

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

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A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH ADOPTING AND MAKING EXPRESS FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS RELATING TO THE ENACTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS, AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, MORE RESTRICTIVE FIRE CODE PROVISIONS THAN THOSE OF THE CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE, 2007 EDITION, FINDING THAT SAID AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS TO THE CODE ARE REASONABLY NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE LOCAL CLIMATIC, GEOLOGICAL OR TOPOGRAPHICAL CONDITIONS EXISTING IN LONG BEACH; AND INSTRUCTING THE FIRE CHIEF OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH TO TRANSMIT SAID FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS TO THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION 17958.7

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code Section 17922 requires all cities to adopt, as part of the City Building Standards Code, the California Fire Code, 2007 Edition, as published by the International Code Council; and

WHEREAS, Section 17958.5 of the California Health and Safety Code provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

“... a city or county may make such changes or modifications in the requirements contained in the provisions published in the California Building Code and the other regulations adopted pursuant to Section

1 17922 as it determines, pursuant to the provisions of Section 17958.7, are
2 reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological or
3 topographical conditions;" and

4 WHEREAS, prior to making the modifications permitted under Section
5 17958.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, this Council is required to make
6 express findings that such modifications or changes are reasonably necessary because
7 of local climatic, geological or topographical conditions; and

8 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach is traversed by the Newport Inglewood
9 Fault System, is near the San Andreas Fault, and is surrounded by other earthquake
10 faults; and

11 WHEREAS, the City is located by the International Building Code in
12 Seismic Design Category D, E or F, which is considered by experts to be one of the most
13 active seismic regions in the world; and

14 WHEREAS, the City is bordered to the south by the Pacific Ocean and
15 consists of private and commercial waterways; and

16 WHEREAS, the Northridge Earthquake that occurred on January 17, 1994,
17 was only a moderate Richter Magnitude 6.8 earthquake, yet caused damage in the Los
18 Angeles Basin area to more than 115,000 buildings and the vacation of 21,000 residential
19 units including 2,000 homes; and

20 WHEREAS, there were 57 persons who lost their lives in this earthquake,
21 but there could have been several thousand more casualties, if the earthquake had
22 occurred at midday during the workweek when most buildings would be occupied instead
23 of at 4:31 a.m. on a holiday; and

24 WHEREAS, seismic experts report a significantly high probability for a
25 larger earthquake occurring in the greater Los Angeles Basin area within the next 30
26 years; and

27 WHEREAS, unusually large earthquakes cause extraordinary stresses on
28 Fire Department resources which require more stringent fire and life safety regulations

1 than would otherwise be required; and

2 WHEREAS, the Northridge Earthquake provided valuable insight into the
3 vulnerabilities of some building systems, designs and materials to the unanticipated level
4 of damage; and

5 WHEREAS, the location of the City of Long Beach in "Seismic Zone 4"
6 requires extra margins of safety due to the necessity of providing on site fire protection in
7 a seismic emergency when Fire Department resources could be greatly delayed or
8 overwhelmed; and

9 WHEREAS, the California Fire Code has not yet fully addressed the
10 lessons learned from the Northridge Earthquake.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as
12 follows:

13 Section 1. In order to provide adequate protection under the unique local
14 geologic, topographic, and climatic conditions as set forth above, the City of Long Beach
15 makes those findings and determinations relative to the adoption of administrative
16 amendments, and where appropriate, the adoption of more restrictive Fire Code
17 provisions than those of the California Fire Code, 2007 Edition, as said Findings and
18 determinations are set forth in Exhibit "A" which is attached hereto and incorporated
19 herein by this reference as though set forth in full, word for word.

20 Section 2. The Fire Chief of the City of Long Beach is instructed to, and
21 shall, transmit a copy of this resolution together with any appropriate supporting
22 documentation, to the California Building Standards Commission in accordance with
23 California Health and Safety Code Section 17958.7.

24 Section 3. This resolution shall take effect on January 1, 2008, upon its
25 adoption by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify to the vote adopting this
26 resolution.

27 I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City
28 Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of November 13, 2007 by the

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1 following vote:

2 Ayes: Councilmembers: B. Lowenthal, DeLong, O'Donnell,
3 Schipske, Andrews, Gabelich,
4 Lerch.

5 _____
6 Noes: Councilmembers: None.

7 _____
8 Absent: Councilmembers: S. Lowenthal, Reyes Uranga.

