

CITY OF DOVER ORDINANCE #2015-07

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DOVER, IN COUNCIL MET:

That Chapter 46 - Fire Prevention and Protection, Article IV - Public Occupancies, Section 46-162 - Sprinkler Requirements of the Dover Code be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 46-162. - Sprinkler requirements.

- (a) Places of assembly shall be sprinklered throughout in accordance with the most recently adopted edition of NFPA 13 when the following apply:
 - (1) All new indoor places of assembly with an occupant load of 150 persons or greater.
 - (2) Any interior renovations of 50 percent or more to an existing place of assembly with an occupant load greater than 150 persons.
 - (3) Any additions or increase in interior size to an existing place of assembly that would create an occupant load of 150 persons or greater.
- (b) Places of assembly where alcohol is served for consumption on the premises shall be sprinklered throughout in accordance with the most recently adopted edition of NFPA 13 when the following apply:
 - (1) All new indoor places of assembly with an occupant load of 100 persons or greater and where alcohol will be served for consumption on the premises.
 - (2) Any interior renovation of 50 percent or more to an existing place of assembly with an occupant load greater than 100 persons and where alcohol will be served for consumption on the premises.
 - (3) Any additions or increase in interior size to an existing place of assembly which would create an occupant load of 100 persons or greater and where alcohol will be served for consumption on the premises.
- (c) New educational occupancies of 5,000 square feet or greater shall be sprinklered throughout in accordance with the most recently adopted edition of NFPA 13.
- (d) Three feet of unobstructed clear width shall be designed, designated, and maintained around sprinkler risers for access by firefighters and for maintenance. The three feet shall be measured from the outermost components of the sprinkler riser and all related support equipment.
- (e) Fire Department Connections. Unless otherwise approved by the Fire Marshal, Fire Department Connections shall be on the street side of the building and shall be located and arranged so that hose lines can be readily and conveniently attached to without interference from any nearby obstructions as defined by the Fire Marshal's Office. Fire Department Connections shall be a 5 (five) inch Storz. Fire Department Connections shall be within 300 feet of an approved City of Dover Fire Hydrant and within 50 feet of the main entrance of the structure it serves. All Fire Department Connections shall be not less than three feet nor more than five feet in height above finished grade. The Fire Marshal shall have the authority to require more stringent requirements when deemed necessary.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED THAT Chapter 46 - Fire Prevention and Protection, Article IV - Public Occupancies, Section 46-171 - Fire Alarm in Place of Assembly of the Dover Code be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 46-171. - Fire alarm in place of assembly.

- (a) Definition. For the purpose of this article, the requirements set forth in section A.4.1.2 of the most currently published edition of the NFPA Life Safety Code shall be used to determine if an occupancy is a place of assembly.
- (b) Occupant load. For the purpose of this article, the requirements set forth in the most currently adopted edition of the NFPA Life Safety Code shall be used to determine the occupant load of a place of assembly.
- (c) Fire alarm required. Any new occupancy or new portion of an occupancy determined to be a place of assembly by the fire marshal, and is capable of receiving an occupant load of 75 persons or greater, shall be required to install a fire alarm in accordance with NFPA codes governing the installation of fire alarms and the National Electrical Code.
- (d) Fire alarm system required. Any existing occupancy or portion of an existing occupancy determined to be a place of assembly by the fire marshal, and is undergoing renovations in excess of 50 percent of the assessed value of the building and is capable of receiving an occupant load 75 persons or greater or is being enlarged to receive an occupant load of 75 persons or greater, shall be required to install a complete fire alarm system in accordance with NFPA codes governing the installation of fire alarms and the National Electrical Code.
- (e) Public Mode Audible Requirements. To ensure that audible public mode signals are clearly heard by occupants of a structure, they shall have a sound level at least 15 decibels (dB) above the average ambient sound level or 5 decibels (dB) above the maximum sound level having a duration of at least 60 seconds, whichever is greater, measured 5 feet (1.5m) above the floor in the area required to be served by the system using the A-weighted scale dBA. In the event the stated requirement cannot be met a Shunt Trip Relay/Switches shall be the approved method of meeting the intent of this section of the code.

ADOPTED: MAY 26, 2015

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SYNOPSIS

The amendments would allow the Fire Marshal's Office to strategically locate fire department connections for fire department use in the event of an emergency within a sprinklered building, in accordance with NFPA 13 and Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations. The amendments also relate to shunt trip relays/switches that shut down amplified sounds (example; music) in the event of a Fire Alarm System activation so that the public can exit the building without delay in the event of an emergency, in accordance with NFPA 72 National Fire Alarm Code.

(SPONSORS: HUTCHISON AND MULLANEY)

Actions History

05/26/2015 - Final Reading at City Council

05/11/2015 - First Reading at City Council

04/27/2015 - Introduced at Safety Advisory and Transportation Committee