



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: COUNTY EXECUTIVE

File #: 23-183

Board Meeting Date: 3/28/2023

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Michael P. Callagy, County Executive
Adam Ely, Deputy County Executive

Subject: Resolution Acknowledging Receipt of a Compliance Report made by the Fire Chief of the San Mateo County Fire Department Regarding State Mandated Fire Inspections Pursuant to Sections 13146.2 and 13146.3 of the California Health and Safety Code

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a resolution acknowledging receipt of a compliance report made by the fire chief of the San Mateo County Fire Department regarding state mandated inspections pursuant to Sections 13146.2 and 13146.3 of the California Health and Safety Code.

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 2022 San Mateo County Fire Department conducted:

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 2022, 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.

INSTITUTIONAL GROUP I OCCUPANCIES:

Within the San Mateo County Fire Department service area, per our records, lie 1 Group I (and their associated sub-categories) occupancies of this nature. During calendar year 2022, the San Mateo County Fire Department completed the annual inspection of 1 Group I occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities. This is a compliance rate of 100% for this reporting period.

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 several residential care facilities). These residential care facilities have 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 17 Group R (and their associated sub-categories) occupancies of this nature. During calendar year 2022, the San Mateo County Fire Department completed the annual inspection of 17 Group R occupancies, buildings, structures or facilities. This is a compliance rate of 100% for this reporting period.

DISCUSSION:

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.

The County Attorneys' Office has approved this Resolution as to form.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact in accepting this memo.