


FIGURE 18.2.3.5.7.2, RUMBLE STRIPS

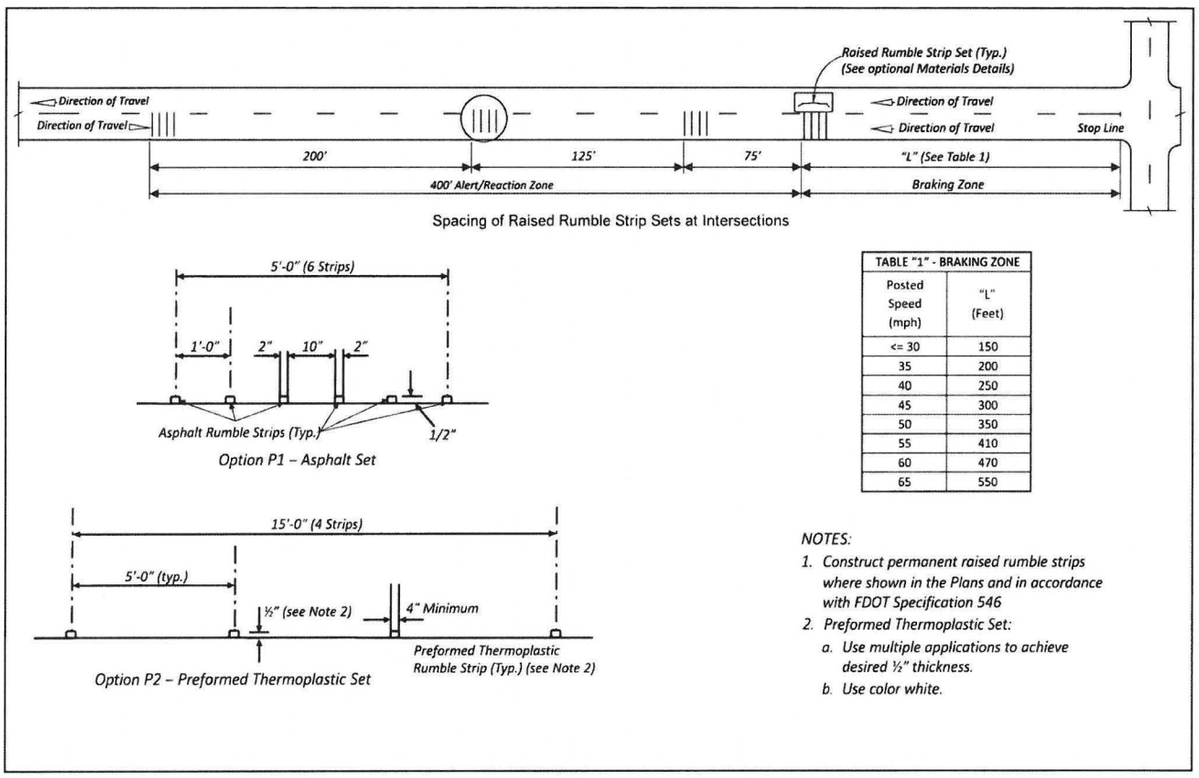


TABLE "1" - BRAKING ZONE	
Posted Speed (mph)	"L" (Feet)
<= 30	150
35	200
40	250
45	300
50	350
55	410
60	470
65	550

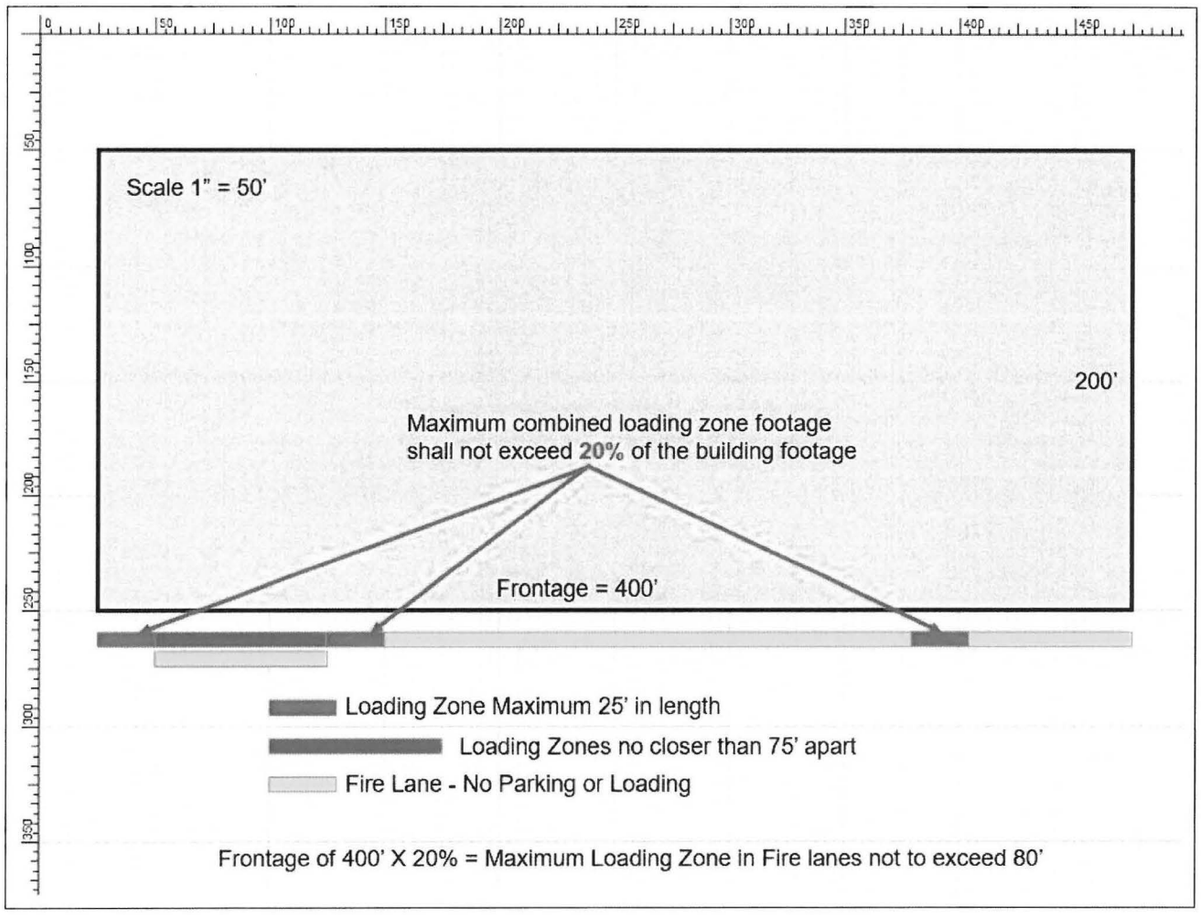
NOTES:

1. *Construct permanent raised rumble strips where shown in the Plans and in accordance with FDOT Specification 546*
2. *Preformed Thermoplastic Set:*
   a. *Use multiple applications to achieve desired ½" thickness.*
   b. *Use color white.*

18.2.3.5.7.2 Warning Signage. Approved warning signage stating "SPEED HUMPS AHEAD" shall be installed in advance of all traffic calming devices. Such signage shall be located a minimum of one hundred (100') feet in advance of the device, or greater as required based on roadway speed, visibility, or as approved by the AHJ. Signs shall be clearly visible and legible and shall be mounted with a minimum vertical clearance of seven (7') feet to the bottom of the sign. Traffic calming devices shall be marked with high-visibility pavement markings to clearly identify their locations.

18.2.4.1.1.1 Loading Zones in Fire Lanes. Fire lanes fronting a retail establishment may have loading zones. Each zone shall not exceed twenty- five (25') feet in length, nor shall the combined loading zone footage exceed twenty (20%) percent of the building frontage. Loading zones shall be located no closer than seventy-five (75') feet apart, with a maximum of fifteen (15) minute time limit imposed. See Figure 18.2.4.1.5 for details.

