



# County of Santa Cruz

41

## GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 330, SANTA CRUZ, CA 950604073

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ROY HOLMBERG, DIRECTOR

April 29, 1999

Agenda: May 18, 1999

Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Cruz  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, California 95060

### Proposed Amendments to the Santa Cruz County Fire Code

Dear Members of the Board:

As explained in previous Board reports, your Board adopted the 1994 Uniform Fire Code (UFC) in November, 1995, incorporating the text by reference into the Santa Cruz County Code. With the publication of the 1997 UFC, the State begins a process of review and amendment that will be finalized by July 1, 1999. On July 1, 1999, any jurisdiction not adopting a version of the 1997 UFC will be subject to State Law, which does not include versions of our locally enacted provisions.

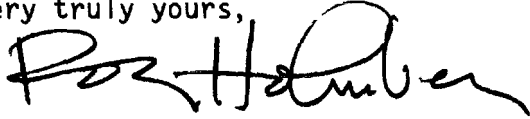
As presented before with the submission of the autonomous fire districts codes, we are especially interested in preserving the specialized fire code enforcements and safety standards already in force in Santa Cruz County. Most significantly, we seek to reenforce the countywide effort toward consistent implementation and enforcement of the fire codes. This effort, supported by the Santa Cruz County Fire Chiefs Association - Fire Prevention Officers Committee, is reflected in the attached proposed ordinance and resolution, which is consistent with the ordinances and codes adopted by the local fire agencies.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board;

1. Schedule a public hearing on June 8, 1999 to consider this ordinance amending Chapter 7.92 of the Santa Cruz County Code; and
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to provide appropriate public notice of the meeting.

page 2/Agenda: May 18, 1999  
Proposed Amendments to the Santa Cruz County Fire Code

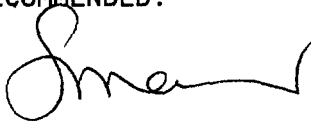
Very truly yours,



Roy K. Holmberg  
General Services Director

RKH:NCG

RECOMMENDED:



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SUSAN A. MAURIELLO  
County Administrative Officer

Attachments:

- (1) Proposed Resolution
- (2) Proposed Ordinance

c: County Counsel  
County Fire Chief/Fire Marshal Wert  
Planning - Michael Dever

fire518

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

On the motion of Supervisor:  
Duly seconded by Supervisor:  
the following resolution is adopted:

RESOLUTION FINDING MODIFICATION OF STATE  
HOUSING LAW BY ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_, REASONABLY  
NECESSARY BECAUSE OF LOCAL CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code section 17958 permits a County to adopt an Ordinance which changes or modifies the State Housing Regulations adopted pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 17922 upon a determination that such changes or modification are reasonably necessary because of local conditions; and

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code Sections 17958.5 and 17958.7 require that a Board of Supervisors making any changes or modifications pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 17958 shall make an express finding that such changes or modifications are needed; and shall file a copy of the change or modification and said findings with the Department of Housing and Community Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that in so far as Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_ of the County Fire Protection District may change or modify the State Housing Regulations adopted pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 17922, as to the requirement for installation of automatic sprinkler system in residential buildings, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, after duly noticed and held public hearing, expressly finds that such change or modification is reasonably necessary because of local conditions as more specifically set forth as follows:

The affected area within the County of Santa Cruz:

1. Is extraordinarily inaccessible for firefighting purposes due to mountainous topography;
2. Poses an extreme fire hazard due to the high percentage of forested and open brushed land (approximately 50%);
3. The National Fire Protection Association statistics indicate that automatic fire sprinkler systems established an efficiency record of approximately 97% satisfactory performance in the United States since 1925;

4. Santa Cruz County is subject to major disasters such as earthquakes and major wildland fires which could greatly limit traditional fire suppression capabilities for individual property protection; and

5. The water supply in the County of Santa Cruz makes an extensive use of automatic fire sprinkler systems feasible. The area is favored with many sources of high quality water including springs, wells, reservoirs and surface streams, mutual and municipal water companies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Clerk of The Board shall file a copy of the change or modification together with a copy of this resolution with the Department of Housing and Community Development, and shall obtain an endorsed copy from said department to be filed with the Clerk of the Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1999 by the following vote:

AYES:	SUPERVISORS
NOES:	SUPERVISORS
ABSENT:	SUPERVISORS
ABSTAIN:	SUPERVISORS

-----  
Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form:

Marie Costa  
County Counsel

DISTRIBUTION:  
County Fire Chief  
County Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
General Services - Emergency Services Division  
Planning Department  
Department of Housing and Community Development

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Approved as to form:

Marie Costa  
County Counsel

DISTRIBUTION:  
County Fire Chief  
County Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
General Services - Emergency Services Division  
Planning Department  
Department of Housing and Community Development

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE UNIFORM FIRE CODE,  
1997 EDITION AND PRESCRIBING REGULATIONS GOVERNING CONDITIONS  
HAZARDOUS TO LIFE, THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROPERTY  
FROM PANIC, FIRE, EXPLOSION OR RELEASE  
PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS  
AND ESTABLISHING CERTAIN FEES.**

