

**Article 5: Fire Protection and Prevention**

**Division 1: Adoption of the 2016 California Fire Code**

*(“Fire Code” added 7-10-1989 by O-17321 N.S.; repealed 1-8-1996 by O-18242 N.S.)*  
*(“Adoption of the Uniform Fire Code (1994 Edition)” added 1-8-1996 by O-18242 N.S.)*  
*(Retitled to “Adoption of the California Fire Code (1998 Edition)” 7-19-1999 by O-18659 N.S.)*  
*(Retitled to “Adoption of the California Fire Code (2001 Edition)” 9-24-2002 by O-19103 N.S.)*  
*(Retitled to “Adoption of the 2007 California Fire Code” 4-8-2008 by O-19728 N.S.)*  
*(Retitled to “Adoption of the 2010 California Fire Code” and amended 7-31-2012 by O-20188 N.S.)*  
*(Retitled to “Adoption of the 2013 California Fire Code” on 4-6-2016*  
*by O-20625 N.S.; effective 5-6-2016.)*  
*(Retitled to “Adoption of the 2016 California Fire Code” on 1-18-2018*  
*by O-20896 N.S.; effective 2-17-2018.)*

**§55.0101 Adoption of the 2016 California Fire Code Purpose and Intent, and Administrative Provisions**

- (a) Portions of the California Fire Code (2016 Edition) adopted. Except as otherwise provided in this Article, the California Fire Code (2016 Edition), which incorporates and amends the International Fire Code (2015 Edition), including adopted appendices, is hereby adopted by reference. A copy of the California Fire Code (2016 Edition) is on file in the office of the City Clerk as Document No. OO-20896. The California Fire Code (2016 Edition) is referred to in this Article as the 2016 California Fire Code or the California Fire Code.
- (b) San Diego Fire Code. The document known as the San Diego Fire Code consists of the following documents:
  - (1) Those portions of the 2016 California Fire Code adopted by the City in section 55.0101 with changes as specified in Chapter 5, Article 5, of the San Diego Municipal Code (Municipal Code);
  - (2) Sections 55.0101 through 55.9401 of Chapter 5, Article 5, of the Municipal Code; and
  - (3) Applicable sections of the California Code of Regulations.
- (c) Relationship of the Municipal Code section numbers to the 2016 California Fire Code section numbers. Sections within the 2016 California Fire Code retain those same section numbers when referred to within the text of the Municipal Code. Thus, section 901 of the 2016 California Fire Code will be cited as the 2016 California Fire Code section 901 within the text of the Municipal Code.

The Municipal Code numbering system reflects the numbering system of the 2016 California Fire Code excluding the chapter and article numbers to the left of the decimal point and, when appropriate, the utilization of a filler zero (0). Consequently, with these modifications, the numbering in Municipal Code sections 55.0101 through 55.9401 corresponds with the numbering system change in the 2016 California Fire Code.

For example, section 901 of the 2016 California Fire Code is adopted with changes in Municipal Code section 55.0901. The first two digits to the left of the first decimal point are the chapter and article number of the Municipal Code. The two digits to the right of the first decimal point represent the Municipal Code's division number. The last four digits reflect the numbering system of the 2016 California Fire Code. In this example, a zero (0) after the decimal point is added when the section number in the 2016 California Fire Code is less than four digits.

- (d) Definitions. Whenever the following terms appear within the text of the 2016 California Fire Code, they shall have the following definitions:

*Fire Code Official* means the Fire Chief of the City of San Diego.

*Municipality or jurisdiction* means the City of San Diego.

- (e) Prospective and Retrospective Application. Unless specifically stating that they may be applied prospectively only, provisions of the San Diego Fire Code may be retrospectively applied to January 1, 2016 in accordance with the 2016 California Fire Code, Chapter 1, section 102.
- (f) Effective Date. Unless otherwise stated in a specific Municipal Code section or 2016 California Fire Code section adopted by the City, the effective date of the 2016 San Diego Fire Code shall be January 1, 2016.
- (g) Reference to California Building Code. Any reference within the San Diego Fire Code to the "C.B.C." or "California Building Code" shall refer to those provisions of the California Building Code as adopted by Chapter 14 of the Municipal Code.
- (h) Portions of the 2016 California Fire Code not Adopted. The following sections and appendices of the 2016 California Fire Code are not adopted:
  - (1) Section 308.1.4
  - (2) Section 401.2
  - (3) Section 401.4

- (4) Sections 403.3 through 403.5
- (5) Sections 403.5.2 through 403.10.2.1
- (6) Sections 403.10.2.2 through 403.12
- (7) Sections 404.1 through 404.4.1
- (8) Sections 405.1 through 406.4
- (9) Section 407.6
- (10) Section 510.2
- (11) Sections 1103.1 through 1103.6.2
- (12) Sections 1103.7.1 through 1103.7.2
- (13) Sections 1103.7.4 through 1103.7.7
- (14) Sections 1104.10 through 1104.15
- (15) Sections 1104.17 through 1104.23
- (16) Sections 1104.25 through 1105.10.2
- (17) APPENDIX A
- (18) Section D104.1 only of APPENDIX D
- (19) APPENDIX E
- (20) APPENDIX F
- (21) APPENDIX G
- (22) APPENDIX H
- (23) APPENDIX I
- (24) APPENDIX J
- (25) APPENDIX K

