

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**Grant County, Washington**

**ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE  
AMENDMENT OF TITLE 15, FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICTS AND  
THE ADOPTION OF CHAPTER 15  
OF THE GRANT COUNTY CODE,  
FIRE PROTECTION AND  
ADMINISTRATION.**

**ORDINANCE No. 23 -~~32~~-CC**

RECITALS:

**WHEREAS**, the Grant County Board of County Commissioners reserved Title 15 of the Grant County Code titled Fire Protection Districts; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 19.27.110 authorizes the county legislative authority to adopt, by appropriate resolution or ordinance, regulations to administer and enforce the International Fire Code in the unincorporated areas of the county; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 36.43 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to adopt standard fire regulations to be applied within their respective jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 43.44.050 authorizes the county legislative authority to assign fire investigative duties to the fire marshal or other fire official to conduct fire investigations within unincorporated areas of the county; and

**WHEREAS**, upon consideration of testimony, and exhibits provided by Development Services staff, have determined that it is in the best interest to protect the public safety, health, and general welfare by a Title 15 and adopting Chapter 15 of the Grant County Code with the proposed revisions and additions contained herein; and

**WHEREAS**, the Grant County Board of County Commissioners conducted an open record public hearing on 4/18/2023 to consider the adoption of Title 15 as its Fire Administration Chapter for the county.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDNAINED THAT** the Grant County Board of Commissioners amend and adopt Title 15 - Fire Protection and Administration of the Grant County Code as presented in Attachment A.

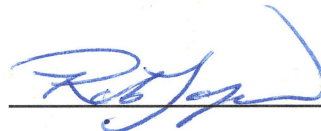
DATED this 18 day of April, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS  
GRANT COUNTY,**

**WASHINGTON**

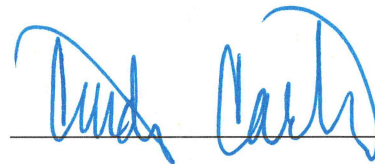
Yea    Nay    Abstain

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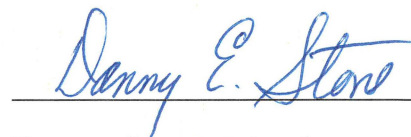
Rob Jones, Chair

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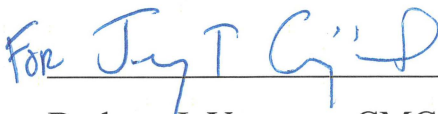
Cindy Carter, Vice-Chair

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Danny Stone, Member

ATTEST:



Barbara J. Vasquez; CMC  
Clerk of the Board

## ATTACHMENT A

### Title 15 – FIRE PROTECTION AND ADMINISTRATION~~DISTRICTS~~

#### Chapter 15.01 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### 15.01.010 - Authority.

Chapter 36.43 RCW authorizes counties to adopt building and fire regulations to promote public health, safety, and general welfare of the community and its citizenry.

##### 15.01.020 - Purpose.

This title is adopted to implement fire regulations that promote public health, safety, and welfare. This title shall be administered for the benefit of the health, safety, and welfare of the public and shall not be construed to establish any duties to protect or benefit any person or class of persons. The Fire Marshal is the Fire Code Official for Grant County and is responsible for administration of the components codified in Title 15.

##### 15.01.030 - Severability.

If any provision of this title is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of all remaining provisions shall not be affected.

##### 15.01.040 - Definitions.

Words, terms, and phrases used in this title are defined within the International Codes, as adopted by reference through Grant County Code 14.04.030, and in Grant County Code 25.02 and/or within the specific code adopted by reference herein.

##### 15.01.050 - Declaration of policy.

It is hereby declared to be the policy of Grant County, (the "county") and in the public interest, and for the protection of the public health, safety, welfare, and property of the residents of Grant County to regulate the building industry in the unincorporated areas of Grant County and regulate same, pursuant to its police powers.

## **Chapter 15.02 – REGULATIONS**

### **15.02.010 – Fire Codes.**

The applicable International Codes and Appendices are adopted by reference through Grant County Code 14.04.030.

