

 <p style="text-align: center;">ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER</p>	Approved By:	No. 16
	City Manager	<p>Effective Date:</p> <p>November 20, 2007</p>
<p>Subject: Code Requirement Regarding Fire Sprinklers Near Furnaces Not to be Enforced</p>		

A. Purpose.

In November 2001, the Highland Park City Council adopted the 2000 Edition of the International Fire Code, with local amendments, as "The Fire Prevention Code of the City of Highland Park" ("**Fire Code**"). One of the local amendments, located at Section 91.005(24) of "The Highland Park Code of 1968," as amended ("**City Code**"), adds the following provision to the International Code:

903.2.16 Mechanical Room Fire Sprinkler: Every single family residence that is constructed or remodeled shall have installed a minimum of two fire sprinklers in the area of the furnace and hot water heater appliance. The upright fire sprinklers are to be installed on the domestic water lines in the area of the appliances in a circulating loop. There shall be a sprinkler head located on either side of the appliances.

Shortly after adoption of Section 903.2.16, the Building Division and Fire Prevention Bureau determined that this amendment was to be eliminated, and thus members of the City's Building Division and Fire Prevention Bureau have not applied this requirement to construction or remodeling of single-family homes where conventional lumber was used in the construction of floor/ceiling members of the structure. Where truss or light-weight construction materials have been utilized, sprinklers or other fire protective measures have been required under other sections of the Fire Code.

The removal of this amendment from the City Code never occurred; however, it is specifically noted that, since the adoption of Section 903.2.16, application of the Fire Code has been consistent in all construction and/or remodeling projects, i.e. Section 903.2.16 has not been enforced.

Within a period of a few months, the Building Division and Fire Prevention Bureau will seek adoption of updated building and fire safety-related Codes. The proposed updates contain provisions requiring full sprinkler system installation, which will address the situation specified in the existing Section 903.2.16.

The purpose of this Administrative Order is to formally direct staff not to enforce the provisions of Section 903.2.16, pending updates of the Fire Code in the near future.

B. Policy.

Staff members of the Building Division and Fire Prevention Bureau are hereby directed not to enforce the provisions of Section 903.2.16 of the Fire Code until and unless such numbered Section appears in Fire Code updates adopted by the City Council in 2006 or 2007.

C. Interpretation.

All questions pertaining to the meaning or applicability of this policy should be submitted in writing to the Office of the City Manager. The City Manager's Office will provide a written interpretation to all departments, which will serve as a supplement to this policy.