

## CODE ADVISORY COMMITTEE Special Meeting of the Mechanical Electrical Plumbing & Fire Life Safety Subcommittee

DATE : July 15, 2013 (Monday)

TIME : 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. <

LOCATION : 1660 Mission Street, Room 6034

This Subcommittee meets regularly on the Monday immediately preceding the second Wednesday of each month at 1660 Mission Street, Room 6034. If you wish to be placed on a mailing list for agendas, please call (415) 575-6832.

Note: Public comment will be taken after each agenda item. Reference documents relating to agenda items are available for review at 1660 Mission Street, first floor. For information, please call Kirk Means at (415) 575-6832

### **AGENDA**

- 1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call. Members: Jim Reed, Chair, Jerry Cunningham, P.E., Marc Cunningham, Robert Wong, M.E., Shane O'Reilly, Henry Karnilowicz.
- 2.0 Discussion and possible action regarding the conforming of the existing 2010 San Francisco Building Code amendments, Chapters 3,4,5,6,7,8,9, & 10 with the approved California State Agency amendments to the 2012 International Building Code. (90 min)
- 3.0 Discussion and possible action regarding any revisions related to 2013 California Building & Residential Codes. (30 min)
- 4.0 Subcommittee Members' and Staff's identification of agenda items for the next meeting, as well as current agenda items to be continued to another subcommittee regular meeting or special meeting. Subcommittee discussion and possible action regarding administrative issues related to building codes.
- 5.0 Public comment will be heard on items not on this agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Code Advisory Committee. Comment time is limited to 3 minutes per person or at the call of the Chair.
- 6.0 Adjournment.

Note to members: Please review the appropriate material and be prepared to discuss technical changes at the meeting. If you are unable to attend, please notify Chair Jim Reed, at (415) 861-6522 or Building Inspector Kirk Means at (415) 575-6832. The meeting will begin promptly.



## ACCESSIBLE MEETING INFORMATION POLICY

In order to assist the City's efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illness, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City to accommodate these individuals.

The meeting will be held at the Department of Building Inspection, 1660 Mission Street, 6th Floor. The closest accessible BART stations are the Civic Center Station at 8th (at the United Nations Plaza) and Market Street and 16th at Mission Street.

Accessible MUNI/Metro lines servicing this location are the, 42 - Downtown, 14 & 14 Limited - Mission, and F - Market bus lines. For information about MUNI accessible services call (415) 923-6142.

The meeting room is wheelchair accessible. Accessible curb side parking spaces have been designated on Mission and Otis Streets. There is accessible parking available within the Department of Building Inspection parking lot. The entrance to this lot is on Otis Street.

Accessible seating for persons with disabilities (including those using wheelchairs) will be available. Assistive Listening devices will be available at the meeting. A sign language interpreter will be available upon request. Agendas and Minutes of the meeting are available in large print/tape form and/or readers upon request. Please contact Kirk Means at (415) 575-6832 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to request these services.

If you require use of a reader or other special services, please contact Kirk Means at (415) 575-6832 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to request these services.

Materials are available in alternate formats on request

### SFBC SECTION 406 - MOTOR-VEHICLE-RELATED OCCUPANCIES

406.1.3 <u>406.3.3</u> Add the following third paragraph at the end of the section: 406.1.3 <u>406.1.3</u> Garages and Carports

Ventilation shall be provided as follows: Natural ventilation shall be required, and such space shall be provided with ventilation outlets in the walls or exterior doors. The total net area of such ventilation outlets shall be 200 square inches  $(0.129 \text{ m}^2)$  for a space up to 1,000 square feet  $(92.903 \text{ m}^2)$  in area and shall be increased 30 square inches  $(0.0194 \text{ m}^2)$  for each additional 200 square feet  $(18.58 \text{ m}^2)$  of floor area up to maximum floor area of 3,000 square feet  $(278.709 \text{ m}^2)$ .

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# SFBC SECTION 425 — SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR LICENSED 24-HOUR CARE FACILITIES IN A GROUP R-2.1, R-3.1, R-4

### 425.3 Add the following section:

COMMENT 1:

425.3.5 [CRC R325.3.2] For detached one- and two-family dwellings, and townhouses not more than three stories above grade plane in height with a separate means of egress, buildings housing protective social-care homes or in occupancies housing inmates who are not restrained need not be of one-hour fire-resistive construction when not more than two stories in height. In no case shall individual floor areas exceed 3,000 square feet (279

 $m^2$ ). The fire-resistive protection of the exterior walls shall not be less than one hour where such walls are located within 5 feet (1524 nn) of the property line. Openings within such walls are not permitted. Openings within non-rated walls need not be protected.

