

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING
THE RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING AND REPLACING
CHAPTER 16.32 REGARDING FIRE PREVENTION IN ITS ENTIRETY.

The City Council of the City of Riverside does ordain as follows:

Section 1: Chapter 16.32 of the Riverside Municipal Code entitled "Fire Prevention"
is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety with Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated
herein by reference.

Section 2: The City Council has reviewed the matter and, based upon the facts and
information contained in the staff reports, administrative record, and written and oral testimony,
hereby finds that this ordinance is not subject to CEQA pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2),
15060(c)(3) and/or 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations,
Title 14, Chapter 3, in that it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical
change in the environment nor have a significant impact on the environment.

Section 3: The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this ordinance and cause
publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in accordance with Section 414 of the
Charter of the City of Riverside. This ordinance shall become effective on the 30th day after the
date of its adoption.

ADOPTED by the City Council this ____ day of _____, 2025.

PATRICIA LOCK DAWSON
Mayor of the City of Riverside

Attest:

DONESIA GAUSE
City Clerk of the City of Riverside

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1 I, Donesia Gause, City Clerk of the City of Riverside, California, hereby certify that the
2 foregoing ordinance was duly and regularly introduced at a meeting of the City Council on the
3 ____ day of _____, 2025, and that thereafter the said ordinance was duly and
4 regularly adopted at a meeting of the City Council on the ____ day of _____, 2025
5 by the following vote, to wit:

6 Ayes:

7 Noes:

8 Absent:

9 Abstain:

10 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the
11 City of Riverside, California, this ____ day of _____, 2025.

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14 DONESIA GAUSE
15 City Clerk of the City of Riverside
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28 312083 TAT 09/23/25

EXHIBIT "A"

Chapter 16.32 FIRE PREVENTION

Section 16.32.010 Reference to Fire Code.

This chapter shall be known as the "Fire Code" and may be cited as such. Whenever in this Code or any ordinance of the City the phrases "California Fire Code" or "Fire Code" appear, such phrases shall be deemed and construed to refer to or apply to this chapter. The addition of the word "standards" to such phrases shall limit the reference and application of such phrases to the "California Fire Code Standards."

Section 16.32.020 International Fire Code adopted—Filed with Fire Marshal.

The 2024 International Fire Code as adopted with amendments by the California Buildings Standards Commission, also known as the 2025 California Fire Code ("this Code"), including Appendices B, C, E, F, G, I, M, N, and P are adopted in its entirety with the following amendments by this chapter. This code prescribes regulations consistent with nationally recognized good practice for the safeguarding, to a reasonable degree, of life and property from the hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling and use of hazardous substances, materials and devices and from conditions hazardous to life or property in the use or occupancy of buildings or premises. One copy of this Code has been certified as a true copy, is on file and open to public inspection in the Office of the Fire Marshal.

Section 16.32.035 Section 104.8.2 —Liability.

Section 104.8.2 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

This Code shall not be construed to hold the public entity or any officer or employee responsible for any damage to persons or property by reason of the inspection or re-inspection authorized herein provided or by reason of the approval or disapproval of any equipment or process authorized herein, or for any action in connection with the control or extinguishment of any fire or in connection with any other official duties.

The expense of securing any emergency which is the result of a violation of this code is a charge against the person whose violation of this code caused the emergency.

Damages caused by and expenses incurred by the Fire Department for securing such emergency shall constitute a debt of such person and is collectible by the City in the same manner as in the case of an obligation under a contract, expressed or implied.

Section 16.32.037 Section 104. added—Duties and Powers of the Fire Code Official.

Section 104 is added in its entirety with amendments.

Section 16.32.040 Section 104.1.1 added—Citations.

Section 104.1 is amended by adding Section 104.1.1 to read as follows:

The fire code official and his or her designee are authorized to issue a citation to persons operating or maintaining an occupancy, premises, or vehicle subject to this code who allow a hazard to exist or fail to take immediate action to abate a hazard on such occupancy, premises or vehicle when ordered or notified to do so.

Section 16.32.045 Section 104.1.2 added—Fire Prevention Bureau Enforcement Powers.

Section 104.1 is amended by adding Section 104.1.2 to read as follows:

The fire code official and his or her designees have authority to enforce the terms of this chapter to the extent afforded by law.

Section 16.32.047 Section 104.2.3 amended – Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment.

Section 104.2.3 is amended to read as follows:

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.

