

**ORDINANCE NO. 546.15 no longer operative  
REPEALED Per Ord. 787 - Effective: 06/24/1999  
(Minute Order dated 05/25/1999 - Item #7.1)**

**(Re: Charitable Solicitations)**

**ORDINANCE NO. 546  
(AS AMENDED THROUGH 546.15)  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE AMENDING  
ORDINANCE NO. 546 PROVIDING FOR FIRE PROTECTION REGULATION**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, State of California, do ordain as follows:

**DIVISION I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTION 101.** This ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the Riverside County Fire Ordinance. The provisions hereof shall apply to all of the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside.

**SECTION 102.** This ordinance shall be construed and applied to promote its basic purposes and policies which are:

- a. To safeguard to a reasonable degree life and property from the hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling and use of hazardous substances, materials and devices.
- b. To safeguard to a reasonable degree life and property from hazardous conditions arising from the division of land and the use or occupancy of buildings or premises.

**SECTION 103.** This ordinance shall not be construed to hold the County of Riverside or any of its officers or employees responsible for any damage to persons or property by reason of the inspection or reinspection authorized herein 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.

**SECTION 104.** In this ordinance unless the context otherwise requires, the following words shall have the following meanings:

- a. **Building**, for purposes of Division VIII of this Ordinance, shall not be construed to mean any structure constructed as a garage, barn, hayshed, granary, livestock shed, implement shed, or shelter for birds or animals; provided however, that any such structure 60 feet or less from the boundary of the parcel of property on which it is located shall be considered a building for purposes of Division VIII.
- b. **Building Code, Uniform** shall mean the 1988 Edition of the Uniform Building Code.
- c. **Building Director** shall mean the Building Director of the County of Riverside or his authorized representative.

- d. **Combustible Waste Material** shall mean all rubbish and refuse that will ignite through contact with flames of ordinary temperatures, including but not limited to magazines, books, trimmings from lawns, trees, gardens, pasteboard boxes, rags, paper, straw, sawdust, packing material, shavings and boxes.
- e. **County Fire Chief** shall mean the Fire Chief of the County of Riverside or his authorized representative.
- f. **Dwelling, Multi-Family** shall mean a building or portion thereof used to house two (2) or more families, including domestic employees of each such family, living independently of each other, and doing their own cooking.
- g. **Extrahazardous Occupancies** shall mean, but shall not be limited to, those occupancies defined in Section 38.104 (e) of the Uniform Building Code Standards.
- h. **Fire Appliance** shall mean a fire extinguisher or any other apparatus or equipment provided or installed for use in the event of an emergency.
- i. **Fire Hazard** shall mean any condition, arrangement, act or omission which increases, or may cause an increase of the hazard or menace of fire to a greater degree than that customarily recognized as normal by persons in the public service regularly engaged in preventing, suppressing or extinguishing fire; or which may obstruct, delay, hinder or interfere with the operations of the Fire Department or the egress of occupants in the event of fire.
- j. **Fire-Resistive (Types 1 and II) Construction** shall mean those types of construction defined in Chapters 18 and 19 of the Uniform Building Code.
- k. **Fireworks** shall mean any device containing chemical elements and chemical compounds capable of burning independently of the oxygen of the atmosphere and producing audible, visual, mechanical, or thermal effects which are useful as pyrotechnic devices or for entertainment. The term "fireworks" includes, but is not limited to, devices designated by the manufacturer as fireworks, torpedoes, skyrockets, roman candles, rockets, Daygo bombs, sparklers, party poppers, paper caps, chasers, fountains, smoke sparks, aerial bombs and fireworks kits.
- l. **Flammable Material** shall mean any material that will readily ignite from common sources of heat.
- m. **Generally Recognized Standards** shall mean those standards and publications listed in Division V, Standards, Appendix V-A, of the 1985 Edition of the Uniform Fire Code.

**Hazardous Material** means any material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment, if released in to the workplace or the environment. Hazardous Materials include, but are not limited to, hazardous substances, hazardous wastes, and any material which a handler or the administering agency has a reasonable basis for believing would be injurious to the health and safety of persons or harmful to the environment, if released into the workplace or the environment.

**Hazardous Substance** means any substance or chemical product for which any of the following applies:

1. The manufacturer or producer is required to prepare a MSDS for the substance or product pursuant to the Hazardous Substances Information and Training Act (Chapter 2.5 (commencing with Section 6360) of Part 1 of Division 5 of the Labor Code) or pursuant to any applicable federal law or

- regulation.
2. The substance is listed as a radioactive material in Appendix B of Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, maintained and updated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
  3. The substances listed pursuant to Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
  4. The materials listed in subdivision (b) of Section 6382 of the Labor Code.

Hazardous Waste or **Extremely Hazardous Waste** means any material that is identified in:

1. Sections 25115 or 25117 of the California Health and Safety Code and set forth in Articles 9 and 11 of Title 22 of the California Administrative Code; or
  2. The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Sections 261.31-261.33.
- n. **High-rise** shall mean for the purposes of this ordinance, any building greater than two stories in height or having floors used for human occupancy located more than 30 feet above the lowest level of Fire Department vehicle access.
- o. **Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LP Gas)** shall mean any material which is composed predominately of the following hydrocarbons, or mixtures of them; propane, propylene, butane (normal butane or isobutane) and butylenes.
- p. **Liquefied Petroleum Gas Equipment** shall mean all containers, apparatus, piping (not including utility distribution piping system), and equipment pertinent to the storage and handling of liquefied petroleum gas; provided, however, that gas consuming appliances shall not be considered as being liquefied petroleum gas equipment.
- q. **Model Rocket** shall mean any toy or educational device which weighs not more than 500 grams, including the engine and any payload, that is propelled by model rocket engines.
- r. **Model Rocket Engine** shall mean a commercially manufactured, non-reusable rocket propulsion device which is constructed of a nonmetallic casing and solid propellant, wherein all of the ingredients are self-contained so as not to require mixing or handling by the user and which have design and construction characteristics determined by the State Fire Marshal to provide a reasonable degree of safety to the user.
- s. **Non-Combustible (Type IV) Construction** shall mean those types of construction defined in Chapter 21 of the Uniform Building Code.
- t. **Ordinary (Type III) Construction** shall mean those types of construction defined in Chapter 20 of the Uniform Building Code.
- u. **Person** shall mean any person, firm, corporation or association.
- v. **Places of Assembly** shall mean the gathering together of 50 or more persons for such purposes as deliberation, education, instruction, worship, entertainment, amusement or awaiting transportation, and drinking or dining establishment with an occupancy of 50 or more persons.
- w. **Road Commissioner** shall mean the Road Commissioner of Riverside County or his authorized representative.
- x. **Woodframe (Type V) Construction** shall mean those types of construction defined in Chapter 22 of the Uniform Building Code.

## **DIVISION II ADMINISTRATION**

**SECTION 201.** There is hereby established in the County of Riverside a "County Fire Department" which shall be under the jurisdiction of the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 202.** The County Fire Chief shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

**SECTION 203.** The County Fire Chief is authorized and directed to enforce all applicable State fire laws and the provisions of this ordinance, and he shall perform such related duties as may be fixed by the Board of Supervisors, and for such purposes he shall have the power of a peace officer.

**SECTION 204.** All interpretations of the provisions of this ordinance shall be made by the County Fire Chief.

### **SECTION 205.**

- a. There is hereby created a Fire Protection Review Board to act in an advisory capacity to the County Fire Chief. The purpose of this Board shall be to review interpretations made by the County Fire Chief pursuant to the immediately preceding section. The Board shall meet at least once in each calendar year, but other meetings may be called by the Chairman.
- b. The Board shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors and shall consist of five members who are qualified by experience and training to pass upon matters dealing with fire protection. The membership shall include one architect recommended by the Inland Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, one civil engineer recommended by the Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors Association of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, one hydraulic engineer recommended by the Riverside County Water Association, one Fire Officer from the County of Riverside recommended by the Riverside County Fire Chiefs' Association, and one representative of the general public. The members shall be appointed for a three year term; however, the initial Board shall be appointed as follows: One member shall be appointed for one year, two members shall be appointed for two years, and two members shall be appointed for three years. A Chairman of the Board shall be elected annually by the members thereof. No member of the Board shall be an employee of the County of Riverside.
- c. Any person desiring a review of an interpretation of this ordinance by the County Fire Chief may file a request with the Fire Protection Review Board for a hearing, upon the form provided by the Board, within 15 days after the date of said interpretation. The effect of the interpretation to be reviewed is suspended until the termination of the hearing.
- d. The Chairman shall fix the time and place of the hearing which shall be at a meeting of the Board held not less than 10 nor more than thirty days after the date of filing of the request for hearing. The Board shall give written notice of the time and place of the hearing to the initiating party and the County Fire Chief. Witnesses may be sworn and examined and evidence produced only by those interested parties who appear in person. The Board shall keep a record of the proceedings of each hearing.

- e. The Board shall make written findings and conclusions and forward its recommendation to the County Fire Chief and the applicant within five days after the close of the hearing. The affirmative vote of not less than three members shall constitute the recommendation of the Board.
- f. The County Fire Chief shall decide within 10 days of notification of the decision of the Board whether to accept or reject its recommendation and shall immediately notify the applicant of his decision.
- g. Upon being notified of the decision of the County Fire Chief, the applicant may appeal the interpretation the County Fire Chief has given to the provision of this ordinance which is in dispute or the recommended interpretation of said provision by the Fire Protection review Board or both. Any such appeal shall be made directly to the Board of Supervisors and must be filed within 25 calendar days after the date of the hearing before the Fire Protection Review Board and must be in writing on the forms provided by the County Fire Chief. Upon receipt of a completed appeal, the Clerk of the Board shall set the matter for hearing before the Board of Supervisors not less than 5 days nor more than 30 days thereafter and shall give written notice of the hearing to the appellant and the County Fire Chief. The Board of Supervisors shall render its decision within 30 days following the close of the hearing on the appeal.

**SECTION 206.** The County Fire Chief shall make such inspections of buildings, premises, land uses and appliances, as may be necessary, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions which would tend to cause fire or contribute to its spread, or which may be a violation of the provisions of this ordinance or any state law or regulation involving fire safety. At the time of, but no later than ten (10) days after an inspection is made pursuant to this section, the person who owns, operates or is in possession of the buildings, premises, land uses or appliances at the time they are inspected shall pay the fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671.

**SECTION 207.** The County Fire Chief shall investigate the origin, cause and circumstances of every fire occurring within the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside which involves loss of life or injury to person or property. If, after such investigation, it appears that the fire is of suspicious origin, the County Fire Chief shall take immediate charge of all physical evidence relating to the cause of the fire and shall pursue the investigation to its conclusion.

- a. The County Fire Chief shall investigate the origin, cause and circumstances of any hazardous or extremely hazardous materials or waste incident occurring within the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside which involves loss of life or injury to person or property. If, after such investigation, it appears that the incident is of suspicious origin, the County Fire Chief shall take immediate charge of all physical evidence relating to the cause of the incident and shall pursue the investigation to its conclusion.

