



CITY OF LONG BEACH

R-20

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 West Ocean Blvd., 3rd Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 570-5237

May 3, 2016

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Request the City Attorney prepare an Ordinance amending Title 18 and other development-related sections of the Long Beach Municipal Code in order to adopt and amend the 2016 Edition of the California Building Standards Code. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

Every three years, the State of California adopts new construction codes, known collectively as the California Building Standards Code, to establish uniform standards for the construction and maintenance of buildings, electrical systems, plumbing systems, mechanical systems, and fire and life safety systems. Sections 13143.5, 17922, 17958, and 18941.5 of the California Health and Safety Code require that the latest edition of the California Building Standards Code apply to local construction 180 days after publication. The 2016 Edition of the California Building Standards Code will be adopted by the California Building Standards Commission and published on July 1, 2016. Therefore, State law requires that these codes and code amendments become effective at the local level on January 1, 2017.

Prior to adoption, State law permits local jurisdictions to amend the State-mandated Code in certain circumstances. Pursuant to Sections 17958.5 and 17958.7 of the California Health and Safety Code, such amendments can only be enacted when an express finding and determination is made that such amendments are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological or topographical conditions that affect the jurisdiction.

Staff from the Building and Safety Bureau, Fire Prevention Bureau, Code Enforcement Division, and the Office of Sustainability are currently reviewing the State codes and will be recommending a number of local amendments in order to address concerns of a local nature. The proposed amendments will include structural, green building (including electric vehicle parking standards), and fire and life safety standards, as well as administrative provisions.

Notice to increase public awareness of the new State-mandated Code will include posting information on the Department's website, distributing flyers at the Development Permit

Center's public counter, announcing the changes in the Department's newsletter, issuing multiple press releases, posting information on the City's social networking sites (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), sending the news via E-Blasts using various mail distribution lists, and publication in local newspapers. In addition, community workshops will be scheduled to highlight the provisions of the new Code for the public.

This matter was reviewed by Assistant City Attorney Michael J. Mais on March 24, 2016 and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on March 30, 2016.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

Approval of the suggested action at this time would allow staff to prepare draft amendments to Title 18 and other development-related sections in a timely manner in order to conduct the necessary hearing on October 11, 2016.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal or local job impact associated with this recommendation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



AMY J. BODEK, AICP
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES


FOR FIRE CHIEF M.A. DUREE

MICHAEL A. DUREE
FIRE CHIEF

AJB:RZ:DK:TH

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APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER