Issue Date: October 10, 2007

FIRE PROTECTION NEWS

City of Madison Fire Department - Fire Prevention Division
Vol. 1 – Iss. 2

Welcome to our Newsletter

By Jonathan Lund, Intern

In This Issue

It is with great pleasure that we welcome fire protection contractors to our second issue of *Fire Protection News*. For some this may be the first time seeing this publication. We are thrilled you are taking advantage of this opportunity. It is the intent of this newsletter to provide another method of communication between the City of Madison Fire Department, design professionals, and area contractors. Future issues will cover topics to help you better understand code interpretations and discussions on plan review and inspections, as well as other information we hope you'll find useful. We welcome your feedback and suggestions for future issues. Please contact Bill Sullivan (wsullivan@cityofmadison.com) with any new ideas or questions. We hope you find this brief newsletter to be a useful resource.

If you wish to receive future issues of *Fire Protection News* electronically, please email Ann Blackdeer (ablackdeer@cityofmadison.com). Be sure to include your name, company, and email address. Also, if you wish to receive multiple print copies at your office please contact Ann Blackdeer.

Meet Ed Ruckriegel

Ed Ruckriegel has more than 25 years of experience in the fire service and close to 20 years of experience in fire code enforcement. His fire service career began as a fire fighter for a suburban fire department near Louisville, Kentucky. Ed also worked for the City of Las Vegas Fire Department as an Assistant Fire Protection Engineer.

Ed relocated to Madison to serve as the Fire Protection Engineer with the City of Madison Fire Department and became the Fire Marshal in March 1994. Ed is now responsible for the fire inspection, fire protection engineering and community education functions of the Department. Ed has worked with the fire department and other city departments to create a code enforcement policy of "Educate first and regulate only when necessary." Ed has served as a member of several state code development councils including the Commercial Building Code Council & Multi-Family Dwelling Code Council.

In 2005, Ed was assigned the emergency management duties and responsibilities for the City. Ed received his Bachelor of Science degree in Fire and Safety Engineering Technology from Eastern Kentucky University.

Recap: Training Sessions for Fire Protection Contractors

By Jonathan Lund, Intern

The Madison Fire Department presented three training sessions at the end of July to discuss the plan review submittal process. Each session was directed towards a particular portion of the fire protection industry: fire alarm contractors, special hazard system contractors, and sprinkler design professionals and contractors. All three sessions addressed administrative issues with the plan review process, offered tips to avoid holds and rejections, and discussed pending MGO 34 revisions. In order to improve the plan review process and minimize review time, we must work together to eliminate mistakes and correct problem areas in the process. These training sessions were a step in the right direction and the Madison Fire Department looks forward to improving the level of communication between owners, general contractors, fire protection contractors, and the Fire Prevention staff. If you feel that additional training might be beneficial to people in your office, please contact Ann Blackdeer (ablackdeer@cityofmadison.com) or Bill Sullivan (wsullivan@cityofmadison.com) to schedule some meeting time. The Madison Fire Department would like to thank everyone who took the time to attend the training sessions.

A Note From the Engineer

By Bill Sullivan, Fire Protection Engineer

Fire Department Connections: *Location, Location, Location*

The one element of standpipe and/or sprinkler systems that appears to be straightforward but becomes problematic is the fire department connection (FDC). More attention needs to be spent on where the FDC will be located in the early stages of design rather than when the inspector shows up for a rough-in inspection.

What are the requirements for locating the FDC? As simply stated in Comm 62.0903(5), the FDC shall be in a location that is accessible and acceptable to the Fire Chief. Now for the details: The FDC shall be located on the street side of the building and be fully visible and recognizable from the street [IFC 912.2.1, NFPA 13 8.17.2.4.6, NFPA 14 6.4.5.1]. When standpipe and/or sprinkler system plans are submitted for review, the plans do not show other utilities such as gas meters, fences, door swings and landscaping that invariably are placed next to or in front of the FDC, and MFD does not become aware of any potential problems until the rough in inspection or final acceptance testing. Please keep in mind that the FDC shall be located so that hoses can be readily and conveniently attached to the FDC without interference [IFC 912.3, NFPA 13 8.17.2.4.6, NFPA 14 6.4.5.1.1]. The code requires a minimum of 3 feet of clearance around the FDC to be maintained; however, firefighters really need 5 feet in front of the FDC and 5 feet on each side of a "Y" style connection.

