

Chapter 14.04

UNIFORM FIRE CODE.

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- Section 14.04.010 Adoption.**

- A. There is adopted by the city for the purpose of prescribing regulations covering cond hazardous to life and property from fire or explosion that certain code known a Uniform Fire Code, a document developed by the International Conference of Bui Officials and the Western Fire Chiefs Association and published by the Internationa Code Institute 1997 Edition, together with Appendices I-C, II-A, II-B, II-E, II-F, II H, II-I, II-J, III-A, III-B, III-C, IV-A, IV-B, V-A, VI-A, VI-B, VI-C, VI-E, VI-F ar Uniform Fire Code Standard Volume 2 1997 Edition except portions which are mo under or amended by provisions of this title.
- B. One copy of such code shall be kept on file in the office of the city clerk.

(1980, Repealed and Replaced, 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.020 Definitions.

- A. Wherever "corporation counsel" is used in the Uniform Fire Code, it means the attorney.
- B. Wherever "fire prevention engineer" and "fire marshal" are used in the Uniform Code, they mean the fire chief of the city.
- C. Wherever "jurisdiction" is used in the Uniform Fire Code, it means the city.

(1980, Repealed and Replaced, 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.030 Section 101.4 amended--Supplemental rules and regulations.

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department and available to the public during normal business hours.
(1980, Repealed and Replaced, 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.040 Section 901.4.4 amended--Premises identification.

Section 901.4.4 of the Uniform Fire Code is amended to read as follows:

901.4.4 Premises identification. Approved numbers or addresses shall be provided on all new and existing buildings in a position to be plainly visible and legible from the street or road fronting the property. Said numbers or letters shall contrast with their background. If numbers or addresses are not visible from the street or road, the fire chief shall require appropriate directional signs showing the address of each building. When the property on which a building is to be constructed desires to have a monument sign with the company logo or name, the monument sign shall have the address affixed to it at the top most part of the sign. The size of numbers or letters shall be readily distinguishable from other numbers, letters or words used on the sign.

(1980, Repealed and Replaced, 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.050 Section 902.2 amended--Fire apparatus access roads.

Section 902.2 of the Uniform Fire Code is amended to read as follows:

902.2.1 Required access. More than one fire apparatus road shall be provided where the fire apparatus access road is more than 400 feet (121920 mm) and does not join another public street or way. It is determined by the chief that access by a single road might be impaired by vehicle congestion, condition of terrain, climatic conditions or other factors that could limit access.

902.2.2.1 Dimensions. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 29 feet (8839 mm) and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13 feet 6 inches (4115 mm).

902.2.2.2 Surface. Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus and shall be provided with a surface so as to provide all-weather driving capabilities. When the all-weather driving surface is not asphalt or concrete, it shall meet the following specifications for structural sections:

- a. subgrade soil verified by a qualified engineer as having an R value greater than 55:
 1. six inches Type 2, Class B aggregate
- b. subgrade soils verified by a qualified engineer as having an R value less than 55:
 1. sixteen inches Type 2, Class B aggregate base or
 2. ten inches pit run sub-base and six inches Type 2, Class B aggregate base.

Aggregates for all sections shall be densified to at least 90 percent relative compaction in accordance with ASTM D1557-78 and adequate surface drainage shall be provided. Verification in writing, shall be provided to the fire chief or his authorized representative, that the road meets all of the foregoing specifications. Verification shall be provided by a qualified engineer or a person qualified and who meets the approval of the public works director. The above specifications apply to buildings that require fire access roadways and are for permanent installations.

902.2.2.4 Dead ends. Dead-end fire apparatus access roads in excess of 150 feet (45720 mm) in length shall be provided with turn arounds with a radius of not less than 45 feet (13716 mm).