Section 16.32.055 Section 104.4.1 added—Warrants.

Section 104.4.1 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Where the fire code official has first obtained a proper inspection warrant or other remedy provided by law to secure entry, an owner, the owner's authorized agent or occupant or person having charge, care or control of the building or premises shall not fail or neglect, after proper request is made as

herein provided, to permit entry therein by the fire code official for the purpose of inspection and examination pursuant to this code.

Section 16.32.056 Section 104.9 added—Approved Materials and Equipment.

Section 104.9 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Materials, equipment and devices approved by the fire code official shall be constructed and installed in accordance with such approval.

Section 16.32.057 Section 104.2.2 added—Technical assistance.

Section 104.2.2 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

To determine the acceptability of technologies, processes, products, facilities, materials and uses attending the design, operation or use of a building or premises subject to inspection by the fire code official, the fire code official is authorized to require the owner or owner's authorized agent to provide, without charge to the jurisdiction, a technical opinion and report. The opinion and report shall be prepared by a qualified California registered engineer, specialist, laboratory or fire safety specialty organization acceptable to the fire code official and shall analyze the fire safety properties of the design, operation or use of the building or premises and the facilities and appurtenances situated thereon, to recommend necessary changes. The fire code official is authorized to require design submittals to be prepared by, and bear the stamp of, a registered design professional.

Section 16.32.060 Section 104.2.4 added—Modifications.

Section 104.2.4 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Where there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the fire code official shall have the authority to grant modifications for individual cases, provided the fire code official shall first find that special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical and the modifications in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, life and fire safety requirements. The details of action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the files of the department of fire prevention.

Section 16.32.070 Section 104.2.3.6 added— Reports.

Section 104.2.3.6 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Supporting data, where necessary to assist in the approval of materials or assemblies not specifically provided for in this code, shall consist of valid research reports from approved sources.

Section 16.32.075 Section 104.2.2.4 added—Tests.

Section 104.2.2.4 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Where there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this code, or evidence that a material or method does not conform to the requirements of this code, or in order to substantiate claims for alternative materials or methods, the fire code official shall have the authority to require tests as evidence of compliance to be made at no expense to the jurisdiction. Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods, the fire code official shall approve the testing procedures. Tests shall be performed by an approved agency. Reports of such tests shall be retained by the fire code official for the period required for retention of public records.

Section 16.32.076 Section 104.10 added—Fire Investigations.

Section 104.10 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

The fire code official, the fire department or other responsible authority shall have the authority to investigate the cause, origin and circumstances of any fire, explosion or other hazardous condition. Information that could be related to trade secrets or processes shall not be made part of the public record, except as directed by a court of law.

Section 16.32.080 Section 104.10.1 added—Assistance from other Agencies.

Section 104.10.1 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Police and other enforcement agencies shall have authority to render necessary assistance in the investigation of fires or enforcement when requested to do so.

Section 16.32.085 Section 104.11 added—Authority at Fires and other Emergencies.

Section 104.11 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

The fire chief or officer of the fire department in charge at the scene of a fire or other emergency involving the protection of life or property, or any part thereof, shall have the authority to direct such operation as necessary to extinguish any fire, perform any rescue operation, investigate the existence of suspected or reported fires, gas leaks or other hazardous conditions or situations, or take any other action necessary in the reasonable performance of duty. In the exercise of such power, the fire chief is authorized to prohibit any person, vehicle, vessel or thing from approaching the scene, and is authorized to remove, or cause to be removed or kept away from the scene, any vehicle, vessel or thing that could impede or interfere with the operations of the fire department and, in the judgment of the fire chief, any person not actually and usefully employed in the extinguishing of such fire or in the preservation of property in the vicinity thereof.

Section 16.32.090 Section 104.11.1 added—Barricades.

Section 104.11.1 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

The fire chief or officer of the fire department in charge at the scene of an emergency is authorized to place ropes, guards, barricades or other obstructions across any street, alley, place or private property in the vicinity of such operation so as to prevent accidents or interference with the lawful efforts of the fire department to manage and control the situation and to handle fire apparatus.

Section 16.32.095 Section 104.11.2 added—Obstructing Operations.

Section 104.11.2 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Persons shall not obstruct the operations of the fire department in connection with extinguishment or control of any fire, or actions relative to other emergencies, or disobey any lawful command of the fire chief or officer of the fire department in charge of the emergency, or any part thereof, or any lawful order of a police officer assisting the fire department.

Section 16.32.100 Section 104.11.3 added—Systems and Devices.

Section 104.11.3 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Persons shall not render a system or device inoperative during an emergency unless by direction of the fire chief or fire department official in charge of the incident.

Section 16.32.105 Section 104.12 added—Cost Recovery.

Section 104.12 is amended by adding Section 104.13 to read as follows:

To the extent consistent with state law, the City may obtain reimbursement from responsible individuals for the expenses of any emergency response and/or enforcement action by the fire department to protect the public from criminal or negligent activities, and from fire or hazardous substances.

Section 16.32.110 Section 105.2.3 added—Time Limitation.

Section 105.2.3 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

An application for a permit for any proposed work or operation shall be deemed to have been abandoned 180 days after the date of filing, unless such application has been diligently prosecuted or a permit shall have been issued, except that the fire code official is authorized to grant one or more extensions of time for additional periods not exceeding 90 days each. The extension shall be requested in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated.

Section 16.32.115 Section 105.3.1 added—Expiration.

Section 105.3.1 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

An operational permit shall remain in effect until reissued, renewed or revoked, or for such a period of time as specified in the permit. Construction permits shall automatically become invalid unless the work authorized by such permit is commenced within 180 days after its issuance, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for period of 180 days after the time the work is commenced. Before such work recommences, a new permit shall be first obtained and the fee to recommence work, if any, shall be one-half the amount required for a new permit for such work, provided that changes have not been made and will not be made in the original construction documents for such work, and provided further that work, and provided

further that such suspension or abandonment has not exceeded one year. Permits are not transferable and any change in occupancy, operation, tenancy or ownership shall require that a new permit be issued.

Section 16.32.120 Section 105.3.2 added—Extensions.

Section 105.3.2 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A permittee holding an unexpired permit shall have the right to apply for an extension of time within which the permittee will commence work under that permit where work is unable to be commenced within the time required by this section for good and satisfactory reasons. The fire code official is authorized to grant, in writing, one or more extensions of the time period of a permit for periods of not more than 180 days each. Such extensions shall be requested by the permit holder in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated.

Section 16.32.135 Section 105.5.22 amended—Hazardous Materials.

Section 105.5.22 is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

An operational permit is required to store, transport on site, dispense, use or handle hazardous materials in excess of the amounts listed in Table 105.5.22.

Section 16.32.137 Section 105.6.2 added – Automatic Sprinkler Systems.

Section 105.6.2 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to an automatic sprinkler system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

Section 16.32.140 Section 105.6.13 added—Hazardous Materials.

Section 105.6.13 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A construction permit is required to install, repair damage to, abandon, remove, place temporarily out of service, or close or substantially modify a storage facility or other area regulated by Chapter 50 where the hazardous materials in use or storage exceed the amounts listed in Table 105.5.22.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. Routine maintenance.

2. For repair work performed on an emergency basis, application for permit shall be made within two working days of commencement of work.

Section 16.32.141 Section 105.6.18 added—Plant extraction systems.

Section 105.6.18 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to plant extraction systems. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

Section 16.32.142 Section 105.6.19 added—Private fire hydrants.

Section 105.6.19 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A construction permit is required for the installation or modification of private fire hydrants. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

Section 16.32.143 Section 105.6.20 added—Smoke control or smoke exhaust systems.

Section 105.6.20 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Construction permits are required for installation of or alteration to smoke control or smoke exhaust systems. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be an alteration and does not require a permit.

Section 16.32.144 Section 105.6.22 added—Special event structure.

Section 105.6.2 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A single construction permit is required to erect and take down a temporary special event structure.

Section 16.32.145 Section 105.6.23 added—Spraying or dipping.

Section 105.6.23 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A construction permit is required to install or modify a spray room, dip tank or booth. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

Section 16.32.146 Section 105.6.24 added—Standpipe systems.

Section 105.6.24 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A construction permit is required for the installation, modification or removal from service of a standpipe system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a permit.

Section 16.32.147 Section 105.6.25 added—Temporary membrane structures and tents.

Section 105.6.25 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A construction permit is required to erect an air supported temporary membrane structure, a temporary stage canopy or a tent having an area in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²).

EXCEPTIONS:

1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
2. Funeral tents and curtains, or extensions attached thereto, when used for funeral services.
3. Tents and awnings open on all sides, which comply with all of the following:
 - 3.1. Individual tents shall have a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m²).
 - 3.2. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) shall not exceed 700 square feet (65 m²) total.
 - 3.3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to structures and other tents shall be maintained.

