



# California Code Adoption

## Building & Fire Code Key Elements and Update

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# BACKGROUND

California's building codes are published in their entirety every three years. The California Fire Code is included in this series of codes.



The 2019 California Building Standards Code (CA Code Regs., Title 24) was published as of July 1, 2019, and the effective date of the 2019 Code will be January 1, 2020, upon successful adoption.

# BACKGROUND

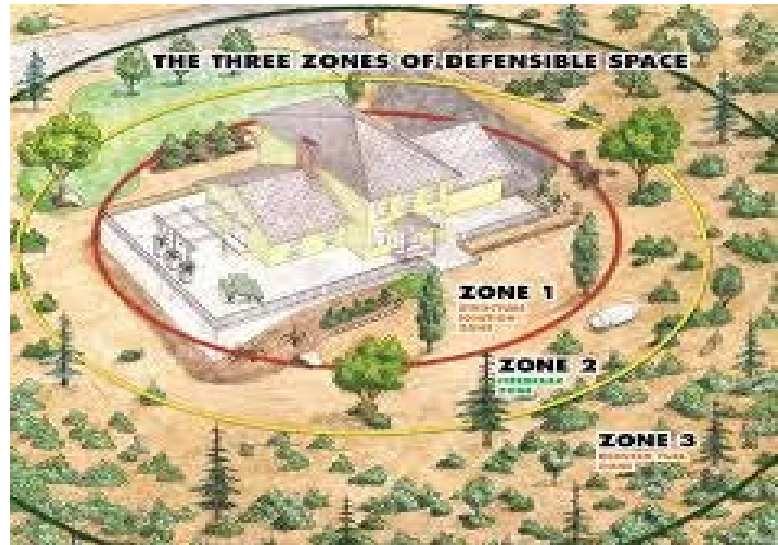
Throughout this year the Sonoma County Fire Prevention Officers' Association met with Sonoma County Building Officials to review and prepare updates for the 2019 California Fire and Building Codes.



The focus of the committee is to be as consistent as possible with the proposed code amendments and to focus on a more harmonious alignment with the model code as well as incorporate scientific based language at the local level for our WUI areas.

# New Regulations

Collaborative effort to evaluate our local conditions and make informed decisions with a scientific backing that will address home hardening and defensible space concerns in our WUI areas.



# New Regulations

- Examples of more restrictive amendments:
  - Two points of access for developments
  - Limiting of specific flammable or hazardous vegetation
  - Vegetation restrictions within 3-5 feet from structures
  - 7A upgrade for significant remodels/additions
  - Limitations on type of construction materials in WUI areas
  - Non-combustible gates and/or attachments to structures
  - Minimum Class A roofs city-wide

# California Energy Code adoption with All-Electric Reach Code

- Climate Action Subcommittee provided direction to pursue an all-electric reach code adoption.
- Partnerships with the Regional Climate Protection Agency, Sonoma Clean Power, Bay Area Regional Energy Network and others continue to provide outreach, public engagement and development of necessary ordinances.
- The California Energy Commission Requires a Cost-Effectiveness Study for any ordinance more stringent than base-energy code minimum requirements. The study is anticipated to be complete/accepted in mid-July.
- The cost-effectiveness study will NOT allow adoption of the FULL Tier-1 California Green Code measures. The energy-efficiency section would need to be specifically-addressed by the study.

# Code Adoption Timeline & Public Participation

- 8/14/2019 – North Cost Builders Exchange “What the Impending New Building Codes and Electric-only Residential Construction Requirements Will Mean to YOU!”
- 9/3/2019 – Climate Action Subcommittee meeting
- 9/19/2019 @ 2:00PM – Builder/Developer Round Table at Santa Rosa UFO, 35 Stony Point Rd.
- 9/24/2019 – City Council Study Session; Building and Fire Code adoption
- 10/22/2019 - First reading of Ordinance
- 11/19/2019 – Second reading of Ordinance
- Note: Due to the impact of numerous jurisdictions proposing reach codes, the adoption for the reach code portion will not be effective until February 1, 2020

# Code Conclusion

- \* The proposed All-Electric Reach Code is being pursued by modifying the California Energy Code with local amendments. It is not a stand-alone Ordinance.
- \* We are in the process of peer reviewing with all County fire agencies as well as other industry professionals, private industry representatives, Redwood Empire Association of Code Officials representatives and fire operations personnel.
- \* This presentation is an opportunity to provide the City Council with an update of the language that is intended to be scheduled for an October Council meeting when we present the triennial code adoption package.



# Questions?