**SECTION 208.**

- a. Whenever the County Fire Chief shall find this ordinance being violated, he shall issue such written orders as are necessary for its enforcement. A written order requiring compliance shall include a time limit for compliance, taking into account the hazard and danger created by the violation.
- b. Notwithstanding the above, whenever the County Fire Chief finds the use of any

building, structure or premises to be so defective or otherwise unsafe that it constitutes an immediate and substantial fire hazard to life and property, he shall issue such written notices to alter said use as may be necessary. Until all conditions of such written notices have been met, the building, structure or premises which has caused the fire hazard shall not be used or be permitted to be used.

- c. All orders issued pursuant to this section may be served by personal delivery of a copy of the order to the owner of the property. Service of the order is deemed complete at the time of such delivery. If a copy of the order cannot with reasonable diligence be personally delivered to the person to be served, the order may be served by leaving a copy of the order at the owner's dwelling house, usual place of abode, or usual place of business with a competent member of the household or a person apparently in charge of his office or place of business, at least 18 years of age, who shall be informed of the content thereof, or if no such person is found on the premises, by affixing a copy of the order in a conspicuous place on the door to the entrance of said premises, and thereafter mailing a copy, by certified mail, of the order that was left, to the person sought to be served. Service of the order shall be deemed complete on the 10th day after such mailing. Any order issued and served pursuant to this section shall be complied with by the owner or the person having control of the property.
- d. At the time of, but no later than ten (10) days after an inspection is made pursuant to this section, the person who owns, operates or is in possession of the buildings, premises, land uses or appliances at the time they are inspected shall pay the fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671.

**SECTION 209.** The County Fire Chief shall keep a record of all fires occurring within the unincorporated area of the County. This record shall contain a description of the extent of each fire, the damage caused thereby and the cause of each fire, if determinable, together with such other facts as are necessary. All such records shall be kept for a period of not less than three years.

**SECTION 210.** Those individuals charged with primary responsibility for fire protection in the cities served by the County Fire Department and in the Cleveland and San Bernardino National Forests that lie within Riverside County, or their authorized representatives, may, but are not required to, enforce the provisions of this ordinance and perform those duties which, but for this section, would be performed by the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 211.** No person, firm, corporation or association shall permit any fire hazard to exist in premises or in an area under their control, or fail to take immediate action to abate a fire hazard when requested to do so by the County Fire Chief.

- a. No person, firm, corporation, or association shall permit any hazardous or extremely hazardous materials hazard or waste hazard to exist in premises or in an area under its control, or fail to take immediate action to abate such a hazard when requested to do so by the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 212.** The County Fire Chief shall develop and implement an annual Fire and Life Safety Inspection Program for all buildings, other than single-family dwellings, which are subject to the Riverside County Fire Ordinance. At the time of, but no later than ten (10) days after an inspection is made pursuant to this section, the person who owns,

operates, or is in possession of the buildings, premises, land uses or appliances at the time that they are inspected shall pay the fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671.

**SECTION 213.** The County Fire Chief shall provide information to the State Department of Real Estate and title companies, when requested by them, of the type, location and delivery capabilities of fire defense facilities and resources under the control of the County Fire Department upon payment of the fees specified in Ordinance No. 671. The request must be in writing and accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

### **DIVISION III COST RECOVERY**

**SECTION 301.** Any person who negligently, or in violation of the law, sets a fire, allows a fire to be set, or allows a fire kindled or attended by him to escape his control or burn any structure, improvement, forest, range or grassland, is liable for the expense of fighting the fire, and such expense shall be a charge against that person, and that charge shall constitute a debt of such person which is collectible by the person, or by the federal, state, county, public or private agency or the County Fire Department incurring such expenses in the same manner as in the case of an obligation under a contract, expressed or implied.

- a. Any person who negligently, or in violation of any statute, regulation or ordinance dumps, or causes to be dumped, or releases or causes to be released, any hazardous or extremely hazardous material or hazardous waste onto the ground or into the environment is liable for the expense of mitigating and/or removing the hazard created by said actions or omissions, and such expense shall be a charge against such person or persons. Said charges shall constitute a debt of such person or persons which shall be collectible by the person, or by the federal, state, county, public or private agency or by the County Fire Department and/or the County Health Department incurring the expense of mitigation and/or removal in the same manner as in the case of an obligation under arising contract, expressed or implied.

**SECTION 302.** The expense of securing any emergency which is a result of a violation of this Ordinance is a charge against the person whose violation of this Ordinance 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 County Fire Chief in the same manner as in the case of an obligation under a contract, express or implied.

- a. The expense of securing any hazardous or extremely hazardous materials or waste incident which is a result of negligence or a violation of any statute, regulation or ordinance is a charge against the person or persons whose actions or omissions caused the incident. The expenses incurred by the Fire Department and/or Health Department for securing such incident shall constitute a debt of such person or persons and shall be collectible by the County Fire Chief or Health Officer in the same manner as in the case of an obligation arising under contract, expressed or implied.

**SECTION 303.** Structure, improvement shall mean, for the purposes of this Division only, any building, garage, tent, outbuilding, barn, corral, fence or bridge whether or not in

actual use at the time of the fire.

**SECTION 304.** Requests for copies of public and legal documents, photographs, etc., relating to department activities are available as authorized by law through the Fire Department's Custodian of Records. All document requests shall be in writing, accompanied by a check made payable to the Riverside County Fire Department, in the amount(s) set forth in Ordinance No. 671.

**DIVISION IV  
GENERAL PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FIRE**

**SECTION 401.**

- a. No person shall light or cause to be set a fire or use fire for the clearing of land, or burn brush, slash, fallen timber, grass or other flammable material, without first having obtained a written permit from the County Fire Chief. The permittee shall abide by all conditions of the permit and any violation thereof shall be grounds for revocation.
- b. No person shall, within any grass, brush or other area covered with flammable material, except as hereafter provided, make, kindle, light, build or use any campfire, bonfire or other out-of-door fire, or burn flammable materials in any incinerator or other type of burning receptacle, without first obtaining a written permit from the County Fire Chief.
- c. The County Fire Chief may designate places on private property, at the request of the owner and upon payment of the fees as set forth in Ordinance No. 671, where campfires may be built. The owner shall cause to be placed proper signs or posters approved by the County Fire Chief which clearly state where campfires may be built without a special permit. All such signs shall clearly indicate that all fires must be thoroughly extinguished and covered with mineral soil before they can be left unattended.
- d. All outdoor open fires shall be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is extinguished.
- e. The County Fire Chief may prohibit any or all outdoor fires when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.

**SECTION 402.**

- a. Where conditions in or around warehouses, stores, industrial plants, institutions, schools, or other places of assembly are such as to make smoking a hazard, and in open spaces where combustible materials are stored or handled, the County Fire Chief may order the owner or occupant, in writing to post "NO SMOKING" signs in each building, structure, room or place in which smoking shall be prohibited. Such signs shall be conspicuously and suitably located. The County Fire Chief may designate specific areas at such locations in which smoking will be permitted.
- b. No person, within the boundaries of any hazardous fire area in the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside shall, between the first day of May and last day of January of each year, smoke a cigar, cigarette, tobacco, or any other similar substance, except at designated campgrounds, designated smoking areas and occupied places of habitation. Smoking in such designated campgrounds, areas and places of habitation, shall be permitted only in those portions thereof which are protected by a firebreak and which are cleared of all flammable materials and vegetation.



- c. The Fire Chief may, during periods of high fire danger, designate areas within the County of Riverside outside the hazardous fire areas where smoking will be prohibited. The Fire Chief shall post "NO SMOKING" signs at all roads and trails entering such areas of fire danger and intermittently along roads and trails traversing said area.

**SECTION 403.** Any chimney upon any cabin, house, hotel, house trailer, or other building or improvement located in any timber, grass, brush, or grain covered area shall have across the opening thereof a galvanized or copper screen spark arrester of a mesh not larger than one-half of an inch.

**SECTION 404.** No person shall transport, possess, fire or discharge any bullets or ammunition of any kind containing thermit, magnesium, or aluminum components.

**SECTION 405.** Every person, owning, leasing or otherwise controlling improved real property, and every person, owning, leasing or otherwise controlling real property adjacent to improved real property, shall maintain an effective fire break for the protection of improvements by removing all hazardous flammable materials or growth from the ground around each improvement for a distance of not less than 30 feet or more than 100 feet from its exterior circumference. Where the distance from the improvements to the property line of the parcel upon which the improvement is located is less than the distance required to be cleared, the adjacent owner or lessee shall clear an area on his property sufficient to provide the required fire break.

**SECTION 406.** Clearance of Brush and Vegetative Growth from Electrical Transmission Lines and Railroad Right-of-Ways:

- a. Every person, owning, controlling, operating or maintaining any electrical transmission line on any land covered with flammable vegetation shall maintain around any pole supporting a switch, fuse, transformer, lightning arrester, or line junction, if bolted connectors are used, an effective fire break, consisting of a clearing of not less than 10 feet in each direction from the outer circumference of such pole. This section shall not apply to lines used exclusively as telephone, telegraph or telegraph messenger call, fire or alarm lines, or other lines classed as communication circuits by the California Public Utilities Commission.
- b. Every person, owning, controlling, operating or maintaining any electrical transmission line in any hazardous fire area shall maintain the following clearances in all directions between vegetation and conductors carrying electrical current:
  - 1. For lines operating at 2400 volts and less than 72,000 volts, 4 feet.
  - 2. For lines operating at 72,000 volts and less than 110,000 volts, 6 feet.
  - 3. For lines operating at 110,000 volts and over, 10 feet Trees that are dead, decadent, rotten, weakened by catfaces, decay or disease, and trees that are forked or leaning toward the lines, which may contact the line from the side or may fall on the line, shall be cut or trimmed so as to remove the hazard.
- c. No clearance is required under this section when self-supporting aerial cable is used except that forked trees and growth that may fall across the cable and break it shall be removed.

- d. Every person owning, controlling, operating or maintaining any railroad within the County of Riverside shall clear and maintain free of flammable vegetation those portions of the land adjoining its roadbeds the County Fire Chief requests be cleared and maintained; provided, however, that in no case shall the County Fire Chief require that land be cleared pursuant to this subsection that is beyond any railroad right of way line.
- e. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to require any person to maintain any clearing on land where such person does not have the legal right to maintain such clearing.

**SECTION 407.** No person shall throw down or drop any lighted match, cigar, cigarette or other burning substance, in combustible material or in close proximity thereto.

**SECTION 408.** No person shall deposit hot ashes, cinders, smoldering coals, or greasy or oily substances subject to spontaneous ignition, into any non-metal uncovered receptacle, or place the same within 10 feet of any combustible materials. Such receptacles, unless resting on a noncombustible floor or on the ground outside the buildings, shall be placed on noncombustible stands and in every case shall be kept at least 2 feet away from any combustible wall, partition, or exterior window opening.