The Board of Supervisors of Santa Cruz County does hereby ordain as follows:

TITLE 7.92 is hereby adopted as the Fire Prevention Code of the Santa Cruz County Fire Department in words and figures as follows:

**CHAPTER 7.92  
FIRE PREVENTION CODE**

**SECTION I**

**FIRE CODE**

**Sections:**

7.92.010	UFC Section 10 1 .1 amended--Title.
7.92.015	UFC Section 10 1.8 amended--Reference to Appendix
7.92.020	UFC Section 103.1.4 deleted--Appeals.
7.92.030	Section 7.92.103.1.4.1.1 added--Establishment of Board of Appeals.
7.92.040	Section 7.92.103.1.4.1.2 added--Appealable Decision.
7.92.050	Section 7.92.103.1.4.1.3 added--Initiating Appeal.
7.92.060	Section 7.92.103.1.4.1.4 added--Stay of Order.
7.92.070	Section 7.92.103.1.4.1.5 added--Hearing of Appeal.
7.92.080	Section 7.92.103.1.4.1.6 added--Decision of the Board of Appeals.
7.92.090	Section 7.92.103.1.4.1.7 added--Time of Decision.
7.92.100	UFC Section 103.2.1.1, #4 amended--General
7.92.110	UFC Section 105.1 amended--Scope.
7.92.115	UFC Section 105.1 amended--Application for Permit.
7.92.120	UFC Section 105.8 amended--Permit Required.
7.92.130	UFC Section 202 amended--"A" Definitions.
7.92.135	UFC Section 203 amended--"B" Definitions.
7.92.140	UFC Section 204 amended--"C" Definitions.
7.92.150	UFC Section 207 amended--"F" Definitions.
7.92.160	UFC Section 209 amended--"H" Definitions.
7.92.170	UFC Section 22 1 amended--"T" Definitions.
7.92.180	UFC Section 901.2.2.1 amended--Fire Apparatus Access
7.92.185	Section 90 1. 4.5.1 added--Prohibition of Unauthorized Signage.
7.92.190	UFC Section 902.2.2.1 amended--Dimensions
7.92.193	UFC Section 902.2.2.5 amended--Bridges
7.92.196	Section 903.4.5 added--Painting
7.92.198	Section 903.4.5 added--Removal from Service
7.92.200	UFC Section 1003.1.2 amended--Standards
7.92.210	UFC Section 1003.2 through 1003.2.8 deleted--Required Installations

- 7.92.220 Section 7.92.1003.5 added--Required Installations
- 7.92.230 UFC Section 1109.7 amended--Sparks from Chimneys
- 7.92.240 UFC Section 5204.5.2 amended--Maximum capacity within established limits.
- 7.92.250 UFC Section 740 1.6.4, # 1 amended--Securing Compressed Gas Containers, Cylinders and Tanks
- 7.92.260 UFC Section 770 1.1 amended--Scope
- 7.92.270 UFC Section 7902.2.2.1 amended-- Locations where aboveground tanks are prohibited
- 7.92.280 UFC Section 8204.2 amended--Maximum capacity within established limits
- 7.92.290 UFC Appendix II-A, amended--Suppression and Control of Hazardous Fire Areas, Section 7, Spark Arresters.
- 7.92.300 Section 9501 added--Violations--Public Nuisance--Abatement--Costs.
- 7.92.310 Section 9502 added--Violations--Penalty.
- 7.92.320 Section 9503 added--Enforcement.

**7.92.010 UFC Section 101.1 amended - - Title**

UFC Section 10 1.1 is amended to read as follows:

This code shall be known as the "FIRE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ" and, may be cited as such, and will be referred to herein as "this code." The Fire Code of the County of Santa Cruz shall be the ~~1994~~ 1997 Edition of the Uniform Fire Code (UFC), including the appendices, supplements, and errata published by the International Fire Code Institute, subject to the amendments set out in Chapter 7.92 of the Santa Cruz County Code. (Ord.4384 2(part), 1995)

**7.92.015 UFC Section 108 amended - - Reference to Appendix**

UFC Section 108 is amended to read as follows:

References to Appendix. When this code references the appendix, the provisions in the appendix shall ~~not~~ apply ~~unless specifically as adopted, unless otherwise amended.~~

**7.92.020 UFC Section 103.1.4 Deleted - - Appeals.**

UFC Section 103.1.4 is deleted. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.030 UFC Section 103.1.4.1.1 added --Establishment of Board of Appeals.**

Section 103.1.4.1 is added to read as follows:

The Board of Appeals is established under the provisions of Chapter 2.100 of the Santa Cruz County Code. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.040 UFC Section 103.1.4.1.2 added - - Appealable Decisions.**

Section 103. I .4.2 is added to read as follows:

Any order of the Fire Chief shall be appealable to the Fire Code Board of Appeals as established by any party beneficially interested, except for orders affecting acts or conditions which, in the opinion of the Fire Chief, pose an immediate threat to life, property, or the environment as a result of panic, fire, explosion or release. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)