902.2.4.1 General. The required width of a fire apparatus access road shall not be obstructed.

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in an approved manner. When required by the chief, roadway security gates shall be operated by a device that senses emergency vehicle strobe lights. The sensing device must be compatible with the equipment used by the City of Sparks traffic division. The roadway security gates shall allow emergency equipment to pass safely through the roadway by fully opening upon sensing the emergency vehicle strobe light. They shall also be able to open manually in the event a power failure occurs. Roads, trails and other accessways which have been closed and obstructed in the manner prescribed by Section 902.2.4.2 shall not be trespassed upon or used unless authorized by the owner or chief.

(1980, Repealed and Replaced, 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.060 Section 903 amended--Water supplies and fire hydrants.

Section 903 of the Uniform fire Code is amended by adding thereto a new section which shall read as follows:

903.4.5 Water distribution systems and minimum fire flow requirements.

Intent. It is the intent of this requirement to prescribe regulations consistent with nationally recognized good practice for water distribution systems and minimum fire flows. Where specific requirements are not specific other applicable recognized standards of good practice shall apply.

Pipe size. Pipe less than 6 inches in diameter shall not be used for any fire service or fire hydrant lead-in. Exception: Lead-ins which are used exclusively to feed hydraulically designed fire sprinkler systems may be of the minimum size that meets the design criteria of the fire sprinkler system.

A minimum of 8-inch diameter pipe shall be used on dead-end mains where more than one fire hydrant is to be supplied, or the distance is more than 500 feet.

A minimum of 8-inch diameter pipe shall be used on looped mains if two hydrants are to be supplied on a loop of over 1,500 feet, if three hydrants are to be supplied on a loop of over 1,000 feet; and if four or more hydrants are to be supplied.

A minimum of 8-inch diameter pipe shall be used whenever one or more hydrants and fire sprinkler system service are to be supplied.

In all cases, the pipe must be of sufficient size to provide the required fire flow for the area that it services with a twenty-pound residual remaining in the main.

All fire hydrant mains and laterals shall be American Water Works approved and be Class 150.

Rules for laying pipe. Underground pipe shall be installed in accordance with the latest adopted edition of NFPA Pamphlet #24, Chapter 8 titled "Rules for Laying Pipe."

Fire hydrant specification.

1. Fire hydrants shall be able to deliver 1,500 gallons per minute minimum, with a friction loss of not more than 2 1/2 psi in the hydrant and a total loss of not more than 5 psi between the street main and the outlet. The inside diameter of the hydrant barrel shall not be less than 5 1/4 inches.
2. Fire hydrants shall have at least two 2 1/2 -inch outlets and one public water connection. Exception: Hydrants that may only be used as wet standpipes because of location need only have two 2 1/2-inch connections.
3. The 2 1/2-inch outlets shall conform to National Standards Dimension of 2 1/2 inch threads per inch.

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- is open or closed, and shall have a sealed lubricant reservoir.
7. Fire hydrants shall be of such design that if the barrel is broken off, the hydrant will remain closed. The barrel section and operating mechanism shall have a breakable safety flange and coupling.
 8. The breakable safety flange must be installed at finished grade or above, but shall not exceed 6 inches above finished grade.
 9. Fire hydrants shall have an approved collar installed around the lower barrel 6 inches below the breakable safety flange with extensions suitable to stabilize the barrel.
 10. The main valve shall be at least 5 1/4 inches in diameter with facing made with rubber.
 11. Hydrants shall be of the dry barrel-type (nonfreezing type) and shall have a minimum of two positive-acting, non-corrodible drain valves that shall drain the hydrant completely by opening as soon as the main valve is closed, and shall close when the main valve is opened.
 12. Fire hydrants shall have a working pressure of 150 psi and hydrostatic test pressure of 300 psi.
 13. Fire hydrants shall be of the compression type with the main valve opening against the pressure and closing with the pressure.
 14. Flush fire hydrants are not acceptable.
 15. Fire hydrants which are owned by the City of Sparks shall be painted yellow.
 16. Fire hydrants which are privately owned shall be painted red.
 17. Fire hydrants which are privately owned and are attached to a pressurized underground main shall be painted red with a yellow pumper connection.