**SECTION 409.** Every outdoor fireplace or permanent barbecue or grill shall be maintained in good repair and in a safe condition at all times. Any such appliance which does not have a door or spark arrester screens covering each of its openings shall not be used until approved by the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 410.**

- a. No person shall transport, or permit to be transported over any highway, road or street, any asphalt kettle beneath which is maintained any open fire, heated coals, or ashes.
- b. Asphalt kettles shall not be used inside of, or on the roof of, any building. There shall be one or more approved fire extinguishers with a total extinguishing capacity equal to a 20 BC classification extinguisher within 30 feet of each asphalt kettle during the period such kettle is in use, and one additional 20 BC classification fire extinguisher on the roof being covered.

**SECTION 411.** Every outside window, in a building used for manufacturing purposes or for storage, which opens directly on any hoistway or other vertical means of communication between two or more floors in such buildings, shall be plainly marked with the word "SHAFTWAY" in red letters at least 6 inches high on a white background, which warning sign shall be so placed as to be easily discernible from the outside of the building. Every door or window opening on such shaftway from the interior of the building, unless the construction of the partition surrounding the shaftway is of such distinctive nature as to make its purpose evident at a glance, shall be similarly marked with the warning word "SHAFTWAY" so placed as to be easily visible to anyone approaching the shaftway from the interior of the building.

**SECTION 412.** Any person using a torch or other flame-producing device for

removing paint from any building or structure shall provide one approved fire extinguisher or water hose equipped with a suitable nozzle, sufficient in length to reach all portions of the building and connected to the water supply on the premises where such burning is done.

**SECTION 413.** No person shall maintain any torch or lantern utilizing an open flame along any excavation, road, or any place where the dislodgement of the torch or lantern may permit it to roll, fall or slide on to any forest or brush covered land, or any other land containing flammable material.

**SECTION 414.** No person shall use any open flame device for lighting or decoration on the exterior of any boat or on any slip or wharf or for maintenance or repair on any slip or wharf without first obtaining a permit from the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 415.** Upon vacating or abandoning any premises, the occupant thereof shall remove hazardous material or waste matter which has accumulated thereon.

**SECTION 416.** Every person owning, or in control of, any vacant building shall remove there from all accumulations of combustible waste or rubbish and shall secure all doors and windows.

**SECTION 417.** Every building or portion of a building shall be maintained in a neat orderly manner, free from any condition that would create a fire or life hazard or a condition which would add to or contribute to the rapid spread of fire.

**SECTION 418.**

- a. The County Fire Chief is hereby given the authority to require areas to be cleared of obstructions and maintained as FIRELANES at any location where he has determined that the circumstances are such that without such FIRE LANES the entry by and use of fire apparatus for fire suppression or rescue purposes would be obstructed or otherwise rendered unduly difficult.
- b. Appropriate signs of a type specified by the County Fire Chief which contain the phrase "FIRE LANE" shall be placed by the owner of the land in those locations approved by the County Fire Chief.
- c. No person shall stop or park a vehicle within, or otherwise obstruct, any area designated as a FIRE LANE by the County Fire Chief.

**DIVISION V  
FIREWORKS**

**SECTION 501.** No person shall have in his possession, or keep, store, use, shoot, discharge, set off, ignite, manufacture, sell, give or transport any fireworks, except for use as agricultural and wildlife fireworks or for use in a public display of fireworks pursuant to a permit obtained under the provisions of Sections 12640-12654 of the California Health and Safety Code; provided, however, that this section shall not be construed to prohibit the firing of model rockets if prior to firing any such model rocket from any site the firer first secures the written or verbal authorization to do so from the County Fire Chief and otherwise complies with Article 14 of Title 19 of the California Administrative Code.

**SECTION 502.** For the purposes of this Division only, the area encompassed by the boundaries of the County of Riverside shall be designated as "hazardous area."

## **DIVISION VI HAZARDOUS FIRE AREA**

**SECTION 601.** The hazardous fire areas within the County of Riverside are those portions of the unincorporated area so designated on the maps entitled "Hazardous Fire Areas of Riverside County" on file in the office of the Clerk of this Board and in the office of the County Fire Chief of Riverside County. The hazardous fire area shall be reviewed from time to time to determine whether any changes in classification are appropriate.

**(a)** Additional local responsibility lands pursuant to Chapter 1188 of the Statute for 1992 are designated "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Areas". These lands lie outside the Fire Hazard Area Boundaries and are described and illustrated according to a map on file in the office of the Clerk of this Board and the office of the County Fire Chief of Riverside County.

**SECTION 602.** The County Fire Chief is hereby given the authority to officially determine and publicly announce the closure of any hazardous fire area or portion thereof. However, any closure by the County Fire Chief for a period of more than 15 days must be approved by the Board of Supervisors within 15 days of the County Fire Chief's original order of closure. No person shall go in, or be upon, any hazardous fire, except upon the public roadways and inhabited areas therein during such time as the area is closed to entry. This section shall not prohibit residents or owners of private property within any closed area, or their invitees, from going in or being upon their lands. This section does not apply to any entry, in the course of duty by a peace officer or any other duly authorized public officer, member of any Fire Department, or member of the U.S. Forest Service or California Division of Forestry nor does this section apply to National Forest Land in any respect. During periods of closure, the County Fire Chief shall erect and maintain at all entrances to the closed areas sufficient signs giving adequate notice of the closure.

**SECTION 603.** The County Fire Chief is hereby given the authority to require areas to be cleared and maintained as **FIRE SAFETY ZONES** by the owner of the land to be cleared in any hazardous fire area where structures of any type exist. All cleared **FIRE SAFETY ZONES** shall be at least 200 feet square but in no case shall exceed 3 acres for every 50 acres of total land area. Metal signs of a size specified by the County Fire Chief which designate **FIRE SAFETY ZONE** shall be placed by the owner of the land in a location approved by the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 603.5.** All new buildings or structures that are constructed or moved into hazardous fire areas shall comply with the following construction requirements:

- a. Roof covering.** Roof covering shall be fire retardant roofing as specified in Section 3203(e) of the Uniform Building Code, or other fire retardant roofing that has been tested by the Underwriters Laboratory or other recognized testing agency and accepted by the International Conference of Building Officials.
- b. Protection of Openings.** Openings into attics, floors or other enclosed areas shall be covered with corrosion-resistant wire mesh not greater than     inch in any dimension unless such openings are equipped with sash or doors.

- c. **Alterations.** Existing buildings and structures in high fire hazard areas to which additions, alterations or repairs are made shall comply with these special provisions in accordance with the provisions of Section 104 of the Uniform Building Code.

**SECTION 604.** No person shall use any lighted or smoldering material in connection with smoking bees in or upon any hazardous fire area without first obtaining a permit from the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 605.**

- a. No person shall operate or use any device, machine or process, such as a welding torch, tar pot, or decorative torch, liable to start or cause fire, in or upon any hazardous fire area, without first having obtained a written permit from the County Fire Chief, which may be issued on an annual basis.
- b. No person shall operate or use any flame employing device such as a lantern or kerosene road flare as a signal or marker in or upon any hazardous fire area. However, this subsection shall not apply to or restrict the proper use of fuses at the scenes of emergencies or as required by standard railroad operating procedures.

**SECTION 606.** Any person owning, leasing, controlling, operating or maintaining any building or structure within a hazardous fire area shall at all times:

- a. Remove that portion of any tree which extends within 10 feet of the outlet of any chimney;
- b. Maintain any tree adjacent to or overhanging any building free of deadwood; and
- c. Maintain the roof of any structure free of hazardous accumulations of leaves, needles or other dead vegetative growth.

**SECTION 607.** No person shall deposit any solid waste or rubbish in or upon any hazardous fire area other than in established County Disposal sites.

**SECTION 608.** No person shall deposit any ashes or coals in or upon any hazardous fire area except in the hearth of an established fire pit, camp stove, or fireplace, or in a non-combustible container with a tight-fitting lid which is kept or maintained in a safe location not less than 10 feet from any combustible vegetation or structure. However, if ashes or coals are buried and covered with one foot of mineral earth, they may be deposited within 25 feet of combustible vegetation or structures.

**DIVISION VII**

**FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR LAND  
DIVISIONS IN ZONES WHICH ALLOW MULTI-FAMILY  
RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, AND INDUSTRIAL USES**

**SECTION 701.** No division of land in any zone that allows multi-family residential, commercial or industrial uses shall be approved, pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance No. 460, unless the Land Division Committee makes a finding that the land division currently has the following fire protection or unless the approved tentative subdivision or parcel map requires the installation of the following fire protection facilities:

- a. Land divisions in zones which allow multi-family residential uses, land divisions in

zones which allow commercial buildings where the lots created are one acre gross in size or less, and land divisions in zones which allow light manufacturing uses, shall provide the following:

1. The water mains shall be capable of providing a potential fire flow of 2500 gpm and the actual fire flow available from any one hydrant connected to any given water main shall be 1500 gpm for two hours duration at 20 psi residual operating pressure.
  2. Approved fire hydrants shall be located at each street intersection, if possible, but in no event shall there be an interval of more than 330 feet between hydrants.
- b. Land divisions in zones which allow commercial buildings where the lots created are larger than one acre gross and land divisions in zones which allow medium industrial uses shall provide the following:
1. The water mains shall be capable of providing a potential fire flow of 4000 gpm and the actual fire flow available from any two adjacent hydrants connected to any given water main shall be 2000 gpm for two hours duration at 20 psi residual operating pressure.
  2. Approved fire hydrants shall be located at each street intersection, if possible, but in no event shall there be an interval of more than 330 feet between hydrants.
- c. Land divisions in zones which allow heavy industrial uses shall provide the following:
1. The water mains shall be capable of providing a potential fire flow of 5000 gpm and the actual fire flow available from any two adjacent hydrants connected to any given water main shall be 2500 gpm for two hours duration at 20 psi residual operating pressure.
  2. Approved fire hydrants shall be located at each street intersection, if possible, but in no event shall there be an interval of more than 330 feet between hydrants.

**SECTION 702.** No division of land in zones which allow multi-family residential, commercial or industrial uses shall be approved pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance No. 460 unless the Land Division Committee makes a finding that the proposed land division complies with the requirements of this section. For purposes of this section, roadway shall mean any highway or private street improved or designed or ordinarily used for vehicle traffic.

- a. No dead-end or cul-de-sac road shall exceed 1,320 feet in length.
- b. In any hazardous fire area of Riverside County, no dead-end or cul-de-sac road shall exceed 660 feet in length.
- c. All dead-end roads shall be appropriately marked.
- d. Metal signs of a size approved by the County Fire Chief with the designation **FIRE ESCAPE ROUTES** shall be placed in all locations specified by the County Fire Chief.
- e. When only one means of access exists to the land to be divided and the County Fire Chief has requested an alternate means of access, an alternate means of access shall be provided by the land divider.

**SECTION 703.**

- a. Upon the written request of the applicant, the approving body, in granting approval of

a tentative subdivision map or tentative parcel map which is subject to the requirements of Section 701 may reduce the fire protection requirements of Section 701 if it determines that:

1. The water necessary to produce the fire flow required by Section 701 is not available, and;
  2. The County Fire Chief of the local Fire Protection District has not objected to the request for the reduction, and;
  3. The granting of the reduction will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare or be injurious to other property in the vicinity.
- b. Application for the reduction shall be made in writing stating the amount of reduction requested, the reasons and justification for the requested reduction, and shall be filed with the tentative map.

