



Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney
Hydee Feldstein Soto

REPORT NO. R 23 - 0228
JUN 15 2023

REPORT RE:

DRAFT ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 7, CHAPTER 5 OF THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE TO INCORPORATE BY REFERENCE PORTIONS OF THE 2022 EDITION OF THE CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE AND THE 2021 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, AND EFFECT OTHER NON-SUBSTANTIVE CORRECTIONS

The Honorable City Council
of the City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Honorable Members:

This Office has prepared and now transmits for your consideration the enclosed draft ordinance, approved as to form and legality. This ordinance would amend Article 7 of Chapter 5 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, known as the Los Angeles Fire Code, in its entirety and incorporate by reference portions of the 2022 edition of the California Fire Code (CFC) and the 2021 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC).

On May 30, 2023, the City Council requested the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance to amend the Los Angeles Municipal Code by updating the current Los Angeles Fire Code, and adopting a proposed Los Angeles Fire Code amendment package for 2023 based on the CFC and IFC, published by the International Code Council with amendments. The original Los Angeles Fire Code was adopted in 1987 and was not part of a unified standard code system. In 2013, the City Council adopted an ordinance which created a new Fire Code designed to be the companion code to the existing Los Angeles Building Code. The City's Building Code is based on the International and State codes as part of a uniform standard code system. Adoption of the 2013 ordinance helped minimize inconsistencies between the Los Angeles Fire



Code and the Los Angeles Building Code, as well as reduced code enforcement inconsistencies in the City of Los Angeles.

Generally, the State of California adopts a new California Fire Code every three years, and local jurisdictions are required to enforce the California Fire Code, except where the local jurisdiction enacts more restrictive standards or local administrative provisions. In order for the City of Los Angeles to enact local amendments, the City Council must make express findings regarding local conditions.

Therefore, pursuant to the three-year code adoption cycle mentioned above, this draft ordinance is required to implement the changes to the CFC and IFC, and maintain the amendments established for the City. No CFC/IFC amendment changes have been proposed which have not already been vetted through the International Code Council or California Fire Code development process.

Finally, non-substantive corrections made during the drafting of this ordinance are also included herein.

Council Rule 38 Referral


Pursuant to Council Rule 38, a copy of the draft ordinance has been sent to the Los Angeles Fire Department with a request that any comments concerning the draft ordinance be presented directly to the City Council or its Committees when this matter is considered.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Assistant City Attorney Julie Raffish at (213) 978-8388. She or another member of this Office will be present when you consider this matter to answer questions you may have.

Sincerely,

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By


VALERIE FLORES
Chief Assistant City Attorney

VF:JSR:lp
Transmittal