**7.92.050 UFC Section 103.1.4.1.3 added - - Initiating Appeal.**

Section 103.1.4.3 is added to read as follows:

Any beneficially interested party has the right to appeal the order served by the Fire Chief by filing a written "NOTICE OF APPEAL" with the office of the Fire Chief within ten days after service of such written order. If the tenth day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, the time to file is extended to the next working day. The notice shall state the order appealed from, the identity and mailing address of the appellant, and the specific grounds upon which the appeal is taken. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.060 UFC Section 103.1.4.1.4 added - - Stay of Order.**

Section 103.1.4.1.4 is added to read as follows:

The filing of a properly completed notice of appeal shall have the effect of staying the implementation of the order appealed until the final decision of appeal, except for the orders affecting acts or conditions which in the opinion of the Fire Chief, pose an immediate threat to life, property, or the environment as a result of panic, fire, explosion, or release. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92. 070 UFC Section 103.1.4.1.5 added - - Hearing of Appeal**

Section 103.1.4.1.5 is added to read as follows:

Following is the process for establishing and hearing appeals:

1. The Board of Appeals, or the secretary thereof, shall set the matter to be heard at a date within thirty days of receipt of such notice of appeal. Written notice of the time and place set for hearing shall be served on the appellant by first class mail to the mailing address given in the notice of appeal at least five days prior to the date set for the hearing. The Fire Chief shall transmit to the Board of Appeals all records related to the appeal.
2. At the hearing on the appeal, the appellant shall, in the first instance present evidence in support of the grounds enumerated in her/his notice of appeal. The Fire Chief shall next present evidence in support of her/his order. The appellant and the Fire Chief shall each have one opportunity to rebut the evidence presented by the other. The hearing shall be de novo in all respects.  
(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92. 080 UFC Section 103.1.4.1.6 added - - Decision of the Board of Appeals.**

Section 103.1.4.1.6 is added to read as follows:

Upon hearing the appeal, the Board of Appeals may issue a decision affirming, modifying or vacating the order of the Fire Chief. The decision shall be in writing and shall be served upon the appellant by mail in the manner provided for in the notice of hearing pursuant to section 7.92.103.1.4.5 of the Uniform Fire Code. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92. 090 UFC Section 103.1.4.1.7 added - - Time of Decision.**

Section 103.1.4.1.7 is added to read as follows:

The Board of Appeals shall have the power to continue any hearing and may, in its discretion, take the appeal under submission. The Board of Appeals shall render a decision not later than the seventh day following the date the matter was taken under submission, and forthwith notify the interested parties as previously set forth. (Ord. 4384 2

(part), 1995)

**7.92.100 UFC Section 103.2.1.1, #4 amended - - General**

UFC Section 103.2.1.1, #4 is amended to read as follows:

4. The installation and maintenance of automatic, manual and other private fire alarm systems and tire extinguishing equipment,

EXCEPTION: For residential construction projects of 500 square feet or less within the unincorporated area, the enforcing authority shall be the Planning Director of the County of Santa Cruz or his/her designee. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.110 UFC Section 105.1 amended - - Scope.**

UFC Section 105.1 is amended to read as follows:

Permits shall be in accordance with Section 105 or other provisions of this code as required by the jurisdiction having authority. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.115 UFC Section 105.3 amended - - Application for Permit.**

UFC Section 105.3 is amended to read as follows:

Applications for permits, when required by the Chief, shall be made to bureau of fire prevention in such form and detail as described by the bureau. Applications for permits shall be accompanied by such plans as required by the bureau.

**7.92.120 UFC Section 105.8 amended--Permit Required.**

UFC Section 105.8 is amended to read as follows:

A permit shall be obtained from the bureau of fire prevention prior to engaging in the following activities, operations, practices or functions when required by the fire district: (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.130 UFC Section 202 amended--"A" definitions.**

UFC Section 202 is amended as follows:

By adding the following definition after the definition of "ALARM ZONE":

**ALL WEATHER SURFACE** shall be a minimum of 6" of compacted Class II base rock for grades up to and including 5%, oil and screened for grades up to and including 15%, and asphaltic concrete for grades exceeding 15%, but in no case exceeding 20%.

By adding the following definition after the definition of "ATRIUM":

**AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES** shall mean those persons described in Sections 103.2.1.2 and 103.2.2.2 of the Uniform Fire Code.  
(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.135 UFC Section 203 amended - - "B" definitions.**

UFC Section 203 is amended as follows:

By adding the following definition after the definition of "BREAK":

**BRIDGE** shall be defined as a structure designed to carry a roadway over a depression or obstacle.

**7.92.140 UFC Section 204 amended - - "C" definitions.**

UFC Section 204 is amended as follows:

By adding the following definition before the definition of "CARCINOGEN":

**CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE** shall mean the Uniform Building Code as adopted and amended by the State of California, promulgated by the International Conference of Building Officials.

By adding the following definition after the definition of "CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE":

**CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE** shall mean the Uniform Fire Code as adopted and amended by the State of California, promulgated by the International Fire Code Institute.