**SECTION 704.** The fire protection requirements for all land divisions in zones that do not allow multi-family residential, commercial or industrial uses shall be as provided in Ordinance No. 460.

## **DIVISION VIII FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS, INSTALLATION, REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES**

**SECTION 801.** The County Fire Chief shall designate the type and number of fire appliances to be installed and maintained in and upon all buildings and premises in the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance and the Uniform Building Code.

### **SECTION 801.1.**

- a. Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems conforming to the standards described in NFPA No. 13 shall be installed in:
1. All new occupancies which exceed a fire flow of 1500 gpm or when the building is over 30 feet in height; and,
  2. Notwithstanding a.1. above, all Group H, M, and Group R - Division 3 occupancies shall conform to Section 3802 of the Uniform Building Code, thereby exempting Group R - Division 3 single-family residences from fire sprinkler requirements.
- b. Fire-Extinguishing equipment of a fixed pipe type shall be provided in all commercial or restaurant-cooking appliance ventilating systems and other special hazard areas as designated by the County Fire Chief.
- c. Area separation walls which are installed pursuant to this section to reduce the building area for fire flow computations shall meet the specifications of the Uniform Building Code, Section 505e; however, with the exception of residential condominiums/townhouses, the designated location of an area separation wall proposed in lieu of fire sprinklers shall require the approval of the County Fire Chief.
- d. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, the minimum standards required by this section shall be those in the Uniform Building Code.

**SECTION 801.2.** The "**Life Safety Support System**" described in this section shall be required on and/or in all new high-rise occupancies, however, in those high-rise structures where specific features or conditions mitigate the need for one or more of the systems

described, the County Fire Chief may review the continued necessity of such system(s).

- a. **Fire Alarm.** A manual fire alarm box shall be located adjacent to all exits into stairway shafts and in every lobby. The box shall be connected to the Central Control Station and to the voice communication system as required by Sections 1807(f) of the Uniform Building Code. The system shall be designed in accordance with Uniform Building Code Standard No. 18-1 (to be based upon applicable provisions of NFPA 71, 71A, or 72B).
- b. **Fire Detectors.** An approved system which will provide for automatic detection of products of combustion other than heat shall be installed in every mechanical equipment room and in the return air portion of every air conditioning and mechanical ventilation system that serves floors other than the floor on which the equipment is located. Detectors set to operate within the limitations of Uniform Building Code Standard No. 43-6 (or greater sensitivity), shall be located at each opening into the vertical shaft.
- c. **Voice Alarm System.** Both the detection system and the fire alarm system shall activate a voice alarm system capable of being operated from the Central Control Station on both a general and selective basis and dependent upon the compartmentation involved. The alarm shall be designed to be heard by all occupants within the building or designated portions thereof and within the elevators. The elevator lobby detector required by Chapter 51 of the Uniform Building Code shall be connected to the system.
- d. **Voice Communications System.** There shall be two separately approved, continuously electrically supervised, voice communication systems; one for Fire Department communication system and the other a public voice communication (address) system between the Central Control Station and the following areas:
  1. Elevators, elevator lobbies, corridors and stairways.
  2. In every office area exceeding 1,000 square feet in area.
  3. In each dwelling unit and hotel guest room. When approved, the Fire Department system may be combined with the public voice communication system.
- e. **Central Control Station.** A Central Control Station for Fire Department operations shall be provided in a location approved by the Fire Department. It shall contain the voice communication systems panel, fire detection and alarm system panels, status indicators and controls for elevators and air handling systems, a public telephone, a control mechanism to unlock stairway doors, sprinkler valve and water flow detectors and standby power controls.
- f. **Smoke Control.** Natural or mechanical ventilation for the removal of the products of combustion shall be provided in every story and shall consist of one or more of the following:
  1. Panels or windows in the exterior wall which can be opened from an approved location other than the fire floor. Such venting facilities shall be provided at the rate of at least 20 square feet per lineal foot or exterior wall in each story and distributed around the perimeter at no more than 50 foot intervals. Such panels shall be clearly identified as required by the Fire Department.
  2. Tempered glass may be used in lieu of openable panels.
  3. When fire sprinklers are installed in compliance with Section 1807(g) 2; the mechanical air handling equipment may be designed to assist smoke removal. Under fire conditions, the return and exhaust air shall be moved directly to the outside of the building.
  4. A shaft through which smoke and heat can be mechanically vented to the outdoors. The size of the shaft shall be uniform throughout and of such dimensions as to provide 10 air changes per hours in the largest compartments.
  5. Any other design which will produce equivalent



results.

- g. Elevators.** At least one elevator in each bank available for Fire Department access to any floor shall be provided. The elevator shall open into a lobby, which may serve additional elevators, and shall be separated from the remainder of the building by construction as required for corridors. An elevator may be within a smoke proof enclosure. All elevators shall comply with the building requirements contained in Chapter 51 of the Uniform Building Code.
- h. Standby Power and Light.** A permanently installed standby power generation system conforming to Uniform Building Code Standard No. 18-1 (to be based on NFPA 70-1971), shall be provided. The system shall be equipped with suitable means for automatically starting the generator set upon failure of the normal electrical service and for automatic transfer and operation of such normal electrical service failure. System supervision with manual start and transfer features shall be provided at the Central Control Station.
- i. Standby Fuel Supply.** An on-premise fuel supply sufficient for not less than two hours full demand operation of the system shall be provided. All power, lighting, signal, and communication facilities provided under the requirements of this section shall be transferable to the standby power system. The power requirement shall be determined so as to provide service to, but not limited to, the following:

  - 1. Fire alarm system.
  - 2. Exit and other emergency lighting.
  - 3. Fire protection equipment
  - 4. Required mechanical ventilation.
  - 5. Fire Department elevators.
  - 6. Voice Communication systems.
- j. Seismic Considerations.** In Seismic Zones 3 and 4, the anchorage of the following mechanical and electrical equipment required by this section shall be designed in accordance with Section 2312 of the Uniform Building Code for a lateral force based on a "Cp" value:

  - 1. Elevator drive and suspension systems.
  - 2. Standby power and lighting facilities.
  - 3. Fire pumps and other fire protection equipment.
- k. Exits.** All stairway doors which are to be locked from the stairway side shall have the capability of being unlocked remotely upon a signal from the Central Control Station. Emergency telephone (s) shall be provided at not less than every third floor in each required stairway.
- l. Automatic Fire-Extinguishing System.**

  - 1. An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed complying with the standards set forth in Chapter 8 of NFPA 13 and the following:
    - a. Shutoff valves and water flow devices shall be provided on each floor. In addition to actuating a local alarm on the floor upon which the water flow is detected, such valves shall be supervised by a continuously manned control station or by a central station.
    - b. The sprinkler system shall be looped between standpipe risers at the bottom, top and mid-height of all buildings with a maximum of 20 stories served by any loop. At each loop level there shall be check valves.
    - c. Piping shall be as required by the Uniform Building Code and conform to the requirement of NFPA-13. Solder connections may be used if not less than 95 percent tin and 5 percent antimony.
    - d. Pitching of lines is not required.
    - e. A minimum of two fire pumps independently driven shall be provided and sized for the sprinkler demand and for a minimum 500 gallons per minute Fire Department standpipe operations at the highest level of human occupancy.

- f. An on-site supply of water equal to a 20-minute demand or 15,000 gallons on a combined sprinkler and standpipe, whichever is smaller, shall be provided. This supply shall be available automatically if the principal supply fails.
- g. Operation of the sprinkler system shall activate the voice and visual communication system(s).

**SECTION 803.c.** The above requirements shall not apply to the construction of single-family residences.

**SECTION 802.** In extra hazardous occupancies or in occupancies where access for fire apparatus is unduly difficult additional safeguards may be required consisting of additional fire appliance units, more than one type of appliance, or special systems suitable for the protection of the hazard involved. These appliances and systems may consist of, but shall not be limited to, automatic fire alarm systems, automatic sprinkler or water spray systems, standpipe and hose, fixed or portable fire extinguishers, suitable asbestos blankets, breathing apparatus, manual or automatic covers, or carbon dioxide, foam or other special fire extinguishing systems.

**SECTION 803.**

- a. No building shall be constructed and no building permit shall be issued by the Building Director therefore, until the plans are submitted to the Department for review, accompanied by the fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671, and until the County Fire Chief certifies that the fire flows required by Section 804 are presently existing or certifies that the plans for the proposed construction ensure that prior to completion of construction of the building the fire flows required by Section 804 will be available for fire protection purposes.
- b. Fire hydrants required to be installed before any construction of any building can commence shall be installed in accordance with a water system plan approved by the County Fire Chief. All hydrants shall be located at street intersections, if possible, and in no event shall any fire hydrant be installed so that a portion of any building is more than 165 feet, as measured along approved vehicular travel way, or less than 25 feet from a hydrant.
- c. The above requirements shall not apply to the construction of one family residences.

**SECTION 804.**

- a. The fire flow required before any building may be constructed within the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside shall be set by the County Fire Chief. Each fire hydrant currently existing or required to be installed on the parcel of land to be developed shall be capable of providing the fire flow set by the County Fire Chief pursuant to this section. In setting the requirements for fire flow, the County Fire Chief shall use as a guide the standards published by the Insurance Services Office in the 1980 Edition of Fire Suppression Rating Schedule, provided however, that in no case shall the County Fire Chief require a fire flow in excess of that required by the "Guide for Determination of Required Fire Flow".
- b. All required fire flows may be provided by any combination of on-site or off-site facilities.
- c. The fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671 must be paid at the time that the request for a flow test on a water system is made.

**SECTION 805.** No new building constructed within the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside shall be occupied or used until the fire flows required by Section 801.1, 801.2 and 804 of this ordinance are provided and operative.

**SECTION 806.** No conditional use permit, public use permit, or plot plan which allows

any structure to be used for purposes of habitation shall be granted without first establishing fire protection requirements as a condition of the permit; provided, however, the minimum fire protection requirements so established shall not be less than 500 gallons per minute for two hours duration at 20 psi residual operating pressure at any given hydrant.

**SECTION 807.**

- a. Upon the written request of the applicant, the County Fire Chief may reduce the fire flows required by Section 804, 806 and 813 if he determines that:
  1. Water necessary to produce the fire flow required by Section 804 is not available, and;
  2. Adequate alternate means of providing fire protection is available, and;
  3. The construction of the building is such that a reduction of the fire flows required by Section 804 can be reasonably justified, and;
  4. The granting of the reduction will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare or be injurious to the property in the vicinity.
- b. The reasons for any such reduction shall be reduced to writing and a copy given to the applicant. In addition, one copy shall be sent to the Land Use Division of the Riverside County Department of Building and Safety and one copy shall be sent to the Planning Department of Riverside County.

**SECTION 808.** Every person constructing or relocating a building or portion of a building shall comply with the requirements of Division VIII of this ordinance.