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### SFBC SECTION 446 - FENCES

446 Add the following section:

## **SECTION 446 – FENCES**

446.1 Fences. Fences on any property containing a Group R Occupancy shall not be higher than 10 feet (3.048 mm). Fences located less than 10 feet (3.048 mm) from any public sidewalk shall not be higher than 10 feet (3.048 mm) unless they are of open-type materials such as chain link fabric. Fence height shall be measured from the level of general existing adjacent ground of the general area prior to the improvement of the properties. A fence or railing placed on top of the retaining wall shall be measured from the top of the wall.

Fences constructed wholly or in part of barbed wire are prohibited, except when permitted with the express written permission of the Building Official, and the Fire Department in the following situations:

1. On top of a fence more than 7 feet (2.134 m) high, protecting a dangerous or hazardous area.

2. Within a private area, enclosed by a seven- foot-high (2.134 m) fence, such that entry to the area is limited by the outer, non-barbed fence.

3. In special instances for localized protection, and in areas within or atop a building to isolate dangerous conditions.

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## SFBC SECTION 705 — EXTERIOR WALLS - 1

705.2.3 Revise the exception as follows:

705.2.3 Combustible Projections.

Exception: Type VB construction when protected with 1-hour construction on the underside [Reference CRC Table R302.1 (1)] shall be allowed for combustible projections in R-3 and U occupancies with a fire separation distance greater than or equal to 52 feet (1524mm).

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Name: Ron Tom Date: 4/30/2013

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# SFBC SECTION 705 – EXTERIOR WALLS -2

705.2.3 Revise the exception as follows:

Exception:

- Type VB construction when protected with 1-hour construction on the underside
   [Reference CRC Table R302.1 (1)] shall be allowed for combustible projections in R-3 and U occupancies and accessory buildings, with a fire separation distance greater than or equal to 5 2 feet 1524mm).
- 2. Detached tool sheds and storage sheds, playhouses and similar structures exempted from permits are not required to provide wall protection based on location on the *lot*. Projections beyond the *exterior wall* shall not extend over the *lot line*.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Thomas Le Date: 4/27/13

**Comments/Findings:** To match CRC §R302.1 and cover requirements for accessory bldgs serving R3 occupancy bldg.

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۰. ۰. SFBC SECTION 707 - FIRE BARRIERS

707.1 Add a second paragraph to this section as follows:

Information technology rooms shall be in accordance with the Fire Code and Electrical Code. See Administrative Bulletin AB-060.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Ron Tom, Tomas Le Date: 4/30/2013

Comments/Findings: To carry forward previous amendment without change

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## SFBC SECTION 709 708 - FIRE PARTITIONS

709.4 708.4 Add exception to list of exceptions as follows:

7. Non-bearing fire partitions separating group B tenant spaces in fully sprinklered high-rise office buildings are not required to extend beyond the underside of a ceiling that is not part of a fire- resistance-rated assembly. A wall is not required in attic or ceiling spaces above tenant separation walls.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Ron Tom, Tomas Le Date: 4/30/2013

Comments/Findings: To carry forward previous amendment without change except for section number

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## SFBC SECTION 901 - GENERAL

901.4 Add a second paragraph as follows:

Notwithstanding any other provisions of the California Building Code or other codes or regulations, Fire Department connections shall have 3-inch (76.2 mm) National Standard hose threads.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Thomas Le

Comments/Findings: Retain as is

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# SFBC SECTION 902 – DEFINITIONS

902.1 Revise the first sentence following two definitions under STANDPIPE SYSTEM:

STANDPIPE SYSTEM, CLASSES OF. Standpipe classes are as follows:

Class I system. A system providing 3" (76.2 mm) hose connections to supply water for use by fire departments and those trained in handling heavy fire streams.