Section 16.32.150 Section 106 added in entirety—Construction Documents

Section 106 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.160 Section 108.1 amended—Fees.

Section 108.1 is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

A permit shall not be issued until the fees have been paid, nor shall an amendment to permit be released until the additional fee, if any, has been paid.

Section 16.32.162 Section 108.2 amended—Schedule of permit fees.

Section 108.2 is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

A fee for each permit shall be paid as required, in accordance with the schedule as established by the applicable governing authority.

Section 16.32.164 Section 108.2.1 amended—Afterhours plan review and inspections.

Section 108.2.1 is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

At the discretion of the Fire Marshal, the Fire Prevention Division may make an emergency inspection, complete plan review, or perform inspection services during other than normal working hours upon the request of the applicant. The charge for afterhours plan review or inspection services shall be two and one-half times the hourly wage rate of the plan reviewer or inspector providing the service, or as otherwise set by resolution of the City Council. Such service for each hour or any portion thereof, shall be in addition to any other fees that may have been paid or are due. Afterhours plan review requests require a minimum one hour service charge, and inspection requests require a minimum two hour service charge.

Section 16.32.165 Reserved.

Section 16.32.166 Section 108.4 amended—Work Commencing before Permit Issuance.

Section 108.4 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

A person who commences any work, activity or operation regulated by this code before obtaining the necessary permits shall be subject to an additional fee established by the applicable governing authority, which shall be in addition to the required permit fees.

Section 16.32.168 Section 108.6 added—Refunds.

Section 108.6 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

The applicable governing authority is authorized to establish a refund policy.

Section 16.32.169 Section 109 added in entirety—Inspections.

Section 109 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.170 Section 110 added in entirety—Maintenance.

Section 110 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.171 Section 111.1 amended—Authority to Disconnect Service Utilities.

Section 111.1 is amended to read as follows:

The fire code official shall have the authority to authorize disconnection of utility service to the building, structure or system in order to safely execute emergency operations or to eliminate an immediate hazard. The fire code official shall notify the serving utility and, where possible, the owner or the owner's authorized agent and the occupant of the building, structure or service system of the decision to disconnect prior to taking such action. If not notified prior to disconnection, then the owner, the owner's authorized agent or occupant of the building, structure or service system shall be notified in writing as soon as practical thereafter.

Section 16.32.172 Section 112.1 amended—Board of Appeals.

Section 112.1 is amended to read as follows:

In order to hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the fire code official relative to the application and interpretation of this Code, there shall be and is hereby created a board of appeals. The board of appeals shall be the Safety, Wellness and Youth Committee of the City Council. The fire code official shall be an ex officio member of said board but shall have no vote on any matter before the board. The board shall adopt rules of procedure for conducting its business, and shall render all decisions and findings in writing to the appellant with a duplicate copy to the fire code official.

An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the intent of this Code or the rules legally adopted hereunder have been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of this Code do not fully apply, or an equivalent method of

protection or safety is proposed. The board shall have no authority to waive requirements of this Code.

Section 16.32.175 Section 113.3.4 amended—Unauthorized Tampering.

Section 113.3.4 is amended to read as follows:

Signs, tags or seals posted or affixed by the fire code official shall not be mutilated, destroyed or tampered with, or removed, without authorization from the fire code official.

Section 16.32.180 Section 113.4 amended—Violation Penalties.

Section 113.4 is amended by amending Section 112.4 in its entirety to read as follows:

In addition to other enforcement provisions applicable to this Code, persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code official, or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this code, shall be guilty of an infraction or misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 dollars or by imprisonment not exceeding 6 months in jail, or both such fine and imprisonment. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

Section 16.32.185 Section 113 amended—Violations

Section 113 is amended in its entirety.

Section 16.32.186 Section 114 added in entirety—Stop Work Order.

Section 114 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.187 Section 115 added in entirety—Unsafe Structures or Equipment.

Section 115 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.200 Reserved.

Section 16.32.205 Reserved.

Section 16.32.210 Reserved.

Section 16.32.215 Reserved.

Section 16.32.220 Section 305 added—Hot Ashes and Spontaneous Ignition Sources.

Section 305 is amended by adding Section 305.2 in its entirety to read as follows:

Hot ashes, cinders or smoldering coals kept indoors shall be on a non-combustible surface, under a listed minimum Type II ventilation hood that meets the currently adopted California Mechanical Code requirements.