Fire hydrant placement. Fire hydrants shall be placed not less than 3 feet nor more than 6 feet from the outside curb line in a manner that they will not be obstructed by legally parked vehicles. (See Standard Fence & Fire Hydrant Location diagram identified as Exhibit #1 of this document. A copy of said Exhibit #1 is on file in the office of the city clerk and in the office of the fire department and available to the public during normal business hours).

Fire flow requirements. Every building hereafter constructed or moved within the City of Sparks shall have sufficient fire hydrants to concentrate the required fire flow as shown in the Uniform Fire Code 1997 Edition, Appendix Table A-III-B-1 as amended. (See Appendix Table A-III-B-1 identified as Exhibit #4 of this document. A copy of said Exhibit #4 is on file in the office of the city clerk and in the office of the fire department and available to the public during normal business hours). Spacing of hydrants in R-3 occupancies shall have a required minimum fire flow of 1500 g.p.m. for buildings of under 3601 square feet (335m).

Fire hydrant distribution. Spacing of fire hydrants along public streets or private roads shall be as shown in the Uniform Fire Code 1997 Edition, Appendix Table A-III-B-1 as amended. Appendix Table A-III-B-1 identified as Exhibit #4 of this document. A copy of said Exhibit #4 is on file in the office of the city clerk and in the office of the fire department and available to the public during normal business hours). Spacing of hydrants in R-3 areas shall be 400 feet (121.92 m) and 300 feet (91.44 m) in all other areas.

Whenever private pressurized hydrants which are intended to be used for hose line connections are permitted, they shall not be less than 25 feet nor over 50 feet from a fire department access point. Such pressurized hydrants shall be spaced not over 250 feet apart.

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be protected in a manner that is consistent with the exposure. For example: if a fire hydrant is exposed to low speed collision with standard size vehicles, concrete filled steel pipe may be required. In an industrial site, where the fire hydrant may be exposed to collision with heavy trucks, a steel rail might be required. In all cases, the need for protection will be determined by the chief. When required, the installation clearance will be the same as described in Exhibit #1 of this document.

Fire hydrant marking. Hydrants will be marked with blue octagon street pavement markers. This marker shall be installed on all paved roadbeds so that it will be highly visible to an emergency department vehicle operator approaching the area from any direction.

The blue octagon reflective pavement marker shall be as specified by the fire department. The marker shall meet recommended standards. The marker shall be secured to the pavement according to the installation instructions and as to the requirements of the marker manufacturer.

(1980, Ord. 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.070 Section Appendix III-A amended--Fire flow requirements for buildings

Appendix III-A of the Uniform Fire Code is amended to read as follows:

5.1 One- and two-family dwellings. The minimum fire flow and flow duration required for one- and two-family dwellings having a fire area which does not exceed 3,600 square feet (344.5m²) shall be 1,500 gallons per minute (3785.4 L/min.). Fire flow and flow duration for dwellings having a fire area in excess of 3,600 square feet (344.5m²) shall not be less than that specified in Table A-III-A-1. (See Table A-III-A-1 identified as Exhibit #3 of this document. A copy of said Exhibit #3 is on file in the office of the city clerk and in the office of the fire department and available to the public during normal business hours).

Exception: A reduction in required fire flow of 50 percent, as approved, is allowed when the building is provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

(1980, Ord. 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.080 Section 1001.6 amended--Tampering with fire-protection equipment, barriers, security devices, signs and seals.

Section 1001.6 of the Uniform Fire Code is amended to read as follows:

1001.6.1 Fire department property. Apparatus, equipment and appurtenances belonging under the supervision and control of the fire department shall not be molested, tampered with, damaged or otherwise disturbed unless authorized by the chief. No person shall drive over, across, or in any other manner, damage any fire hose used by or under the supervision and control of the fire department without authority from the chief or his authorized representative to do so.

