

1 lands. Additionally, elevations within Riverside County range from three
2 hundred (300) feet below sea level to mountains over ten thousand
3 (10,000) feet. This variety in regions contributes to an increased
4 emergency response time, which necessitates cooperation between local
5 agencies.

6 F. Riverside County contains a large number of sensitive habitats for various
7 species and vegetation, consists of large open space areas between major
8 urban centers and includes landscapes varying from mountains and hills to
9 valleys and deserts. These conditions impact building and structure
10 location, which impedes emergency access and response.

11 G. Riverside County extends from Orange County to the State of Arizona
12 and is mixed with congested urban areas, rural lands and wild lands,
13 which increases Riverside County Fire Department response time to
14 emergencies.

15 H. Two major earthquake faults, the San Andreas Fault and the San Jacinto
16 Fault, bisect Riverside County and numerous minor faults exist throughout
17 it. As a result, a substantial amount of property and persons located in
18 Riverside County are likely to be impacted by earthquakes and will
19 require emergency response and rescue.

20 I. The topography within Riverside County extends from flat to twenty-five
21 (25) percent slope for habitable land, which causes buildings and
22 structures to be located in unique areas that impact emergency response
23 and access.

24 J. In addition to earthquakes, a substantial amount of property and persons
25 located in Riverside County are likely to be impacted by landslides, wind
26 erosion, blown sand, flooding and wildfires because of the County's
27 unique climatic, geological and topographical conditions.
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1 K. The additional requirements included herein are necessary to properly
2 protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents and workers of
3 Riverside County.

4 L. Revenue shortages make it difficult to locate additional fire stations and
5 provide staffing sufficient to control fires in single and multi-story retail,
6 commercial and industrial buildings, making enhanced built in protection
7 necessary.

8 M. The sections of the California Fire Code may be referred to by the same
9 number used in said published compilation preceded by the words
10 "Riverside County Fire Code Section" or "International Fire Code
11 Section" or "Fire Code Section."

12 Section 2. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to adopt the 2010 California
13 Fire Code, California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 9, as amended, to govern the safeguarding of
14 life and property from fire, explosion hazards and hazardous conditions and to regulate the issuance of
15 permits and collection of fees.

16 Section 3. AUTHORITY. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to Health and Safety
17 Code Sections 17958 and 17958.7 which allow a county to adopt modifications or changes to the
18 California Fire Code that are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological and
19 topographical conditions.

20 Section 4. APPLICATION. The provisions of the 2010 California Fire Code
21 including appendices, as amended by this ordinance, shall apply to the unincorporated area of Riverside
22 County.

23 Section 5. AMENDMENTS TO CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE. The 2010 California
24 Fire Code is adopted in its entirety except as to the following:

25 A. DEFINITIONS. Section 202 of the California Fire Code is amended to
26 add the following definitions:

27 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. The Board of Supervisors for the County
28 of Riverside.

1 BUILDING OFFICIAL. The Director of the County of Riverside
2 Department of Building and Safety or the Director's designee(s).

3 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE. The 2010 Fire Code part of the California
4 Building Standard Code, also known as California Code of Regulations,
5 Title 24, Part 9.

6 CALIFORNIA RESIDENTIAL CODE. California Code of Regulations,
7 Title 24, Part 2.5.

8 FIRE CHIEF. The Fire Chief of Riverside County or the Fire Chief's
9 designee.

10 FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEER. A professional engineer with the
11 education and experience to understand the engineering problems related
12 to safeguarding life and property from fire and fire-related hazards, to
13 identify, evaluate, correct or prevent present or potential fire and fire
14 related panic hazards in buildings, groups of buildings, or communities,
15 and to recommend the arrangement and use of fire resistant building
16 materials and fire detection and extinguishing systems, devices, and
17 apparatus in order to protect life and property.

18 HAZARDOUS FIRE AREA. Private or public land not designated as
19 state or local fire hazard severity zone (FHSZ) which is covered with
20 grass, grain, brush or forest and situated in a location that makes
21 suppression difficult resulting in great damage. Such areas are designated
22 on Hazardous Fire Area maps filed with the office of the Fire Chief.

23 B. **DEPARTMENT OF FIRE PREVENTION**

24 A new Section 103.4.2 is added to Section 103.4 of the California Fire
25 Code to read as follows:

26 "103.4.2 Cost Recovery. Fire suppression, investigation, rescue or
27 emergency medical costs are recoverable in accordance with Health and
28 Safety Code Sections 13009 and 13009.1, as amended. Additionally, any

1 person who negligently, intentionally or in violation of law causes an
2 emergency response, including, but not limited to, a traffic accident, spill
3 of toxic or flammable fluids or chemicals is liable for the costs of securing
4 such emergency, including those costs pursuant to Government Code
5 Section 53150, et seq, as amended. Any expense incurred by the
6 Riverside County Fire Department for securing such emergency shall
7 constitute a debt of such person and shall be collectable by Riverside
8 County in the same manner as in the case of an obligation under contract,
9 express or implied.”

10 C. **GENERAL AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES.**

11 1. A new Section 104.2.1 is added to Section 104.2 of the
12 California Fire Code to read as follows:
13 “**104.2.1 Fees.** Fees for services and permits shall be as set forth in
14 Riverside County Ordinance No. 671.”

15 2. A new Section 104.3.2 is added to Section 104.3 of the
16 California Fire Code to read as follows:

17 “**104.3.2. Authority of the Fire Chief and Fire Department.**

18 1. The Fire Chief is authorized and directed to enforce all
19 applicable State fire laws and provisions of this ordinance
20 and to perform such duties as directed by the Board of
21 Supervisors.

22 2. The Fire Chief is authorized to administer, interpret and
23 enforce this ordinance. Under the Fire Chief’s direction,
24 the Riverside County Fire Department is authorized to
25 enforce ordinances of Riverside County pertaining to the
26 following:

27 a. The prevention of fires.
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- b. The suppression or extinguishment of dangerous or hazardous fires.
- c. The storage, use and handling of hazardous materials.
- d. The installation and maintenance of automatic, manual and other private fire alarm systems and fire extinguishing equipment.
- e. The maintenance and regulation of fire escapes.
- f. The maintenance of fire protection and the elimination of fire hazards on land, in buildings, structures and other property, including those under construction.
- g. The maintenance of means of egress.
- h. The investigation of the cause, origin and circumstances of fire and unauthorized releases of hazardous materials.

3. The following persons are hereby authorized to interpret and enforce the provisions of this ordinance and to make arrests and issue citations as authorized by law:

- a. The Unit Chief, Peace Officers and Public Officers of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- b. The Fire Chief, Peace Officers and Public Officers of the Riverside County Fire Department.
- c. The Riverside County Sheriff and any deputy sheriff.
- d. The Police Chief and any Police Officer of any city served by the Riverside County Fire Department.

- e. Officers of the California Highway Patrol.
- f. Code Officers of the Riverside County Code Enforcement Department.
- g. Peace Officers of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.
- h. The law enforcement officer of the Federal Bureau of Land Management.”

3. A new Section 104.12 is added to Section 104 of the California Fire Code to read as follows:

“104.12 Authority of the Fire Chief. Except upon National Forest Land, the Fire Chief is authorized to determine and announce the closure of any hazardous fire area or portion thereof. Any closure by the Fire Chief for a period of more than fifteen (15) calendar days must be approved by the Board of Supervisors within fifteen (15) calendar days of the Fire Chief’s original order of closure. Upon such closure, no person shall go in or be upon any hazardous fire area, except upon the public roadways and inhabited areas. During such closure, the Fire Chief shall erect and maintain at all entrances to the closed area sufficient signs giving notice of closure. This section shall not prohibit residents or owners of private property within any closed area, or their invitees, from going in or being upon their lands. This section shall not apply to any entry, in the course of duty, by a peace officer, duly authorized public officer or fire department personnel.”

D. **FIRE SAFETY AND EVACUATION PLANS.**

Section 404.2 of the California Fire Code is amended to add the following:

1 “15. Windowless buildings having an occupant load of fifty (50) or
2 more.”

3 E. **FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS.**

4 1. Section 503.3 of the California Fire Code is deleted in its entirety
5 and replaced with the following:

6 “**503.3 Marking.** Fire apparatus access roads, where required,
7 shall be identified by curbs painted red on both the top and face
8 along the entire length of the fire apparatus access road. Where no
9 curbs exists or a rolled curb is installed, a six (6) inch wide red
10 strip shall be applied the full length of the fire apparatus access
11 road or approved posted signs shall be installed in accordance
12 with the Riverside County Fire Department Standards.

13 Exception: On school grounds this requirement shall be
14 implemented as approved by the Fire Chief.”

15 2. Section 503.4 of the California Fire Code is deleted in its entirety
16 and replaced with the following:

17 “**503.4 Obstruction of fire apparatus access roads.** When other
18 installed obstructions cause the distances from an approved
19 fire department access road to exceed the maximum distance
20 allowed in Section 503, the Fire Chief is authorized to require
21 additional fire protection as specified in Section 901.4.3.”

