



STAFF REPORT
11/9/2022

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Brian F. Gumpert, City 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:

Building Code updates occur every three years in order to update the State Building Codes to the currently adopted and amended sections of the Coachella Municipal Code. The new codes do not represent a significant change from the old code and the State has still not adopted the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code and neither will the City in this cycle. The California Referenced Standards Code will be adopted this cycle as was done by the State Building Standards Commission.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

California State Law Title 24 Part 1 requires that the new California Model Codes (Title 24 Parts 1,2,2.5,3,4,5,6,8,10-12) be adopted at a local level with local amendments prior to their official enforcement date, in this case January 1, 2023. This does not include the Title 24 Part 9 (California Fire Code) as this will be adopted under a separate resolution drafted by the governing Fire Authority, Riverside Country Cal-Fire. New updates include:

- Clarification that walkways are not exempt from a building permit.
- Allow for post tension designs for block walls that mitigate soil conditions.
- Delegates the Planning Commission as the City's Cultural Heritage Board with responsibilities such as:
 - Compiling and maintaining list of site and structures determines to be historical or cultural sites.
 - Publish and transmit list to the public concerning a list of historic resources.
 - Make recommendations to Council with respect to historic preservation.
 - Designate landmarks and historical districts subject to Council approval.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

The City Council finds that this Ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonable foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

There is no financial impact in adopting this ordinance for either the City or residents of the City. It does not change any fees or require expenditure of any kind and presents no financial burden to the City of Coachella residents.

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)
Exhibit A – Amendments to Coachella Municipal Code Title 15 adopting California Building Codes Title 24 Parts 1,2,2.5,3,4,5,6,8,10-12