**SECTION 809.** All sprinkler systems, fire hydrant systems, stand-pipe systems, fire alarm systems, portable fire extinguishers and other fire protective or extinguishing systems or appliances shall be maintained in an operative condition at all times and shall be replaced or repaired when defective. The applicant or the person who owns, operates or is in possession of the buildings, premises, land uses appliances shall pay the fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671 to the County Fire Department at the time that the plans are submitted for review and at the time of, but no later than ten (10) days after inspections are made pursuant to this section.

**SECTION 810.** The Life Safety Support System required by Riverside County Ordinance No. 457 for all buildings more than two stories in height or more than 55 feet in height, shall be maintained in an operable condition at all times. Monthly tests of the ventilation system for the stairways and smoke towers, detection systems, fire pumps, fire alarm, communication systems and standby power and light equipment shall be conducted under the direction of the building owner or his authorized representative. A written record shall be maintained and be made available to the County Fire Chief. The person who owns, operates or is in possession of the buildings, premises, land uses or appliances shall pay the fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671 to the County Fire Department at the time that the plans are submitted for review and at the time of, but no later than ten (10) days after inspections are made pursuant to this section.

**SECTION 811.** No person shall sell or trade any form, type or kind of fire extinguisher which is not approved, or which is not in proper working order, or the contents of which do not meet the requirements of this ordinance or state law; provided, however, this shall not apply to the sale or trade of fire extinguishers to any person or firm engaged in the business of selling or handling of such extinguishers or the sale or exchange of obsolete or damaged equipment for junk.

**SECTION 812.** No person shall operate any lot, parcel of land or premises where three or more vehicles are stored, kept or parked for the public in the open air, whether a charge be made for such parking or not, and where an attendant is on duty, without first keeping a fire extinguisher, approved by the County Fire Chief, on hand at all times.

**SECTION 813.** No use, including but not limited to a Conditional Use Permit, which allows recreational vehicle storage or sales lots or mobile homes sales lots, shall be granted without first requiring as a condition of that use or permit approved fire hydrants providing a minimum fire flow of 500 gpm for a 2 hour duration at 20 psi residual operating pressure; one fire hydrant to be located within 50 feet of the entry gate to the storage lot. An additional approved fire hydrant shall be placed within the lot in a location that ensures that no recreational vehicle or mobile home can be stored more than 250 feet from, or within 25 feet of, a fire hydrant measured along approved vehicular travel ways. The person who owns, operates or is in possession of the buildings, premises, land uses or appliances shall pay the fee set forth in Ordinance No. 671 at the time water plans are submitted for review or the Department is requested to evaluate existing facilities.

**SECTION 814.**

- a. Smoke detectors approved by the State Fire Marshal shall be installed and properly maintained in all existing dwellings, including but not limited to single-family dwellings, duplexes, apartments, townhouses, condominiums, motels and hotels.
- b. All smoke detectors shall be installed in conformance with the Uniform Building Code.
- c. All new dwellings shall comply with the provisions of this section either upon sale or transfer of title to the dwelling or by January 2, 1988, whichever occurs first. The responsibility for compliance with this section shall rest with the owner of the dwelling.

**DIVISION IX  
FIRE HYDRANTS STANDARDS**

**SECTION 901.** Fire hydrants shall be set so that the center line of the riser or barrel complies with the following:

- a. When curbs are proposed, hydrants shall be located not less than 18 inches nor more than 24 inches in back of the curb face.
- b. When curbs with sidewalks adjacent are existing or proposed, hydrants shall be located 18 inches behind the sidewalk, but not less than 8 inches within the road right-of-way.
- c. When curbs with sidewalks adjacent to the property line are existing or proposed, hydrants shall be located not less than 18 inches nor more than 24 inches in back of the curb face.
- d. When no curbs or sidewalks are existing or proposed, hydrants shall be placed in such locations as are approved by the Road Commissioner and the County Fire Chief.
- e. Single outlet hydrants shall be installed with the outlet facing the curb and at right angles to the curb.
- f. Double outlet hydrants shall be installed with the outlets facing the curb and at 45 degrees to the curb line.
- g. In all cases where Fire Department connections are required, a fire hydrant as approved by the County Fire Chief shall be installed within 50 feet of the Fire Department connection.
- h. Triple outlet hydrants shall be installed with the largest outlet facing at right angles to the curb.

**SECTION 902.** The exterior surfaces of all fire hydrant riser barrels, heads and guard posts which extend above ground shall be painted chrome yellow. The tops and nozzles caps of all fire hydrants shall be painted as follows:

- a. Green for hydrants with a flow capacity of 1000 gpm or more at 20 psi residual pressure.
- b. Orange for hydrants with a flow capacity of 500 gpm to 999 gpm at 20 psi residual pressure.

- c. Red for hydrants with a flow capacity of less than 500 gpm at 20 psi residual pressure.

**SECTION 903.**

- a. **Dry barrel fire hydrants.** All fire hydrants of the dry type shall conform to American Water Works Association, Standard C-502, and shall be designated for a minimum working pressure of 150 psi.
- b. **Wet barrel fire hydrants.** All fire hydrants of the wet type shall conform to American Water Works Association, Standard C-503, and shall be designated for a minimum working pressure of 150 psi.

**SECTION 904.** All fire hydrant outlets shall have National Standard Hose threads complete with bronze or plastic cap with chain attached.

**SECTION 905.** All fire hydrant heads with a single 2 ½ inch outlet shall be of the angle fire plug valve type, with screw or union bonnet and shall have a minimum 4" screwed or flanged inlet. All fire hydrant heads with two 2 ½ inch by one 4-inch outlet, one 2 ½ inch by one 4-inch outlet or two 2 ½ inch outlets, shall have a minimum 6 inch screwed or flanged inlet. Fire hydrants cast in two parts shall have an "O" ring gasket that provides a positive seal at the joint of the stool and hydrant head.

**SECTION 906.** Permanent guard posts shall be installed where necessary to protect exposed fire hydrants as determined by the County Fire Chief and approved by the Road Commissioner. When curbs are installed they shall be painted red 15 feet in either direction from the fire hydrant.

**SECTION 907.** Approved fire hydrants shall be designated as super, standard, intermediate or **wharfhead as follows:**

- a. All super fire hydrants shall have two 2 ½ inch outlets and one 4 inch outlet. The dry barrel hydrant shall have a minimum 5 inch valve opening.
- b. All standard fire hydrants shall have one 2 ½ inch outlet and one 4 inch outlet. The dry barrel hydrant shall have a minimum 5 inch valve opening.
- c. All intermediate fire hydrants shall have two 2 ½ inch outlets. The dry barrel hydrant shall have a minimum 4 inch valve opening.
- d. All wharfhead fire hydrants shall have one 2 ½ inch outlet. Both wet and dry barrel types shall have a minimum 3 inch valve opening.

**SECTION 908.** Each fire hydrant shall stand plumb, set to the established grade, with the center use of the lowest outlet not less than 18 inches above the ground.

**SECTION 909.** No water purveyor shall modify or replace or cause to be modified or replaced any water main the result of which will be to reduce the maximum potential fire flow through said water main.

**SECTION 910.** No water purveyor shall modify or replace or cause to be modified or replaced any water main the result of which will be to reduce the total number of fire hydrants attached to said water main or which will change the location of any existing fire hydrant without first obtaining approval from the County Fire Chief.

**DIVISION X  
FIRE PROTECTION FOR MOBILEHOME PARKS**

**SECTION 1001.** The minimum fire protection facilities for mobilehome parks are hereby established as follows:

- a. Approved fire hydrants shall be installed so that no portion of any building or

recreational vehicle storage area is more than 165 feet or less than 25 feet from said hydrants.

- b. Approved fire hydrants must be installed throughout the remainder of the park.
- c. All fire hydrants shall be installed on water mains not less than 6 inches in diameter. A minimum fire flow of 500 gpm shall be provided to the fire hydrants for a 2 hour duration in addition to the domestic needs. The computation shall be based upon a minimum of 20 psi residual operating pressure in the street main from which the flow is measured at the time of measurement. Hydrants shall be located at alternate street intersections but in no event shall the distance between hydrants exceed 330 feet, and no trailer shall be further than 165 feet from a hydrant, measured along street centerlines.
- d. The person who owns, operates or is in possession of the buildings, premises, land uses or appliances shall pay the fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671 at the time that the water plans are submitted for review or the Department is requested to evaluate existing facilities.

#### **SECTION 1002.**

- a. Upon the written request of the applicant, the County Fire Chief may reduce or eliminate the fire flows required by the immediately preceding section if he determines that:
  - 1. The water necessary to produce the fire flow required by Section 1001 is not available, and;
  - 2. Adequate alternate means of providing fire protection is available, and;
  - 3. The granting of the reduction will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare or be injurious to other property in the vicinity.
- b. As a condition of reducing the fire flows required by Section 1001, the County Fire Chief shall require that other private fire fighting facilities be provided which will provide adequate fire protection in the event of a fire.

**SECTION 1003.** The on-site water system plans shall be signed by a registered civil engineer and may be signed by the water company with the following certification: "I certify that the design of the water system in this mobilehome park is in accordance with the requirements prescribed by the County Fire Department".

**SECTION 1004.** Prior to the application for a building permit the developer shall furnish the original and five copies of the water system plan to the County Fire Department for review. No building permit shall be issued until the water system plan has been approved by the County Fire Chief. Upon approval, the original and two copies shall be sent to the Land Use Division of the Riverside County Department of Building and Safety and one copy shall be sent to the Division of Environmental Health of the Riverside County Health Department.

### **DIVISION XI FIRE PROTECTION FOR RECREATIONAL TRAILER PARKS, TRAVEL TRAILER PARKS, INCIDENTAL CAMPING AREAS AND TENT CAMP AREAS**

**SECTION 1101.** The minimum fire protection facilities for recreational trailer parks, travel trailer parks, incidental camping areas and tent camp areas covered by the Mobilehome Parks Act of the California Health and Safety Code (commencing with Section 18200) are hereby established as follows:

- a. An approved minimum 4 inch looped water main to all lots shall be installed.
- b. Approved fire hydrants shall be located not more than 165 feet and not less than 25 feet from each camping site as measured along roadways or other vehicle travelways.

- c. The water system shall be capable of providing at least 250 gpm for one hour duration with a minimum fire flow of 20 psi residual operating pressure from the supply main to all fire outlets.
- d. Approved fire hydrants with flows determined in accordance with Section 804, shall be installed within 165 feet of all buildings and any recreational vehicle storage area.
- b. The person who owns, operates or is in possession of the buildings, premises, land uses or appliances shall pay the fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671 at the time that the water plans are submitted for review or the Department is requested to evaluate existing facilities.
- f. Where water mains capable of supplying the flows required by Section 1001 of this ordinance are immediately adjacent to the property, or where public use buildings are being proposed, the requirements for this section shall be the same as in Section 1001 of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 1102.**

- a. Upon the written request of the applicant, the County Fire Chief may reduce or eliminate the fire flows required by the immediately preceding section if he determines that:
  - 1. The water necessary to produce the fire flow required by Section 1101 is not available, and;
  - 2. Adequate alternate means of providing fire protection is available, and;
  - 3. The granting of the reduction will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare or be incurious to other property in the vicinity.
- b. As a condition of reducing the fire flows required by Section 1101, the County Fire Chief shall require that other private fire fighting facilities be provided which will provide adequate fire protection in the event of a fire.

