



BUREAU OF FIRE  
PREVENTION AND URBAN  
AFFAIRS

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May 29, 2014

CITY of WEST ALLIS  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### Safety & Development Committee

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The State of Wisconsin enacted Wisconsin Act 270 establishing the Uniform Commercial Building Code. The previous Commercial Building Code acted as a minimum standard and allowed for municipalities to enact ordinances above and beyond those detailed in the code. The current code eliminates these municipal variations; however it allows municipalities to submit ordinances in existence since May 1, 2013 that were stricter than the State Commercial Building Code for review and possible exemption if they relate to fire detection, prevention, or suppression components of buildings.

Attached are the sections of our Revised Municipal Code, under the Fire Prevention Code, that relate to fire detection, prevention or suppression components of buildings. We are requesting the State of Wisconsin to review and exempt these sections from the Uniform Commercial Building Code. Be advised that Wisconsin Act 270 allows a community to modify the approved ordinance, as long as it does not expand beyond the exemption – we may be less restrictive, but cannot enact stricter requirements than the current exemption.

We recommend that the attached language remain and that all is requested as an exemption. The key is the fire sprinkler thresholds that provide fire protection to existing buildings, especially in the densely constructed areas of the City. These sections provide for fire protection that meets the needs of our community. The current RMC Fire Prevention Code does need some updating and changes in the fee schedule. We would work on this over the summer with the City Attorney's office and submit to the committee for review.

We ask for approval to submit these sections of the Revised Municipal Code for review and exemption.

Sincerely

Assistant Chief Martin M. King