22 3. A new Section 503.7 is added to Section 503 of the California
23 Fire Code to read as follows:

24 “**503.7 Loading areas and passenger drop-off areas.** On private
25 properties, where fire apparatus access roads are utilized for
26 loading or unloading or utilized for passenger drop-off or pick-up,
27 an additional eight (8) feet of width shall be added to the minimum
28 required width for the fire apparatus access road.”

1 4. A new Section 503.8 is added to Section 503 of the California Fire
2 Code to read as follows:

3 “**Authority to designate.** The Riverside County Fire Department
4 shall be the only authority authorized to designate fire apparatus
5 access roads and fire lanes as defined in Section 502.”

6 5. Section 504.1 of the California Fire Code is amended to add the
7 following language to the end of the first paragraph:

8 “Where ground ladder access is the only means to reach the
9 highest point on the building, the finished grade on all exterior
10 sides of buildings shall be flat and free of any obstructions that
11 would interfere with ground ladder placement. This distance from
12 the building to finished grade shall be determined by the Fire
13 Chief.”

14 F. **EMERGENCY RESPONDER RADIO COVERAGE.**

15 1. A new Section 510.4 is added to Section 510 of the California
16 Fire Code to read as follows:

17 “**510.4 Radio coverage.** Except as otherwise provided in this
18 ordinance, no person shall erect, construct or modify any building
19 or structure or any part thereof, or cause the same to be done which
20 fails to support adequate voice or data radio coverage for any
21 emergency response personnel within the structure or the area
22 immediately surrounding the structure or building. A final
23 inspection shall not be approved for any building or structure that
24 fails to comply with this requirement.”

25 2. A new Section 510.4.1 is added to Section 510 of the California
26 Fire Code to read as follows:

1 4. A new Section 510.5.1 is added to Section 510 of the California
2 Fire Code to read as follows:

3 “**510.5.1 Frequency Range.** At the time a building permit
4 is issued, the Riverside County Fire Department
5 Communication Division, in cooperation with appropriate fire and
6 law enforcement departments, shall determine the frequency range
7 or ranges that must be supported in accordance with Riverside
8 County Fire Department Standards. For purposes of this section,
9 adequate radio coverage shall constitute a successful
10 communications test between the building and the
11 communications centers for all appropriate emergency
12 service providers for the building.”

13 G. **BREATHING APPARATUS AIR SYSTEMS.**

14 A new Section 511 is added to Chapter 5 of the California Fire
15 Code to read as follows:

16 “**511 Fire Department Breathing Apparatus Air Systems.** All
17 buildings having floors used for human occupancy located seventy-five
18 (75) feet or more above or below the lowest level of fire department
19 vehicular access shall be equipped with an approved breathing apparatus
20 air refilling system. Such system shall provide for adequate pressurized
21 air supply through a permanent piping system for the replenishment of self
22 contained breathing apparatus carried by fire suppression, rescue and other
23 personnel in the performance of their duties. Location, specification of
24 access stations and the installation of such breathing apparatus air refilling
25 system shall be made in accordance with the Riverside County Fire
26 Department Standards.”

1 H. **MECHANICAL REFRIGERATION.**

2 Section 606.8 of the California Fire Code is deleted in its entirety
3 and replaced with the following:

4 “**Refrigerant detector.** Machinery rooms that use refrigerant shall have a
5 detector with audible and visual alarms. The alarm signaling devices
6 shall comply with the audible and visual requirements from the National
7 Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72. The detector or a sampling tube
8 that draws air into the detector shall be located in an area where a
9 refrigerant leak may be expected to concentrate. The alarm shall be
10 actuated at a value no greater than the corresponding TLV-TWA values
11 shown in the California Mechanical Code for the refrigerant classification.
12 Detectors and alarms shall be placed in one or more locations to insure
13 maximum notifications to all occupants. The detector shall transmit a
14 signal to an approved location in accordance with NFPA 72.”