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10 _____
11 
12 City Clerk

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EXHIBIT "A"

Title 18 Section Number	CFC Section Number	Amended Or Added CFC Section Number	Findings	Explanation
18.48.020	311.2.2 901.4.2 903.2 903.4 907.2.7.1 907.10.1.2 913.4 1009.11.1, exception 2701.1, subsection 8	Deleted sections or exceptions	Required due to Long Beach geology	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires these extra margins of safety due to the necessity of providing on site fire protection in a seismic emergency when fire department resources could be greatly delayed and overwhelmed.
18.48.030	101.3	101.3 subsection 5	Required due to Long Beach topography	Includes ocean waters under Long Beach jurisdiction into code.
18.48.040	101	101.13	Administrative	Expands wording for clarification
18.48.050	202	202	Administrative	Places definition of high rise in definitions section of code
18.48.060	202	202	Administrative	Places definitions required for ocean water under Long Beach jurisdiction into code.
18.48.070	304.1	304.1.4	Administrative	Spells out responsibility of property owners to maintain alleys hazard free.
18.48.080	307.1.1	307.1.1	Administrative	Sets conditions for open burning.

18.48.090	307.4.2	307.4.2.1	Administrative	Sets conditions for recreational fires.
18.48.100	312.2	312.2 subsections 4, 6 & 7	Administrative	Expands language for installation of guard posts.
18.48.110	503.2.1	503.2.1	Administrative	Expands language to clarify width of fire apparatus access road.
18.48.120	503.2.4	503.2.4	Administrative	Expands language to clarify turning radius of fire apparatus access road.
18.48.130	505.1	505.1.1 505.1.2	Administrative	Expands language to clarify location and illumination of address numbers.
18.48.140	506.2	506.2.1 506.2.2	Administrative	Clarifies Chief's requirements for key boxes.
18.48.150	Chapter 5	511	Required due to Long Beach geology	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires that these densely populated occupancies have this added means of escape.
18.48.160	901.4	901.4.5	Administrative	Directs code user to proper section for protection against vehicular damage by guard posts.
18.48.170	901.5	901.5.2	Administrative	Adds cost recovering provisions.

18.48.180	903.1	903.1.2 903.1.3 903.1.4 903.1.5	Required due to Long Beach geology	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires these extra margins of safety due to the necessity of providing on site fire protection in a seismic emergency when fire department resources could be greatly delayed and overwhelmed.
18.48.190	903.2	903.2	Required due to Long Beach geology	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires these extra margins of safety due to the necessity of providing on site fire protection in a seismic emergency when fire department resources could be greatly delayed and overwhelmed.
18.48.200	903.2.7	903.2.7	Required due to Long Beach geology	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires this extra margin of safety due to the necessity of providing on site fire protection in a seismic emergency when fire department resources could be greatly delayed and overwhelmed.

18.48.210	903.3.5	903.3.5.3	Required due to Long Beach geology	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires this extra margin of safety due to the necessity of providing on site fire protection in a seismic emergency when fire department resources could be greatly delayed and overwhelmed.
18.48.220	903.4.1	903.4.1.1	Administrative	Expands language to clarify fire alarm signal reporting.
18.48.230	903.4.2	903.4.2	Administrative	Expands language to clarify exterior alarm device
18.48.240	905.1	905.1.1	Required due to Long Beach geology	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires this extra margin of safety due to the necessity of providing on site fire protection in a seismic emergency when fire department resources could be greatly delayed and overwhelmed.
18.48.250	905.3.7	905.3.7	Required due to Long Beach topography	Long Beach's location by ocean requires special requirements for ocean areas and vessels which operate there

18.48.260	907.1	907.1.5 907.1.6	Administrative	Expands language to clarify building evacuation and fire alarm control panels.
18.48.270	907	907.21	Required due to Long Beach geology	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires this extra margin of safety due to the necessity of providing on site life safety systems in a seismic emergency when fire department resources could be greatly delayed and overwhelmed.
18.48.280	910.3.2.2	910.3.2.2	Administrative	Expands language to clarify temperature ratings for smoke and heat vents.
18.48.290	912.1	912.1.1	Required due to Long Beach geology.	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires this extra margin of safety due to probability of damage to water supply.
18.48.300	912.2.1	912.2.1	Administrative	Expands language to clarify locations of fire department connections
18.48.310	912.3	912.3	Administrative	Expands language to clarify access to fire department connections.