By adding the following definition after the definition of "CONVERSION RANGE OIL BURNER".

**CORPORATION COUNSEL** shall mean the County Counsel as retained or appointed by the County of Santa Cruz.  
(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.150 UFC Section 207 amended - - "F" definitions.**

UFC Section 207 is amended as follows:

By adding the following definition after the definition of "FIRE BARRIER":

**FIRE CHIEF** shall mean the Chief Officer of the Fire Protection District within the unincorporated territory of its jurisdiction area, and shall mean the County Fire Marshal within the unincorporated territory of the County of Santa Cruz which is not within the jurisdiction area of a Fire Protection District.

By changing the definition of "FIRE DEPARTMENT" to read as follows:

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** shall mean the Office of the Fire Marshal of the County of Santa Cruz or any regularly organized Fire Protection District within its respective jurisdictional area.

By adding the following definition after the definition of "FIRE POINT":

**FIRE SAFETY ELEMENT** is a document contained within the General Plan of Santa Cruz County as adopted specifying certain minimum fire safety requirements within the unincorporated areas of the County of Santa Cruz.  
(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.160 UFC Section 209 amended - - "H" definitions**

UFC Section 209 is amended by changing the definition of "HAZARDOUS FIRE AREA" to read as follows:

**HAZARDOUS FIRE AREA** is land which is covered with grass, grain, brush, or forest, whether privately or publicly owned, which is so situated or is of such inaccessible location that a fire originating upon such land would present an abnormally difficult job of suppression or would result in great and unusual damage through

fire or resulting erosion. The declaration of a hazardous fire area shall be made by the chief for purposes of this code and shall not contradict with hazardous fire areas as defined by the California Public Resources Code. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.170 UFC Section 221 amended--"T" definitions.**

UFC Section 221 is amended by adding the following definition after the definition of "THERMAL INSECTICIDIAL FOGGING":

**TOTAL FLOOR AREA** is the sum of all stories, exclusive of area separations:  
(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.180 UFC Section 901.2.2.1 amended--Fire Apparatus Access**

UFC Section 901.2.2.1 is amended to read as follows:

Plans for fire apparatus access roads shall be submitted to the fire department for review and approval prior to construction. When grading work is needed for the access road(s) within the jurisdiction of Santa Cruz County, application for a grading permit shall be made with the Santa Cruz County Planning Department pursuant to the Santa Cruz County Grading Ordinance. Such Permits shall be reviewed by the Santa Cruz County Environmental Coordinator as required. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.185 UFC Section 901.4.5.1 Added - - Prohibition of Unauthorized Signage**

UFC Section 901.4.5.1 is added to read as follows:

Posting of any road naming signs not authorized by the Office of Street Naming and Numbering of the County of Santa Cruz, and the Fire Chief is prohibited.

**7.92.190 UFC Section 902.2.2.1 amended - - Dimensions**

UFC Section 902.2.2.1 is amended to read as follows:

Fire Apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet (6096 mm) and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 14 feet (4267 mm).

EXCEPTIONS: 1. Outside of the Urban Services Line as established by the County of Santa Cruz, access roads shall be a minimum of 18 feet wide for all access roads or driveways serving more than two habitable structures, and 12 feet for an access road or driveway serving two or fewer habitable structures. Where it is environmentally inadvisable to meet these criteria (due to excessive grading, tree removal or other environmental impacts), a 12-foot wide all-weather surface access road with 12-foot wide by 35-foot long turnouts located approximately every 500 feet may be provided with the approval of the Fire Chief.

**NOTE:** Title 19 of the California Administrative Code requires that access roads from every state governed building to a public street shall be all-weather hard-surface (suitable for use by fire apparatus) roadway not less than 20 feet in width. Such roadway shall be unobstructed and maintained only as access to the public street.

2. Vertical clearance may be reduced, provided such reduction does not impair access by fire apparatus and approved signs are installed and maintained indicating the established vertical clearance when approved by the chief.

Vertical clearances or widths shall be increased when, in the opinion of the chief, vertical clearances or

widths are not adequate to provide fire apparatus access.  
(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

#### **7.92.193 UFC Section 902.2.2.5 amended--Bridges**

UFC Section 902.2.2.5 is amended to read as follows:

**902.2.2.5.1 General.** When a bridge is required to be used as part of a fire apparatus access road, it shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with nationally recognized standards. See Article 90, Standard a. 1.1. The bridge shall be designed for a live load sufficient to carry the imposed loads of fire apparatus.

**902.2.2.5.2 Weight.** Every private bridge hereafter constructed shall be designed for a minimum of HS20-44 loading as prescribed by the American Association of State Highways and Transportation Officials. Vehicle load limits shall be posted at both entrances to bridges when required by the chief.

**902.2.2.5.3 Height.** Clear vertical clearance shall be not less than 14 feet. In situations where a grade change requires a greater vertical clearance, such additional clearance shall be determined by the Fire Chief.