**SECTION 1103.** The on-site water system plans shall be signed by a registered civil engineer and may be signed by the water company with the following certification: "I certify that the design of the water system in this Recreational Trailer Park/Travel Trailer Park/Incidental Camping Area/Tent Camp Area is in accordance with the requirements prescribed by the County Fire Department."

**SECTION 1104.** Prior to the application for a building permit the developer shall furnish the original and five copies of the water system plan to the County Fire Department for review. No building permit shall be issued until the water system plan has been approved by the County Fire Chief. Upon approval, the original and two copies shall be sent to the Land Use Division of the Riverside County Department of Building and Safety and one copy shall be sent to the Division of Environmental Health of the Riverside County Health Department.

**SECTION 1105.** Campfires will be allowed only in stoves and fire rings which must be in a location approved by the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 1106.** If a recreational trailer park, travel trailer park, incidental camping area or tent camp area is located in a hazardous fire area, the following fire protection facilities shall also be required:

- a. All roads shall be no less than 24 feet wide.
- b. No dead-end road shall exceed 600 feet in length.
- c. All dead-end roads shall be terminated by a turn around not less than 90 feet in diameter.

**SECTION 1107.** This division shall not apply in any respect to National Forest Lands.

**DIVISION XII**

## LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GASES

**SECTION 1201.** No person shall install or maintain any LP Gas container in excess of 500 gallons water capacity, nor a series of interconnected containers, whose aggregate volume exceeds 2000 gallons water capacity, nor a commercial installation, without first having obtained a permit from the County Fire Chief and paid the fee set forth in Ordinance No. 671. Installers shall maintain a record of all installations for which a permit is not required (but not including installations of gas burning appliances and replacing of portable cylinders) and have it available for inspection by the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 1202.** All storage tanks shall be stored parallel to each other. The requirements for liquified petroleum gas storage tanks with a capacity of 2,000 gallons or more shall be as follows:

- a. All lines of ½ " or more used for unloading of liquefied petroleum gases from storage tanks shall be equipped with either an internal valve with excess flow features and a primary valve or an excess flow valve and a primary valve. Each of the above systems shall be capable of being closed remotely and with such control mechanisms, fitted with a fusible section having a melting point of 200 degrees F. to 250 degrees F. which will cause the valve to close automatically in case of fire.
- b. All liquid lines of ½ " or more used for loading of LPG into bulk storage tanks shall be equipped with a backcheck valve and a primary valve.
- c. Remote control mechanisms for closing primary valves shall be clearly marked in 4" letters on a contrasting background, EMERGENCY SHUT-OFF. Condensed-type letters or extended-type letters shall be used in this sign.
- d. One super fire hydrant shall be installed in a location approved by the County Fire Chief when aggregate capacity is 1000 gallons or more. Hydrant shall provide a minimum fire flow of 1000 gpm at 20 psi residual operating pressure. Hydrant shall be installed and operating prior to the introduction of any gas into the tank.

### **SECTION 1203.**

- a. Within the limits established by law restricting the storage of liquefied petroleum gas for the protection of heavily populated or congested commercial areas, the aggregate capacity of any one installation shall not exceed 2000 gallons water capacity; provided, however, the capacity limit may be modified by the County Fire Chief, after consideration of special features such as topographical conditions, nature of occupancy and proximity to buildings, capacity of proposed tanks, degree of private fire protection to be provided, and facilities of the local fire department.
- b. Multiple container installations with a total storage water capacity of more than 180,000 gallons shall be subdivided into groups, with a minimum separation between groups of at least 50 feet, unless the tanks are:
  1. Mounded in an approved manner, or
  2. Protected with approved insulation in areas that may be subject to impingement of ignited gas from pipelines or other leakage, or
  3. Protected by fire walls of approved construction,
  4. Protected by an approved system for application of water, or
  5. Protected by other approved means.

Where one of these forms of protection is provided, the separation between container groups shall be at least 25 feet.

- c. Containers shall be located with respect to buildings or adjoining property lines and may be built in accordance with the following table, provided, however, that upon approval of the County Fire Chief, containers of 2000 gallons or less may be located a lesser distance from buildings of not less than one hour construction, provided the above distances applied to openings in buildings are maintained, and the relief valves will not discharge in the direction of a means of egress or against the building.

**Container Capacity**  
**Less than 125 Gallons**

**Minimum Distance**  
**5 feet**



**125 to less than 500 Gallons**  
**500 to less than 2000 Gallons**  
**2000 Gallons or more**

**10 feet**  
**25 feet**  
**50 feet**

**SECTION 1204.**

- a. The parking and garaging of tank vehicles used for the transportation of liquified petroleum gases shall be in accordance with the following:
  1. No person shall leave a tank vehicle unattended on any highway, street, or alley, except that this shall not prevent:
    - a. The necessary absence of the driver in connection with loading or unloading the vehicle.
    - b. Stops for meals during the day or night, if the street is well lighted at the point of parking.
    - c. When, in case of accident or other emergency, the operator must leave to obtain assistance.
  2. No person shall park a tank vehicle at any one point for longer than one hour except:
    - a. Off of a street, highway or alley;
    - b. Inside a bulk plant and 25 feet from the property line or within a building approved for such use; or
    - c. At other approved locations not less than 50 feet from any building except those approved for the storage or servicing of such vehicle.
    - d. When, in case of breakdown or other emergency, the operator must leave the vehicle to take necessary action to correct the emergency.
  3. Tank vehicles shall not be parked or garaged in any building other than those specifically approved for such use by the County Fire Chief.
- b. During the unloading or transfer of liquified petroleum gas, the tank shall be located or parked clear of a public thoroughfare, unless:
  1. The failure to transfer would create a hazard.
  2. It is impossible due to topography.
- c. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, during the unloading or transfer of liquified petroleum gas, the tank truck shall be parked with the transfer point not less than 50 feet from the property line where the container to which the tank vehicle is connected has a capacity of over 2000 gallons.
- d. During loading or unloading operations of liquified petroleum gas, the tank truck shall be parked parallel to the storage tank.
- e. All tank truck vehicles, when parked in bulk plants, shall be parallel to storage tanks, and each other, with the closest vehicle parked a minimum distance of 25 feet from any bulk storage tank and a minimum of 10 feet between vehicles.

**SECTION 1205.**

- a. No person shall fill or maintain a liquified petroleum gas container with liquified petroleum gas in excess of the fixed gauge installed by the manufacturer or the weight stamped on the tank.
- b. Liquified petroleum gas shall not be used for the purpose of operating any device or equipment unless such equipment or device is approved for use with liquified petroleum gas.

**SECTION 1206.**

- a. No person shall tamper with or make ineffective the safety devices of any liquified petroleum gas container.
- b. In any area subject to freezing weather all LP Gas regulator breathing openings shall be adequately protected against stoppage by frozen moisture.

**SECTION 1207.**

- a. No person shall smoke within 25 feet of any LP Gas container of 1200 gallons capacity or less, nor within 50 feet of any such container having a capacity of more

- than 1200 gallons.
- b. No person shall install or maintain any open flame device outside of buildings within 25 feet of any LP Gas container having capacity of 1200 gallons or less, nor within 50 feet of any such container having a capacity of over 1200 gallons.
  - c. No person shall install or maintain any LP Gas container with capacity of 1200 gallons or less within 25 feet of any open flame device, or any such container with a capacity in excess of 1200 gallons within 50 feet of any open flame device.
  - d. All weeds, brush, trash or other combustible material shall be cleared a minimum of 10 feet away from all LP Gas tanks or containers.

#### **SECTION 1208.**

- a. Whenever the use of liquified petroleum gas equipment has been discontinued, it shall be abandoned in an approved manner within a period of 30 days.
- b. The following alternative abandonment procedures are satisfactory:
  - 1. Removal of all liquified petroleum equipment.
  - 2. Burn off of contents of container.
  - 3. Venting contents of container to atmosphere when discharge of gas can be held to a safe point of discharge.
  - 4. All service openings shall be capped or plugged after the contents have been removed from the container.

**SECTION 1209.** Containers and first stage regulation equipment shall be located outside of buildings except for buildings especially provided for this purpose; provided however, containers and regulating equipment may be used indoors under the following conditions:

- a. If temporarily used for demonstration purposes and the container has a maximum water capacity of 12 gallons.
- b. If used with a completely self-contained gas hand torch or similar equipment, and the container has a maximum water capacity of 2 ½ gallons.
- c. In industrial applications where oxygen is not required.
- d. In use as a motor fuel.
- e. In storage awaiting resale.

**SECTION 1210.** Fences installed around storage tanks of 2000 gallons capacity or larger must be approved by the County Fire Chief to insure adequate emergency vehicles access.

### **DIVISION XIII COMBUSTIBLE AND FLAMMABLE MATERIALS**

**Section 1301.** Accumulations of combustible or flammable waste, including but not limited to wastepaper, hay, grass, straw, vines, weeds, waste petroleum products, and rubbish or litter of any kind, shall not be permitted to remain upon any roof or in any court, yard, vacant lot, or open space. All combustible rubbish, waste petroleum products, oily rags or waste material when kept within a building, shall be securely stored in metal or metal-lined receptacles equipped with tight fitting covers or in rooms or vaults constructed of noncombustible materials.

**Section 1302.** No person making, using, storing or having in charge, or under his control, any shavings, excelsior, rubbish, sacks, bags, litter, hay, straw or combustible waste materials shall fail or neglect at the close of each day to cause all such material which is not compactly baled and stacked in an orderly manner to be removed from the building or stored in suitable vaults or in metal or metal-lined covered receptacles or bins. The County Fire Chief shall require suitable baling presses to be installed in stores, apartment buildings, factories and similar places where accumulations of paper and waste materials are not removed at least every second day.

### **SECTION 1303.**

- a. No person shall store in excess of 2500 cubic feet gross volume of combustible empty packing cases, boxes, barrels or similar containers, or rubber or cork, or other similarly combustible material without a permit from the County Fire Chief.
- b. Storage in buildings shall be orderly, shall be more than 2 feet from the ceiling, and shall be so located as not to endanger exit from the building. Outdoor storage shall not exceed 20 feet in height, shall be so located as not to constitute a hazard to adjacent buildings or property, and shall be compact and orderly. Such storage is prohibited within 3 feet of any property line and shall not exceed 6 feet in height when within 10 feet of such property line, except where no hazard or menace of fire to adjoining property is created thereby.
- c. Where the storage or accumulation of combustible waste matter used in stores, apartment buildings, factories or other similar places is a hazard or menace of fire, such materials shall be removed at least every second day.
- d. All commercial trash receptacles shall be equipped with hinged metal lids, cover or doors.

