



Development Advisory - 47
June 12, 2019

Revised PFM, Chapter 13 – Fire Protection and Associated Appendices

Effective July 2, 2019, Public Facilities Manual (PFM), Chapter 13 – Fire Protection and associated appendices will be revised due to the adoption by Chesapeake of the 2015 version of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (VSFPC) including adoption of the International Fire Code (IFC) appendix sections as well as Chesapeake local amendments to the VSFPC, as well as identified streamlining as follows:

- PFM, Chapter 13 – Fire Protection has been streamlined from 20 pages to 9 pages, as attached, by using off-site links to the VSFPC and other regulations which helps in reducing an otherwise bulky document by not reproducing the code within the PFM, only what is unique to Chesapeake where the code provides the authority to determine specific criteria.
- Appendix 18-A – Water Demand for Fire Protection Worksheet has been revised to mirror the 2015 code requirements as listed in IFC Appendix B – Fire-flow Requirements for Buildings. This is an easier, form-fillable and less complicated method that helps the development community meet reduced fire-flow demands, and keeps the requirement uniformed across the region.
- Elimination of the following PFM, Appendix sections.
 1. Fire Dept. Review Checklist under guidelines which has been replaced with a much smaller, user friendly version of the checklist at the end of Chapter 13. It is too bulky to submit as Fire’s comments response to review of various plans; whereas a short, direct memo uploaded to the plan record works better or by posting specific Fire comments directly in the Accela (eBuild) comments box provided as part of the plan record.
 2. Appendix 18 which is a reproduction of IFC, Appendix B by using a link provided on the Appendix 18-A fire-flow worksheet to view Appendix B in its entirety.
 3. Appendix 18-D which is entitled as “Permissible Fire-flow Modifications for Buildings Other than One- and Two-Family Dwellings” since the 2015 VSFPC, Appendix B is actually more beneficial to the development community by providing reduced fire protection water demand options, and is uniformed and in sync with other jurisdictions without the necessity of modifications. This option was rarely, if ever, utilized.
- PFM, Appendix 19 – Fire Lanes – Added note #3 to page 3 regarding fire lane signage only in certain single-family residential applications for aesthetic purposes with conditions.
- PFM, Appendix 18-F – Fire Code Modification Request – change in Fire Marshal only.
- PFM, Appendix 18-G – Fire Dept. Connection detail has been signed by the newly appointed Fire Marshal, Division Chief Donald W. Wooten.

Should you have any questions or comments please contact Harold Creason directly at:

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