FIGURE 18.2.4.1.5, LOADING ZONES



18.3 Water Supplies

18.3.1 An approved water supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection shall be provided to all premises upon which facilities, buildings, or portions of buildings are hereafter constructed or moved into the jurisdiction. The approved water supply shall be in accordance with Section 18.4 and Section 18.5.

18.3.2.3 Alternatives to Required Water Supply. In buildings other than bona fide agricultural occupancies located in areas of the County where fire flow requirements cannot be met due to a lack of a water supply system, an approved fire sprinkler system shall be deemed as an acceptable alternative to the fire flow requirements of this code. Such a fire sprinkler system shall be designed and installed in compliance with the appropriate NFPA standard.

18.3.2.3.1 Where a fire sprinkler system is required by another code section or law, it may not serve as the alternate to the required water supply without approval by the AHJ.

18.4 Fire Flow Requirements for Buildings.

18.4.4.1.1 Area Separation. Portions of buildings that are separated by one or more 4-hour fire walls constructed in accordance with NFPA 221 and the Florida Building Code are allowed to be considered a fire flow area.

18.5 Fire Hydrants

18.5.2.1 Hydrants shall be within five hundred (500') feet of the most remote portion of buildings, measured by vehicular access and building perimeter.

18.5.10.1.1 Hydrant Obscurity. Whenever the AHJ determines that a fire hydrant is not readily visible to arriving fire companies because of curbside parking, features of the terrain, construction, planting or other obstructions, the pavement shall be marked with a reflective blue marker to indicate the location. On unpaved streets, a blue reflector shall be affixed to a post as close as practical to the edge of the roadway, so as to be visible.

18.5.11 Dry Hydrant Testing Required. All dry hydrants and drafting sites shall be capable of flowing 1000 (one thousand) gallons per minute and shall be inspected, tested, and maintained annually, in accordance with NFPA 1142, Water Supply for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting.

18.5.12 Hydrant locking systems and FDC locking systems shall be allowed where practical, as approved by the AHJ.

CHAPTER 30
MOTOR FUEL DISPENSING FACILITIES AND REPAIR GARAGES

30.1.5.3 Testing of Emergency Electrical Disconnects. Emergency shutoff devices or electrical disconnects for fuel dispensing systems shall be tested annually. A copy of the testing results shall be provided to the AHJ upon request.

CHAPTER 31
FOREST PRODUCTS AND BIOMASS FEEDSTOCK

31.3.6 Outside Storage of Wood Chips and Hogged Material.

31.3.6.1 Application. This section applies to new and existing outside storage of wood chips, hogged material, timbers, logs, construction materials, land clearing materials, yard waste, organic material, manure, mulch, and like products.

31.3.6.3.1.1 Roadway Access and Clearance. Access roadways with a minimum clearance of twenty (20') feet shall be provided around and throughout the entire facility and be approved by the AHJ.

31.3.6.3.2 Pile Size. Pile sizes shall not exceed one hundred feet by two hundred feet (100'x200'). Pile height shall not exceed fifteen (15') feet. The size and height limitations shall apply to processed and unprocessed material. Story poles shall be provided to determine height limitations.

31.3.6.3.5 Approved Water Supply. An approved water supply capable of delivering one thousand (1000) gallons per minute, for a minimum of two (2) hours, shall be located within one thousand (1000') feet from the most remote pile measured along vehicle access.

31.3.6.3.11 Recovery of Costs. Any and all persons responsible for causing or allowing unauthorized burning of wood chips, hogged material, timbers, logs, construction material, land clearing materials, wood pallets, yard waste, organic material, manure, mulch and like products that require response by Palm Beach County Fire Rescue shall be liable to Palm Beach County for the costs incurred by the County in investigating, mitigating, removing, and abating any such fire. The person responsible for the fire and/or the owner of the property shall reimburse the county for the full amount of said costs, within thirty (30) days after receipt of an itemized bill for such costs from the County.