**SECTION 1304.** Cotton batting, either natural, artificial or manufactured, straw, dry lines, leaves, trees or other highly flammable materials shall not be used for decorative purposes in show windows or other parts of commercial, industrial or institutional occupancies unless flameproofed; provided, however, that nothing in this section shall be held to prohibit the display of saleable goods. Electric light bulbs in such occupancies shall not be decorated with paper or other combustible materials unless such materials shall first have been rendered flameproof.

### **SECTION 1305.**

- a. No person shall take an open flame or light into any building, barn, vessel, boat or any other place where highly flammable, combustible or explosive material is kept, unless such light or flame shall be well secured in a glass globe wire mesh cage or similar approved device.
- b. No heating or lighting apparatus or equipment capable of igniting flammable materials of the types stored or handled shall be used in the storage area of any warehouse storing rags, excelsior, hair or other highly flammable or combustible material; nor in the work area of any shop or factory used for the manufacture, repair or renovating of mattresses or bedding; nor in the work areas of any establishment used for the upholstering of furniture.

## **DIVISION XIV FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO STORAGE OF FLAMMABLE OR COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS USED AS MOTOR FUEL**

### **SECTION 1401.**

- a. Apparatus dispensing flammable or combustible liquids into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles or floating craft shall not be located on a bulk plant unless separated from the area in which bulk operations are conducted by a fence at least 6 feet in height.
- b. Flammable or combustible liquids shall be transferred from underground tanks by means of fixed pumps so designed and equipped as to allow control of the flow and to prevent leakage or accidental discharge. When flammable or combustible fuel storage tanks have been contaminated, the existing contaminated contents shall be transferred into a tank vehicle and transported to an authorized location for disposal or refinement. Dispensing devices for flammable or combustible liquids shall be of approved types. Flammable or combustible liquids shall not be dispensed by pressure or gravity from drums, barrels, and similar containers. Gear pumps or similar positive displacement devices taking suction through the top of the container, shall be used.

- c. The installation use of coin-operated dispensing devices for flammable or combustible liquids is prohibited. The dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids into the fuel tank of a vehicle or into a container shall at all times be under the control of a competent person. The use of any device which permits the dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids when the hand of the operator of the discharging nozzle is removed from the nozzle control lever is forbidden, except that in lieu of being held open by hand, an approved automatic nozzle may be used for dispensing flammable or combustible liquid into the fuel tank of a vehicle. Such a nozzle shall have a latch-open device as an integral part of the assembly and shall shut off the liquid reliably and positively when the gasoline tank is filled, when it falls from the filling neck of an automobile tank, when it is subject to rough usage such as dropping or lack of proper lubrications, or when an automobile is driven away while the nozzle is still in the tank. A competent attendant shall be in the immediate vicinity of the vehicle being filled by such an approved nozzle.
- d. Dispensing devices at automotive service stations shall be so located that all parts of the vehicle being served will be on private property and shall be set level and solid on a concrete base which projects a minimum of six inches on all sides beyond the dispenser housing. When a dispenser is connected to more than one storage tank, a manifold shall be provided with valves so that only one tank may be drawn from at any one time.
- e. Dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids at a Marine Service Station shall at all times be under control of a competent person. Such dispensing into the fuel tanks of floating craft shall be only by means of hose equipped with a self-closing nozzle and valve which must be held open manually while making the delivery.
- f. No sale or purchase of any flammable or combustible liquids shall be made in containers unless such containers are clearly marked with the name of the product contained therein.

#### **SECTION 1402.**

- a. Any pump motor circuit shall be energized by a switch located on each dispenser connected to it which shall be manually operated by removal or replacement of the nozzle in its bracket.
- b. A clearly labeled manually operated pump master switch shall be provided in an approved location, within 75 feet of, but not nearer than 15 feet to, any dispenser. Where such master switch is not visible from all dispensers, the location thereof shall be indicated by approved signs.
- c. In lieu of a manually operated pump master switch, an approved automatic device which will stop the flow in the event of damage to the dispenser may be provided.
- d. The master switch or all individual pump circuit switches shall be set in the off position before closing the service station for business at any time.
- e. All electric wiring connected to dispensers and pressure delivery system pumps shall be enclosed in rigid galvanized conduit with threaded connections. Seals shall be provided at the dispenser and at pits in pressure delivery systems and all equipment in such pits shall be non sparking or vapor-proof.

#### **SECTION 1403.**

- a. Tanks which are to be taken out of service temporarily, that is, for one year or less, but which are intended to be returned to service shall be rendered safe by gas-freeing or by following the procedure outlined below:
  1. All flammable or combustible liquids shall be removed that can be pumped out with the service pump.
  2. The tank shall be flooded with water which contains a rust inhibitor.
  3. The fill line and pump suction shall be capped and secured against tampering.

4. The vent line shall be left open.
- b. Tanks which are to be abandoned, that is, to be taken out of service for more than one year, shall be removed or shall be rendered safe by using the applicable measures contained in such regulations as have been adopted by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to and for the implementation of Riverside County Ordinance No. 617.

**SECTION 1404.** No person shall store flammable or combustible liquids in any tank, if during the course of the filling of such tank any flammable or combustible liquids may be spilled, until such preventative measures as are necessary are taken to keep such flammable or combustible liquids from flowing into or near any building, sewer or drain. A tank installation permit shall be obtained from the County Fire Department in advance, and the applicant shall pay the fee set forth in Ordinance 671 at the time of application to the Department. Such preventative measures must be approved by the County Fire Chief and shall be completed prior to filling any such tank. Such preventative measures may take the form of grading driveways, raising doorsills, constructing isolation walls or dikes, or other equally effective means; provided, however, that in no case shall crankcase drainings and flammable or combustible liquids be dumped into sewers or drains. There shall be no entrance within a protective dike to any sewer or storm drain or combined storm and sanitary sewer.

**SECTION 1405.**

- a. All Marine Aircraft and Automotive Service Stations shall be maintained in a neat and orderly manner and no accumulations of combustible or flammable trash or rubbish shall be permitted. Covered metal containers shall be provided for the temporary storage of such trash or rubbish.
- b. There shall be no smoking on the ramps of Aircraft Service Stations or on the driveways of Automotive Service Stations in the areas used for fueling aircraft or motor vehicles, dispensing flammable anti-freeze or the receipt of products by tank truck, or in those portions of the building used for servicing automobiles, tractors or internal combustion engines. Conspicuous signs prohibiting smoking shall be posted within sight of the customer being served. Letters on such signs shall be not less than 4 inches high. The motors of all vehicles being fueled shall be shut off during the fueling operation.
- c. Smoking and open flames are prohibited within hazardous areas at Marine Service Stations and signs indicating this prohibition shall be posted conspicuously about the premises. Letters on such signs shall be not less than 4 inches high.
- d. There shall be prominently displayed at the face of such wharf, pier or float at Marine Service Stations, at such an elevation as to be clearly visible from the decks of Marine craft being fueled, a sign not less than 14 inches by 20 inches which shall bear the following or equivalent wording:  
"Warning - law requires that open fires and open lights be extinguished and electrical equipment be shut off while fueling is in progress."

**SECTION 1406.**

- a. At Automotive Service Stations, suitable portable fire extinguishers of not less than 10 B-C rating shall be available within 50 feet of any dispenser. Where a sales room is present, required extinguishers shall be mounted on the latch side of the door leading to the dispensers in any one bay which are within 50 feet of said sales room. Where more than one bay is attached to a single sales room, an additional extinguisher of like rating shall be provided for each bay. Where dispensers are more than 50 feet from a sales room, or where no sales room is present, extinguishers may be mounted on posts or on dispensers.
- b. At Marine Service Stations, suitable portable fire extinguishers of not less than 20 B-C rating shall be available within 50 feet of any dispenser. Where dispensers are located on floats, one such extinguisher shall be located on each float and an

additional extinguisher of like capacity shall be located at the head of the gangway or ramp leading to such float.

#### **SECTION 1407.**

- a. No person shall store any flammable or combustible liquids in excess of one gallon in any building used for human habitation, including any attached garage or other attached structure. Any such storage shall be in a liquid-tight metal container, or other container not subject to breaking, and shall be securely capped.
- b. Not more than 10 gallons of flammable or combustible liquids shall be stored in any detached garage or other building accessory to a building used for human habitation, provided said detached building is not less than 25 feet from any other building used for human habitation. Such storage shall be in a liquid-tight metal container or containers securely capped.
- c. Not more than 25 gallons of flammable or combustible liquids shall be stored in any other building or at any place within 25 feet of any building used for human habitation. Such storage shall be in a metal container or containers which are liquid-tight and securely capped.
- d. The provisions of this section shall not apply to:
  1. The storage of flammable or combustible liquids in a fuel tank of a motor vehicle, aircraft, motorboat, mobile power plant or mobile heating plant.
  2. The storage of paints, oils, varnishes or similar flammable mixtures in covered containers, which are used for maintenance, painting or similar **purposes.**
  3. The storage in Underground tanks equipped with dispensing equipment intended for the dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids for the use of the owner outside of any building.

**SECTION 1408.** For purposes of this division only flammable liquids shall mean any liquid having a flashpoint below 140oF and combustible liquids shall mean any liquid having a flash point at or above 140oF.

**SECTION 1409.** No person shall install, keep, maintain, or fill any above-ground tank for the purpose of storing flammable or combustible liquids, nor shall the filling of the tank be permitted without a valid storage permit from the County Fire Chief. All flammable or combustible liquid storage tanks shall be installed in locations approved by the County Fire Chief, the Director of Building and Safety, and the County Health Department. Flammable or combustible liquids may be stored in above-ground tanks in remote agricultural areas and temporary construction projects, provided that said flammable or combustible liquids are to be used only as motor fuel for actual farming or construction operations and not resold. Flammable or combustible liquids may be stored in above-ground tanks for retail/commercial dispensing; and only so long as said liquids are stored in approved, above-ground tanks limited to 2,000 gallon liquid capacity, and there is no threat of fire which may endanger life, safety or threaten nearby improvements. All above-ground tanks for retail/commercial dispensing shall meet the Uniform Fire Code requirements and also shall meet or exceed the California State Fire Marshal's Office Regulations as they pertain to such installation(s), shall be a UL approved, double wall steel tank with a minimum two (2) hour fire rating, and shall have the written approval of the County Fire Chief. The fees set forth in Ordinance No. 671 shall be paid at the time of permit application and prior to the installation of any such above-ground tank.