**902.2.2.5.4 Width.** All bridges shall be a minimum of 20 feet of clear width. The Chief may allow the width to be reduced for access to U- 1, U-2 or R-3 occupancies in accordance to the Fire Safety Element of the Santa Cruz County General Plan.

**902.2.2.5.5 Certification.** Every private bridge hereafter constructed shall be engineered by a licensed civil or structural engineer and approved by the Chief. Certification that the bridge complies with the design standards required by this section and the identified standards shall be provided by the licensed engineer, in writing, to the Chief.

**902.2.2.5.6 Recertification.** Every private bridge shall be recertified every ten years or whenever deemed necessary by the Chief. Such recertification shall be in accordance with the requirements of 902.2.2.5.5.

**902.2.2.5.7 Existing Private Bridges.** An existing private bridge not conforming to these regulations may be required to conform when alterations or additions are made to existing structures served by a non-conforming bridge.

**902.2.2.5.8 Fees.** All fees charged for the purpose of certification or recertification required under this section shall be at the owners expense.

#### **7.92.196 Section 903.4.5 added - - Painting**

Section 903.4.5 is added to read as follows:

**903.4.5 Painting of Fire Hydrants.** When required by the Chief, fire hydrants shall be painted in accordance with NFPA 291.

#### **7.92.198 Section 903.5 added - - Removal from Service**

Section 903.5 is added to read as follows:

**7.92.903.5 Removed from service or otherwise modified.** The Chief shall be notified whenever any portion of the water supply system for fire protection, including fire hydrants, is altered, removed from service, or otherwise modified.

#### **7.92.1003.1.2 UFC Section 1003.1.2 amended--Standards**

UFC Section 1003.1.2 is amended to read as follows:

Fire extinguishing systems shall comply with U.B.C Standards 9-1.

Exceptions: 1. Automatic fire extinguishing systems not covered by the Building Code shall be approved and installed in accordance with approved standards.

2. Automatic sprinkler systems may be connected to domestic water-supply main when approved by the chief, provided the domestic water supply is of adequate pressure, capacity and sizing for the combined domestic and sprinkler requirements. In such case, the sprinkler system connection shall be made between the public water main or meter and the building shut-off valve, and there shall not be intervening valves or connections. The fire department connection may be omitted when approved by the chief.

3. Automatic sprinkler systems in Group R Occupancies four stories or less may be in accordance with the Building Code requirements for residential sprinkler systems. (See U.B.C. Standard 9-3.) (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

#### **7.92.210 UFC Section 1003.2 through 1003.2.8 deleted--Required Installations**

UFC Sections 1003.2 through 1003.2.8 are deleted. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

#### **7.92.220 UFC Section 1003.5 added--Required Installation Of Automatic Sprinkler Systems**

Section 1003.5 is added to read as follows:

**1003.5 General.** Automatic sprinkler systems shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of this section and in accordance with current fire department standards and nationally recognized standards (Standards 13, 13D, and 13R of the National Fire Protection Association, NFPA)

**1003.5.1 Definitions.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided in all new structures as follows:

**1003.5.1.1** In all Group A, Group B, Group E, Group F, Group H, Group I, Group M, Group R, Group S and Group U occupancies, as defined in the California Building Code, Table 3-A, regardless of type of construction or floor area.

**1003.5.1.2** Single Floor Area is the area of any one floor, exclusive of area separations.

**1003.5.1.3** Total Floor Area is the sum of the area of all stories, exclusive of area separations.

**1003.5.2 New Structures.** An Automatic Sprinkler System shall be provided in all new occupancies as defined in Table 3-A of the California Building Code regardless of type of construction and/or floor area. Any occupancy not specifically mentioned, shall be included in the group which it most nearly resembles, based on the proposed life and fire hazard.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Private garages, carports, sheds not more than 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>) of total floor area shall not require fire sprinklers where they are detached and separate from other structures and provided with exterior wall and opening protection as per the California Building Code as adopted and amended, Table No. 3-A for Group U-1 occupancies.

2. Agricultural buildings as defined in Appendix Chapter 3, Division II, of the California Building Code not exceeding 2,000 square feet (186 m<sup>2</sup>), not exceeding 7.92 feet (7620 mm) in height, having a clear unobstructed side yard exceeding 60 feet (18,280 mm) in all directions, and located within an Agricultural zoned district, as defined in the Santa Cruz County Planning Code, or as exempted by the Fire Chief, shall not

require fire sprinklers.

3. Group B and Group M Occupancies not more than 500 square feet (46.5 m<sup>2</sup>) shall not require fire sprinklers where they are detached and separate from other structures and provided with exterior wall and opening protection as per the California Building Code, Table 5-A.

4. Greenhouses of non-combustible construction shall not require fire sprinklers.

**1003.5.3 Existing Structures.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided in existing structures when, after the effective date of this Code, a building permit is issued to allow additions to be made to an existing structure so as to increase the total floor area of the structure or the single floor area of any floor of the structure as follows:

**1003.5.3.1 Group “A” Occupancies.**

**1003.5.3.1.1 Drinking establishments.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in rooms used by the occupants for the consumption of alcoholic beverages and unseparated accessory uses where the total floor area of such unseparated rooms and assembly uses exceeds 5,000 square feet (465 m<sup>2</sup>). For uses to be considered separate, the separation shall not be less than as required for a one-hour occupancy separation. The area of other uses shall be included unless separated by at least a one-hour occupancy separation.

