

2024 International Fire Code Significant Changes

2024 Code Section	Title or Subject	Reviewer Comments	Cost Yes/No	Amend Needed Yes/No	TAG Comments/Recommendations
01 Scope and Administration					
104.2.3	Alternative Materials, Design and Methods of Construction and equipment	Section moved from 2021 IFC 104.10 with new added exception.	No	Yes	Strike Exception with amendment
<p>[A] 104.2.3 Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment. The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved.</p> <p>Exception: Performance-based alternative materials, designs or methods of construction and equipment complying with the International Code Council Performance Code.</p>					
104.2.4.2	Natural Disasters	New section needs review. Allows Fire Code Official to make special policies regarding code. Example is Special provisions during Covid.	Yes	Yes	Additional Review For potential Proposal Are there existing WA laws to reference?
<p>104.2.4.2 Natural disasters. In preparation for, during and after a natural disaster event, as determined by the fire code official, the fire code official shall have the authority to issue written policies, procedures or rules that modify this code as necessary to protect life and property. Such policies, procedures or rules shall be made available to the public and shall include start and end dates, which can be extended at the fire code official's discretion.</p>					
105.5.56	Temporary heating or cooking in wildfire risk areas	New Section. Would like to hear TAG Opinion on need for amendment.	Yes	Yes	suggest replace "local regulations" with "fire code official"
<p>105.5.56 Temporary heating or cooking in wildfire risk areas. Where required by local regulations, an operational permit is required to operate temporary heating or cooking equipment in wildfire risk areas</p>					
05 Fire Service Features					
503.1 through 503.4.1	multiple	Recommend to review and keep not adopted no	No	yes	
<p>501.1 Scope. Fire service features for buildings, structures and premises shall comply with this chapter.</p> <p>501.2 Permits. A permit shall be required as set forth in Sections 105.5 and 105.6.</p> <p>501.3 Construction documents. <i>Construction documents</i> for proposed fire apparatus access, location of <i>fire lanes</i>, security gates across fire apparatus access roads and <i>construction documents</i> and hydraulic calculations for fire hydrant systems shall be submitted to the fire department for review and approval prior to construction.</p> <p>501.3.1 Site safety plan. The <i>owner or owner's authorized agent</i> shall be responsible for the development, implementation and maintenance of an <i>approved written site safety plan in accordance with Section 3303</i>.</p> <p>Recommend keeping new model code C/N WAC-A/Y</p> <p>501.4 Timing of installation. Where fire apparatus access roads or a water supply for fire protection are required to be installed, such protection shall be installed and made serviceable prior to and during the time of construction except where <i>approved alternative</i> methods of protection are provided. Temporary street signs shall be installed at each street intersection where construction of new roadways allows passage by vehicles in accordance with Section 505.2.</p>					

510	EMERGENCY RESPONDER COMMUNICATIONS ENHANCEMENT SYSTEMS (ERCES)	Recommend to match title from model code into WAC.	yes	yes	
<p>510.1 Emergency responder communications enhancement systems in new buildings. <i>Approved</i> in-building emergency responder communications enhancement system (ERCES) for emergency responders shall be provided in all new buildings. In-building ERCES within the building shall be based on the existing coverage levels of the public safety communications systems utilized by the jurisdiction, measured at the exterior of the building. The ERCES, where required, shall be of a type determined by the fire code official and the <i>frequency license holder(s)</i>. This section shall not require improvement of the existing public safety communications systems.</p> <p>Exceptions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Where <i>approved</i> by the building official and the <i>fire code official</i>, a wired communications system in accordance with Section 907.2.13.2 shall be permitted to be installed or maintained instead of an <i>approved</i> communications coverage system. Where it is determined by the <i>fire code official</i> that the communications coverage system is not needed. In facilities where emergency responder communications coverage is required and such systems, components or equipment required could have a negative impact on the normal operations of that facility, the <i>fire code official</i> shall have the authority to accept an automatically activated emergency responder communications coverage system. 					
09 Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems					
Table 903.2.11.6		Change addresses previous state amendment. Delete existing amendment since it is now picked up in model code.	N	Y	Repeal Existing Amendment for this section
<p>903.2.11.6 Other required fire protection systems. In addition to the requirements of Section 903.2, the provisions indicated in Table 903.2.11.6 require the installation of a fire protection system for certain buildings and areas.</p>					
915.1.1	Where required	New language in 2024 affects existing state amendment. Recommend adopting model code changes and adding R-2 at Item 5 to match existing state amendment.	N	Y	Modify Existing Amendment Section 915 needs additional review.
11 Construction Requirements for Existing Buildings					
1103.2	Fire safety requirements for existing buildings.		No	Yes	
<p>1103.2 Emergency responder communications enhancement in existing buildings. Existing buildings other than Group R-3 that do not have <i>approved</i> in-building emergency response communications enhancement for emergency responders in the building based on existing coverage levels of the public safety communication systems, shall be equipped with such coverage according to one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Where an existing wired communication system cannot be repaired or is being replaced, or where not <i>approved</i> in accordance with Section 510.1, Exception 1. Within a <u>time</u> frame established by the adopting authority. <p>Exception: Where it is determined by the <i>fire code official</i> that the in-building emergency responder communications enhancement system is not needed.</p>					
TAG Member:		12 Energy Systems			

