

## **2022 Building & Fire Code**

(Errata, Clarifications, and Revisions Package)

*Information summarized below details limited changes to the Building and Fire codes package previously approved by City Council in mid-January 2023. Changes most substantive are described herein. Most are related to clarifications in the Denver Energy Code. Others not specifically called out below are minor (grammatical, typographical).*

- 1) **Administration 131.4** – Added language that clarifies homeowners are not permitted to excavate basements for a new home or home addition on their property if more than 4-feet deep.
- 2) **Building Code 1107** – Accessible and Universal EV Parking – Revised language to clarify size, quantity, and signage for accessible and universal EV parking/charging spaces.
- 3) **Energy Code C103.2.3** – Provides information to the design team and building owner(s) for necessary design coordination with 2030 targets in the Energize Denver Ordinance.
- 4) **Energy Code C404.10** – Added an exception for boiler fuel source in alignment with the Energize Denver Ordinance.
- 5) **Energy Code C407.1** – Defines the criteria and numerical values for modeling infiltration (air leakage) based on the total building performance methodology in accordance with Appendix G of the energy standard ASHRAE 90.1.
- 6) **Energy Code C407.3.3** – Deleted language that already appears in other sections of the energy code.
- 7) **Energy Code Table C407.3** – Building Performance Factors – Adjusts the BPFs for non-all-electric buildings to align with Denver’s overall energy and fossil fuel reduction goals. Ensures that fossil fuels are not afforded a design advantage when compared to electric equipment.
- 8) **Energy Code C503.3.3** – Added exception for small room-type air conditioner units known as PTACs and VTACs because the permitting requirements for these do not go into effect until 2025 per the Energize Denver Ordinance. There are limited options for cold climate PTHPs and VTHPs which would replace PTACs and VTACs, therefore the Energize Denver Task force recommended permit process changes starting in 2025.
- 9) **Fire Code 503.1.1** - To align with City Council’s vision and promote construction of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's), this change exempts ADU’s from restrictive hose length coverages & avoids sprinklers that are not normally required in residential buildings in Denver. ADU’s are smaller in area and contain fewer occupants.
- 10) **Fire Code 510.4.1** - Change made to align Denver Code with current language in the national standard which is already adopted by Denver. This will ensure radio enhancement system cabling (used by emergency responders to communicate within a building) is equivalently protected to the fire rating of the structure which it serves.
- 11) **Fire Code 3303.5** – Incorporating into Denver’s code a change already made at the national level. The provision originally required covering flooring in mass timber construction with a non-combustible protection during construction. This proved to be expensive and not feasible, resulting in the change nationally and locally.

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