15 I. **AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS.**

16 1. Section 903.2 of the California Fire Code is deleted in its entirety
17 and replaced with the following:

18 “**903.2 Where required.** In all new buildings and structures
19 which are 3,600 square feet or greater an approved automatic
20 sprinkler system shall be provided regardless of occupancy
21 classification. Where the California Fire Code is requiring more
22 restrictive requirements in Sections 903.2.1, 903.2.1.1, 903.2.1.2,
23 903.2.1.3, 903.2.1.4, 903.2.1.5, 903.2.2, 903.2.3, 903.2.4, 903.2.5,
24 903.2.5.2, 903.2.6, 903.2.7, 903.2.8, 903.2.9, 903.2.10, 903.2.11.6
25 903.2.16, 903.2.18, the more restrictive requirement shall take
26 precedence. The following exceptions in the California Fire Code
27 shall not be allowed:

28 a. Exception in Section 903.2.3

- b. Exception in Section 903.2.6.2
- c. Exception in Section 903.2.8
- d. Exception in Section 903.2.11
- e. Exception in Section 903.2.11.3
- f. Exception in Section 903.2.17.1

One and two-family dwellings shall have an automatic fire sprinkler system regardless of square footage in accordance with the California Residential Code. Fire sprinkler systems shall be installed in mobilehomes, manufactured homes and multifamily manufactured homes with two dwelling units in accordance with Title 25 of the California Code of Regulations.”

- 2. Section 903.2.11.1.1 of the California Fire Code is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“**903.2.11.1.1 Opening dimensions and access.** Openings shall have a minimum dimension of not less than 36 inches (914.4 mm). Such openings shall be accessible to the Riverside County Fire Department from the exterior and shall not be obstructed in a manner that the rescue cannot be accomplished from the exterior.”

J. **EMERGENCY ALARM SYSTEMS.**

- 1. A new Section 908.3.1 is added to Section 908.3 of the California Fire Code to read as follows:

“**908.3.1 Alarms.** The gas detection system shall be monitored per NFPA 72 and shall do the following: 1) initiate a local alarm and 2) transmit a signal to a constantly attended control station when a short-term hazard condition is detected. The alarm shall be both visible and audible in order to provide warning both inside and outside the area where gas is detected. The audible alarm shall be distinct from all other alarms existing at the location.”

1 2. A new Section 908.3.2 is added to Section 908.3 of the
2 California Fire Code to read as follows:

3 **“908.3.2 Shutoff of gas supply.** The gas detection system shall
4 automatically close the shutoff valve at the source of the gas
5 supply piping or tubing related to the system being monitored for
6 the detected gas.

7 Exception: Automatic shutdown is not required for reactors
8 utilized for the production of highly toxic or toxic compressed
9 gases where such reactors are: 1) operated at pressures less than 15
10 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) (103.4 kPa), and 2) constantly
11 attended, and 3) provided with readily accessible emergency shut-
12 off valves.”

13 3. A new Section 908.3.3 is added to Section 908.3 of the
14 California Fire Code to read as follows:

15 **“908.3.3 Valve closure.** The automatic closure of shutoff valves
16 shall be in accordance with the following:

17 1. Where the gas-detection sampling point initiating the gas
18 detection system alarm is within a gas cabinet or exhausted
19 enclosure, the shutoff valve in the gas cabinet or exhausted
20 enclosure for the specific gas detected shall automatically
21 close.

22 2. Where the gas-detection sampling point initiating the gas
23 detection system alarm is within a gas room and
24 compressed gas containers are not in gas cabinets or
25 exhausted enclosures, the shutoff valves on all gas lines
26 for the specific gas detected shall automatically close.

27 3. Where the gas-detection sampling point initiating the gas
28 detection system alarm is within a piping distribution

1 manifold enclosure, the shutoff valve for the compressed
2 container of specific gas detected supplying the manifold
3 shall automatically close.

4 Exception: When the gas-detection sampling point
5 initiating the gas detection system alarm is at a use location
6 or within a gas valve enclosure of a branch line down-
7 stream of a piping distribution manifold, the shutoff
8 valve in the gas valve enclosure for the branch line located
9 in the piping distribution manifold enclosure shall
10 automatically close.”

11 K. **FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTIONS.**

12 **Section 912.2.1** of the California Fire Code is deleted in its entirety and
13 replaced with the following:

14 **“912.2.1 Visible Locations.** Fire department connections shall be
15 located on the front access side of buildings, fully visible and
16 recognizable from the street or nearest point of fire department
17 vehicle access or as otherwise approved by the Fire Chief. The
18 location of fire department connections shall be approved and
19 installed in accordance with all the following:

- 20 1. Within 50 feet of an approved roadway or driveway and
21 arranged so that hose lines can be readily attached to the
22 inlets without interference from any nearby objects
23 including buildings, fences, posts, plantings, or other
24 fire department connections or otherwise approved by
25 the Fire Chief.
- 26 2. Within 200 feet of an approved hydrant.
- 27 3. The inlet height shall not be less than 18 inches or
28 more than 48 inches above grade.

