



Humboldt No.1 Fire Protection District

Serving the Greater Eureka California Area since 1929

Ordinance 25

Humboldt No. 1 Fire Protection District

Express Finding Related to Local Amendments of the 2019 California Fire Code

Pursuant section 13869.7 of the Health and Safety Code the Board of Directors finds certain sections of the California Fire Code be amended due to unique local geographic, topographic, and/or climactic conditions. The Board finds that these amendments are reasonably necessary to provide for the health and safety of the citizens of the District.

The Board of Directors of Humboldt No. 1 Fire Protection District makes the following findings and determinations relative to the adoption of more restrictive provisions than those of 2019 California Fire Code:

Section 503.2.9 is added to read:

Amendment is necessary for local geographical conditions. The amendment requires that fire access road specifications may be required to comply with Humboldt County Fire Safe Ordinance #1952 in lieu of the requirements of Section 503.2 as determined by the Fire Code Official. The Humboldt Bay Fire protects an area of 57 square miles, much of which is rural. These topographical conditions require access be permitted per the Humboldt County Fire Safe Ordinance #1952 in lieu of Section 503.2.

Section 505.1.1-

Amendment is necessary for local climatic conditions. The amendment requires that for other than one and two family dwellings and individual mobile homes, address numbers shall be a minimum of 6 inches in height. Where buildings are set back from the street, larger numbers may be required. Existing legible identification is accepted. The Humboldt Bay Fire experiences measurable precipitation an average of 222 day per year, cloudy or foggy skies an average of 224 days per year and annual winter storms. These climatic conditions act to obscure address numbers and deteriorate existing numbers posted on buildings, making them less visible to emergency responders.

Section 505.1.2 –

Amendment is necessary for local climatic conditions. The amendment requires that in multi-tenant buildings individual tenant spaces shall be identified with characters a minimum of 2 inches in height located on the entry door or on the wall at the strike-side of the entry door. Existing legible identification is accepted. The Humboldt Bay Fire experiences measurable precipitation an average of 222 day per year, cloudy or foggy



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skies an average of 224 days per year and annual winter storms. These climatic conditions act to obscure tenant space numbers and deteriorate existing numbers on tenant spaces posted on buildings, making them less visible to emergency responders.

Section 506.1.3 –

Amendment is necessary for local geologic and climatic conditions. The amendment requires that approved key boxes shall be installed in new buildings equipped with fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, elevators, and/or as required by 506.1 and that key boxes shall be installed in existing buildings where new fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, and/or elevators are installed, or as required by 506.1. The Humboldt Bay Fire is located in a highly seismically active area, directly adjacent to the Cascadia Subduction Zone and the Triple Junction of the American, Pacific and the Gorda tectonic plates. Since 1906 there have been approximately 40 earthquakes of a magnitude greater than 6.0 including a 6.5 magnitude earthquake on January 9th, 2010 resulting in approximately 43 million dollars in damages and loss of power to 28,000 local residents. The Humboldt Bay Fire also experiences measurable precipitation an average of 222 day per year, cloudy or foggy skies an average of 224 days per year and annual winter storms. These geological and climatic conditions can result in the failure and accidental activation of fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, and elevators, requiring access to buildings so equipped to determine if an emergency condition exists, limit property loss, and rescue trapped persons

Section 506.1.4 –

Amendment is necessary for local geologic and climatic conditions. The amendment requires motorized gates providing access to facilities or property shall be provided with an approved gate key switch or other approved means of emergency operation. The switch shall be installed so it will open the gate and the gate will remain in the open position until re-set by the fire department. The Humboldt Bay Fire is located in a highly seismically active area, directly adjacent to the Cascadia Subduction Zone and the Triple Junction of the American, Pacific and the Gorda tectonic plates. Since 1906 there have been approximately 40 earthquakes of a magnitude greater than 6.0 including a 6.5 magnitude earthquake on January 9th, 2010 resulting in approximately 43 million dollars in damages and loss of power to 28,000 local residents. The Humboldt Fire District also experiences measurable precipitation an average of 222 day per year, cloudy or foggy skies an average of 224 days per year and annual winter storms. These geological and climatic conditions can result in medical emergencies, fires, structural collapses and other emergencies on properties secured by motorized gates requiring access to properties so equipped for emergency response.



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Section 507.2.2 –

Amendment is necessary for local rural conditions. The amendment requires that fire suppression water tanks specifications may be required to comply with Humboldt County Fire Safe Ordinance #1952 in lieu of Section 502.2.2 as determined by the Fire Code Official. The Humboldt Bay Fire protects a 57 square mile area, much of which is rural. These topographical conditions require rural fire suppression water tanks per the Humboldt County Fire Safe Ordinance #1952 in lieu of Section 502.2.2.

Section 903.4.4 –

Amendment is necessary for local geologic conditions. The amendment requires that in addition to the requirements of 903.4, valves on connections to water supplies, sectional control and isolation valves, and other valves in supply pipes to sprinklers and other fixed water-based fire suppression systems shall be locked in the correct position. The Humboldt Bay Fire is located in a highly seismically active area, directly adjacent to the Cascadia Subduction Zone and the Triple Junction of the American, Pacific and the Gorda tectonic plates. Since 1906 there have been approximately 40 earthquakes of a magnitude greater than 6.0 including a 6.5 magnitude earthquake on January 9th, 2010 resulting in approximately 43 million dollars in damages and loss of power to 28,000 local residents. These geological and climatic conditions can result the failure of domestic water or utility service lines and the accidental or intentional operation of fire protection system control valves.

Appendix D103.7 –

Amendment is necessary for local geographical conditions. The amendment requires that fire access roads specifications may be required to comply with Humboldt County Fire Safe Ordinance #1952 in lieu of Section D103 as determined by the Fire Code Official. The Humboldt Bay Fire protects a 57 square mile area, much of which is rural. These topographical conditions require access be permitted per the Humboldt County Fire Safe Ordinance #1952 in lieu of Section D103.

Adopted December 11, 2019.



Jo Wattle, Board Chair

Attest



Jenna Harris, Board Clerk

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