Disposal of hot ashes, cinders, smoldering coals or greasy or oily materials subject to spontaneous ignition shall be deposited in a covered, noncombustible receptacle and placed on a noncombustible floor, ground surface or stand a minimum of 10 feet from any structure or vehicle.

Section 16.32.227 Section 305.1 added—Clearance from Ignition Sources.

Section 305.1 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

Clearance between ignition sources, such as luminaries, heaters, flame-producing devices and combustible materials, shall be maintained in an approved manner.

Section 16.32.228 Section 305.4 added—Deliberate or Negligent Burning.

Section 305.4 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

It shall be unlawful to deliberately or through negligence set fire to or cause the burning of combustible material in such a manner as to endanger the safety of persons or property.

Section 16.32.229 Section 307 added—Open Burning, Recreational Fires and Portable Outdoor Fireplaces.

Section 307 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.273 Section 308.1.5 added – Open-flame devices in wildfire risk areas.

Section 308.1.5 is added in its entirety as follows:

Torches and other devices, machines or processes liable to start or cause fire shall not be operated or used in or on wildfire risk areas, except by a permit in accordance with Section 105.5 secured from the fire code official.

Exception: Use within inhabited premises or designated campsites that are not less than 30 feet (9144 mm) from grass-, grain-, brush- or forest-covered areas.

Section 16.32.271 Section 308.1.7 added—Sky Lanterns.

Section 308.1.7 is amended to read as follows:

Sky lanterns: An unmanned device that incorporates an open flame in order to make the device airborne. No person shall release or cause to be released an untethered sky lantern.

EXCEPTIONS: Upon approval of the fire code official, sky lanterns may be used as necessary for religious or cultural ceremonies providing that adequate safeguards have been taken as approved by the fire code official. Sky lanterns shall be tethered in a safe manner to prevent them from leaving the area and shall be constantly attended until extinguished.

Section 16.32.272 Section 311.2.2 added—Fire protection.

Section 311.2.2 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.273 Section 311.3 added—Removal of combustibles.

Section 311.3 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.274 Section 311.4 added—Removal of hazardous materials.

Section 311.4 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.277 Chapter 4—added in entirety.

Chapter 4 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.278 Section 503.1.2 added—Additional access.

Section 503.1.2 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

The fire code official is authorized to require more than one fire apparatus access road based on the potential for impairment of a single road by vehicle congestion, condition of terrain, climatic conditions or other factors that could limit access.

Section 16.32.280 Section 503.3 amended—Markings.

Section 503 is amended by amending Section 503.3 in its entirety to read as follows:

Where required by the fire code official, approved signs or other approved notices or markings that include the words NO PARKING - FIRE LANE shall be provided for fire apparatus access roads to identify such roads or prohibit the obstruction thereof. The means by which fire lanes are designated shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and is replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility. The fire code official shall be the only authority authorized to designate fire lanes.

Section 16.32.285 Section 503.4 amended—Obstruction of Fire Apparatus Access Roads.

Section 503 is amended by amending Section 503.4 in its entirety to read as follows:

No person shall place, store or park any object, material or vehicle in any established exit way, driveway, gateway, alleyway, designated fire lane or any access roadway required by Section 503.4 of this Code, whether of public or private property, which could hamper the egress of building occupants from or the ingress of Fire Department emergency vehicles to any occupied structure. When any such obstructions are found that might, in the opinion of the fire code official, delay or impede the egress of occupants or the ingress of Fire Department emergency vehicles, such object, material or vehicle shall be immediately removed when so ordered by the fire code official. When such obstacle is a vehicle and signs are posted indicating a fire lane or prohibiting parking giving notice of removal and the Police Department telephone number, the vehicle shall be immediately removed by the owner or other responsible person in charge of the vehicle or the Police Department or Fire Department may cause its removal. The person causing the removal of such vehicle shall comply with the requirements of Section 22500.1 and 22514 of the California Vehicle Code. A notice to appear and or parking ticket may be issued for any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, stopped, parked or left standing contrary to the provisions of this subsection instead of or in addition to the removal of such vehicle.

Section 16.32.290 Section 503.4.2 amended—Emergency Fire Lane.

Section 503.4 is amended by amending Section 503.4.2 to read as follows:

Emergency fire lanes for temporary street closures shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 12 feet when approved by the fire code official.

Section 16.32.293 Section 503.5 added—Required gates or barricades.