1207	Electrical Energy Storage Systems	We need to re-evaluate this section since there are significant changes to section 1207 from the 2021 code to the 2024 IFC.	Yes	Yes	Proposal needed to reorganize amendments in this section to align with 2024 code.
31 Tents, Temporary Special Event Structures and Other Membrane Structures					
3106	Inflatable Amusement Devices	Needs further review	Yes	Yes	
SECTION 3106—INFLATABLE AMUSEMENT DEVICES					
<p>3106.1 Scope. Inflatable amusement devices shall comply with this section.</p> <p>Exception: Inflatable amusement devices operated on private property where use is not open to the public.</p> <p>3106.2 General. Inflatable amusement devices shall be designed, anchored, operated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the requirements of ASTM F2374.</p> <p>3106.3 Combustible materials. The materials used in the construction of the inflatable amusement device shall meet the flame propagation criteria of Test Method 2 of NFPA 701. Additionally, a label and affidavit containing the information required in Sections 3104.3 and 3104.4 of this code shall be permanently affixed to the device.</p> <p>3106.4 Electrical equipment and wiring. Electrical equipment, blower motors and temporary wiring for electrical power or lighting shall comply with Section 603.</p> <p>3106.5 Portable generators. Portable generators shall comply with the applicable provisions of NFPA 70 and with the portable generator requirements of this code.</p> <p>3106.6 Portable fire extinguishers. Each generator shall be provided with an approved portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 that is placed in an approved location.</p>					
39 Processing and Extracting Facilities					
3901.1	Scope	Determine if "exception" is acceptable for Greenhouses	No	Yes	Proposal Needed and additional Review Needed
<p>3901.1 Scope. Facilities where plant processing and solvent-based extraction are conducted, including but not limited to cultivation and related activities, pre-extraction or post-extraction, shall comply with this chapter and the <i>International Building Code</i>. The use, storage, transfilling and handling of hazardous materials in these facilities shall comply with this chapter, other applicable provisions of this code and the <i>International Building Code</i>.</p> <p>Exception: Greenhouses in compliance with Section 3112 of the <i>International Building Code</i> not utilizing carbon dioxide enrichment.</p>					
3905.3	Ventilation	Determine if "exception" should be modified to include: approved by the fire code official per 104.2.3	Yes	Yes	Proposal Needed and additional Review Needed
<p>3905.3 Ventilation. Continuous mechanical exhaust ventilation shall be provided in accordance with Sections 3905.3.1 through 3905.3.4 and Chapter 4 of the <i>International Mechanical Code</i>.</p> <p>3905.3.1 Extraction processes using flammable or combustible liquids or gases. Continuous mechanical exhaust ventilation shall be provided where extraction processes use flammable or combustible liquids or gases. The mechanical exhaust ventilation shall provide a minimum airflow rate of not less than 5 cfm/ft² [0.0254 m³/(s × m²)] of floor area to prevent an accumulation of flammable vapors from exceeding 25 percent of the lower explosive limit (LEL).</p> <p>Exception: Where the registered design professional demonstrates that an engineered mechanical exhaust ventilation system design will prevent the maximum concentration of contaminants from exceeding 25 percent of the LEL, the minimum required rate of exhaust shall be reduced in accordance with such engineered system design. Where approved by the fire code official per 104.2.3</p>					

