

**ORDINANCE NO. ORD-2025-**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT AND ENACT THE AMENDED MARYLAND STATE  
FIRE PREVENTION CODE**

**RECITALS**

Pursuant to MD Code, Public Safety §9-701, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland (the “Board”) adopts the Maryland State Fire Prevention Code, under the Authority of the MD Code, Public Safety Article §6-206 and 6-501, amended effective August 10, 2020.

The State Fire Prevention Code establishes minimum requirements to provide a reasonable level of safety, health, property protection and general welfare by regulating and controlling the design, construction, installation, quality of materials, location and maintenance or use of fire prevention measures.

A public hearing was held on April 29, 2025, following due notice, pursuant to MD Code, Local Gov’t §9-701. Public comment was received, reviewed, and considered concerning the adoption of the Maryland State Fire Prevention Code, amended effective August 10, 2020, with local amendments for Washington County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Maryland State Fire Prevention Code, amended August 10, 2020, is enacted with the following local amendments for Washington County:

Subsection 10.2.7 - added  
Table 10.2.7.1 - added  
Paragraph 18.2.3.4 - added

**Chapter 10 – General Safety Requirements is amended as follows:**

**Subsection 10.2.7, which is deleted in the State Fire Prevention Code is hereby added to the Washington County Fire Prevention Code to read as follows:**

**Subsection 10.2.7 Minimum Fire Prevention Inspection Frequencies for Existing Occupancies**

**Paragraph 10.2.7.1.** Fire prevention inspections shall occur on existing premises in accordance with the minimum inspection frequency schedule specified in Table 10.2.7.1.

**Paragraph 10.2.7.2** Where required or permitted by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (“AHJ”), the required fire prevention inspection shall be conducted by an approved party that is qualified in accordance with NFPA 1031.

**Paragraph 10.2.7.3** The AHJ shall be permitted to approve alternative qualifications for the approved party specified in 10.2.7.2.

**Paragraph 10.2.7.4** The provisions of 10.2.7 shall not apply to detached one- and two-family dwellings or townhomes.

**Table 10.2.7.1, which is deleted in the State Fire Prevention Code is hereby added to the Washington County Fire Prevention Code to read as follows:**

**Table 10.2.7.1 Minimum Inspection Frequency**

<b>Occupancy Risk Classification</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
High	Annually
Moderate	Biennially
Low	Triennially
Critical Infrastructure	Per AHJ

**Chapter 18 – Fire Department Access and Water Supply is amended as follows:**

**Paragraph 18.2.3.4, which is deleted in the State Fire Prevention Code is hereby added to the Washington County Fire Prevention Code as follows:**

**Paragraph 18.2.3.4 Traffic Signal Preemption.** Where fire department apparatus are equipped with traffic signal pre-emption devices, newly installed traffic signals shall be equipped with traffic signal pre-emption.

Adopted this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025.  
Effective the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2025.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Dawn L. Marcus , Clerk

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John F. Barr, President

Approved as to form and  
legal sufficiency:

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DRAFT