

APPENDIX E

South Placer Fire Protection District
6900 Eureka Road, Granite Bay CA. 95746 (916) 791-7059

The following are general requirements of the South Placer Fire Protection District for new commercial buildings. These comments are for new commercial buildings only. Plans submitted for approval shall reflect all requirements that apply. All of the following comments shall be printed on a comment sheet attached to the plans submitted for approval. Prior to final approval, all applicable fees must be paid.

Commercial Building

Fire Safety During Construction, Alteration or Demolition of a Building

Buildings undergoing construction, alteration or demolition shall be in accordance with Chapter 33 of the most current California Fire Code.

Address

All new and existing buildings shall place and maintain approved numbers or address identification on the buildings so as to be plainly visible and legible from both directions of travel on the street or roadway fronting the property. Approved numbers or address identification shall be placed prior to occupancy on all new buildings. Said numbers shall contrast with their background and shall be visible at all hours of the day and night by way of internal or external illumination. Illuminated numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch. External source illumination shall have an intensity of not less than 5.0 foot-candles. All numbers will be visible from a distance of at least 100 feet.

Buildings under construction

Approved numbers or addresses shall be placed at each fire access road entry into and on each building within construction sites.

Multiple tenant buildings

Tenant spaces within new or existing multi-tenanted buildings shall have approved numbers or addresses displayed at secondary access doors into the tenant space as required by the fire code official.

Exiting

Provide approved panic hardware at all required exit doors. Flush, edge or surface bolts or any other type of device that may be used to close or restrain the doors other than operation of the panic hardware-locking device are prohibited. Provide appropriate illuminated exit signs at all required exits. Exit and exit directional signs shall be illuminated per Section 1008, California Building Code.

Provide exits signs at every required exit doorway and wherever otherwise required to clearly indicate that direction of egress, an exit sign with letters having a principal stroke not less than 3/4 inches wide and at least 6 inches high.

Fire Alarm System

Where required – new buildings and structures.

An approved fire alarm system installed in accordance with the provisions of the California Fire Code and NFPA 72 shall be provided in new buildings and structures in accordance with Sections 907.2.1 through 907.2.23 and provide occupant notification in accordance with Section 907.5.

Except for Group R and Group U occupancies, all new unsprinklered buildings shall have an approved automatic fire alarm system installed when the total fire area is equal to or greater than 1500 square feet. In addition, Group A, E, and M occupancies in buildings of any square footage, sprinklered or unsprinklered, shall be provided with an approved automatic fire alarm system.

Not less than one manual fire alarm box shall be provided in an approved location to initiate a fire alarm signal for fire alarm systems employing automatic fire detectors or water-flow detection devices. Where other sections of the California Fire Code allow elimination of fire alarm boxes due to sprinklers or automatic fire alarm systems, a single fire alarm box shall be installed at a location approved by the fire code official.

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Fire Alarm Indication Panel

An approved illuminated indicator board shall be provided at an approved location or locations when more than one building or zone will be monitored at the same site.

Monitoring

Fire alarm systems required by this chapter or by the California Building Code, shall be monitored by an approved Central Station Protective Signaling Service (UUFX) that is listed in the current edition of the UL Online Certifications Directory unless otherwise required by the California Fire Code.

Alarms

One exterior approved audible alarm and visual strobe device, located on the exterior of the building in an approved location, shall be connected to each automatic sprinkler system. Such sprinkler water-flow alarm devices shall be activated by water flow equivalent to the flow of a single sprinkler of the smallest orifice size installed in the system. Where a fire alarm system is installed, actuation of the automatic sprinkler system shall actuate the building fire alarm system. Visible alarm notification appliances shall not be required except when required by Section 907. A single approved audible/visual device shall be provided in the interior of the building in a normally occupied location.

Fire Control Room

An approved fire control room shall be provided for buildings protected by an automatic sprinkler system. The room shall contain all sprinkler system risers, fire alarm control panels, and other fire equipment required by the chief. Fire control rooms shall be located within the building on an outside wall at a location approved by the chief and shall be provided with a means to access the room directly from the exterior with an approved door of minimum dimensions of 36" X 80". Durable signage reading "FIRE CONTROL ROOM" with letters not less than three inches in height shall be affixed to the exterior of the door. A key box complying with section 506 shall be installed adjacent to the door.

Dimensions

Fire control rooms shall have a minimum dimension of five feet and shall be not less than 35 square feet in usable area. The fire sprinkler riser shall be located between 12 inches and 18 inches from the exterior wall and at least 12 inches from any other wall. The fire control room may contain other building service equipment. No other storage will be permitted.

