



POLICY STATEMENT

Date: September 01, 2022

Approved by: David Cannaday, Fire Marshal

RE: Clarification of automatic fire sprinkler requirements for open-air parking structures

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy Statement is to clarify when an automatic fire sprinkler system shall be installed in an open-air parking garage

II. Scope

This policy applies to all open-air parking garages which are to be constructed under the 2021 International Fire Code and 2021 International Building Code. This policy will supersede exceptions within the local amendments to the 2021 International Fire Code exempting automatic fire sprinkler systems in open-air parking garages in circumstances listed within this Policy Statement.

III. Requirements

The 2021 edition of the International Fire Code added Section 903.2.10 (3) which requires open-air parking garages, when constructed in accordance with Section 406.5 of the 2021 International Building Code, to in be installed with an automatic fire sprinkler system when the fire area of the garage to constructed exceeds 48,000 square feet.

IV. Responsibility

Provisions for an automatic fire sprinkler system must be included when designing an open-air parking garage which meets the requirements set forth in this document. The design for the automatic fire sprinkler system shall meet the requirements set forth in the latest edition of NFPA 13.