1001.6.2 Fire hydrants and fire appliances. Fire hydrants and fire appliances required by code to be installed or maintained shall not be removed, tampered with or otherwise disturbed except for the purpose of extinguishing fire, training, recharging or making necessary repairs when allowed by the fire department. When a fire appliance is removed as herein allowed, it shall be replaced or reinstalled as soon as the purpose for which it was removed has been accomplished. The use of any fire hydrant, whether on public property or private property, requires the authorization of the chief by the issuance of a permit.

(1980, Ord. 04/13/1998)

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1. In every story or basement of all buildings when the floor area exceeds 10,000 square feet (139.4 m²) and there is not provided at least 20 square feet (1.86 m²) of opening entirely above the adjoining ground level in each 50 lineal feet (15.24 m) or fraction thereof of exterior wall in the story or basement on at least one side of the building. Openings shall have a minimum dimension of not less than 30 inches (762 mm). Such openings shall be accessible to the fire department from the exterior and shall not be obstructed in a manner that fire fighting or rescue cannot be accomplished from the exterior.
When openings in a story are provided on only one side and the opposite wall of such story is more than 75 feet (22 860 mm) from such openings, the story shall be provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system, or openings specified above shall be provided on at least two sides of an exterior wall of such story.
If any portion of a basement is located more than 75 feet (22 860 mm) from such openings required in section 1003.2.2, the basement shall be provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system.
2. At the top of rubbish and linen chutes and in their terminal rooms. Chutes extending through three or more floors shall have additional sprinkler heads installed within such chutes at alternate floors. Sprinkler heads shall be accessible for servicing.
3. In rooms where nitrate film is stored or handled. See also Article 33.
4. In protected combustible fiber storage vaults as defined in Article 2. See Article 28.
5. Throughout all buildings with a floor level with an occupant load of 30 or more that is located 55 feet (16 764 mm) or more above the lowest level of department vehicle access.
6. When the floor area exceeds the basic allowable floor area as shown in Table 504.6 of the Uniform Building Code 1994 Edition; before any allowable area increase is allowed by Section 505 or area separations pursuant to Section 504.6 of the Uniform Building Code are allowed.
Exception:
 1. Airport control towers.
 2. Open parking structures.
 3. Group F, Division 2 Occupancies.

1003.2.3.1 Drinking establishments. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all rooms used by the occupants for the consumption of alcoholic beverages, casinos, showrooms and all other rooms for assembly except for churches and theaters which have fixed seating. Unseparated accessory uses where the total area of such unseparated rooms and assembly areas exceed 5,000 square feet (465 m²). For uses to be considered as separated, the separation shall not be less than as required for a one-hour occupancy separation. The area of other uses shall be included unless separated by at least a one-hour occupancy separation.

1003.3.1 Where required. All valves controlling the water supply for automatic sprinkler systems and water-flow switches on all sprinkler systems shall be electrically monitored when the number of sprinklers are:

1. Twenty or more in Group I, Divisions 1.1 and 1.2 Occupancies.

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the municipality or public utility need not be monitored.

3. Shut off valves and water flow devices shall be provided for each floor protected by an automatic sprinkler system and shall have a tamper alarm.

