

# **City Council**

Action to Waive Second Reading and Adopt Ordinance No. 2079 for the adoption of the 2025 California Fire Code

Jake Tomlin, Fire Marshall Jenn Panko, Deputy Chief Agenda item #8 (25-1540) October 21, 2025

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# California Building Standards Code – Triennial Adoption Overview

- Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, known as the California Building Standards Code
  - **Structure**: Title 24 consists of 12 coordinated parts covering fire, building, electrical, mechanical, and related codes.
    - Part 9 of Title 24 is the California Fire Code.
  - Update Cycle: The Code is revised every three years through a statewide adoption process.
    - The 2025 Code becomes effective January 1, 2026, and remains in effect through December 31, 2028.
  - Local Amendments: State law authorizes local jurisdictions to adopt amendments addressing unique geologic, topographic, or climatic conditions.



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## **Proposed Local Amendments**

#### Key Highlights

No Substantive Changes

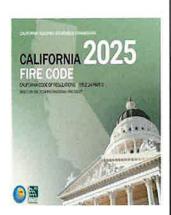
This code cycle introduces no major technical or policy changes.

- Streamlined Local Ordinances

The number of local amendments has been reduced as the California Fire Code continues to be improved and align with regional standards.

Enhanced Framework

Represents the Departments focus on simplifying and improving the clarity of fire and environmental regulations.



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### **Community Benefits**

### • Building Resilience By Design

 Enhances community resilience by integrating effective code development, sound engineer, and strategic planning.

### Predictability

- Ensures a transparent framework that improves understanding and consistency.

#### Public Confidence

 Strengthens trust in the fire department's commitment to protecting the community's long-term safety and well-being in alignment with the City's General Plan.

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### **Recommended Council Action**

• Waive Second Reading and Adopt Ordinance No. 2079 amending Chapter 15.60 of the Santa Clara City Code ("Santa Clara Municipal Fire and Environmental Code") to adopt the 2025 California Fire Code with local amendments in accordance with the findings set forth in Resolution No. 25-9439 (adopted by City Council on October 7, 2025).

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# **Questions**

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