



PORTLAND FIRE & RESCUE



Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Nate Takara, Fire Marshal
Prevention Division
1300 SE Gideon Street
Portland, OR 97202
(503) 823-3770
Fax (503) 823-3969

TO: Mayor Charlie Hales
Commissioner Nick Fish
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Steve Novick
Commissioner Dan Saltzman

FROM: Mike Myers, Fire Chief
Nate Takara, Fire Marshal

SUBJECT: Accept the 2016 Annual Fire Prevention Report

In June of 2016, a fire in NE Portland severely injured two young children. Unfortunately, there was no functioning smoke alarm in the apartment. Working smoke alarms save lives and prevent injuries due to fire. If there is a fire in your home, smoke and fire spreads fast and smoke alarms give you time to get out safely. Having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half. Almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no working smoke alarms.

In 2015, the City of Portland experienced 11 fire deaths, the largest amount since 1997. Over the past 10 years, the City of Portland averaged 5.6 fire deaths per year. Per the National Fire Protection Association, three of every five home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no working smoke alarms. In 2015, Portland suffered 80 civilian fire injuries, 13 firefighter fire injuries, and 11 civilian deaths. As we near the end of 2016, there have been 65 civilian fire injuries, 15 firefighter fire injuries, and three civilian fire deaths.

The goal of Portland Fire & Rescue's Prevention Division is to save lives, property, and the environment by preventing fires before they start. The Prevention Division works to reduce the frequency and severity of fires and other life-safety incidents through a multi-disciplinary approach that includes education, engineering, and enforcement.

In order to improve our fire-related death and injury statistics, PF&R will be implementing a new policy: we will be requiring that landlords document that each smoke alarm in every residential unit was tested at least once a year. State laws holds the tenants responsible for testing the smoke alarms in each unit: the tenant is responsible for testing the smoke alarm at intervals of six months or less, replacing dead batteries as needed, and notifying in writing, the owner of any deficiencies. The landlord of a rental unit must supply, install and maintain smoke alarms in each unit.

PF&R's new policy is requiring that landlords maintain records that the smoke alarms were tested at least once per year; this is no different than the current practice of requiring that the landlord show documentation that various fire protection equipment, such as fire sprinklers, are tested per the fire code. The smoke alarm can be tested by the tenant or the landlord themselves.

This new policy complements a variety of programs that PF&R has in place to educate our community about fire prevention and enforce live-saving codes.

Our Public Education team offers targeted community outreach programs that are developed and implemented through our local schools, community organizations and events, and in the fire stations. Our public education team also partners with the Bureau of Development Services on landlord training classes twice a year that help property managers.

Other programs that we offer our community include: free smoke alarm programs (including specialized smoke alarms for people who are deaf or hard of hearing); free home safety checks; educational activities with SUN school programs; a Fire Prevention Week coloring contest for youth; Safety Saturday days at Belmont Firehouse; Floor Warden training for businesses; Fire Evacuation and Emergency Preparedness presentations

By partnering with landlords, residents, and property owners, we can make a difference in the numbers of deaths and injuries due to fire.

Agenda No.
REPORT
Title

Accept the 2016 Annual Fire Prevention Report (Report)

<p style="text-align: center;">INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Commissioner Saltzman</p>	<p>CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>DEC 06 2016</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</p> <p>Mayor—Finance and Administration - Hales</p> <p>Position 1/Utilities - Fritz</p> <p>Position 2/Works - Fish</p> <p>Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Position 4/Safety - Novick</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland</p> <p>By: <u><i>[Signature]</i> 12-12-16</u> Deputy</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">BUREAU APPROVAL</p> <p>Bureau: Portland Housing Bureau Bureau Head:</p>	
<p>Prepared by: T. Williams Date Prepared: 12/2/2016</p>	<p>ACTION TAKEN:</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">DEC 14 2016 ACCEPTED</p>
<p>Impact Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>City Auditor Office Approval: required for Code Ordinances</p>	
<p>City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan</p>	
<p>Council Meeting Date: 12/14/2016</p>	

AGENDA

TIME CERTAIN
Start time: 10:00 am
10:15 am
Total amount of time needed: 30
 (for presentation, testimony and discussion)

CONSENT

REGULAR
Total amount of time needed: _____
 (for presentation, testimony and discussion)

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	1. Fritz	✓	
2. Fish	2. Fish	✓	
3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	✓	
4. Novick	4. Novick	✓	
Hales	Hales	✓	