**1003.5.3.1.2 Basements.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in basements classified as a Group A Occupancy when the basement is larger than 1,500 square feet (139 m<sup>2</sup>) in floor area.

**1003.5.3.1.3 Exhibition and display rooms.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in Group A Occupancies which have more than 12,000 square feet (1 I 14.84 m<sup>2</sup>) of floor area which can be used for exhibition or display purposes.

**1003.5.3.1.4 Stairs.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in enclosed usable space below or over a stairway in a Group A, Division 2,2.1,3 and 4 Occupancies.

**1003.5.3.1.5 Multi-theater complexes.** An automatic fire sprinkler system shall be installed in every building containing a multi-theater complex regardless of additional square footage.

**1003.5.3.1.6 Amusement buildings.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all amusement buildings regardless of additional square footage. The main water-flow switch shall be electrically supervised. The sprinkler main cut off valve shall be supervised. When the amusement building is temporary, the sprinkler water-supply system may be of approved temporary type.

**EXCEPTION:** An automatic sprinkler system need not be provided when the floor area of a temporary amusement building is less than 1,000 square feet (92.9 m<sup>2</sup>) and the exit travel distance from any point is less than 50 feet (15 240 mm)

**1003.5.3.1.7 Stages.** All stages shall be sprinklered regardless of additional square footage. Such sprinklers shall be provided throughout the stage and in dressing rooms, workshops, storerooms and other accessory spaces contiguous to such stages.

**Exceptions:** 1. Sprinklers are not required for stages 1,000 square feet (92.9 m<sup>2</sup>) or less in area and 50 feet (15 240 mm) or less in height where curtains, scenery or other combustible hangings are not retractable vertically. Combustible hangings shall be limited to a single main curtain, borders, legs and a single back drop.

2. Under stage area less than 4 feet (1219 mm) in clear height used exclusively for chair or table storage and lined on the inside with 5/8-inch (16 mm) Type X gypsum wall board or an approved

equal.

**1003.2.3.8 Smoke-protected assembly seating.** All areas enclosed with walls and ceilings in buildings or structures containing smoke-protected assembly seating shall be protected with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

**EXCEPTION:** Press boxes and storage facilities less than 1,000 square feet (92.9 m<sup>2</sup>) in area and in conjunction with outdoor seating facilities where all means of egress in the seating area are essentially open to the outside.

#### **1003.5.3.2 GROUP "B" OCCUPANCIES**

**1003.5.3.2.1** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed when the occupancy has over 6,000 square feet (556 m<sup>2</sup>) of total floor area regardless of type of construction

**1003.5.3.2.2** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in any enclosed usable space below or over a stairway.

**1003.5.3.2.3** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all basements when the basement is larger than 1,500 square feet (139 m<sup>2</sup>).

#### **1003.5.3.3 GROUP "E" OCCUPANCIES**

**1003.5.3.3.1** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed when the occupancy has over 6,000 square feet (556 m<sup>2</sup>) of total floor area regardless of type of construction.

**1003.5.3.3.2** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in any enclosed usable space below or over a stairway (see section 904.2.3.4 of the Building Code).

**1003.5.3.3.3** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all basements when the basement is larger than 1,500 square feet (139 m<sup>2</sup>).

#### **1003.5.3.4 GROUP "F" OCCUPANCIES**

**1003.5.3.4.1** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed when the occupancy has over 6,000 square feet (556 m<sup>2</sup>) of total floor area regardless of type of construction.

**1003.5.3.4.2** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in any enclosed usable space below or over a stairway.

**1003.5.3.4.3** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all basements when the basement is larger than 1,500 square feet (139 m<sup>2</sup>).

#### **1003.5.3.5 GROUP "H" OCCUPANCIES**

**1003.5.3.5.1** An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in Group H, Divisions 1, 2, 3, and 7 Occupancies.

**1003.5.3.5.2** An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in Group H, Division 4 Occupancies having a floor area of more than 3,000 square feet (279 m<sup>2</sup>).

**1003.5.3.5.3** An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed throughout buildings containing Group H, Division 6 Occupancies. The design of the sprinkler system shall not be less than that required under the Building Code (see U.B.C Standard 9- 1) for the occupancy hazard classification as follows:



LOCATION	OCCUPANCYHAZARD CLASSIFICATION
Fabrication areas	Ordinary Hazard Group 2
Service Corridors	Ordinary Hazard Group 2
Storage rooms without dispensing	Ordinary Hazard Group 2
Storage rooms with dispensing	Extra Hazard Group 2
Exit corridors	Ordinary Hazard Group 2 *

\*When the design area of the sprinkler system consists of a corridor protected by one row of sprinklers, the maximum number of sprinklers that needs to be calculated is 13.

