

APPENDIX J

AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS IN EXISTING HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS

SECTION J101 GENERAL

J101.1 Purpose. The purpose of this appendix is to provide a reasonable degree of safety to persons occupying existing high-rise buildings by providing for the installation of automatic sprinkler systems in such buildings that do not already have such systems.

J101.2 Application. This appendix shall apply to, and the term "existing high-rise building" shall be construed to mean, any high-rise building existing within the corporate limits of the city on December 31, 2005, and any high-rise building annexed into the corporate limits after that date.

Exceptions: The provisions of this appendix shall not apply to the following:

1. Airport traffic control towers in accordance with Sections 412 and 907.2.22 of the *Building Code*.
2. Open parking garages in accordance with Section 406.3 of the *Building Code*.
3. Buildings with an occupancy in Group A-5 in accordance with Section 303.1 of the *Building Code*.
4. Low-hazard special industrial occupancies in accordance with Section 503.1.2 of the *Building Code*.
5. Buildings with an occupancy in Group H in accordance with Section 415 of the *Building Code*.
6. Individually owned dwelling units in high-rise buildings.

SECTION J102 DEFINITION

J102.1 Definition. The following term shall, for the purpose of this appendix, have the meaning ascribed in this section.

HIGH-RISE BUILDING. A building of any type of construction that has floors that are used for human occupancy located more than 75 feet (22 860 mm) above grade plane, as measured from the top of the floor surface.

SECTION J103 AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

J103.1 Required. All existing high-rise buildings shall be equipped with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with NFPA 13 according to the compliance schedule set forth in Section J104.

SECTION J104 COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

J104.1 Letter of Intent. On or before December 31, 2006, or within one year after the date of annexation of the building into the jurisdiction, owners of existing high-rise buildings shall provide the fire code official with a letter expressing the owner's intent to comply with this section.

J104.2 Compliance checkpoints. Except as provided by this section, owners of existing high-rise buildings shall comply with the following schedule for the installation of automatic sprinkler systems:

1. On or before December 31, 2009, or within four years after the date of annexation of the building into the jurisdiction, a water supply in accordance with NFPA 13 shall be installed to all floors of the building, and the owner shall provide the fire code official with written plans for compliance with this appendix and schedules for completion of the work stated in the written plan.
2. On or before December 31, 2014, or within nine years after the date of annexation of the building into the jurisdiction, a minimum of 50 percent of the floors shall be equipped with an operational automatic sprinkler system.
3. On or before December 31, 2017, or within twelve years after the date of annexation of the building into the jurisdiction, the total square footage (m²) of the building shall be equipped with an operational automatic sprinkler system.