DENVER AMENDMENT PROPOSAL FORM
FOR PROPOSALS TO THE 2019 DENVER BUILDING CODE AMENDMENTS AND THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL CODES

2021 CODE DEVELOPMENT CYCLE

1) Name: David Renn, PE, SE Date: 10/15/2021
   Email: David.renn@denvergov.org Representing (organization or self): Denver DS

2) One proposal per this document is to be provided with clear and concise information.
   Is a separate graphic file provided ("X" to answer): ___ Yes or _X_ No

3) Highlight the code and acronym that applies to the proposal

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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
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<tr>
<td>IBC</td>
<td>International Building Code</td>
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AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Please provide all the following items in your amendment proposal.

**Code Sections/Tables/ Figures Proposed for Revision:**

**Instructions:** If the proposal is for a new section, indicate (new), otherwise enter applicable code section.

IBC 707.6

**Proposal:**

**Instructions:** Show the proposal using **strikeout**, **underline** format.

Place an “X” next to the choice that best defines your proposal: _X_ Revision __ New Text _ Delete/Substitute __ Deletion

**707.6 Openings.** Openings in a fire barrier shall be protected in accordance with Section 716. Openings shall be limited to a maximum aggregate width of 25 percent of the length of the wall, and the maximum area of any single opening shall not exceed 156 square feet (15 m²). Openings in enclosures for exit access stairways and ramps, interior exit stairways and ramps and exit passageways shall also comply with Sections 1019, 1023.4 and 1024.5, respectively.

**Exceptions:**

1. Openings shall not be limited to 156 square feet (15 m²) where adjoining floor areas are equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.

2. Openings shall not be limited to 156 square feet (15 m²) or an aggregate width of 25 percent of the length of the wall where the opening protective is a fire door serving enclosures for exit access stairways and ramps, and interior exit stairways and ramps.

3. Openings shall not be limited to 156 square feet (15 m²) or an aggregate width of 25 percent of the length of the wall where the opening protective has been tested in accordance with ASTM E119 or UL 263 and has a minimum fire-resistance rating not less than the fire-resistance rating of the wall.

4. Fire window assemblies permitted in atrium separation walls shall not be limited to a maximum aggregate width of 25 percent of the length of the wall.

5. Openings shall not be limited to 156 square feet (15 m²) or an aggregate width of 25 percent of the length of the wall where the opening protective is a fire door assembly in a fire barrier separating an enclosure for exit access stairways and ramps, and interior exit stairways and ramps from an exit passageway in accordance with Section 1023.3.1.
6. Openings shall not be limited to an aggregate width of 25 percent of the length of the wall where opening serves a *shaft enclosure* in accordance with Section 713.

7. Openings shall not be limited to an aggregate width of 25 percent of the length of the wall where opening serves a chute access room in accordance with Section 713.13.3 or a chute discharge room in accordance with Section 713.13.4.

**Supporting Information (Required):**

All proposals must include a written explanation and justification as to how they address physical, environmental, and/or customary characteristics that are specific to the City and County of Denver. The following questions must be answered for a proposal to be considered.

- **Purpose:** What does your proposal achieve?
- **Reason:** Why is your proposal necessary?
- **Substantiation:** Why is your proposal valid? (i.e. technical justification)

The purpose of this proposal is to pull forward a 2024 code change that has already been approved through the ICC Group A hearings under proposal FS42-21. The topic of this proposal has been extensively debated among plan reviewers as the code doesn’t address situations where it is not possible to meet the 25% length limitation, leading to inconsistent reviews. This amendment will lead to consistent plan reviews and enforcement. Note that the ICC committee voted 13-0 to approve this proposal as submitted, and there were no public comments.

**FS42-21**

**Committee Action:**

**Committee Reason:** The committee concluded this code change reflects the common practice in review and construction with little or no reports of safety issues. (Vote: 13-0)

The reason statement from proposal FS42-21 follows:

This proposal adds two new exceptions to the 25% length limitation for fire barrier openings. This section already includes Exceptions 2 and 5 for openings into stair, ramp and exit passageway enclosures where it is not practical to meet this length limitation since the door opening typically takes up well over 25% of the length of the wall. The two new exceptions are proposed for the same reason - it is simply not practical to meet this length limitation. Exception 6 is for shaft enclosures where door openings typically exceed 25% of the length of a wall - consider elevator doors or shaft access doors that take up nearly the entire length of the wall. Exception 7 is for chute access rooms and discharge rooms. Chute access rooms are typically very small rooms and it is not practical to meet the 25% limitation for the door into these rooms without oversizing the room. Chute discharge rooms often have a large door opening to allow passage of trash or recycling dumpsters and it is not practical to meet the 25% limitation without oversizing the room.

**Bibliography and Access to Materials** (as needed when substantiating material is associated with the amendment proposal):

None.

**Other Regulations Proposed to be Affected**

*For proposals to delete content from the 2019 Denver Green Code in conjunction with adding it to other mandatory Denver codes and/or regulations, only.*

Please identify which other mandatory codes or regulations are suggested to be updated (if any) to accept relocated content.

**Referenced Standards:**

List any new referenced standards that are proposed to be referenced in the code.

None.

**Impact:**

How will this proposal impact cost and restrictiveness of code? ("X" answer for each item below)

- Cost of construction: ___ Increase ___ Decrease  X No Impact
- Cost of design: ___ Increase ___ Decrease  X No Impact
- Restrictiveness: ___ Increase  X Decrease ___ No Impact
**Departmental Impact (City use only):**

This amendment proposal increases/decreases/is neutral to the cost of plans review.

This amendment increases/decreases/is neutral to the cost of inspections.