#### **SECTION 1410.**

- a. Tank vehicles shall not be operated unless they are in proper repair, devoid of accumulations of grease, oil or other **flammables and free of leaks.**
- b. The driver, operator or attendant of any tank vehicle shall not leave the vehicle while it is being filled or discharged, shall **remain within 15 feet of the manual shutoff valve and shall keep the delivery hose and discharge nozzle in his full view at all times.**

- c. Motors of tank vehicles or tractors shall be shut down during making or breaking hose connections. If loading or unloading is done without the use of a power pump, the tank vehicles or tractor motor shall be shut down throughout such operations.
- d. The cargo tank shall be bonded to the fill pipe when loading. The bond-wire connection shall be made prior to opening the dome covers. It shall be maintained in place during the entire filling operation and the dome covers shall be securely closed before the bond-wire is disconnected from the cargo tank.
- e. No cargo tank or compartment thereof used for the transportation of any flammable or combustible liquid shall be loaded liquid full. The vacant space (outage) in a cargo tank or compartment thereof used in the transportation of flammable or combustible liquids shall be not less than 1 per cent; sufficient space (outage) shall be left vacant in every case to prevent leakage from or distortion of such tank or compartment by expansion of the contents due to rise in **temperature or increase in elevation in transit**.
- f. The driver, operator or attendant of any tank vehicle shall before making delivery to any tank, determine the unfilled capacity of such tank by a suitable gauging device. To prevent overfilling he shall not deliver in excess of that amount.
- g. During loading, hatch covers shall be secured on all but the receiving compartments.
- h. Simultaneous delivery to underground tanks from two or more discharge hoses shall be made only when each discharge hose is connected to the underground tank by means of a liquid tight connection to preclude the possibility of spillage from an accidental overflow. If the tank vehicle is not equipped with the aforementioned liquid tight connections delivery shall be limited to one discharge hose at a time.
- i. Dome covers shall be closed and latched while the tank vehicle is in transit.
- j. No material shall be loaded into or transported in a tank vehicle at a temperature above its ignition temperature unless properly safeguarded in an approved manner.
- k. Flammable or combustible liquids with a vapor pressure of 40 psi absolute or less at 100 F., shall be loaded into cargo tanks designed and constructed in accordance with NFPA Pamphlet No. 385.
- l. The cargo tanks shall be bonded to the fill stem or some part of the rack structure, electrically interconnected with the fillstem piping, except tank vehicles handling asphalt, tank vehicles loading any flammable or combustible liquids through bottom connections and tank vehicles used exclusively for transporting Class III liquids when loaded at locations where no Class I and Class II liquids are handled.
- m. No external bond-wire connection, or bond-wire integral with a hose are needed for the unloading of flammable or combustible liquids into underground tanks.
- n. All shutoff valves from all tank vehicles used to discharge flammable or combustible liquids shall be perpetually maintained in good operating condition.

**SECTION 1411.** Smoking by tank vehicle drivers, helpers, repairmen or other personnel is prohibited while they are making deliveries, filling or making repairs to tank vehicles.

**SECTION 1412.**

- a. No person shall leave a tank vehicle unattended on any street, highway, avenue or alley except for:
  - 1. The necessary absence of the driver in connection with loading or unloading the vehicle, so long as the actual discharge of liquids from the vehicle shall not occur during any such absence, or
  - 2. Stops for meals during the day or night, if the street is well lighted at the point of parking, or
  - 3. When, in case of accident or other emergency, the operator must leave to obtain assistance.
- b. No person shall park a tank vehicle at any one point for longer than one hour except:
  - 1. During the actual discharge of liquids inside a bulk plant so long as the actual

- discharge occurs not less than 25 feet from all surrounding property lines; or
  2. Within a building approved for such use; or
  3. At any other approved location not less than 50 feet from the nearest existing building which is not used for the storage or servicing of tank vehicles; or
  4. When in case of breakdown or other emergency, the operator must leave the vehicle to take necessary action to correct the emergency.
- c. Tank vehicles shall not be parked or garaged in any buildings other than those specifically approved for such use by the County Fire Chief.

**DIVISION XV  
CONTROL OF OPERATIONS AT THE SCENE OF  
A FIRE OR OTHER EMERGENCY**

**SECTION 1501.** The County Fire Chief shall have the duty and authority to direct such operations as may be necessary to extinguish or control any fire, perform any rescue operation, investigate the existence of suspected or reported gas leaks or other hazardous conditions, and to take such action as is necessary in the reasonable performance of his duty. In the exercise of such power, the County Fire Chief may prohibit any person or vehicle, from approaching the scene and may remove or cause to be removed from the scene any vehicle impeding or interfering with the operations of the Fire Department and any person not actually and usefully employed in the extinguishing of such fire or in the preservation of property in the vicinity thereof.

The County Fire Chief shall have the duty and authority to direct such operations as may be necessary to control any hazardous or extremely hazardous materials or waste incident, to perform any rescue operations, investigate the existence of suspected or reported releases or other hazardous chemical and/or physical conditions, and to take such action as is necessary in the reasonable performance of his duty. In the exercise of such power, the County Fire Chief may prohibit any person or vehicle from approaching the scene and may remove or cause to be removed from the scene, any person or vehicle impeding or interfering with the operations of the Fire Department.

**SECTION 1502.** No person shall obstruct the operations of the Fire Department in connection with extinguishing any fire, or other emergency, or disobey any lawful command of any officer of the Fire Department who may be in charge.

**SECTION 1503.** The County Fire Chief or other officer of the Fire Department in charge at the scene of any emergency shall have the authority to place ropes, guards, barricades or other obstructions across any street, alley place or private property in the vicinity of such operations so as to prevent accident or interference with the actions of the Fire Department.

**DIVISION XVI  
CERTAIN ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED**

**SECTION 1601.** No person shall molest, tamper with, damage or otherwise disturb any apparatus, equipment or appurtenance belonging to, or under the supervision and control of the Fire Department.

**SECTION 1602.** No person shall remove, tamper with, or otherwise disturb any fire appliance, except for the purpose of extinguishing fire, training purposes, recharging, or making necessary repairs, or when permitted by the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 1603.** No person, except a person authorized by the County Fire Chief or a public officer acting within the scope of his public duties, shall remove, unlock, destroy, or tamper with any lock, gate, door, barricade, chain, enclosure, sign, tag or seal which has been lawfully installed by the Fire Department.



**SECTION 1604.**

- a. The County Fire Chief may install and lock one or more gates, cables or other barricades to prevent the use by unauthorized persons of any road, that is not a public road, over which the Fire Department has the right to pass, whether by easement, license, public ownership, or otherwise, for purposes relating to fire prevention or control.
- b. No person, except a public officer acting within the scope of his public duties, shall trespass upon any road or trail which has been closed in accordance with this section, without first obtaining the permission of the County Fire Chief; nor shall any person park any vehicle so as to obstruct the entrance to such road or trail.

**SECTION 1605.** No person shall place or keep any post, fence, growth, trash or other material or thing near any fire hydrant that would prevent such hydrant from being immediately discernible, nor in any other manner deter or hinder the Fire Department from gaining immediate access to a fire hydrant.

**SECTION 1606.** No person shall use, operate or tamper with any hydrant or other valve installed on any water system intended for fire suppression purposes unless such person first secures permission from the water purveyor owning, controlling or supplying the system or is an employee of the water purveyor.

**SECTION 1607.**

- a. No person, except public officers acting within the scope of their duties, shall travel upon, or drive or park any motorcycle, motor scooter, or other motor vehicle upon any fire road or firebreak beyond the point where travel is restricted by a cable, gate, or sign, without the permission of the property owner or owners involved. No person shall park any vehicle so as to obstruct the entrance to any fire road or firebreak.
- b. No person shall install or maintain a radio or television aerial, or guy wires or communication or electrical wires thereto, or any other obstruction on any fire road or fire-break, which is less than 16 feet above such fire road or firebreak.

**SECTION 1608.** No person shall install, place, keep or maintain any bars, grates or other obstructions across the opening of any window of any sleeping room of any building which may deter or hinder an occupant from using the window as a means of escape from a fire originating within the building.

**SECTION 1609.** No combustible construction materials shall be placed upon any construction site until the fire protection requirements are operative; provided, however, that his requirement is waived if an alternative means of providing adequate fire protection is proposed which will remain in effect until the fire protection requirements are operative and which is acceptable to the County Fire Chief.

**SECTION 1610.** Where gates are proposed to be installed that are electronically activated by individuals for ingress and egress, a building permit shall be required with concurrence from the Fire Department as approved by the Fire Chief for emergency use by fire, law enforcement, or emergency medical personnel.

**DIVISION XVII  
FEE SCHEDULE (deleted eff. 04/27/1989)**

**DIVISION XVIII  
SEVERABILITY**

**SECTION 1801.** If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance, it being expressly declared that this ordinance and each section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause and phrase thereof would have been adopted, irrespective of the fact that on or more other section, subsection, paragraph, sentence clause or phrase be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

## **DIVISION XIX PENALTY OF VIOLATION**

**SECTION 1901. Violations and Penalties.** It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or association of persons to violate any provision of this ordinance, or to violate the provisions of any permit granted pursuant to this ordinance. Any person, firm, corporation or association of persons violating any provision of this ordinance or the provisions of any permit granted pursuant to this ordinance, shall be deemed guilty of an infraction or misdemeanor as hereinafter specified. Such person or entity shall be deemed guilty of a separate offense for each and every day or portion thereof during which any violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance or the provisions of any permit granted pursuant to this ordinance, is committed, continued, or permitted.

Any person, firm, corporation or association of persons so convicted shall be: (1) guilty of an infraction offense and punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for a first violation; (2) guilty of an infraction offense and punished by a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for a second violation on the same site. The third and any additional violations on the same site shall constitute a misdemeanor offense and shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or six (6) months in jail, or both. Notwithstanding the above, a first offense may be charged and prosecuted as a misdemeanor. Payment of any penalty herein shall not relieve a person or entity from the responsibility for correcting the violation.

## **DIVISION XX REPEALS**

**SECTION 2001.** Ordinance Numbers 311, 312, 363 and 491 are repealed, provided, however, this ordinance shall be construed as a continuation of Ordinance No. 311 and 363, except as to provisions of this ordinance which are inconsistent therewith.

## **DIVISION XXI PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION**

**SECTION 2101.** The provisions of this ordinance shall not be construed to apply retroactively.

**Adopted:** 546 05/06/1975 (Eff: 06/05/1975)

**Amended:** 546.1 Item 6.1 of 09/28/1976 (Eff: 10/28/1976)  
546.2 Item 6.1 of 10/04/1977 (Eff: 11/03/1977)  
546.3 Item 6.1 of 08/17/1982 (Eff: 06/16/1982)  
546.4 Item 3.5 of 05/28/1985 (Eff: 06/27/1985)  
546.5 Item 3.6 of 04/22/1986 (Eff: 06/01/1986)  
546.6 Item 9.3 of 05/05/1987 (Eff: 07/04/1987)  
546.7 (Eff.: 12/17/1987)  
546.7 Item 3.1e of 05/03/1988 (Eff: 07/01/1988) REVISED  
546.8 Item 3.17 of 03/07/1989 (Eff: 04/06/1989)  
546.9 Item 3.11 of 03/28/1989 (Eff: 04/27/1989)  
546.10 Item 9.1 of 12/05/1989 (Eff: 01/04/1990)  
546.11 Item 9.2 of 01/30/1990 (Eff: 03/01/1990)  
546.12 Item 10.3 of 02/27/1990 (Eff: 03/29/1990)

546.13 Item 3.27 of 07/09/1991 (Eff: 08/08/1991)  
546.14 Item 3.1b of 08/09/1994 (Eff: 09/08/1994)  
546.15 Item 3.1 of 07/9/1996 (Eff: 08/08/1996)