

Indianola Fire Department

International Fire Code 2012 Adoption



The International Fire Code 2012 was adopted by the Indianola Fire Department in July of 2016.

Changes:

Fire Code: Section 510 and 1103; New and existing commercial buildings must allow emergency responders to communicate by radio or via a sufficient alternative. The Fire Department will be conducting field test and anticipate a small percentage will require upgrades. Compliance must be achieved within 5 years.

- All new and existing commercial buildings shall have approved radio coverage for emergency responders. It is anticipated that this will affect primarily larger buildings. Our portable radios must be able to transmit and receive in 95% of the building to comply with this requirement.
- Indianola Fire Department will be currently conducting field tests in all buildings that are inspected. If field test passes, no further action is needed.
 - If field test fails, building owner must have an evaluation completed by a qualified contractor.
 - Building upgrades to achieve compliance must be completed within 5 years.
 - Firefighter phone system is an acceptable alternative.
 - Impact: Estimate 5% of buildings effected - communication evaluation & upgrades may be costly.

Fire Code: Section 904.1.1 and 906.2.1; Non-City personnel performing inspections, testing and maintenance on fire protection systems and extinguishers shall possess valid certificates. The contractor or vendor must obtain a state licensure/certification and renewal is every 2 years (no previous retest requirement) and use of third party testing. (Administratively efficient)

- Service personnel (commercial contractors) performing inspection, testing and maintenance on fire protection systems and extinguishers shall possess a valid certificate to ensure competency.
- Minimal cost to service personnel.

Fire Code: Section 1104.16.5.1; Fire escapes (not exterior stairs) shall be examined for structural adequacy every 5 years.

The Fire Department will identify and create a source for all fire escapes located in the city.

- Fire escapes and balconies shall be examined for structural integrity by a registered design professional (structural engineer) every five years.
- New change is necessary to confirm fire escapes and balconies are safe for use in the event of an emergency.
- Inspection report must be submitted to fire department.