Currently the most missed FDC is the second FDC for high-rise buildings [NFPA 14 7.12.2]. The code requires at least two (2) remotely located FDCs and MFD will now require at least one (1) FDC for each street where the building has addresses on multiple streets. And don't forget the temporary FDC once a building's construction reaches four stories [NFPA 14 12.2].

The moral of our story is to discuss the FDC location with the architect, general contractor and other trades, and to come see me early and often.

Status of MGO 34 Revisions

By Bill Sullivan

On September 20, Mayor Cieslewicz approved the revisions to MGO 34 with an enactment date of October 5. MFD will begin enforcing the new plan submittal and fee requirements for submittals *received on November 1*. Please see the attached executive summary for a brief overview of the changes.

Executive Summary

September 2007 Madison Fire Code Revisions

This summary is intended to provide a general overview of the recent changes to the Madison Fire Code. This summary is not all inclusive of the changes and does not highlight every change. Please refer to Madison General Ordinance Chapter 34 for specifics.

1. The applicant must sign all Work Permit Applications. By signing the application, the applicant is certifying the finished installation will comply with the applicable codes.

2. Many review and inspection fees have increased. The minimum fee for most work or permits is $200. See revised Table A.

3. Fees for plan revisions and required re-submittals have increased. If plans are rejected or approval denied due to non-compliance, the fee for re-submittal is $200 or 50% of the original fee, whichever is more. If plans have been approved and a revision is required, the additional review fee is $200. If plans are rejected after an administrative hold, the re-submittal fee is $200. Administrative holds apply when the submittal is incomplete.

4. The Fire Code was revised to omit the special fee for shell buildings. However, if the new work is performed in a building with a previously approved shell permit, the reduced fee may apply to the new work. The applicant must provide documentation indicating earlier approval of the shell system. This option will not be valid after November of 2008.

5. The base fee for multiple identical buildings has increased to $200 or 25% of the otherwise appropriate fee.

6. With the exception of repair or replacement of one or two fire protection components, <u>all</u> work on fire protection systems requires an application, fee and permit. Some fees are $100 and others are $200. The ordinance and related tables provide the specifics.

7. When not within the scope of work for an installation, an application and permit is required to demolish or remove a fire protection system. The fee is $200.

8. Fire command centers, access control hardware and delayed egress hardware are subject to a fee of $200.

City of Madison Fire Department
Fire Prevention Division

Note: These are proposed revisions to MGO 34.

Table A-1 Alteration/modifications existing systems

Device	Fee
Existing Automatic Fire Sprinkler system of up to 20 Sprinkler Heads	$100. Per System
Other existing fire protection systems of up to 3 devices	$100. Per System
Dry Pipe preaction, deluge valve, and similar devices	$100. Per System
Fire Pump	$200. Per System
Fire Alarm Control Unit Replacement	$100. Per System
Backflow Prevention Valve	$200. Per System

Table A-2 Repair/replacement existing systems

Device	Fee
Sprinkler head replacement, more than three	$100. Per System
Nozzle replacement, more than three	$100. Per System
Dry Pipe, preaction, deluge valve, and similar devices	$100. Per System
Fire Pump	$200. Per System
Fire Alarm Control Unit Replacement	$100. Per System
Backflow Prevention Valve	$200. Per System
Fire alarm initiating devices, more than 3	$200. Per System
Fire alarm notification appliances, more than 3	$200. Per System

TABLE A-3 Certain Devices Subject to Single Flat Fee

Device	Fee
Digital alarm communicator transmitters (DACT)	$200. Per system
Kitchen hood extinguishing systems	$200. Per system
Dry chemical extinguishing systems	$200. Per system
Deluge sprinkler systems (which protect openings in fire related construction)	$200. Per system
	$200. Per system
Fire detection devices that actuate fire doors/shutters (which are not part of any fire alarm system)	$200. Per system
Clean agent systems	$200. Per system
Fire pumps	$200. Per each
Standpipe systems (not to include combined sprinkler/standpipe systems)	$200. Per system
Smoke and Heat Vents	$200. Per system