Development Guidelines

900 Park Street
Paso Robles, CA 93446

July 1, 2015
UPDATED

City of Paso Robles
Fire and Life Safety Division
Development Guidelines

900 Park St* Paso Robles, CA 93446 Ph. 805-227-7560 Fax 805-237-4138

July 1, 2015

Fire Department Development Guidelines

The Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services has provided this guide to assist developers with information pertaining to fire & life safety regulations under the jurisdiction of the Department of Emergency Services. This basic guide outlines the minimum fire protection requirements of the Department of Emergency Services. It is not the intent of this guide to specify exact requirements for any given development, subdivision or use permit, but rather to acquaint architects, designers, builders and engineers with the general fire and life safety requirements that must be considered.

All projects, proposals and plans are required to be initiated with the City of Paso Robles Community Development Department, who will in turn forward such proposals to the Department of Emergency Services for their review. Each proposal will be provided with specific conditions, as required by code, and routed back to the Building Division for distribution.

The following are the most common code references used by the Department of Emergency Services:

- California Fire Code (2013 Edition) – State Minimum Requirements
- Paso Robles Municipal Code (Section Fire Prevention) – Local Requirements
- California Code of Regulations Title 19, Title 24 / Public Safety
- National Fire Codes (NFPA Vol.1-16) – (References)

This is a fluid document and will be updated or modified to maintain compliance with State or Federal Regulations, or Local Amendments. Appropriate standards will be added, if necessary, to assist developers over time with projects specific to the City of Paso Robles.

Thank you for considering doing business in the City of Paso Robles. We have provided some basic contact information should you choose to contact the Department of Emergency Services or Community Development Department:

Department of Emergency Services
900 Park Street
Paso Robles, CA 93446
(805) 227-7560
(805) 237-4138 fax

Community Development Department
1000 Spring Street
Paso Robles, CA 93446
(805) 237-3970
(805) 237-3904 fax
Email: building@prcity.com

Table of Contents

Fire Safety Requirements

I. Emergency Contact Information

An Emergency Contact Information form shall be completed and returned to the Department of Emergency Services prior to the issuance of a building permit. This form provides information on emergency contacts for the general contractor and/or owners of the project after normal business hours.

II. Fire Department Key Box

A Fire Department approved key box shall be provided at the main entrance or tenant space. The box shall contain all of the keys necessary to allow the Department of Emergency Services access to all areas of the building or tenant space. The key box shall be installed to manufacturer specifications and placed a minimum of 84 inches above the adjacent grade. **Location of the key box shall be indicated on the plans.** If the proposed project has a fire alarm, the Knox Box shall incorporate a tamper switch (model #3202)

III. Hazardous Materials Key Box

A hazardous materials key box will be required for all projects that intend to store reportable quantities of hazardous materials. This key box shall be installed at the main entrance and shall contain the Material Data Safety Sheets for the product stored, quantities stored, a floor plan detailing where they are stored, keys allowing the Department of Emergency Services access to all areas of the building. The key box shall be installed prior to final occupancy clearance being granted. An application for the key box can be found at www.knoxbox.com

IV. Portable Fire Extinguishers

Extinguishers shall be provided according to occupancy type and size as follows:

a. 2A10BC minimum rating placed in sufficient quantity so travel distance does not exceed 75 feet.

b. All extinguishers shall be clearly visible and mounted so the top of the unit is not higher than 60 inches above the floor. **All fire extinguisher locations shall be indicated on the plans.**

V. Address Numbers:

Numbers shall be clearly visible from the centerline of the roadway fronting the building. The numbers shall contrast with the background.

VI. Combustible Material:

All decorations shall be flame retardant, approved by the California State Fire Marshal.

X. No Smoking Sign Signs shall be posted in sufficient quantity and size to prohibit all smoking except in designated smoking areas.

Access Requirements

Fire Department access requirements shall be in accordance with California Fire Code, Appendix D.

I. Access roads:

All weather surface access roads shall be installed and approved by the Department of Emergency Services prior to the start of framing. Minimum road standards are as follows:

a. 20 foot net minimum width

b. 4-inch class II road base compacted to 95%. Upon completion, a compaction report from a certified soils engineer shall be submitted to the Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services.

c. Allow Fire Department access to within 150 feet of any portion of any building

d. Overhead clearance shall be a minimum 13 feet 6 inches.

