

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



ITEM: 3.20
(ID # 29078)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, October 28, 2025

FROM : FIRE DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: FIRE DEPARTMENT: Initiation of Amendment to Ordinance No. 787 to adopt as amended, revised and supplemented the 2025 California Fire Code and the 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface Code; All Districts. [\$27,100 total cost 100% Fire Department General Fund]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt an order initiating an amendment to Ordinance No. 787 to adopt as amended, revised and supplemented the 2025 California Fire Code and the 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface Code; and
2. Direct the Fire Department and County Counsel to review, prepare and process this amendment for future action by the Board of Supervisors

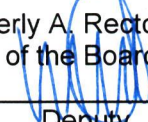
ACTION:


Bill Weiser, Fire Department Chief 10/16/2025

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Gutierrez, seconded by Supervisor Spiegel and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Medina, Spiegel, Washington, Perez, and Gutierrez
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: October 28, 2025
xc: Fire

Kimberly A. Rector
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

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FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 27,100	\$ 0	\$ 27,100	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 27,100	\$ 0	\$ 27,100	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: Fire Department General Funds 100%			Budget Adjustment:	No
			For Fiscal Year:	25/26

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

Updated fire and building codes developed by the state to increase fire resistance in buildings and homes will take effect statewide in January 2026, in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 18938. These codes bring the County in line with the 2025 adoption of California's Title 24, California Building Standards Code, based on the 2024 Model Codes, and will be enforced by the County's fire and building departments. This amendment to Ordinance No. 787 will adopt as amended, revised and supplemented the 2025 California Fire Code and the 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface Code. The California Wildland-Urban Interface Code is a new code that combines provisions previously located in both the California Building Code and the California Fire Code.

California Code of Regulations, Title 24, California Building Standards Code contains 12 Parts [Part 7 is the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code and Part 9 is the California Fire Code] and is published in its entirety every three years by order of the California legislature, with supplements published in an intervening 18-month cycle. California statute delegates authority to various State agencies, boards, commissions, and departments to create building regulations to implement the State's statutes. These building standards, have the same force of law and take effect for statewide application 180 days after their publication unless otherwise stipulated by the California Building Standards Commission.

A city, county or city and county may establish equal or more restrictive building standards reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological or topographical conditions. Findings of the local condition(s) and the adopted local building standard(s) must be filed with the California Building Standards Commission to become effective and may not be effective sooner than the effective date of this edition of the California Building Standards Code. Only those standards approved by the California Building Standards Commission that are effective at the time an application for building permit is submitted shall apply to the plans and specifications for, and to the construction performed under, that permit.

The Board of Supervisors has previously adopted administrative provisions and more restrictive building standards. The previously adopted building standards include additional fire protection features such as fire command centers and fire sprinkler systems. In compliance with Board Policy A-67, the Fire Department is seeking the Board of Supervisor's approval to allow the Fire Department, along with County Counsel, to begin to review and prepare any possible

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amendments to Ordinance No. 787 for adoption by the Board prior to submitting to the California Building Standards Commission for an effective implementation date of January 1, 2026.

Ordinance No. 787 only applies to the unincorporated area. Cities within Riverside County will need to adopt separate ordinances to apply more restrictive buildings standards within their respective jurisdictions. The Fire Department will be working with each contract partner in the regional cooperative system to assist in modifying their individual ordinances. The Board's action today does not directly affect the contract partner cities.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

There is no impact on residents and businesses. Board of Supervisor's approval will allow the Fire Department, along with County Counsel, to begin to prepare the amendments to County Ordinance No. 787 for future consideration and adoption by the Board.

Additional Fiscal Information

The estimated cost of administrative personnel and County Counsel time to prepare the amendments to Ordinance No. 787.10 is \$27,100. There is no additional fiscal impact associated with adoption of the 2025 California Fire Code and the 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface Code as these are regulatory requirements used in plan checking and permitting of future projects and maintenance provisions for existing structures and occupancies.


Geoff Pemberton, Chief Deputy County Fire 10/15/2025


Rebecca S Cortez, Principal Management Analyst 10/20/2025


Aaron Gettis, Chief of Deputy County Counsel 10/16/2025