31.3.7.1.1 Storage and Processing of Forest Products.

31.3.7.1.2 Application. The requirements of 31.3.6 and 31.3.7 shall apply to the storage or processing of wood chips, hogged material, timbers, logs, construction materials, land clearing materials, yard waste, organic material,

manure, mulch, compost, and like products.

31.3.7.2 When not protected by a fixed fire-extinguishing system in accordance with Chapter 13, piles shall not exceed fifteen (15') feet in height, one hundred (100') feet in width, and two hundred (200') feet in length.

CHAPTER 34
GENERAL STORAGE

34.1.1.1 Mobile Storage Containers. Buildings housing mobile storage containers shall comply with the following requirements:

1. Building shall be Type I, II, or IV construction
2. Building storage areas shall be limited to twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet per compartment. Storage compartments shall be separated from adjacent storage compartments, office areas, or different occupancies by fire barriers with a minimum fire resistance rating of 2-hours.
3. Building shall be protected by a monitored automatic fire sprinkler system utilizing ESFR sprinklers designed to protect exposed, expanded Group A plastics per NFPA 13.
4. Building shall be protected with a monitored manual fire alarm system.
5. Building shall be provided with a standpipe system with 2-1/2" fire hose valve outlet connections. A minimum of two (2) valves shall be provided for each compartment. Valves shall be spaced no more than one hundred fifty (150') feet hose lay apart.
6. Emergency lighting shall be provided for all exit access paths.

CHAPTER 43
SPRAYING, DIPPING, AND COATING USING FLAMMABLE OR COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS

43.1 Application.

43.1.1.3.7 Incidental Spraying. Incidental spraying operations will be allowed provided the following criteria are met:

1. The spray paint operation must not be the primary occupancy, but must be incidental to the major use of the building or area as determined by the AHJ.
2. There shall be no accumulation of residue.
3. No ignition source shall be allowed within twenty (20') feet in any direction from the object being sprayed. This requirement shall extend from floor to ceiling.

Noncompliance with any of the above provisions shall cause the revocation of the privilege of incidental spraying operations.

CHAPTER 50
COMMERCIAL COOKING

50.2 General Requirements.

50.2.1.1.3 Commercial Cooking Equipment. Residential cooking equipment shall not be permitted in commercial occupancies unless approved by the AHJ.

50.7 Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations. Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations, as defined in Section 3.3.50.7, participating in Special Events shall be subject to fire and life safety inspections in accordance with NFPA 1, Chapter 50, per the currently adopted edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

50.7.1 Safety Inspection Requirements. All Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations utilizing cooking equipment, fuel-fired appliances, generators, LP-gas systems, electrical systems, or solid-fuel cooking operations shall obtain an initial safety inspection and, thereafter, an annual safety inspection.

50.7.1.1 Safety Inspection Documentation. Owners or operators of Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations shall provide current safety inspection documentation upon the AHJ's request.

50.7.1.2 Commercial Cooking Equipment Required. Cooking appliances and cooking equipment installed within Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations shall be listed and approved for commercial use. Residential or household cooking appliances shall be prohibited where utilized for commercial cooking operations.

50.7.2 Placement. Where mobile food trucks operate at motor fueling stations, the following applies:

1. Mobile food trucks shall not obstruct fire apparatus access.
2. Mobile food trucks shall remain a minimum of ten (10') feet from any structure
3. Mobile food trucks shall remain a minimum of fifty (50') feet from any fueling island.
4. Mobile food trucks shall remain a minimum of fifty (50') feet from any venting or filling-related equipment.

CHAPTER 60
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

60.1.1.1 Liquid. Aboveground storage tanks containing more than 1000 gallons of hazardous materials as defined by this chapter shall be secured in a manner approved by the AHJ based on industry standards or standards of good practice.