Section 503.5 is added in its entirety to read as follows:

The fire code official is authorized to require the installation and maintenance of gates or other approved barricades across fire apparatus access roads, trails or other accessways, not including public streets, alleys or highways. Electric gate operators, where provided, shall be listed in accordance with UL 325. Gates intended for automatic operation shall be designed, constructed and installed to comply with the requirements of ASTM F2200.

Section 16.32.295 Section 503.6 amended—Security Gates.

Section 503 is amended by amending Section 503.6 in its entirety to read as follows:

The installation of security gates across a fire apparatus access road shall be approved by the fire code official, and shall have a minimum width of 12 feet. Where security gates are installed, they shall have an approved means of emergency operation. The security gates and the emergency operation shall be maintained operational at all times. Electric gate operators, where provided shall be listed in accordance with UL 325. Gates intended for automatic operation shall be designed, constructed and installed to comply with the requirements of ASTM F2200.

Section 16.32.297 Section 503.7 added—Automatic Infrared Gate System.

Section 503 is amended by adding Section 503.7 to read as follows:

All new electric emergency access gates shall have installed an automatic opening infrared gate system approved by the fire official.

Section 16.32.300 Section 506.1 amended—Where Required.

Section 506 is amended by amending Section 506.1 in its entirety to read as follows:

Where access to or within a structure or an area is restricted because of secured openings or where immediate access is necessary for life-saving or fire-fighting purposes, the fire code official is authorized to require a key box and/or key switch to be installed in an approved location. The key box shall be of an

approved type listed in accordance with UL 1037 and shall contain keys to gain necessary access as required by the fire code official.

Section 16.32.305 Reserved.

Section 16.32.310 Section 507.1 amended—Required Water Supply.

Section 507 is amended by amending Section 507.1 in its entirety to read as follows:

An approved water supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection shall be provided to premises upon which facilities, buildings or portions of buildings are hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction. Public fire hydrants shall be spaced a maximum of 350 feet apart. Any such required fire hydrants shall be spaced per Appendix C.

EXCEPTION: Single family residences equipped with a residential fire sprinkler system as outlined in Section 903 shall have a public fire hydrant spaced a maximum of 500 feet apart. Fire hydrants on dead end streets or roads shall not exceed 400 feet from the end of the street or road.

Section 16.32.315 Section 507.5.1 amended—Where Required.

Section 507 is amended by amending Section 507.5.1 in its entirety to read as follows:

Where a portion of the facility or building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction is more than 350 feet (107 m) from a hydrant on a fire apparatus access road, as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the facility or building, on-site fire hydrants and mains shall be provided where required by the fire code official.

EXCEPTION:

1. For Group R-3 and Group U occupancies, equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, 903.3.1.2 or 903.3.1.3, the distance requirement shall be not more than 500 feet (183 m).

Section 16.32.320 Section 507.5.5 amended—Clear Space around Hydrants.

Section 507 is amended by amending Section 507.5.5 in its entirety to read as follows:

A 3-foot (914 mm) clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants, fire department connections, exterior fire protection system control valves, or any other exterior fire protection system component that may require immediate access, except as otherwise required or approved.

Section 16.32.325 Section 507.5.7 added—Hydrant Identification.

Section 507 is amended by adding Section 507.5.7 to read as follows:

Hydrant locations shall be identified by the installation of approved blue reflective markers, as required by the fire code official.

Section 16.32.330 Section 510.1.1 amended—Emergency Responder Communications Enhancement Systems.

Section 510 is amended in its entirety 510.1.1 to read as follows:

In addition to Section 510, emergency responder radio coverage systems shall also comply with NFPA 1221 2019 and NFPA 1225 2025 Edition.

Section 16.32.335 Section 903.2 amended—Where Required.

Section 903 amended by amending Section 903.2 to read as follows:

Approved automatic sprinkler systems shall be provided in new buildings and structures. Where required by the California Existing Building Code, approved automatic sprinkler systems shall be provided in existing buildings and structures in the locations described in Sections 903.2.1 through 903.2.12 and Sections 903.2.14 through 903.2.21.

Exceptions:

1. Buildings and structures other than Group R, with a gross floor area of less than 1,000 square feet.
2. Group U buildings and structures that meet one or more of the following conditions:
 - a. Buildings and structures accessory to Group R-3, such private garages, storage sheds, greenhouses, and barns.
 - b. Structures designed exclusively to shelter utility equipment such as pump houses, substations and similar structures.