Fire Department Rapid Entry System

An approved rapid access system shall be provided on all commercial buildings. Buildings equipped with sprinklers, alarm or other system components that will be utilized in the event of an emergency shall install the Knox Box in an approved location by near the FIRE CONTROL ROOM. Knox-Box installation requirements: Maximum height, 6 foot to the top of the Knox-Box; Minimum height, 5 foot to the bottom of the Knox-Box (measured from finished floor elevation). The approved rapid entry system is provided by the Knox Company. The 3200 Series or 4400 Series is acceptable. The recessed version is recommended. Knox Company products may be ordered on the Internet at www.knoxbox.com.

Roof access identification

Doors leading to roof access ladders or stairs shall be labeled with signage reading "Roof Access" as required by the fire code official.

Fire Extinguishers

Provide and maintain portable fire extinguishers with a minimum rating of 2A10BC. Maximum travel distance to portable fire extinguishers shall not exceed 75 feet. In large open areas, there shall be one extinguisher per 3,000 square feet. The maximum travel distance from laundry rooms shall not exceed 50 feet. One 40BC rated extinguisher shall be provided in each kitchen area. If the kitchen is provided with a Hood Fire Suppression System, the fire extinguisher agent shall be compatible with the extinguishing agent in the Hood System. Fire extinguishers shall be mounted so that the top of the extinguisher is not higher than 5 feet from the ground. Fire extinguishers shall be serviced as required by code, serviced after each use, and inspected every month.

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Fire Sprinkler System

Where required in existing buildings and structures.

An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided in existing buildings and structures where required in Chapter 11. In addition, except for Group U and R-3 occupancies, when the area of an existing building is increased to 3600 square feet or more, the addition and existing building shall be provided with an approved automatic fire sprinkler system throughout.

Approved automatic sprinkler systems in new buildings and structures shall be provided in the locations described in the California Fire Code Sections 903.2.1 through 903.2.19 and as follows:

1. For all new buildings and structures, except Group R-3 and U occupancies, when the total fire area is 3600 square feet or greater.
2. Automatic sprinkler protection shall be provided in all accessible combustible and non-combustible attic spaces, sub-floors, or areas above ceilings, which are greater than six inches in height, in a fire sprinklered structure.
3. For new buildings having no designated use or tenant, the minimum sprinkler design shall be Ordinary Hazard Group 2 or as prescribed by the fire code official.

Height

In other than Group R-3 and R3.1 occupancies, Class III standpipe systems shall be installed throughout at each floor where any of the following occur:

1. Buildings where the floor level of the highest story is located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.
2. Buildings that are three or more stories in height.
3. Buildings where the floor level of the lowest story is located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) below the highest level of fire department vehicle access.
4. Buildings that are two or more stories below the highest level of fire department vehicle access.

Exceptions:

1. Class I standpipes are allowed in buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1
2. Class I manual standpipes are allowed in open parking garages where the highest floor is located not more than 150 feet (45720mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.
3. Class I manual dry standpipes are allowed in open parking garages that are subject to freezing temperatures, provided that the hose connections are located as required for Class II standpipes in accordance with Section 905.5.
4. Class I standpipes are allowed in basements equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system.
5. In determining the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, it shall not be required to consider:
 - 5.1. Recessed loading docks for four vehicles or less, and
 - 5.2. Conditions where topography makes access from the fire department vehicle to the building impractical or impossible.

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Fire Department Connections

With respect to hydrants, driveways, buildings and landscaping, fire department connections shall be so located that fire apparatus and hose connected to supply the system will not obstruct access to the buildings for other fire apparatus. Fire department connections shall be located on the street side of buildings, fully visible and recognizable from the street or nearest point of fire department vehicle access. Locking fire department connections caps are required on fire department connections for water-based fire protection systems. A metal sign with raised letters at least 1 inch in size shall be mounted on all fire department connections serving automatic sprinklers, standpipes. Such signs shall read: AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS or STANDPIPES or TEST CONNECTION or a combination thereof as applicable.

Hood System

Provide an approved hood extinguishing system for cooking surfaces in all commercial building kitchens per the latest edition of NFPA 96. Two sets of plans and specifications shall be submitted to this office for review and approval before construction.

Identification (Hazards and hazardous materials)

Approved regulatory safety signs that meet the latest edition of NFPA shall identify hazards and hazardous materials. Fire protection devices or other components that will be utilized in the event of an emergency shall be marked in an approved manner; areas to be labeled with 4-inch letters contrasting with the background to assure good visibility.

Occupancy

Maximum occupant load sign must be posted in a conspicuous place near the main exit.

Final Plans Accepted

The final plans shall be approved only when stamped and/or signed by authorized the South Placer Fire Protection District personnel.

Commercial Building Final Acceptance

Final acceptance of the project is subject to inspection and testing from the South Placer Fire Protection District. 72 hour notice required previous to inspection and testing.