



STAFF REPORT
5/24/2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Lizzandro Diaz, Building Official

SUBJECT: Introduce Ordinance No. 1201, first reading, revising Municipal Code Title 15 for the purpose of adopting the 2022 California State Building Codes

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council introduce Ordinance No. 1201 for first reading, by title only, to amend Chapter 15 of the Coachella Municipal Code.

BACKGROUND:

It is customary to conduct regular updates to the building code every three years. These updates are carried out to bring the state building code in line with current standards and reflect any changes made to the Coachella Municipal Code.

We are pleased to report that the latest building code was successfully adopted in January 2023. As a result, we are now bringing forward an update to ensure that the language used in the municipal code aligns with the state building code. This will enable us to maintain consistency and accuracy in our regulations and ensure that all relevant rules and requirements are accurately reflected in our building code.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The proposed adoption of revisions to the California Building Code to align with the City of Coachella Municipal Code is a positive development that will go a long way in improving the safety of structures within the City. By aligning the building code with the specific needs of Coachella, the construction process will be safer and more efficient.

One of the key advantages of this adoption is that it will help address the challenges posed by the City's unique environment. With specific guidelines for construction materials and practices, the building code will better serve the needs of Coachella, which experiences extreme weather and seismic activity. This will lead to more resilient structures that can withstand the environmental challenges the City faces.

Aligning the building code with the municipal code will also streamline the building permit process. By ensuring that the building code matches the specific needs of the City, obtaining building permits will be faster and smoother. This means that construction projects can be completed on time and within budget, resulting in less disruption to the community.

Overall, the adoption of revisions to the California Building Code to align with the City of Coachella Municipal Code is a positive step for the City. It will enhance the safety and resilience of structures and streamline the building permit process. The result will be a more vibrant and thriving Coachella that can better meet the needs of its community.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

It is recommended Council make the following determination that this action is exempt from environmental review in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under the general rule contained in Section 15061(b)(3). This action involves updates and revisions to existing regulations consistent with State law and will not result in any direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Adoption of the proposed Code Amendment would not have a fiscal impact to the City's General Fund. The cost to administer the Codes is recovered through permit fees.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Introduce Ordinance No. 1201 for first reading, by title only, to adopt the new California State Building Code.
2. Continue this matter and provide staff direction.
3. Take no action.

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE(S):

Staff recommends Alternative #1 as shown above.

Attachments:

1. Ordinance No. 1201 (first reading)
Amendments to Coachella Municipal Code Title 15 adopting California Building Codes Title 24 Parts 1,2,2.5,3,4,5,6,8,10,11,12