

## NEW YORK CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

### FY2017 REGULATORY AGENDA

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating new and amended rules during Fiscal Year 2017 that address the subjects set forth below.

Fire Department rules are consolidated in Title 3 of the Rules of the City of New York and are posted on the Fire Department's website, [www.nyc.gov/fdny](http://www.nyc.gov/fdny).

#### 1. EMERGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating rules to implement the emergency planning and preparedness provisions of Chapter 4 of the 2014 New York City Fire Code. The rules will set forth requirements for:

- Fire and Life Safety (FLS) plans.
- Fire and Emergency Preparedness (FEP) plans.
- Fire and Emergency Preparedness (FEP) guides and notices.
- Fire and Life Safety (FLS) Directors.
- Fire and Emergency Preparedness (FEP) Coordinators.
- The conduct of fire drills.

The rules will generally affect owners of large buildings and the businesses that occupy them, as set forth in FC Sections 403 to 415.

#### 2. STATIONARY BATTERY SYSTEMS

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating a new rule addressing safety concerns arising from stationary battery installations and the new battery technologies they employ.

National fire safety codes and standards have not kept pace with the rapidly-evolving and expanding use of stationary battery installations in non-traditional applications and settings. Stationary battery systems were commonly used in buildings to provide uninterruptible power supply for building systems; now building owners are installing such systems to store power for general building use. These new energy storage systems are much larger and introduce into occupied buildings substantial quantities of hazardous materials and the type of energized equipment previously found only in public utility or industrial settings. The presence of such equipment and materials poses a challenge to firefighting in the event they are the source of a fire or exposed to a fire in a building, especially a high-rise building.

The rule will generally affect owners of large buildings and the businesses that install stationary battery systems for general building power.

### 3. FIRE DEPARTMENT HOSE CONNECTIONS

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating a new rule to require more detailed signage that will assist in firefighting operations in very tall buildings.

The rule will affect owners of very tall buildings.

### 4. FIRST RESPONDER BOXES

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating a new rule implementing Fire Code provisions relating to first responder boxes. First responder boxes are locked boxes in building lobbies, construction sites and other locations in which floor plans and other information are secured for Fire Department use. The rule will address when emergency responder boxes are required, and their design, location and contents.

The rule will affect developers and owners of large buildings.

### 5. SPECIAL EFFECTS

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating new rules relating to pyrotechnic and other special effects.

The New York City Fire Code generally regulates special effects and requires supervision by a person holding a Fire Department certificate of fitness. With the increasing popularity of special effects, especially those in close proximity to an audience, and the expanded use of fire, flammable gases and other dangerous materials, the Fire Department sees the need to promulgate rules codifying existing practices and additional appropriate fire safety precautions, and specifying the responsibilities of the persons conducting or supervising the special effects.

The rule will affect theaters and other places of assembly in which special effects are conducted, as well as the persons who conduct such special effects.

### 6. EXPLOSIVES

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating a new rule revising the standard for blasting vibrations.

The rule will affect developers and blasting contractors who engage in blasting operations on construction sites.

## 7. ALCOHOL-FUELED FIREPLACES AND DECORATIVE DEVICES

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating a new rule regulating the use of stationary and portable devices that generate an open flame using liquid or solid alcohol fuel. There is increasing interest in installing and using such devices in lieu of conventional wood-burning or gas-fired fireplaces.

The rule will affect all buildings and businesses.

## 8. ELECTRONIC RECORDKEEPING

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating a new rule authorizing electronic recordkeeping documenting Fire Code compliance and setting forth how such records must be kept and made available to the Fire Department.

The rule will affect all buildings and businesses required to maintain records to document Fire Code compliance.

## 9. MOBILE TRAILERS FOR HEATING OR POWER GENERATION

The Fire Department anticipates promulgating an amendment to Fire Department rule 3405-01 (Storage and Use of Fuel Oil on Mobile Trailers for Heating and Power Generation) to increase mobile trailer storage from 550 gallons of fuel oil to 1200 gallons and make certain other changes. The current limit on the size of the fuel tanks on such trailers necessitates frequent oil deliveries and transfers of oil from cargo tank trucks, which increases the fire safety concern. Building owners or the operators of such trailers regularly apply for modifications (variances) to allow them to install larger fuel tanks on such trailers. The Fire Department has been granting such variances without incident.

This rule will typically affect owners of large residential buildings and operators of such mobile trailers.

### Questions or Comments

Communications regarding this regulatory agenda should be directed to the Code Development Unit, Bureau of Fire Prevention, 9 MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11201-3857, or contact us using the Public Feedback form on the Fire Department's website, [www.nyc.gov/fdny](http://www.nyc.gov/fdny).