### **15.02.020 – Permits.**

a) Permits Required: A property owner or owner's authorized agent who intends to:

1. Conduct an operation or business,
2. Install or modify systems and equipment that are regulated by the fire code, (or)
3. Cause any such work to be performed shall first make application to the fire code official and obtain the required permit.

b) Permit Application: An application for permit required by this code shall be made to the Grant County Fire Marshal's Office in such form and detail as prescribed by the fire code official. Applications for permits shall be accompanied by such plans as prescribed by the fire code official.

c) Permit Types:

1. Operational Permit. An operational permit allows the applicant to conduct an operation or a business for which a permit is required by the fire code for either a prescribed period of time or until renewed or revoked.
2. Construction Permit. A construction permit allows the applicant to install or modify systems and equipment for which a permit is required by the fire code.

d) Permits Revoked: The fire code official is authorized to revoke a permit issued under the provisions of this code where it is discovered by inspection or other means that there has been a false statement or misrepresentation as to the material facts in the application or construction documents on which the permit or approval was based per the adopted fire code.

### **15.02.030 – Plan Review and Inspections.**

The Fire Marshal's Office is responsible for all fire plan review and fire inspections related to proposed development within the unincorporated areas of the county. The Fire Marshal's Office works closely with the Development Services Division to ensure that the permitting, plan review, and inspection processes are conducted concurrently and in an efficient, streamlined manner, and that redundancy is eliminated.



### **15.02.040 – Fees.**

Fire Operational and Construction Permit Fees shall be determined in accordance with the fee schedule adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

### **15.02.050 – Enforcement.**

Violations of this chapter may result in enforcement action in accordance with Grant County Code (GCC) 1.32. The procedures for issuance of notices of violation, citations, hearings, assessments, and payment of monetary penalties shall be in accordance with the provisions of GCC 1.32.

## **Chapter 15.03 – TRANSIENT RESIDENCES.**

### **15.03.010 – Transient Residences.**

a) Transient Residences, as defined in Grant County Unified Development Code (UDC) 25.02, are single-family residential units used for short-term transient occupancy for periods less than thirty (30) days and are also regulated as Hospitality Commercial Establishments per UDC 23.08.220. Transient Residences are subject to the Performance and Use Standards described in UDC 23.08.220(c).

b) Permit Required: Operation of a Transient Residence requires an Operational Permit issued by the Grant County Fire Marshal's Office in accordance with the provisions of GCC 15.02.020. Operational Permits are issued on an annual basis. Operational Permits will not be issued until completion of annual inspection, and payment of fees in accordance with the Grant County fee schedule.

c) Annual Inspection: An annual fire and life-safety inspection is required within one (1) year after the certificate of occupancy has been issued and each year thereafter, until the residential unit is no longer used as a transient residence.

d) Given the commercial nature of their use, Transient Residences proposed within the unincorporated areas of Grant County shall require the following for the duration of their operation:

1. An automatic sprinkler system in accordance with International Fire Code 903.3, and Washington State Amendments.
2. Proof of liability insurance in accordance with RCW 64.37.050.
3. Operating, hard-wired, inter-connected smoke and carbon monoxide alarms,

4. At least one (1) ADA Accessible Parking Space, Access Aisle and Accessible Approach that complies with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A117.1.
5. At least 1 fire extinguisher installed within each transient residence having a minimum rating of 2-A:10-B:C installed per National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 10.
6. A fire evacuation plan containing the procedures and phone numbers for reporting a fire or other emergency, posted within the residence in a conspicuous location in accordance with International Fire Code and Washington State Amendments.
7. Unobstructed access to the residence.
8. Conspicuously posted premises identification in accordance with International Fire Code and Washington State Amendments. If multiple Transient Residences are located within an MPR, PUD or other community the Fire Marshal may require a monument directory located at the main entry(s).

## **Chapter 15.04 – FIRE FLOW AND FIRE SPRINKLER REQUIREMENTS.**

### **15.04.010 – Fire Flow Requirements for Buildings and Structures.**

- a) Required fire flow shall be determined using National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1142 and/or the Wildland Urban Interface Code for all commercial structures and residential structures exceeding 3,600 square feet.
- b) The installation of a fire sprinkler system, NFPA 13D or P2904 System, shall reduce the fire flow requirement by 50% for residential development, where applicable.
- c) The installation of a fire sprinkler system, NFPA 13 or NFPA 13R System, shall reduce the fire flow requirement by 75% for commercial development, where applicable.