60.1.1.2 Solid. Any solid hazardous materials in excess of 3500 lbs., as defined by this chapter, shall be secured in a manner approved by the AHJ based on industry standards or standards of good practice.

60.1.1.3 Gas. Any poisonous gas container in excess of one hundred fifty (150) pounds in content, as defined by this chapter, shall be secured in a manner approved by the AHJ based on industry standards or standards of good practice.

CHAPTER 65
EXPLOSIVES, FIREWORKS, AND MODEL ROCKETRY

65.1 General.

65.1.1.1 General Requirements for Sales of Consumer Fireworks. Any provisions of this Code relating to the retail sale of consumer fireworks shall apply to wholesale sales of fireworks.

65.1.1.2 Fireworks Sales Restrictions. The sale of fireworks, including "Safe and Sane" sparklers, from tents or other temporary structures shall be prohibited within unincorporated Palm Beach County and within municipalities

governed by Palm Beach County Fire Rescue.

65.1.2.1 Fireworks Structures, Sales and Storage

65.1.2.1.1 Noncombustible Construction. Structures where fireworks, as defined by Chapter 791, Florida Statutes, are housed, stored, or sold shall be of non-combustible construction. The requirements of Section 7.4.3 of NFPA 1124 shall not apply.

65.1.2.2 Exterior Storage. Temporary or permanent exterior storage of consumer fireworks shall be allowed, provided the structure or container is equipped with a monitored security system.

65.1.2.3 Principal Use. No other occupancy that is not directly related to the principal use of the structure shall be permitted. Such structures shall be freestanding with a minimum of ten (10') feet from any contiguous building line. A multiple-tenant or occupancy building is not allowed. Section 7.4.4 of NFPA 1124 shall not apply.

65.1.2.4 Fire Extinguishing Systems. All new and existing buildings shall be protected by an approved fire extinguishing system. The extinguishing system shall be designed by a fire protection engineer licensed in the State of Florida.

65.2 Display Fireworks.

65.2.1 Shell Size Limitation. Display fireworks utilized within the jurisdiction of Palm Beach County Fire Rescue shall be limited to a maximum shell size of six (6") inches in diameter.

65.2.1.1 Fallout Radius. A minimum fallout radius of one hundred (100') feet per inch of shell diameter shall be maintained for all fireworks displays unless otherwise approved by the AHJ.

65.2.3.1 Permits for Public or Private Display. Permits for fireworks displays, flame effects, and pyrotechnics shall be regulated by the applicable provisions of this Code, including NFPA 1123, NFPA 1126, and NFPA 160, and the following:

Any fair, association, amusement park, other organization, individual, or group of individuals conducting a fireworks display shall apply to the AHJ of the Palm

Beach County Fire- Rescue Department for a permit for the display and loading of fireworks, flame effects, or pyrotechnics at least fifteen (15) days in advance of the date of display. The application shall contain all of the following information:

1. The exact location of the display.
2. The number, type and size of the pyrotechnics and/or fireworks to be displayed.
3. The name and qualifications of the individuals performing the display.
4. Proof of liability insurance in the amount of $1,000,000.00 (one million dollars), minimum, in which the County is named as a co-insured party.
5. A non-refundable application fee, per the PBCFR fee schedule,
6. Any firework/pyrotechnic/flame effect that exceeds one (1) display and lasts longer than sixty (60) minutes shall be billed at a rate of $400.00 per hour for each additional hour thereafter.

65.2.3.2 Permit Issuance. The AHJ or his designee shall issue a permit to the applicant upon satisfaction of the conditions listed in the above section, including NFPA 1123, NFPA 1126, and NFPA 160.

65.2.3.3 Law Enforcement to Receive Copy of Written Permit. A copy of the written permit shall be provided to the Sheriff of the County and/or the Local Police Chief.

CHAPTER 69
LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GASES AND LIQUEFIED NATURAL GASES

69.1 General Provisions.

69.1.1.4 Portable equipment that utilizes Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LP-Gas) shall be located in areas where there is free circulation of air.

PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE

Community Risk Reduction Division

Changes to the Local Amendments of the Florida Fire Prevention Code

SECTION	JUSTIFICATION
	The following changes were made:
Chapter 1: Administration & Enforcement	
Table 1.3.8.1 Schedule of Fire Inspections, page 3	Apartments were consolidated from four lines into one, as all apartment categories are inspected at the same frequency, eliminating the need to reference each category separately in this section.
1.10.5 Additional Powers and Functions, page 10	The existing language was reorganized and divided into sections for clarity and consistency. No substantive changes were made to the Fire Code Board's powers or functions.
1.12.6.1.1 Permit-Related Violations., page 11	This amendment provides a clear and enforceable standard for determining compliance with permit-related violations. Requiring final approval and permit closure ensures that corrective work has been completed, inspected, and approved rather than merely initiated.
1.12.7.4, page 11	Extended the timeframe from five (5) working days to ten (10) working days.
Table 1.14.7.1, page 12	Updated Fee Schedule and verbiage clarification
Chapter 3: Definitions	
3.3.42.1 Central Station Certificate of Compliance, page 21	Added definitions to clarify the three distinct types of certificates associated with fire alarm central station monitoring.
3.3.42.2 Certificate of Monitoring, page 21	
3.3.42.3 3rd Party Central Station Service Certificate, page 21	
3.3.50.7, Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations, page 21	Replaced the term "Mobile Food Truck" with the broader term "Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations" to encompass the range of cooking operations overseen by the AHJ for fire and life safety.
3.3.105.1 False Alarm, page 21	Added to clarify the definition of a false alarm and align the language with the NFPA 72 definition.
3.5 Unproductive Inspection., page 22	Clarify the verbiage to include all situations for New Construction and Existing inspections.
3.6 Pre -Site Inspection, page 14	To assist contractors with code compliance
Chapter 10: General Safety Requirements	
10.3.1.1 Stocking, page 24	The term "Permit" was changed to "Approval" to more accurately reflect the Building Department's role in issuing Stocking Approval and to provide consistency

	with the terminology used throughout the process. No substantive change to the requirements or responsibilities is intended.
10.6.5 Annual Certification of Central Stations	
10.6.5.1, page 24	Updated the language to align with the new definitions for central station certificates and standardized the formatting for clarity and consistency.
10.6.6.1 Maximum Number of Excessive Alarm Activations in a 12-Month Period., page 25	Added the umbrella term "Excessive Alarm Activations" to encompass various excessive alarm situations, including alarms caused by smoking and golf cart charging.
10.6.6.2 Charges for Excessive Alarm Activations in Residential Structures, page 26	
10.6.6.3 Charges for Excessive Alarm Activations in Commercial Structures., page 27	
10.6.6.4 Notice and Appeal, page 28	Changing verbiage to match 10.6.6.2 and 10.6.6.3
10.10.1.5 Applications for Open Burning Permits, page 28	Updated to reflect current procedures and agency names.
10.10.8 Incinerators and Fireplaces, page 28	Clarified the verbiage
10.11.4 Building Addresses, page 29	Clarifies building address requirements and applies them to new, updated, or changed addresses unless otherwise approved by the AHJ.
10.11.4.1 Unit Identification, page 29	
10.11.4.1.2 Additional Posting, page 30	
10.11.5 Fire Protection System Signage Requirements, page 31	Added specific, enforceable language to clarify fire protection system identification signage requirements, as the base code is too general.
10.11.5.1 Fire Protection System Rooms, page 31	
10.11.5.2 Fire Department Connection (FDC) Identification, page 31	
Figure 10.11.5, fire protection system signage requirements, page 32	
Chapter 11: Building Services	
11.1.2.2.1.1 Electrical Safety Evaluation, page 34	Added clear language specifying the requirements for electrical safety evaluations.
11.1.7.3.1.1 Electrical Room Signage, page 34	Added specific and enforceable language to clarify requirements for electrical room identification signage.
11.10 In-Building Emergency Responder Communication Enhancement System, page 35	Updated channel frequencies and clarified location requirements.
Chapter 12: Features of Fire Protection	
12.9.1.1 Defend-in-Place, page 35	Clarified requirements to assist with the review and evaluation of Emergency Action Plans.

