

STAFF REPORT

DATE: January 28, 2025

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Fire Chief Jed Wilson

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF A COMPLIANCE REPORT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024 MADE BY THE FIRE CHIEF OF THE SAN MATEO FIRE DEPARTMENT REGARDING STATE MANDATED FIRE INSPECTIONS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 13146.2 AND 13146.3 OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the resolution motion.

BACKGROUND:

Existing state law requires California fire departments to enforce the fire code as adopted. Additionally, fire departments are required to perform annual inspections of every building used as a public or private school, as well as all apartment houses, hotels, motels, and lodging houses for compliance with the adopted codes. The percentages of inspections completed are based on the fire department records for the types of businesses that are required by state law to be inspected every year.

FINDINGS:

In calendar year 2024 San Mateo County Fire Department conducted the following mandatory inspections:

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 San Mateo County Fire Department service area, per our records, there lie 13 Group E occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities. During calendar year 2024, the San Mateo County Fire Department completed the annual inspection of 13 Group E occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities. This is a compliance rate of 100% for this reporting period for Group E occupancies.



INSTITUTIONAL GROUP I OCCUPANCIES:

Within the San Mateo County Fire Department service area, per our records, lie 4 Group I (and their associated sub-categories) occupancies of this nature. During calendar year 2024, the San Mateo County Fire Department completed the annual inspection of 4 Group I occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities. This is a compliance rate of 100% for this reporting period for Group I occupancies.

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 several residential care facilities). These residential care facilities have a several 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 San Mateo County Fire Department service area, per our records, lie 11 Group R (and their associated sub-categories) occupancies of this nature. During calendar year 2024, the San Mateo County Fire Department completed the annual inspection of 11 Group R occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities. This is a compliance rate of 100% for this reporting period for Group R occupancies.

BACKGROUND:

After the devastating Ghost Ship Fire in Oakland, the California Senate put forth Senate Bill 1205. This Bill was approved by the Governor on September 27, 2018, and added to §13146.4 of the California Health and Safety Code. Existing law requires the Fire Chief of any city or county fire department or district providing fire protection services and his or her authorized representatives to inspect every building used as a public or private school within his or her jurisdiction, for the purpose of enforcing specified building standards, not less than once each year, as provided. Existing law requires every city or county fire department or district providing fire protection services that is required to enforce specified building standards to annually inspect certain structures, including hotels, motels, lodging houses, and apartment houses, for compliance with building standards, as provided. Senate Bill 1205 requires every city or county fire department or district required to perform the above-described inspections to report annually to its administering authority, as defined, on the department's or district's compliance with the above-described inspection requirements, as provided. The bill would require the administering authority to acknowledge receipt of the report in a resolution or a similar formal document.