40 Storage of Distilled Spirits and Wines					
4004.4	Bulk Beverage Storage Areas	recommend striking of Bulk or defining the term	No	Yes	Proposal Needed
<p>4004.4 Bulk beverage storage areas. There shall be no storage of combustibile materials in the bulk beverage storage areas not related to the beverage storage activities.</p>					
41 Temporary Heating and Cooking Operations					
4101.1	General	Define "Temporary", may need a definition section added or utilize and insert/adopt: 3103.4 Use period. Temporary tents, air-supported, air-inflated or tensioned membrane structures shall not be erected for a period of more than 180 days within a 12-month period on a single premises or dependent on the AHJ?	No	Yes	Proposal Needed to define Temporary
<p>4101.1 General. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to the use, operation, testing and maintenance of mobile and portable equipment and devices used for temporary heating and cooking. Temporary heating and cooking operations with open flames shall also comply with any additional applicable requirements in Section 308. Definition Consideration for Temporary</p> <p>Exception: Temporary heating devices used in the course of construction, alteration and demolition of structures shall comply with Section 3304.</p>					
4101.8	Refueling of flammable and combustibile liquid-fueled equipment	Recommend adding "refueling" & 20ft. is consistant with 3108.13.3 Refueiling requirements from tents or membrane structures.	No	Yes	Proposal Needed
<p>4101.8 Refueling of flammable and combustibile liquid-fueled equipment. Refueling operations for liquid-fueled equipment or devices shall be conducted in accordance with Section 5705 and all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Refueling operations for liquid-fueled equipment or devices shall be conducted by trained personnel in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and this code. 2. The equipment or device shall be turned off and allowed to cool prior to refueling. 3. Refueling operations shall be conducted in a well-ventilated area at a minimum of 10 feet 20 feet (3048 mm) from any building or structure. 					
4101.9	Cooking operations	See word document for recomindation	No	Yes	Proposal Needed
<p>4101.9 Cooking operations. Portable cooking equipment using combustibile oils or solids shall comply with all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A noncombustibile lid shall be immediately available. The lid shall be of sufficient size to cover the cooking well completely. 2. Equipment shall be placed on a noncombustibile surface. 3. A portable fire extinguisher for protection appropriate to the cooking media shall be provided at a location <i>approved by the fire code official.</i> 4. Appropriate clearance from combustibile and ignition sources shall be approved by the <i>fire code official.</i> 					

4104.2	Open Flame Cooking Devices	Moved Section from 308.1.4 Was not adopted Needs to remain not adopted in new location	No	Yes	Proposal Needed
<p>4104.2 Open-flame cooking devices. Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustible construction.</p> <p>Exceptions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> One- and two-family <i>dwelling</i>s. Where buildings, balconies and decks are protected by an <i>automatic sprinkler system</i>. LP-gas cooking devices having LP-gas container with a water capacity not greater than 2½ pounds [nominal 1 pound (0.454 kg) LP-gas capacity]. 					
4104.4	Cooking operations	See word document for recommendation	No	Yes	Proposal Needed
<p>4104.4 Cooking operations. Cooking that produces sparks or grease-laden vapors shall not be performed within 10 feet (3048 mm) of a tent or membrane structure except where the following conditions are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cooking devices shall be isolated from the public. Cooking devices shall be maintained and used according to the manufacturer's instructions. A "Class K" portable fire extinguisher is readily available. 3-foot clearance is maintained from cooking operations and combustibles. <p>Exception: Designated cooking tents with an <i>automatic sprinkler system</i> installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.</p>					
4105.1.2	Power supply	See word document for recommendation	No	Yes	Proposal Needed
<p>4105.1.2 Power supply. Portable electric cooking appliances shall be plugged directly into an <u>approved receptacle or connected to an approved and listed a relocatable power tap rated 20 amps (2400 W).</u></p>					
4106.4.2	Fire protection systems and devices	Recommend adding fire extinguisher section per 906	No	Yes	
<p>4106.4.2 Fire protection systems and devices. Fire protection systems and devices shall be maintained in accordance with Section 901.6. and section 906.</p>					
4106.4.3.1	LP-gas systems	Recommend removing this section	No	Yes	
<p>4106.4.3.1 Lp-gas systems. LP-gas containers installed on the vehicle and fuel gas piping systems shall be inspected annually by an <i>approved</i> inspection agency, person or special expert who is qualified to ensure that system components are free from damage, suitable for the intended service and not subject to leaking.</p>					
4106.4.3.3	Annual leakage test	Recommend removing this section, see word document for recommendation.	No	Yes	
<p>4106.4.3.3 Annual leakage test. All fuel gas piping systems and appliances shall be checked annually for leakage at the <u>operating</u> pressure of the system using a manometer or pressure gauge. Where leakage is indicated, the gas supply shall be turned off until repairs have been made and the system no longer leaks.</p>					
4106.6	Solid fuel	Recommend new amendment to take into consideration solid fuel burning such as mobile pizza ovens located within the vehicle. Or determine if we do not allow these types of food truck to be in operation. Concerns with discarded smoldering embers.	Yes	Yes	

4106.6 Solid fuel. The use of wood burning ovens within the mobile food preparation vehicle shall have a listed carbon monoxide detector installed within the vehicle per the manufacture's recommendations.					
4106.7	Oven	Consideration fo the intalltion requirment for wood burning ovens. UL 2126 requirements?	No	Yes	Proposal Needed
4106.7 Ovens. Ovens shall have direct venting in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.					
53 Compressed Gases					
5306.5	Medical gas systems and equipment	WA amendment revises section and title.	N	N	Go with model Code
80 Referenced Standards					
Chapter 80	NFPA	NFPA 13 - amendment to remove the requirements for sprinklers in hydraulic elevator pits.		Yes	NFPA is in the process of revising the 2025 edition of NFPA 13 and will be removing the elevator pit sprinkler requirement.