1003.4 Permissible sprinkler omissions. Subject to the approval of the building official with the concurrence of the chief, sprinklers may be omitted in rooms or areas as follows:

1. When sprinklers are considered undesirable because of the nature of the contents or in rooms or areas which are of noncombustible construction with walls and ceilings of noncombustible contents and which are not exposed by other areas. Sprinklers shall not be omitted from any room merely because it is damp, of fire-resistive construction or contains electrical equipment.
2. Sprinklers shall not be installed when the application of water or flame and steam to the contents may constitute a serious life or fire hazard, as in the manufacture or storage of quantities of aluminum powder, calcium carbide, calcium phosphide, metallic sodium and potassium, quicklime, magnesium powder, and sodium peroxide.
3. Safe deposit or other vaults of fire-resistive construction, when used for the storage of records, files and other documents, when stored in metal cabinets.
4. Communication equipment areas under the exclusive control of a public utility or communication utility agency, provided:
 - 4.1 The equipment areas are separated from the remainder of the building by a one-hour fire-resistive occupancy separation; and
 - 4.2 Such areas are used exclusively for such equipment; and
 - 4.3 An approved automatic smoke-detection system is installed in such areas and is supervised by an approved central, proprietary or remote station service or a local alarm which will give an audible signal at a constantly attended location; and
 - 4.4 Other approved fire-protection equipment such as portable fire extinguishers or Class II standpipes are installed in such areas.
5. Other approved automatic fire-extinguishing systems may be installed to protect special hazards or occupancies in lieu of automatic sprinklers.
6. Sprinklers may be omitted from installation under canopies or architectural appendages where the construction is of noncombustible materials and areas under canopies are not used for storage or handling of combustible materials. In all cases, portecocheres shall be fire sprinklered.

(1980, , 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.100 Section 1007.2.12.2 amended--High-rise buildings.

Section 1007.2.12.2 of the Uniform Fire Code is amended to read as follows:

1007.2.12.2.1 General. Group B office buildings and Group R , Division 1 Occupancies each having floors used for human occupancy located more than 55 feet (16764 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, shall be provided with an automatic fire sprinkler system and a communication system in accordance with Section 1007.2.12.2.

(1980, , 04/13/1998)

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- Exceptions:
1. Buildings or rooms constructed for such use in accordance with the building code.
 2. When allowed by other provisions of this code.

The chief is authorized to require removal of such equipment from any location where the presence of such equipment is determined by the chief to be hazardous.

(1980, , 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.120 Section 7703.2.12 amended--Transportation routes.

Section 7703.2.12 of the Uniform Fire Code is amended to read as follows:

7703.2.12 Transportation routes. Vehicles transporting explosive materials shall be routed to avoid congested traffic and heavily populated areas. The chief is authorized to designate routes of travel and the times of use. Vehicles transporting explosives Division 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 or 1.6 Class A or B are prohibited from stopping within the city limits of Sparks for any reason, i.e., fuel, meals or resting. Explosive designations are found in the 1996 Edition of the American Emergency Response Guidebook (see guide 112, page 172).

(1980, , 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.130 Section 8001.6 amended--Material safety data sheets.

Section 8001.6 of the Uniform Fire Code is amended to read as follows:

8001.6 Material safety data sheets. Material safety data sheets (MSDS) shall be readily available on the premises for hazardous materials regulated by Article 80. See also Section 8001.3.2. When required by the chief or when the quantity of hazardous material exceeds the exempt amount as shown in Tables 8001.15A, 8001.15B, 8001.15C and 8001.15D of the Uniform Fire Code, a key box data cabinet shall be provided for hazardous material documentation storage. Location of the key box cabinet shall be approved by the chief. Order forms, when approved by the chief, can be obtained during normal business hours at the office of the chief.

(1980, , 04/13/1998)

Section 14.04.140 Table 81-B amended--Requirements for curtain boards and smoke venting.

Table 81-B of the Uniform Fire Code is amended by adding thereto a new footnote 4 which reads as follows:

4In buildings where the roof assembly is held by solid beams which are a minimum of 4 inches in depth, draft curtains may be eliminated if, in the opinion of the chief, adequate stopping is provided for the hazard.

(See Table 81-B--Requirements for Curtain Boards and Smoke Venting, identified as Exhibit #5 of this document. A copy of said Exhibit #5 is on file in the office of the city clerk and the office of the fire department and available to the public during normal business hours).

(1980, , 04/13/1998)