**1003.5.3.5.4** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in rooms where flammable or combustible liquids are stored or handled in excess of the quantities set forth in Table 3-D of the Building Code, or any combination of flammable liquids totaling 240 gallons, as defined in the Uniform Fire Code. Buildings and structures to which additions, alterations or repairs are made shall comply with all the requirements of this section.

**1003.5.3.5.5** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in paint spray booths or rooms and for special provisions on hazardous chemicals, magnesium and calcium carbide, see Article 45, 48, 49 and 50.

**1003.5.3.5.6** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in any enclosed usable space below or over a stairway.

**1003.5.3.5.7** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all basements when the basement is larger than 1,500 square feet (139 m2).

#### **1003.5.3.6 GROUP “T” OCCUPANCIES.**

**1003.5.3.6.1** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in Group I Occupancies.

**Exception:** In jails, prisons and reformatories, the piping system may be dry, provided a manually operated valve is installed at a continuously monitored location. Opening the valve will cause the piping system to be charged. Sprinkler heads in such system shall be equipped with a fusible element or the system shall be designed as required for deluge systems in U.B.C. Standard 9-1.

**1003.5.3.7 GROUP "M" OCCUPANCIES**

**1003.5.3.7.1** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed when the occupancy has over 6,000 square feet (556 m<sup>2</sup>) of total floor area, regardless of type of construction.

**1003.5.3.7.2** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in any enclosed usable space below or over a stairway.

**1003.5.3.7.3** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all basements when the basement is larger than 1,500 square feet (139 m<sup>2</sup>).

**1003.5.3.8 GROUP "R" OCCUPANCIES****1003.5.3.8.1 Group R - Division 1**

**1003.5.3.8.1.1** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed when additions cause the structure to exceed 6,000 square feet (556 m<sup>2</sup>), of total floor area regardless of type of construction.

**1003.5.3.8.1.2** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in any enclosed usable space below or over a stairway.

**1003.5.3.8.1.3** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all basements when the basement is larger than 1,500 square feet (139 m<sup>2</sup>)

**1003.5.3.8.2 Group R - Division 3**

**1003.5.3.8.2.1** Plans shall be submitted to the enforcing agency for review and permit for any additions or alterations to an existing dwelling equipped with an automatic sprinkler system.

Such additions or alterations may require modifications or additions to the existing automatic sprinkler system.

**1003.5.3.8.2.2** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in any dwelling when more than 75% of the exterior walls are replaced, rebuilt or altered in any way with the exception of replacement of wall coverings.

**1003.5.3.9 GROUP "S" OCCUPANCIES**

**1003.5.3.9.1** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed when the occupancy has over 6,000 square feet

(556 m2) of total floor area, regardless of type of construction.

1003.5.3.9.2 An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in any enclosed usable space below or over a stairway.

1003.5.3.9.3 An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all basements when the basement is larger than 1,500 square feet (139 m2).

#### **1003.5.3.10 GROUP "U" OCCUPANCIES**

**1003.5.3.10.1** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed when the occupancy has over 6,000 square feet (556 m2) of total floor area, regardless of type of construction.

**1003.5.3.10.2** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in any enclosed usable space below or over a stairway.

**1003.5.3.10.3** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all basements when the basement is larger than 1,500 square feet (139 m2).

#### **1003.5.4 Special Provisions**

**1003.5.4.1** The Fire Chief may require the installation of an automatic fire system when there is a change in the character of the occupancy or use of any building which increases or may cause to increase the hazard of fire or threat to life or safety.

**1003.5.4.2** The Fire Chief may require the installation of an automatic fire system when any alteration or change in the use of a building or portion thereof changes access to property so as to impede the fire department's ability to control a fire.

**1003.5.5 Local Conditions.** The provisions of this Section are justified by local conditions, as more particularly set forth in the Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Fire District prior to enactment of this Code.

#### **7.92.230 UFC Section 1109.7 amended - - Sparks from Chimneys.**

UFC Section 1109.7 is amended to read as follows:

Chimneys used with fireplaces or heating appliances in which solid or liquid fuel is used shall be maintained with a spark arrester as required for incinerators by the Mechanical Code.

(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.240 UFC Section 5204.52 amended--Maximum capacity within established limits.**

UFC Section 5204.5.2 amended to read as follows:

Within the limits established by law restricting the storage of CNG for the protection of heavily populated or congested commercial areas, the aggregate capacity of any one installation shall not exceed 183,000 cubic feet (5 18 1 974 L) except as approved by the chief within the areas zoned for such use.

(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.250 UFC Section 7401.6.4 #1 Amended--Securing compressed gas containers, cylinders and tanks.**

UFC Section 740 1.6.4 # 1 is amended to read as follows:

1. Securing containers, cylinders and tanks to a fixed object with two or more non-combustible restraints.

(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.260 UFC Section 7701.1 Amended -- Scope**

UFC Section 770 1.1 is amended to read as follows:

The manufacture, possession, storage, sale, transportation and use of explosives and blasting agents is prohibited in all areas of the County of Santa Cruz except those designated for zoning purposes as M-2 (Heavy Industrial).

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. The armed forces of the United States, Coast Guard or National Guard.

2. Explosives in forms prescribed by the official United States Pharmacopoeia.

~~3. The sale, possession or use of Class C (Explosives, Division 1.4 -- see Appendix VI-E), common fireworks.~~

~~4- 3.~~ The possession, transportation, storage and use of small arms ammunition when packaged in accordance with DOT packaging requirements.

~~5- 4.~~ The possession, storage, transportation and use of not more than 5 pounds (2.27 kg) of commercially manufactured sporting black powder, 20 pounds (9.07 kg) of smokeless powder and 10,000 small arms primers for hand loading of small arms ammunition for personal consumption.

~~6- 5.~~ The transportation and use of explosive materials by the United States Bureau of Mines, and federal, state and local law enforcement and fire agencies acting in their official capacities.

~~7- 6.~~ Special industrial explosive devices which in the aggregate contain less than 50 pounds (7.92.7 kg) of explosive materials.

~~8- 7.~~ The possession, transportation, storage and use of blank industrial power load cartridges when packaged in accordance with DOT packaging regulations.

~~9- 8.~~ When preempted by federal or state regulations.

~~10-9.~~ The use and handling of Class B (Explosives, Division 1.2 or 1.3--see Appendix VI-E) fireworks as set forth in Article 78.

+&Temporary storage, transportation or use in connection with approved blasting operations.  
(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

#### **7.92.270 UFC Section 7902 amended - - Locations where aboveground tanks are prohibited.**

UFC Section 7902.2.2.1 is amended to read as follows:

Class I and II liquids in aboveground tanks outside of buildings shall be stored in listed and approved vaulted tanks. The tank(s) shall have an interstitial space capable of manual and/or electronic monitoring. The tanks(s) shall be installed only in those areas zoned for such use and shall be approved by the chief.

(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

#### **7.92.280 UFC Section 8204.2 amended - - Maximum Capacity within Established Limits.**

UFC Section 8204.2 is amended to read as follows:

Within the limits established by law restricting the storage of LP-gas for the protection of heavily populated or congested commercial areas, the aggregate capacity of any one installation shall not exceed a 2,000-gallon (7 571 L) water capacity except as approved by the chief within the areas zoned for such use.  
(Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.290 UFC Appendix II-A Amended -- Suppression and Control of Hazardous Fire Areas, Section 7, Spark Arresters.**

See Section 7.92.230 of this chapter. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.300 UFC Section 9501 Added -- Violation -- Public Nuisance -- Abatement -- Costs.**

Section 9501 is added to read as follows:

In addition to the effects of violations enumerated in Article 1 of the Uniform Fire Code, any violation of the Fire Code shall be deemed a public nuisance pursuant to Santa Cruz County Code Section 1.12.030 and/or the Santa Cruz County Fire Department's Code. In the event that a public nuisance is not abated in accordance with the Fire Chiefs order or the order of the Board of Appeals, if any, the Fire Chief may, upon securing approval of the Board of Directors of the Fire District, proceed to abate the nuisance by force account, contract, or any other method deemed most expedient by the Board. The cost of such abatement may be charged to the owner of record, or assessed to the property in a manner provided in Sections 1.14.040 through 1.14.070 of the County of Santa Cruz Code.

**7.92.310 UFC Section 9502 Added -- Violation -- Penalty.**

Section 9502 is added to read as follows:

Unless otherwise provided, it is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to violate any of the provisions of the code as adopted in this chapter, or to fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or any certificate or permit issued thereunder, or to fail to comply with an order by the Board of Appeals, established by Section 103.1.4 of the Uniform Fire Code and section 103.1.4.1.1 of this code, or to fail to comply with an order of the court of competent jurisdiction within the time fixed therein and shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to the bail as outlined by the County of Santa Cruz Court. Every such violation shall be deemed a

infraction or misdemeanor in accordance with Chapter 1.12 of the Santa Cruz County Code. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**7.92.320 UFC Section 9503 Added - - Enforcement.**

Section 9503 is added to read as follows:

The Fire Chief and her/his delegated subordinates, pursuant to the provisions of Section 836.5 of the Penal Code of the State of California, are hereby authorized to arrest a person without a warrant whenever they have reasonable cause to believe that the person has committed an infraction in their presence which is a violation of any of the provisions of this Chapter. Upon making such an arrest, the Fire Chief or her/his delegated subordinate shall prepare a citation and release the person arrested pursuant to Section 853.6 of the Penal Code of the State of California, the provisions of which are hereby adopted by reference as part of this Section. (Ord. 4384 2 (part), 1995)

**SECTION IT**

This ordinance shall become effective upon the effective date of the California Fire Code, 1998 Edition, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 18941.5 and shall remain in full force and effect until a subsequent superseding Ordinance becomes effective.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1999, by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Cruz County by the following vote:

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NOES: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chairperson of the Board

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Secretary of Said Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



County Counsel

DISTRIBUTION: County Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
Planning Department  
General Services Department/O.E.S.  
HCD