1 4. Guard posts or other approved means may be required to
2 protect fire department inlet connections from vehicular
3 damage.

4 5. Fire department connection shall not be allowed in the rear
5 of any building.”

6 L. **FIRE PROTECTION BASED ON SPECIAL DETAILED**
7 **REQUIREMENTS OF USE AND OCCUPANCY.**

8 Section 914.5 of the California Fire Code is deleted in its entirety
9 and replaced with the following:

10 **“914.5 Underground and windowless buildings.** Underground
11 and windowless buildings shall comply with Sections 914.5.1
12 through 914.5.5, each section relating to Underground buildings
13 shall also include Windowless buildings.”

14 M. **HIGH-PILED COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE.**

15 No. 7 of Section 2301.3 of the California Fire Code is amended to
16 read as follows:

17 **“7. Locations and classification of commodities in accordance with**
18 **Section 2303 and NFPA 13.”**

19 N. **DESIGNATION OF HIGH-PILED STORAGE AREAS.**

20 A new Section is added to Section 2304.2 of the California Fire
21 Code to read as follows:

22 **“2304.2.1 Minimum requirements for client leased or occupant**
23 **owned warehouses.** Designs of an automatic sprinkler system for
24 client leased or occupant owned buildings containing high pile
25 storage shall be based on the requirements of NFPA 13. The
26 responsible fire protection engineer shall perform a survey of the
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1 building to determine commodity classification, storage
2 configuration, building height and other information related to the
3 development of an appropriate sprinkler system design. The
4 fire protection engineer shall also make reasonable efforts to meet
5 with the building owner or operator to understand seasonal or
6 customer related fluctuations to the stored commodities, storage
7 height, and configuration. The sprinkler design shall be based on
8 the most demanding requirements determined through the onsite
9 survey and discussions with the building owner or operator. The
10 technical report shall describe the basis for determining the
11 commodity and sprinkler design selection, how the
12 commodities will be isolated or separated, and include referenced
13 design document(s), including NFPA 13 or the current applicable
14 factory mutual data sheets. If a specific fire test is used as the
15 basis of design, a copy of the fire test report shall be provided at
16 the time of plan review.”

17 O. **FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES.**

18 A new Section is added to Section 4904 of the California Fire
19 Code to read as follows:

20 **“4904.3 High Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps.** In accordance with
21 Government Code Sections 51175 through 51189, Very High Fire Hazard
22 Severity Zones are designated as shown on a map titled Very High Fire
23 Hazard Severity Zones, dated April 8, 2010 and retained on file at the
24 office of the Fire Chief and supersedes other maps previously adopted by
25 Riverside County designating high fire hazard areas.”

26 **Section 6.** APPENDICES TO CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE. The appendices to the
27 California Fire Code are adopted in their entirety except as to the following:
28

1 A. Appendix B.

2 The first sentence of Section B105.2 of Appendix B is amended to
3 read as follows:

4 “B105.2. Buildings other than one-and two-family dwellings. A
5 reduction in required fire flow of up to fifty (50) percent as
6 approved is allowed when the building is provided with an
7 approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with
8 Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2 of the California Fire Code.”

9
10 B. Appendix C.

11 Footnote c. to Table C105.1 in Appendix C is amended to read as
12 follows:

13 “Where new water mains are extended along streets where
14 hydrants are not needed for protection of structures or similar fire
15 problems, serving one and two-family residential developments,
16 standard fire hydrants shall be provided at spacing not to exceed
17 1000 feet along the tract boundary for transportation hazards.

18 When serving multi-family, commercial and industrial
19 developments, super or enhanced fire hydrants as determined by
20 the Fire Chief shall be provided at spacing not to exceed 500 feet
21 of frontage for transportation hazards.”

22 C. Appendix D. Appendix D shall not be adopted.

23
24 D. Appendix I. Appendix I shall not be adopted

25 Section 7. VIOLATION AND PENALTIES. It shall be unlawful for any person,
26 firm, corporation or association of persons to violate any provision of this ordinance, or to violate the
27 provisions of any permit granted pursuant to this ordinance. Punishments and penalties for violations
28 shall be in accordance with Health and Safety Code Sections 17995 through 17995.5.”

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE) ss

I HEREBY CERTIFY that at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of said county held on February 15, 2011, the foregoing ordinance consisting of 3 Sections was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Buster, Tavaglione, Stone, Benoit, and Ashley
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

DATE: February 15, 2011

KECIA HARPER-IHEM
Clerk of the Board
BY: *Kellie Banton*
Deputy

SEAL