



# 2021 IFC Adoption



# 2021 IFC Code Adoption

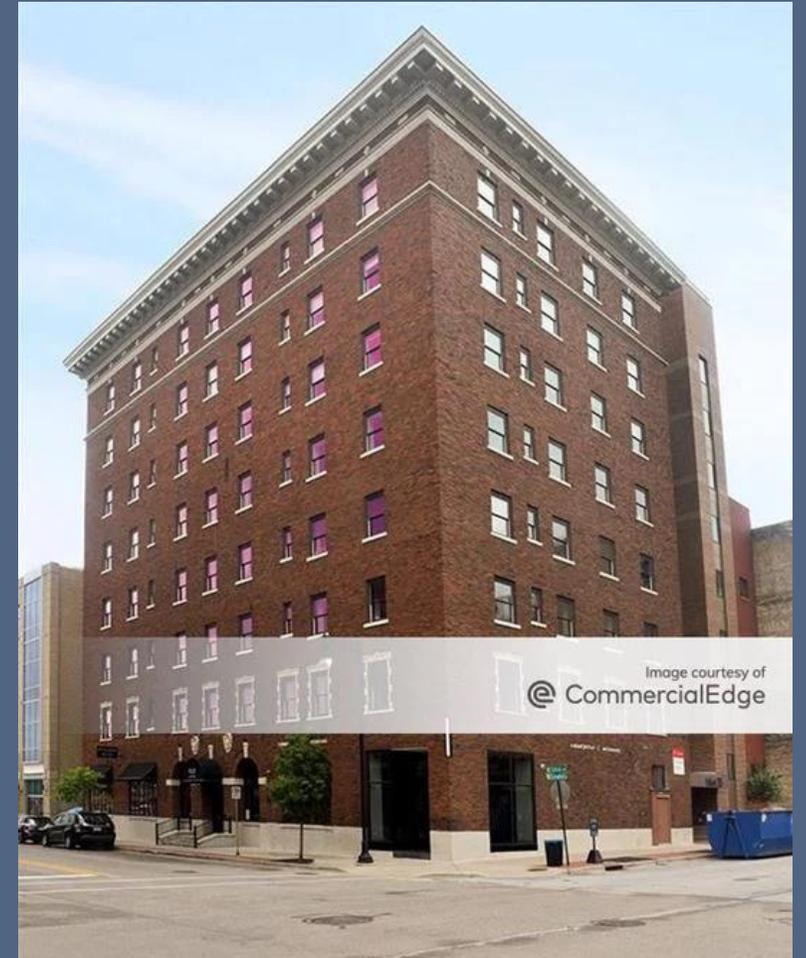
- New International Fire Code (IFC) Every 3 Years
- Fire Marshal reviews all changes
- Determines Impact on the Community and the Fire Service

**Note** - for New Construction, the Michigan Building Code (MBC) supersedes the IFC



# Construction Safety

- Firewatch required during construction over 40' and/or 50,000 sq ft
- Requires rated separation from construction to occupied areas of the building in type 1 and type 2 buildings



# Existing Buildings (Retroactive)

- Requirement with 2012 code adoption by the City of Grand Rapids and given a 10-year period to allow all buildings to comply
- Compliance period ends in 2023
- There are many buildings that have yet to install this building feature

## High Rise Stairwell Illumination



# Existing Buildings (Retroactive)

## Required installation of a fire suppression system in existing building

- Originally added to 2018 IFC but not adopted

If an occupant meets all 3 criteria

1. Group A-2
2. Consumption of Alcohol
3. Capacity > 300 people

### Potential Cost to building owner

- Wet riser \$6,000 / Dry Riser \$12,500
- Exposed- \$2.50- \$3.25 per sq ft
- Concealed / Ceilings- \$3.50-\$5.00 per sq ft
- Attic- \$5.00- \$7.00 per sq ft
- Cost for entire building- Approx. \$50,000 - \$75,000



# Existing Buildings (Retroactive)

# Required installation of a fire alarm system

- Hotels over 20 rooms are required to have a fire alarm system to ensure early notification of the fire department in the event of an emergency.
- Potential Cost to Building Owner  
\$30,000-\$50,000



# 2021 IFC Adoption Fire Department Recommendation

## Adopt the 2021 IFC as Written

- After adoption, FD begins educating impacted businesses on new code.
- Enforcement start date, September 1<sup>st</sup> 2023
- Work with all buildings effected by retroactive codes by developing up to a 3-year plan to allow for compliance.

“As your Fire Chief I must recommend adoption as written but do appreciate there are significant impacts to historical institutions in our community. Our overall goal is to ensure as safe an occupancy as possible if there is not an appetite for total adoption .”

Fire Chief John Lehman

# 2021 IFC Adoption-Possible Alternatives

**Adopt the 2021 IFC as Written with adjustments to capacity of effected businesses for fire suppression requirement (halls)**

- **Lower capacities for effective businesses to 299-person capacity**
- **Allow capacity of business to increase to previous capacity for special events and specific Holidays**
- **Those events will require an inspection from GRFD fire prevention prior to start of the event and crowd managers/fire watch**