18.48.320	Chapter 9	915	Required due to Long Beach topography	Long Beach's location by ocean requires special requirements for ocean areas and vessels which operate there
18.48.330	1003	1003.8	Administrative	Expands language to clarify code section for protection of exit ways from vehicular damage.
18.48.340	1009.11	1009.11	Administrative	Deletes language for the allowance of alternating tread devices
18.48.350	1009.11	1009.11.3	Administrative	Expands language to clarify designation of stairway 1.
18.48.360	2203.1.1	2203.1.1	Administrative	Expands language to clarify the protection of dispensing devices.
18.48.370	2206.7.9.2	2206.7.9.2.5 2206.7.9.2.6 2206.7.9.2.7 2206.7.9.2.8 2206.7.9.2.9 2206.7.9.2.10	Administrative	Expands language for the installation and maintenance of vapor processing systems.

18.48.380	Chapter 26	2610 2611	Administrative	Long Beach's location by ocean requires special requirements for ocean areas and vessels which operate there
18.48.390	3301	3301.2 3301.3	Administrative	Expands language to clarify the City of Long Beach's insurance requirements.
18.48.400	3308	3308.2 3308.3 3308.4	Administrative	Expands language to clarify the City of Long Beach's prohibition of fireworks and insurance requirements.
18.48.410	3404.2.11.3	3404.2.11.3	Administrative	Expands language for the installation of underground tanks.
18.48.420	3405.3.5.2	3405.3.5.2 subsection 7	Administrative	Expands language to clarify the allowable amounts of flammable or combustible liquids in r occupancies.
18.48.430	3801	3801.4	Administrative	Expands language for storage of liquefied petroleum gas.
18.48.440	3803.2.2	3803.2.2.1	Administrative	Expands language for use and storage of liquefied petroleum gas.

18.48.450	3804.3	3804.3.2	Administrative	Expands language for installation of liquefied petroleum gas in tanks
18.48.460	Appendix 1, 101.1	Appendix 1, 101.1	Administrative	Expands language to clarify this code, as the City of Long Beach Fire Code
18.48.470	Appendix 1, 101.2	Appendix 1, 101.2 subsection 5	Administrative	Long Beach's location by ocean requires special requirements for ocean areas and vessels which operate there.
18.48.480	Appendix 1, 104.3	Appendix 1, 104.3	Administrative	Long Beach's location by ocean requires special requirements for ocean areas and vessels which operate there
18.48.490	Appendix 1, 105.1.2	Appendix 1, 105.1.2	Administrative	Expands language to include inspection permits
18.48.500	Appendix 1, 105.1.2	Appendix 1, 105.1.2	Administrative	Expands language to include inspection permits
18.48.510	Appendix 1, 105.2.2	Appendix 1, 105.2.2.1	Administrative	Adds cost recovering provisions.
18.48.520	Appendix 1, 105.3.1	Appendix 1, 105.3.1	Administrative	Expands language to include inspection permits.

18.48.530	Appendix 1, 105.6	Appendix 1, 105.6	Administrative	Expands language to include additional permit categories
18.48.540	Appendix 1, 105.6	Appendix 1, 105.6.48 105.6.49 105.6.50 105.6.51 105.6.52 105.6.53 105.6.54 105.6.55 105.6.56 105.6.57 105.6.58	Administrative	Expands language to include additional permit categories
18.48.550	Appendix 1, 105.7	Appendix 1, 105.7	Administrative	Expands language to include additional permit categories
18.48.560	Appendix 1, 105.7	Appendix 1, 105.7.14 105.7.15 105.7.16 105.7.17 105.7.18 105.7.19 105.7.20	Administrative	Expands language to include additional permit categories
18.48.570	Appendix 1, 105	Appendix 1, 105.8 105.9	Administrative	Expands language for cost recovery for permits
18.48.580	Appendix 1, 107.6	Appendix 1, 107.6.1	Administrative	Expands language for the responsibility of the supervisor to keep an accurate count of building occupants.
18.48.590	Appendix 1, 109.3	Appendix 1, 109.3	Administrative	Clarifies language for violation penalties
18.48.600	Appendix 1, 111.4	Appendix 1, 111.4	Administrative	Clarifies language for stop work orders

18.48.610	Appendix Chapter 1	Appendix 1, 112	Administrative	Expands language for cost recovery reporting requirements
18.48.620	Appendix B, B105.2	Appendix B, B105.2	Required due to Long Beach geology	Location of Long Beach in seismic zone 4 requires this extra margin of safety due to the necessity of providing on site life safety systems in a seismic emergency when fire department resources could be greatly delayed and overwhelmed.