Chapter 13: Fire Protection Systems	
13.1.6.1 Fire Alarm Records, page 36	Added requirements to ensure fire alarm records are protected, legible, accessible, and available for inspection by requiring appropriate storage that prevents environmental damage.
13.1.11.1 Fire Watch Requirements, page 36	Added clear and enforceable fire watch requirements addressing responsibilities, documentation, and termination procedures to promote consistent application and enforcement.
13.1.11.2 Fire Watch Documentation, page 37	
13.1.11.3 Fire Watch Termination, page 38	
13.3.1.1.1 Automatic Sprinkler Systems Installation, page 39	Clarifies and streamlines automatic sprinkler system installation requirements.
13.7.1.10.6, page 41	Central Station notification should occur in any water flow situation, with the exception of one and two family dwellings.
13.7.1.14.2, page 42	Clarifies and streamlines carbon monoxide detector requirements.
Chapter 18: Fire Department Access and Water Supply	
18.2.2.1.1 Access Boxes, page 44	Added to establish clear, enforceable Knox Box requirements for installation, placement, and maintenance.
18.2.2.1.2 Access Box Installation, page 44	
18.2.2.1.3 Access Box Requirements, page 44	
18.2.2.2.3 Gate Access System Operational Requirements, page 45	Added to establish enforceable gate access standards to ensure reliable emergency access while maintaining property security.
18.2.2.2.4 Fire Department Access Lane Identification and Signage, page 45	
18.2.2.2.5 Gate Access Device Location and Installation, page 46	
18.2.3.5.7.1 Traffic Calming Devices, page 47	Clarifies traffic calming placement standards to maintain emergency vehicle access and consistency with Palm Beach County Traffic Division requirements.
Figure 18.2.3.5.7.1, page 48	Updated to the currently approved engineer plans.
18.2.3.5.7.2.Warning Signage, page 49	Added specific, enforceable signage requirements for traffic-calming devices.
Removal of 18.3.2 Fire Hydrant Water Supplies Dead-end water mains serving fire hydrants shall	Removed to eliminate language that duplicates the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

not exceed 200 feet in length. No more than 2 fire hydrants shall be supplied from a dead-end water main. shall be supplied from a dead-end water main.	
Chapter 50: Commercial Cooking	
50.7 Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations, page 54	Clarifies formatting, incorporates the new definition for Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations, and prohibits residential cooking equipment in food trucks.
50.7.1 Annual Safety Inspection, page 54	
50.7.1.1 Safety Inspection Documentation, page 54	
50.7.1.2 Commercial Cooking Equipment Required, page 54	
Chapter 65: Explosives, Fireworks, and Model Rocketry	
65.1.1.2 Fireworks Sales Restrictions	Clarifies and expands firework requirements with more specific language.
65.2.1 Shell Size Limitation	
65.2.1.1 Fallout Radius	
65.2.3.1 Permits for Public or Private Display	

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Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
Sara Baxter, Mayor
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Bobby Powell Jr.

County Administrator
Joseph Abruzzo

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"

Official Electronic Letterhead

September 17, 2026

Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
301 North Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Re: Palm Beach County Local Amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code

Dear County Commission:

After much review and consideration, and on behalf of the Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments, it is my pleasure as Chairman of this Board to recommend your approval of Palm Beach County's Local Amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter LeDuc
Fire Marshal, West Palm Beach Fire Department

Cc: Fire Code Board of Appeals and Adjustments
Patrick J. Kennedy, Fire-Rescue Administrator
David Woodside, Assistant Fire Chief
David DeRita, Division Chief Fire Marshal