3. Buildings and structures where the sum of all exterior wall openings is greater than 50 percent of the total exterior wall area.
4. Group S occupancies, less than 5,000 square feet in floor area, accessory to uses such as golf courses, tree nurseries, parks, farms, etc.
5. Temporary modular construction offices.

Section 16.32.336 Section 903.4.3 amended – Alarms.

Section 903.4.3 is amended as follows:

An approved audible and visual sprinkler waterflow alarm device, located on the exterior of the building in an approved location, shall be connected to each automatic sprinkler system. Such sprinkler waterflow alarm devices shall be activated by water flow equivalent to the flow of a single sprinkler of the smallest orifice size installed in the system. Where a waterflow switch is required by Section 903.4.1 to be electrically supervised, such sprinkler waterflow alarm devices shall be powered by a fire alarm control unit or, where provided, a fire alarm system. Where a fire alarm system is provided, actuation of the automatic sprinkler system shall actuate the building fire alarm system.

Exception: Removed

Section 16.32.340 Section 907.6.6 added—Monitoring.

Section 907.6 is amended by adding Section 907.6.6 to read as follows:

1. Automatic fire alarm systems shall be monitored and shall transmit the alarm, supervisory and trouble signals to an approved supervising station in accordance with NFPA 72. The supervising station shall be listed as either UUFX (Central Station) by the Underwriters Laboratory Inc. (UL) or other approved listing and testing laboratory or shall comply with the requirements of FM 3011 or ETL.
2. Any existing fire alarm or fire sprinkler monitoring system that has more than six false alarm responses within a year's time frame shall comply with the System Certification Process by UL, FM, or ETL. A false alarm is the willful and knowing initiation or transmission of a signal, message or other notification of an event of fire when no such danger exists.

Section 16.32.345 Section 912.2.1 amended—Visible Location.

Section 912.2 is amended by amending Section 912.2.1 in its entirety to read as follows:

Fire department connections shall be located on the front access side of buildings, fully-visible and recognizable from the street or nearest point of fire department vehicle access or as otherwise approved by the fire code official.

Section 16.32.350 Section 912.5 added—Fire Appliance Signage.

Section 912.5 is amended to read as follows:

Fire department connections, control valves, and other applicable fire appliances shall have signs identifying the building address, addresses or other readily distinguishable identification that the fire department connection serves, according to the Fire Department standards approved by the fire code official.

Section 16.32.356 Section 1103.2 amended—Emergency Responder Communication Coverage in Existing Buildings.

Section 1103.2 amended to read as follows:

Existing buildings other than Group R-3, that do not have approved in-building, two-way emergency response communication coverage 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:

1. Where an existing wired communication system cannot be repaired or is being replaced, or where not approved in accordance with Section 510.1, Exception 1.
2. Within a time frame established by the adopting authority.

EXCEPTION: Where it is determined by the fire code official that the in-building, two-way emergency responder communication coverage and or enhancement system is not needed.

Section 16.32.357 Section 1103.2 added—Emergency responder communication coverage in existing buildings.

Section 1103.2 amended to read as follows:

Existing buildings other than group R-3, that do not have approved in-building, two-way emergency response communication coverage 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:

1. Where an existing wired communication system cannot be repaired or is being replaced, or where not approved in accordance with Section 510.1, Exception 1.
2. Within a time frame established by the adopting authority.

EXCEPTION: Where it is determined by the fire code official that the in-building, two-way emergency responder communication coverage and or enhancement system is not needed.

Section 16.32.360 Chapter 25 adopted—Fruit and Crop Ripening.

Chapter 25 of the California Fire Code is adopted in its entirety.

Section 16.32.365 Section 4904.3.1.1 added—Designation of Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

Section 4906 is amended by adding Section 4904.3.1.1 to read as follows:

The City of Riverside hereby designates the Fire Hazard Severity Zones as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection pursuant to Government Code Section 51178. The designation, locations, and boundaries of the Fire Hazard Severity Zones in the City of Riverside are designated on the map labeled "Moderate," "High," and "Very High", located in General Plan 2025, Public Safety Element, and can be accessed on the CALFIRE interactive Fire Hazard Severity Zone Viewer at <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/community-wildfire-preparedness-and-mitigation/fire-hazard-severity-zones>.

Section 16.32.370 Section 5601.1.1 amended—Manufacturing.

