

2025 California Model Code Adoption

Local Amendments

Background

- Every three years, the California Building Standards Commission revises, adopts, and publishes the California Model Building Codes. These revisions aim to update and clarify existing regulations, propose new ones, and ensure the safety, health, and well-being of California's buildings. Additionally, they promote responsible energy use and green building conservation.
- The official adoption date for the 2025 California Model Codes was July 1, 2025, with an implementation date of January 1, 2026.
- This model code cycle introduces the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code, designed to promote defensible landscaping, ignition-resistant construction, and fire service access.
- Local jurisdictions have the authority to modify the California Model Codes to better suit their unique geographic, climatic, and topographical conditions, as well as to oversee the administration and permitting of these codes.

Quick Highlights of Our Local Amendments

- Local Fire Code amendments recommended by our Fire Marshal's Office to identify incident command procedures, design water flows, and fire sprinkler requirements.
- Utilization of our City Fee Schedules rather than the one provided by the State.
- Every dwelling unit shall be provided with air conditioning facilities capable of maintaining a room temperature of not more than 80 degrees Fahrenheit in all habitable rooms.
- An approved electrical code design for temporarily powering a residence from an electric vehicle.

Quick Highlights of Local Amendments

- Permit Administration:
 - ✓ Restricting complex electrical and mechanical permits to licensed California contractors, such as primary electrical services and HVAC systems.
 - ✓ Clarifying the Demolition of Buildings processes and permitting.
 - ✓ Clarify the use of temporary occupancy issuance.

Assembly Bill 130 (AB130)

California's Assembly Bill 130 (AB 130) has introduced residential building restrictions, including a six and ten moratorium, in an effort to stimulate housing.

- 6-Year Moratorium on Local Amendments.
- 10-Year Moratorium on Building Code Changes.

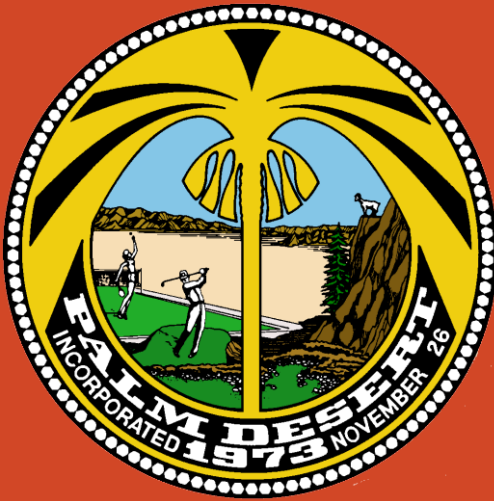
Challenges?

Unless a jurisdiction can justify changes in the key areas of emergency standards, home hardening (Wildland Urban-Interface Design), and General Plan alignment, local amendments may not be approved.

Next Steps

If approved:

- January Public Hearing.
- Filing of ordinance with the California Building and Standards Commission.
- Filing of ordinance with the California Housing and Community Development



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