## **Chapter 15.05 – WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE CODE**

The Wildland Urban Interface Code is adopted by reference in accordance with RCW 19.27.560.

### **15.05.010 – Amendments.**

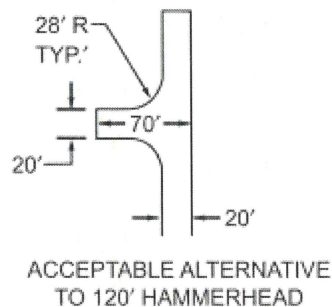
Section 403.2 Driveways is amended as follows:

Access Driveways shall be provided where any portion of an exterior wall of the first story of the building is located more than one hundred fifty feet from a fire apparatus access road.

Driveways in excess of three hundred feet in length shall be provided with turnouts and driveways in excess of five hundred feet in length shall be provided with turnarounds.

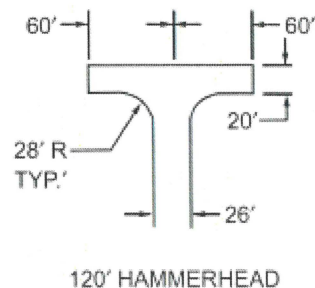
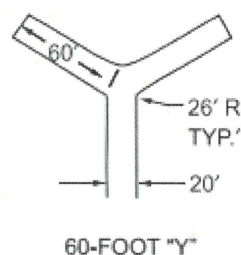
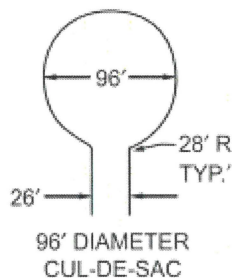
### **15.05.020 – Driveway and Turnout Standards.**

<b><u>LENGTH (feet)</u></b>	<b><u>WIDTH (feet)</u></b>	<b><u>TURNOUT REQUIREMENTS</u></b>
<u>151 – 300</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>None Required</u>
<u>301 – 500</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>70-foot minimum turnout per figure below.</u>



### **15.05.030 – Driveway and Turnaround Standards.**

<b><u>LENGTH (feet)</u></b>	<b><u>WIDTH (feet)</u></b>	<b><u>TURNOUT REQUIREMENTS</u></b>
<u>Greater than 500</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>120-foot Hammerhead, 60-foot "Y" or 96-foot diameter cul-de-sac per figures below.</u>





## **Chapter 15.06 – FIRE INVESTIGATIONS**

The Grant County Board of Commissioners agrees that it is in the best interest of its citizenry and the Fire Districts for the Fire Marshal's Office to conduct fire investigations within the unincorporated areas of the county. RCW 43.44.050(1)(b) requires the fire marshal, or other fire official if designated by the legislative authority, to investigate fires within the unincorporated areas of the county.

1. The County Fire Marshal is responsible for the Fire Investigation Program and the Fire Origin and Cause Investigation Unit. This responsibility includes, but is not limited to training, collaboration, and communication as to fire trend analysis, suspected arson, etc. with law enforcement and fire districts, and fire investigative reporting requirements when formal fire investigation is required.
2. Fire Origin and Cause Investigation Unit: If created, the fire origin and investigation unit may be made up of personnel from Grant County fire agencies. The unit:
  - a. Perform initial origin and cause investigation of fires in their respective jurisdiction.
  - b. May request response from the County Fire Marshal for a formal investigation if the following criteria is met:
    - i. Initial origin and cause investigation determines fire to be suspicious.
    - ii. There is a fatality and/or serious injury associated with the fire.
    - iii. There is a major value loss. (as determined by the county fire marshal)
    - iv. The initial investigation has not resulted in an origin and cause determination and initial resources are not sufficient.
3. The County Fire Marshal shall be responsible for contacting law enforcement when a law enforcement investigation is likely to be required.

## **Chapter 15.07 – COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION (CRR)**

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA )1300, Standard on Community Risk Assessment and Community Risk Reduction Plan Development, is a process to identify and prioritize local risks, followed by the integrated and strategic investment of resources to reduce their occurrence



and impact. The County Fire Marshal is responsible for risk assessment and program development to address specific community risk, such as Learn Not to Burn, Senior Citizen Fire Safety, Juvenile Fire Setter Program, Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Fire Sprinkler System awareness.