(26) APPENDIX L

(27) APPENDIX M

(28) APPENDIX N

*(Retitled to “Adoption of the 2007 California Fire Code Purpose and Intent, and Administrative Provisions” and amended 4-8-2008 by O-19728 N.S; effective 5-8-2008.)*

*(Retitled to “Adoption of the 2010 California Fire Code Purpose and Intent, and Administrative Provisions” and amended 7-31-2012 by O-20188 N.S.; effective 8-30-2012.)*

*(Retitled to “Adoption of the 2013 California Fire Code Purpose and Intent, and Administrative Provisions” and amended 4-6-2016 by O-20625 N.S.; effective 5-6-2016.)*

*(Retitled to “Adoption of the 2016 California Fire Code Purpose and Intent, and Administrative Provisions” and amended 1-18-2018 by O-20896 N.S.; effective 2-17-2018.)*

**§55.0102 Modifications to the 2016 California Fire Code Adopted by the City of San Diego**

The following adopted sections or sub-sections of the 2016 California Fire Code have been modified by the City of San Diego (City):

- (a) Chapter 1, section 108, Board of Appeals. *(See section 55.0104);*
- (b) Chapter 3, section 304.1.2, Vegetation. *(See section 55.0304);*
- (c) Chapter 3, section 307.4.1, Bonfires. *(See section 55.0307);*
- (d) Chapter 5, section 505.1, Address identification. *(See section 55.0505);*
- (e) Chapter 9, section 901.7, Systems and Systems out of service. *(See section 55.0901);*
- (f) Chapter 9, section 903.6, Existing buildings *(See section 55.0903);*
- (g) Chapter 50, section 5001, Hazardous Materials-General Provisions *(See section 55.5001);*
- (h) Appendix D, section D 103.5, Fire apparatus access road gates. *(See section 55.8703);* and
- (i) Appendix D, section D 103.6, Signs. *(See section 55.8703).*

*(“Modifications to the 2007 California Fire Code Adopted by the City of San Diego” added 4-8-2008 by O-19728 N.S; effective 5-8-2008.)*

*(Retitled to “Modifications to the 2010 California Fire Code Adopted by the City of San Diego” and amended 7-31-2012 by O-20188 N.S.; effective 8-30-2012.)*

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*(Retitled to “Modifications to the 2016 California Fire Code Adopted by the City of San Diego” and amended 1-18-2018 by O-20896 N.S.; effective 2-17-2018.)*

**§55.0103 Adoption of Appendices to the 2016 California Fire Code**

The following Appendix Chapter and appendices of the 2016 California Fire Code are adopted by the City:

- (a) Appendix Chapter 4, Special Detailed Requirements Based On Use and Occupancy;
- (b) Appendix B, Fire-Flow Requirements for Buildings;
- (c) Appendix BB, Fire-Flow Requirements for Buildings;
- (d) Appendix C, Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution;
- (e) Appendix CC, Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution; and
- (f) Appendix D, Fire Apparatus Access Roads.

*(Retitled to “Adoption of Appendices to the 2007 California Fire Code” and amended 4-8-2008 by O-19728 N.S.; effective 5-8-2008.)*

*(Retitled to “Adoption of Appendices to the 2010 California Fire Code” and amended 7-31-2012 by O-20188 N.S.; effective 8-30-2012.)*

*(Retitled to “Adoption of Appendices to the 2013 California Fire Code” and amended 4-6-2016 by O-20625 N.S.; effective 5-6-2016.)*

*(Retitled to “Adoption of Appendices to the 2016 California Fire Code” and amended 1-18-2018 by O-20896 N.S.; effective 2-17-2018.)*

**§55.0104 California Fire Code, Chapter 1 - Scope and Administration**

- (a) 11.1.1 Title through 107.6 Overcrowding. Sections 1.1.1 through 107.6 of the California Fire Code have been adopted without change pursuant to section 55.0101(a).
- (b) 108.1 Board of Appeals. When a question involving the interpretation of the intent and purpose of any provisions of the San Diego Fire Code or the suitability of alternate materials and types of construction is presented to the *Fire Code Official*, the *Fire Code Official* may request the Board of Building Appeals and Advisors to investigate such matters under the procedures established in section 111.0207 of the San Diego Municipal Code regarding building inspection. The request for Board action may come from any citizen that is affected by the San Diego Fire Code.
- (c) 108.2 Limitations on authority through 113.5 Refunds. Sections 108.2 through 113.5 of the California Fire Code have been adopted without change pursuant to section 55.0101(a).

*(“2007 California Fire Code, Chapter 1 - General Code Provisions” added 4-8-2008 by O-19728 N.S.; effective 5-8-2008.)*

*(Retitled to “California Fire Code, Chapter 1 - Scope and Administration” and amended 7-31-2012 by O-20188 N.S.; effective 8-30-2012.)*

*(Amended 4-6-2016 by O-20625 N.S.; effective 5-6-2016.)*

*(Amended 1-18-2018 by O-20896 N.S.; effective 2-17-2018.)*