

## Council Discussion: 2012 International Fire Code with Local Amendments

City Council Meeting

August 7, 2017



## Purpose

To discuss with Council the 2012 International Fire Code and the proposed 2017 Avondale Specific Amendments to the International Fire Code. For discussion and council direction only.



## Background

- Fire Code in place since the early 1980's
- Current adopted code – 2003 IFC w/local amendments
- State of Arizona minimum fire code – 2012 IFC adopted in December 2015
- City building code – 2012 IBC adopted in June 2013



## Background

- Adoption of a new code a goal within the city strategic plan for FY2017
- New Fire Marshal in January
- Complaints from developers / contractors about consistency with other jurisdictions
- Fire code not in sync with the adopted edition of the building code



## Proposed Code

- 2012 International Fire Code: Phoenix Edition
- 2017 Avondale Specific Amendments to the International Fire Code



## Advantages

- Phoenix Fire Code is familiar to regional architectural firms and general contractors – extensive adoption process.
- Helps eliminate cross jurisdictional issues
- Reduces the number of local amendments from 153 pages to 44 pages – removes processes specific to the City of Phoenix
- In line with state fire code and city building codes



## City-wide Collaboration

- Feedback was received from the following:
  - City Attorney
  - City Court
  - Development & Engineering Services
  - Economic Development
  - Fire & Medical Department: Intervention Services
  - Neighborhood & Family Services
  - Code Enforcement
  - Police Department



## Significant Local Amendments

- Enabling unattended motor vehicle fueling
  - *Standardizes with state-wide minimum*
  - *Enhances citizen after-hours access*
- Enhancing fire flow requirements
  - *Standardizes with state-wide regulations*
  - *Enhances the usability of properties for different construction types and sizes*





## Significant Local Amendments

- Eliminating local alarm requirements
  - *Standardizes construction requirements*
  - *Reduces nuisance business interruptions*
  - *Reduces construction and maintenance costs*
- Simplification of fire lane requirements
  - *Improves community aesthetics*
  - *Reduces construction and maintenance costs*



## Significant Local Amendments

- Establishment of a standard code enforcement process
  - Standardizes code enforcement process with existing Neighborhood & Family Services, Code Enforcement Division processes
  - Creates a predictable process for City Court staff



## Next Steps

- Council discussion and staff direction this evening
- August 14 – Ordinance adopting the code and local amendments presented for council action
- Becomes effective 30 days following formal adoption

