

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: September 8, 2020
Reviewed by: NA

SUBJECT: Albany Fire Department Inspection Compliance Report

REPORT BY: Lance Calkins, Fire Chief

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt Resolution No. 2020-84, recognizing the Albany Fire Department's level of compliance with California Health and Safety Code Sections 13146.2 and 13146.3.

BACKGROUND

California Senate Bill 1205 (SB 1205) was signed into law on September 27, 2018, after the tragic Ghost Ship Fire (December 2016) brought national attention to California and put a spotlight on fire safety laws as well as the performance of fire inspections. This law amends preceding law such that an annual report on state mandated inspections is now required to be submitted to the governing body of each jurisdiction having authority for inspections. The law also requires the report to be given when the administering authority discusses its annual budget. The receipt of the report must be acknowledged in a resolution or similar formal document.

State mandated inspections were enacted by the California Health & Safety Code Sections 13146.2 and 13146.3 and requires all fire departments that provide fire protection services to perform annual inspections in every building used as a public or private school, hotel, motel, lodging house, apartment house, and certain residential care facilities for compliance with building standards. Sections 13146.2 and 13146.3 did not require fire departments to report or demonstrate compliance as the new law (SB 1205) does. Although there are no penalties identified in the law, adoption of the resolution will establish the City of Albany's intent to fulfill the requirements of the California Health & Safety Code regarding acknowledgment of the Albany Fire Department's compliance with Sections 13146.2 and 13146.3, which identifies the state mandated inspections described.

Public and private schools are generally classified as Educational Group E occupancies. They are schools used by more than six persons at any one time, for educational purposes through the 12th grade. Within the City of Albany, there are 20 Group E occupancies, buildings, structures and facilities.

During fiscal year (FY) 2019, the Albany Fire Department completed the annual inspection of 20 Group E occupancies, buildings, structures and facilities. This represents

a compliance rate of 100%.

Hotels, motels, apartments (three units or more), and other residential occupancies that contain sleeping units (including some residential care facilities) are generally classified as Residential Group R occupancies. The residential care facilities have various sub-classifications and may contain residents or clients that have a range of needs, such as, custodial care, mobility impairments, cognitive disabilities, and more. The residents may also be non-ambulatory. Within the City of Albany, there are 230 Group R (and their associated sub-categories) occupancies.

In FY 2019, the Department completed the annual inspection of 230 Group R occupancies, buildings, structures and facilities. Calls for service, training, public education and other responsibilities impact available time for the Operations Bureau to complete these. This represents a compliance rate of 100%.

CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES

This action supports the City Council’s Strategic Plan to “Foster a Healthy and Sustainable Urban Village to Support Public Health and Safety.”

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Mandatory inspection costs are fully funded by the City of Albany Master Fee Schedule.

Attachments

1. Resolution No. 2020-84

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A. EDUCATIONAL GROUP E OCCUPANCIES:

Educational Group E occupancies are generally those public and private schools, used by more than six persons at any one time for educational purposes through the 12th grade. Within the City of Albany, there are 20 Group E occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities.

During fiscal year 2019, the Albany Fire Department completed the annual inspection of 20 Group E occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities. This is a compliance rate of 100% for this reporting period.

B. RESIDENTIAL GROUP R OCCUPANCIES:

Residential Group R occupancies, for the purposes of this resolution, are generally those occupancies containing sleeping units, and include hotels, motels, apartments (three units or more), etc. as well as other residential occupancies (including a number of residential care facilities). These residential care facilities have a number of different sub-classifications, and they may contain residents or clients that have a range of needs, including those related to custodial care, mobility impairments, cognitive disabilities, etc. The residents may also be non-ambulatory or bedridden. Within the City of Albany, there are 230 Group R (and their associated sub-categories) occupancies of this nature.

During fiscal year 2019, the Albany Fire Department completed the annual inspection of 230 Group R occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities. This is a compliance rate of 100% for this reporting period.

NICK PILCH, MAYOR