DATE: November 4, 2020

TO: All Fire Chiefs
   All Fire Code Officials
   Fire Protection Contractors

FROM: Knute C. Sandahl, State Fire Marshal

SUBJECT: Adoption of the 2018 edition of the International Fire Code

Effective January 1, 2021, the Idaho State Fire Marshal's office intends to adopt the 2018 edition of the International Fire Code. The adoption of the International Fire Code is the agency interpretation of existing law and is authorized by Section 41-254, Idaho Code.

This adoption retains all previously accepted exceptions or amendments. Amendments to the code are specified in the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act (IDAPA) 18.08.01, which include:

- 020. Sky Lanterns
- 021. Driveways
- 027. Fire Extinguishing Systems
- 031. Explosives and Fireworks

This adoption coincides with the adoption of the International Building and Residential Codes administered by the Idaho Division of Building Safety. Included in this adoption are appendices B, C, D, E, and F as required by the code. Appendix B details the requirements for fire flow, or water supply, for buildings. Appendix C provides the requirements for fire hydrant locations and distribution. Appendix D outlines the requirements and design for fire apparatus access roads. Appendix E & F provide information and explanation to clarify hazard categories and classifications outlined in Chapter 50 of the code and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 704.

The NFPA referenced standards identified in Chapter 80 of the International Fire Code are hereby adopted, as indicated below. These referenced standards provide additional detailed information on construction, installation, and maintenance for specific fire protection measures that complement the International Fire Code.
The fire code establishes the minimum requirements consistent with nationally recognized good practices for providing a reasonable level of life safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosions or other dangerous conditions in both new and existing buildings, structures and premises. In addition, the code provides a reasonable level of safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

For information concerning this bulletin, please contact:

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