



LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

KRISTIN M. CROWLEY
FIRE CHIEF

February 7, 2023

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. 23-016

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM:  Kristin M. Crowley, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: PROPOSED 2023 LOS ANGELES FIRE CODE

FINAL ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

SUMMARY

The three-year code adoption cycle for the Los Angeles Fire Code (L AFC) requires that the process used in 2019, be replicated to create the 2023 L AFC. The new L AFC will go into effect in 2023. An ordinance drafted by the City Attorney is required to implement the changes to the California Fire Code (CFC) and maintain the amendments established for the City of Los Angeles (City).

The City Attorney requires instruction from City Council to draft an ordinance to the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Chapter 5, Article 7 to replace the current L AFC and to adopt the proposed 2023 L AFC amendment package which is based on the 2022 CFC and the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC) published by the International Code Council (ICC) with amendments.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

Direct the Commission Executive Assistant to transmit this report to the City Council and Mayor for consideration and approval. Subject to the approval of the City Council and Mayor, request the City Council to instruct the City Attorney to draft an ordinance to the LAMC, Chapter 5, Article 7, to replace the current L AFC and to adopt a proposed L AFC amendment package for 2023 that is based on the 2022 CFC and the 2021 IFC published by the ICC with amendments.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Department has budgeted for the editing, publication and purchase of the 2023 L AFC amendment package.

DISCUSSION

In 2020, the City adopted the LAFC based on the IFC and CFC models. The California Health and Safety Code requires that local jurisdictions adopt intended amendments within 180 days of the CFC's triennial adoption. The CFC was adopted in January 2022 and ultimately published in July 2022. This requires the City to adopt amendments by the State.

CONCLUSION

The IFC model code is the base document used to develop the CFC. The adoption of the model IFC and CFC with the City's amendments will create the new 2023 LAFC. Creation of the updated LAFC will allow the City to provide consistent fire protection for the unique challenges found in Los Angeles. All proposed City amendments will be vetted through the ICC or the CFC Code development process.

The LAFC fills a critical need to provide additional public safety regulations beyond both the IFC and CFC's general fire precautions and the maintenance of fire protection systems for hazards unique to Southern California and Los Angeles.

Board Report prepared by Chad Richardson, Commander, Planning Unit, Administrative Section, Fire Prevention and Public Safety Bureau.