Section 5601.1.1 is amended to read as follows:

Explosive material standard. In addition to the requirements of this chapter, NFPA 495 shall govern the manufacture, transportation, storage, sale, handling and use of explosive materials. The manufacture of explosives shall be prohibited within all areas and zones of the City.

16.32.375 Section 5601.1.3 amended—Fireworks.

Section 5601.1.3 is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

- A. It shall be unlawful to sell, offer for sale, use, discharge, possess, store, or transport fireworks, unless subject to one of the following exceptions:
 - 1. Sale of fireworks when allowed by the Fire Chief under special permits when not otherwise prohibited by applicable local or state laws, ordinances and regulations.
 - 2. Use and handling of fireworks for display in accordance with Title 19 of the California Code of Regulations.
 - 3. Activities listed in the State Fireworks Law where all necessary valid state and local permits for the activity or activities have been issued
 - 4. Transportation of fireworks by a person holding a valid state license upon approved routes pursuant to the State Fireworks Law.
 - 5. Possession, storage, sale, use, and handling of snap caps, snappers, or party poppers in accordance with Title 19 of the California Code of Regulation.
- B. The manufacturing of fireworks is prohibited unless permitted by the Fire Chief and in accordance with the State Fireworks Law.
- C. The manufacture, storage, or use of pyrotechnic special effects material is prohibited unless permitted by the Fire Chief and in accordance with all applicable laws.
- D. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the use of fireworks by railroads or other transportation agencies for signal purposes or illumination, or the sale or use of blank cartridges for a show or theater, or

for signal or ceremonial purposes in athletics or sports or for use by military organizations.

- E. It shall be unlawful and a public nuisance for any person and/or responsible party to allow or permit the violation of this section.

Section 16.32.376 Section 5707 added in its entirety—On-Demand Mobile Fueling Operations

Section 5707 is added in its entirety.

Section 16.32.377 Appendix B Table B105.2 amended—Required Fire Flow for Buildings Other Than One- and Two-Family Dwellings, Group R-3 and R-4 Buildings and Townhouses.

Appendix B Table B105.2 is amended by amending Table B105.2 to read as follows:

The minimum fire flow is to be 50% of the value in Table B105.1(2)^a and Table B105.1(2)^b.

Section 16.32.380 Finding and declaration.

As required by the Health and Safety Code of the State of California, the City Council finds and declares that the foregoing additions, modifications and changes to the regulations adopted pursuant to said Health and Safety Code are reasonably necessary because of local conditions and are consistent with a comprehensive fire prevention program for the City.

Section 16.32.385 Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is for any reason held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such a decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this chapter. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this chapter and each section or subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact any one or more sections, subsections, clauses or phrases be declared invalid.

Section 16.32.390 Hazardous materials clean-up cost recovery.

- A. The City is authorized to perform various functions that relate to identification, clean up and abatement of hazardous material unlawfully released,

discharged, or deposited upon or into any property or facility within the City and to perform certain protective activities such as evacuation. However, the authority to recover costs under this section shall not include fire extinguishment and medical aid services which are normally or usually provided by the Fire Department. The following described persons shall be jointly and severally liable to the City for the payment of all costs incurred by the City as a result of such identification, clean up and abatement activity.

1. The person or persons whose negligent or willful act or omission proximately caused such release, discharge or deposit; and
 2. The person or persons who owned or had custody or control of the hazardous substance or waste at the time of such release, discharge, or deposit, without regard to fault or proximate cause; and
 3. The person or persons who owned or had custody or control of the container which held such hazardous waste or substance at the time of or immediately prior to such release, discharge or deposit, without regard to fault or proximate cause.
- B. In the event that any person undertakes, either voluntarily or upon order of the Fire Chief or other City official, to clean up or abate the effects of any hazardous material unlawfully released, discharged or deposited upon or into any property or facilities within the City, the Fire Chief may take such action as is necessary to supervise or verify the adequacy of the cleanup or abatement. The persons described in subsection A shall be liable to the City for all costs incurred as a result of such supervision or verification.
- C. For purposes of this section, "hazardous material" shall be as defined as in Chapter 2 of the California Fire Code as that section may be amended.
- D. For purposes of this section, costs incurred by the City shall include, but shall not necessarily be limited to, the following: actual labor costs of City personnel, including benefits and administrative overhead; cost of equipment operation, cost of materials obtained directly by the City; and cost of any contract labor and materials.
- E. The remedies provided by this section shall be in addition to any other remedies provided by law.