

AGENDA PLACEMENT FORM

(Submission Deadline – Monday, 5:00 PM before Regular Court Meetings)

Date: 11/11/2025
Meeting Date: 11/24/2025
Submitted By: J. Moore
Department: Fire Mrashal
Signature of Elected Official/Department Head:

Court Decision: <small>This section to be completed by County Judge's Office</small>
 11-24-2025

Description:
Update on drafting and timeline of the Johnson County Fire Code/International Fire Code 2024.

(May attach additional sheets if necessary)

Person to Present: Jamie Moore
(Presenter must be present for the item unless the item is on the Consent Agenda)

Supporting Documentation: (check one) PUBLIC CONFIDENTIAL
(PUBLIC documentation may be made available to the public prior to the Meeting)

Estimated Length of Presentation: 10 minutes

Session Requested: (check one)
 Action Item Consent Workshop Executive Other _____

Check All Departments That Have Been Notified:
 County Attorney IT Purchasing Auditor
 Personnel Development Services Facilities Management

Other Department Official (list) _____

**Please List All External Persons Who Need a Copy of Signed Documents
In Your Submission Email**

JOHNSON COUNTY 2024 IFC FIRE CODE UPDATE

HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY & APPLICABILITY



PURPOSE OF FIRE CODE

1. **Protect Life Safety**
 - Adequate Means of Egress, Fire Alarms & Detection Systems, Sprinkler Systems, Emergency Lighting
2. **Protect Property From Fire & Explosion Hazards**
 - Reduce Fire Severity Through Construction Requirements
3. **Prevent Fires**
 - Safe Storage of Hazmat, Control Ignition Sources, Fire Inspections and Hazard Mitigation
4. **Support Emergency Response**
 - Fire Apparatus Access Roads, Hydrant Placement
5. **Consistent Minimum Safety Standards**
 - Ensures Safety Standards Are Predictable



WHO THESE CODES APPLY TO

1. Commercial Establishments
2. Public Buildings
3. Multi-family dwellings of four or more units

*Implemented with new construction or buildings retrofit/remodeled

**Would affect single-family residences being used for foster homes, residential care/assisted living group homes.



MINIMUM STANDARDS

1. Fire Protection Systems
 - Creates A Standard For Sprinklers, Fire Pumps, Standpipes
2. Hydrant & Water Supply
 - Hydrant Placement And Obstruction Rules
3. Fire Apparatus Access
 - Turnaround Requirement For Dead-ends, Gate Widths, Knox Boxes
4. Fire Safety & Evacuation Plans
 - Required Reporting & Evacuation Strategies, Site Maps, Drills



PERMITS

1. Operational Permit

- Examples include: Energy Storage Systems, Lithium Battery Storage, Aviation Facilities, Compressed Gas Storage, Cryogenic Fluids, Explosive Storage, Outdoor Special Events, Prescribed Fires, Commercial Open Burning/Land Clearing, Pyrotechnic Special Effects, Storage of Scrap Tires and Tire Byproducts.

2. Construction Permit

- Examples include: Building that requires Automatic Sprinkler Systems, Battery/Energy Storage Systems, Fire Alarm & Detection Systems, Fuel Power Cell Systems, Solar Photovoltaic Power Systems, Electronic Access Control Systems, Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.



OPERATIONAL PERMIT- OPEN BURNING

1. Creates Distance Requirements
 - 50ft From Structures
 - 150ft. From Roadways
 - 150ft. From Nearest Property Line
2. Prohibits Sky Lanterns
3. Required For All Prescribed Fire
4. Exempts Recreational & Cooking Fires



OPERATIONAL PERMIT- OUTDOOR SPECIAL EVENT

1. Creates Awareness Of Events That Don't Qualify As Mass Gathering
 - 500 Persons Or More
2. Exempt If Mass Gathering Permit Is Required



CONSTRUCTION PERMIT- AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS

12,000 sqft or occupancy load of >300:

1. Group A1,3,4 (Performing Arts Centers, Theaters, Auditoriums)
2. Group E (Schools)
3. Group F (Factory/Industrial)
4. Group M (Retail)

2,500 sqft:

1. Group S-I (Storage of upholstered furniture/mattresses)

Automatic Requirement:

1. Buildings 55ft or more in height above lowest level of fire dept. access
2. Manufacture/Storage 120 gallons of distilled spirits (>20% alcohol)
3. Energy Storage Systems Indoors



CONSTRUCTION PERMIT- SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC

- I. Creates Standards For Large Commercial Solar Arrays
 - Ensures Emergency Access
 - Addresses Setbacks
 - Ensures Safe Operations

CONSTRUCTION & OPERATIONAL PERMIT- ELECTRICAL ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (ESS)/ LITHIUM ION



1. ESS & Lithium Battery Storage Require BOTH permits
2. Special Inspections Required
3. Remote Power Shut-down required on ESS
4. Large-Scale Fire Test By Approved Lab



BOARD OF REVIEW

I. Appeal Process

- Commissioner's Court will have final authority on any appeal.
- Process will work like current wavers/variance that are received by Development Services