Class III system. A system providing 1-1/2-inch (38 mm) hose stations to supply water for use by building occupants and 3" (76.2 mm) hose connections to supply a larger volume of water for use by fire departments and those trained in handling heavy fire streams.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Thomas Le Date: 4/27/13

Comments/Findings: Retain as is

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# SFBC SECTION 903 - AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

903.2.8 Revise exceptions 3 and 4 as follows:

3. Pursuant to Health and Safety code Section 13113 existing occupancies housing ambulatory children only, none of whom are mentally ill or mentally retarded, and buildings or portions thereof in which such children are housed are not more than two stories in height, and buildings or portions thereof housing such children have an automatic fire alarm system activated by approved smoke detectors.

4. Pursuant to Health and Safety code section 13143.3 existing occupancies licensed for protective social care which house ambulatory clients only, none of whom is a child (under the age of 18 years), or who is elderly (65 years of age or over).

903.2.8 Add the following section:

903.2.8.1 903.2.8.2 [CRC R313.1 CRC 1.1.3, R313.1, R313.2] Townhouse, one- and two- family dwellings not more than three stories above grade plane automatic fire sprinkler systems. An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall be installed in townhouses., one- and two- family dwellings not more than three stories above grade plane.

Exception. An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required when additions or alterations are made to existing townhouses, one- and two- family dwellings not more than three stories above grade plane that do not have an automatic residential fire sprinkler system installed.

903.2.8.1.1 903.2.8.2.1 [CRC R313.1.1 CRC 1.1.3, R313.1.1, R313.2.1] Design and installation. Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems for townhouses, one- and two- family dwellings not more than three stories above grade plane shall be designed and installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 unless a different standard is required by other provisions of this code.

903.2.8 Add the following section:

903.2.8.2 [CRC R313.2] One- and two family dwelling automatic fire sprinkler systems. An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall be installed in one- and two family dwellings.

Exception. An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required for additions or alterations to existing buildings that are not already provided with an automatic residential fire sprinkler system installed.

903.2.8.2.1 [CRC R313.2.1] Design and installation. Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 unless a different standard is required by other provisions of this code.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Thomas Le Date: 4/27/13

**Comments/Findings**: Revise to carry the intent of CRC that applied to townhouses, one- and two-family dwellings not more than three stories above grade plane. This revision is needed to avoid the confusion in the current 2010 SFBC.

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# SFBC SECTION 903 - AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS (Continued)

Table 903.2.11.6 Add a new line to the end of the Table as follows:

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# SFBC SECTION 905 - STANDPIPE SYSTEMS

905.3.4 Revise this section as follows:

905.3.4 Stages. Stages greater than 1,000 square feet in area (93 m<sup>2</sup>) shall be equipped with a Class III wet standpipe system with 1-1/2-inch and 3-inch (38 mm and 76.2 mm) hose connections on each side of the stage.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Thomas Le Date: 4/27/13

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# SFBC SECTION 907 – FIRE ALARM AND DETECTION SYSTEMS

907.2.9.1 Revise Item 3 as follows:

3. The building contains more than 6 dwelling units or sleeping units.

907.2.9.1 Revise Item 4 as follows:

4. Congregate living facilities or congregate residences three or more stories in height or having an occupant load of 11 or more.

907.2.9.4 907.2.9.5 Add the following section:

907.2.9.4 907.2.9.5 Automatic smoke detection system. An automatic smoke detection system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.6 shall be installed throughout all interior corridors serving sleeping units.

Exceptions:

1. An automatic smoke detection system is not required in buildings that do not have interior corridors serving sleeping units and where each sleeping unit has a means of egress door opening directly to an exit or to an exterior exit access that leads directly to an exit.

2. An automatic smoke detection system is not required in buildings when all of the following conditions are met:

2.1. The building is equipped throughout with a supervised automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.

2.2. The notification devices will activate upon sprinkler water flow; and

2.3. At least one manual fire alarm box is installed in an approved location.

907.2.11.5 907.2.11.6 Add a second paragraph as follows:

Group R-3 congregate living facilities having an occupant load of 6 or more shall be provided with a manual fire alarm system.

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Name: Thomas Le Date: 4/27/13				
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## SFBC SECTION 912 – FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTIONS

912 Add the following section:

912.6 Number of connections required. Sprinkler systems requiring a 4-inch (101.6 mm) or larger water service shall have two or more inlet connections as necessary to meet hydraulic demand.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Thomas Le Date: 4/27/13

Comments/Findings: Retain as is.

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### SFBC SECTION 1001 - ADMINISTRATION

1001.1 Add second and third paragraphs as follows:

Stairs or ladders used only to attend equipment or window wells are exempt from the requirements of this chapter.

