



## **AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Public Hearing and First Reading for the City Council Meeting of 01/24/2023  
Second Reading for the City Council Meeting of 01/31/2023

**DATE:** January 24, 2023

**TO:** Peter Zaroni, City Manager

**FROM:** Al Raymond, Director Development Services  
alraymond@cctexas.com  
(361) 826-3575

**Public Hearing and First Reading Ordinance - Revisions to Chapter 18, Fire Codes  
of the City of Corpus Christi**

**CAPTION:**

Ordinance amending Chapter 18 of the Corpus Christi Code to adopt with local amendments, the International Code Council's 2021 editions of the International Fire Code; Providing for a penalty not to exceed \$2,000 and publication.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of adopting the 2021 International Fire Code and Chapter 18 amendments is to recognize new construction materials and methodologies which incorporate the latest design standards to protect public health, safety and welfare.

**BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

Numerous public engagement meetings with stakeholders took place between March 2021 through January 2023.

We are proposing to adopt the 2021 International Fire Code with some local amendments. The purpose of this code is to establish the minimum requirements consistent with nationally recognized good practice for providing a reasonable level of life safety and property protection from hazards of fire, explosion or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures, and premises.

Ordinance No. 030877 was adopted on June 21, 2016 establishing the 2015 International Fire Code with local amendments thus codifying Chapter 18 as the Fire Codes for the City of Corpus Christi. The current Codes and amendments do not reflect the latest industry approved materials, methodologies, and design standards.

The International Code Council and the National Fire Protection Association publish updated Codes on a three-year cycle. The latest published version of the International Code is the 2021 edition. We propose to skip the 2018 International Code editions and formally adopt

the 2021 International Fire Code.

Adoption of revised Construction and Fire Codes on a three-year cycle imposes challenges for the local Construction Industry as well as City staff. We recommend adopting updated Construction and Fire Codes on a six (6) year basis, rather than a three (3) year basis to minimize the challenges associated with Code updates.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Denial or alteration of the proposed adoption of the 2021 International Fire Code and Chapter 18 amendments.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this item.

**FUNDING DETAIL:**

Fund:  
Organization/Activity:  
Mission Element:  
Project # (CIP Only):  
Account:

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of 2021 International Fire Code and Chapter 18 amendments.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

2021 Building and Fire Codes Adoption Executive Summary  
Ordinance  
Presentation