Stairways that replace existing stairways in residential occupancies and which complied with the code in effect at the time they were constructed, and which have been adequately maintained and increased in relation to any increase in occupant load, alteration or addition, or any change in occupancy, may be reconstructed in the same configuration and construction as the existing stairways.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Ron Tom, Tomas Le Date: 4/30/2013

Comments/Findings: To carry forward previous amendment without change

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# SFBC SECTION 1008 - DOORS, GATES AND TURNSTILES

1008.1.2 Revise item 4 as follows:

4. Other than the main egress door at the primary entry, doors within or serving a single dwelling unit in Groups R-2 and R-3.

### COMMENT 1:

Name: Ron Tom, Thomas Le Date: 4/30/2013

Comments/Findings: To carry forward previous amendment without change

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#### SFBC SECTION 1009 - STAIRWAYS

1009.4.5 1009.7.5 Modify the first sentence of the first paragraph as follows:

For all occupancies except R-3 one and two family dwellings and townhouses the radius of curvature at the leading edge of the tread shall be not greater than 9/16 inch (14.3 mm).

1009.4.5 1009.7.5 Add a second paragraph as follows:

For R-3 one and two family dwellings and townhouses, the radius of curvature at the nosing shall be no greater than 9/16 inch (14mm). A nosing not less than 3/4 inch (19 mm) but not more than 1-1/4 inches (32 mm) shall be provided on stairways with solid risers. The greatest nosing projection shall not exceed the smallest nosing projection by more than 3/8 inch (9.5 mm) between two stories, including the nosing at the level of floors and landings. Beveling of nosings shall not exceed 1/2 inch (12.7 mm). Risers shall be vertical or sloped under the tread above from the underside of the nosing above at an angle not more than 30 degrees (.051 rad) from the vertical. Open risers are permitted, provided that the opening between treads does not permit the passage of a 4-inch diameter (102 mm) sphere.

Exceptions:

1. A nosing is not required where the tread depth is a minimum of 11 inches (279 mm).

2. The opening between adjacent treads is not limited on stairs with a total rise of 30 inches (762 mm) or less.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Ron Tom, Tom Le Date: 4/30/2013

Comments/Findings: To carry forward previous amendment without change except for section numbers

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### SFBC SECTION 1010 - RAMPS

1010.2 1010.3 Add second exception as follows:

Exception 2: For R-3 one and two family dwellings and townhouses, where it is technically infeasible to comply because of site constraints, ramps may have a maximum slope of one unit vertical in eight horizontal (12.5 percent).

COMMENT 1:

Name: Ron Tom, Thomas Le Date: 4/30/2013

Comments/Findings: To carry forward previous amendment without change except for section number

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## SFBC SECTION 1011 - EXIT SIGNS

1011.1 Add the following sentence after the exceptions:

Doorways or other openings leading to a fire escape, except within individual dwelling units, shall be provided with a sign reading "FIRE ESCAPE" in letters not less than 6 inches (152 mm) high, in high contrast with the background.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Ron Tom, Tomas Le Date: 4/30/2013

Comments/Findings: To carry forward previous amendment without change

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## SFBC SECTION 1013 - GUARDS

1013.3 1013.4 Revise exception 1 as follows:

1. For occupancies other than R-3 and Townhouses, from a height of 36 inches (914 mm) to 42 inches (1067 mm), guards shall not have openings which allow passage of a sphere 4 3/8 inches (111 mm) in diameter.

COMMENT 1:

Name: Ron Tom, Thomas Le Date: 4/30/2013

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## SFBC SECTION 1014 - EXIT ACCESS

1014.2 Add item 65 as follows:

6.5 [Reference CRC R311.1] For one- and two- family dwellings and townhouses, means of egress is allowed to pass through rooms and intervening spaces except garages.

1014.4 Add a section as follows:

1014.4 [Reference CRC R311.4] Vertical egress. For habitable levels or basements in R-3 occupancies or townhouses that are located more than one story above or more than one story below an egress door, the maximum travel distance from any occupied point to a stairway or ramp that provides egress from such habitable level or basement shall not exceed 50 feet (15240 mm).

COMMENT 1:

Name: Ron Tom, Thomas Le Date: 4/30/2013

Comments/Findings: To carry forward previous amendment without change except section number

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