II. Temporary Access Roads:

Temporary access roads and/or access issues during construction shall be reviewed, inspected and approved by the Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services prior to the issuance of the building permit. All fire hydrants serving the project shall have water before framing is permitted.

III. Motorized Gates:

Motorized gates shall incorporate a gate opening device (Knox Switch) for Fire Department emergency use as approved by the Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services.

IV. Fire Lane Signs:

"No Parking, Fire Lane" signs shall be posted at **each** entrance. Signs shall be designed per Paso Robles Department of Emergency Standard **002.0**. All curbing not within a parking space shall be painted red to designate the fire lanes.

V. Turnaround:

A dead end fire apparatus access road is required to have a turnaround or other means of egress as approved by the Department of Emergency Services, when it exceeds 150' in length.

VI. Fire Access Road Signage:

Fire Department access signage shall be placed at each entrance to the project, and shall comply with the Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services. These signs shall be installed prior to issuance of a Building permit.

Water Supply Requirements

An approved water supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection shall be provided to all premises upon which facilities, buildings or portions of buildings are hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction. When any portion of the facility or building protected is in excess of 150 feet from a water supply on a public street, as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the facility or building, on-site fire hydrants and mains capable of supplying the required fire flow shall be provided when required by the chief. (UFC Sec. 508)

I. Fire Flow:

Fire flow shall be in accordance with California Fire Code, Appendix B and Sec. 508. Until a definitive type construction is available, the minimum fire flow requirement is 1000 GPM for one or two family residential and 4000 GPM for commercial.

II. Water Lines:

Water lines shall be installed per City of Paso Robles Public Works standards and N.F.P.A. standards. Minimum main size for residential developments shall be 6 inches and minimum main size for commercial and industrial developments shall be 8 inches in diameter.

III. Fire Hydrants:

Fire hydrants shall be installed per the City of Paso Robles Public Works Standard WA-19. Placement shall be such that the distance between hydrants does not exceed the 400 feet for residential construction and 350 feet for commercial, multi-family residential, and industrial developments.

IV. Fire Hydrant Distribution:

Distribution of hydrants shall be in accordance with California Fire Code, Appendix C. This requirement **may be modified** based on construction type, fixed fire protection and emergency access issues.

V. Placement of Fire Hydrants:

Fire hydrants shall be placed so as not to be obstructed by parked vehicles or other materials that may impede access by the Fire Department. (See page 36)

VI. On-site Fire Hydrants:

On-site hydrants are required when any portion of the facility or building to be protected is in excess of 150 feet from a water supply on a public street, as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the facility or building. On-site hydrants shall be a minimum of 50 feet from any building. On site fire hydrants shall be protected from impact according to Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services Standard **009.2**

VII. Hydrant Markers:

Blue dot fire hydrant location markers shall be installed for each hydrant. Installation location shall be 4 inches from the centerline of the roadway, hydrant side.

Fire Suppression Systems

I. Fire Sprinkler Systems:

Automatic Fire Sprinklers are required for the following occupancies:

a. Group "A" Occupancies – When the total floor area is 7,500 square feet or in drinking establishments where the assembly area exceeds 5,000 square feet.

b. Group "E" Occupancies – All Group "E" Occupancies shall be sprinkled.

c. Group "F-1", where the fire area exceeds 12,000 square feet.

d. Group "H" Occupancies – All Group "H" Occupancies shall be sprinkled.

e. Group "I" Occupancies – All Group "I" Occupancies shall be sprinkled.

f. Group "M" Occupancies - When the total floor area is 7,500 square feet or larger.

g. Group "R-1" Occupancies – When the building is 5,000 square feet or larger.

h. Group "R-3" Occupancies – When the floor area, including the garage, exceeds 5,000 square feet, regardless of area separation walls.

i. Group "S-1" where the fire area exceeds 12,000 square feet.

j. Group "S-2" except enclosed parking garages located beneath R-3 occupancies.

Automatic Fire Sprinklers may be required for existing buildings in which there is a change of use to one of the occupancy classifications identified in this section.
Plans and calculations shall be submitted with a stamp of approval by a licensed fire protection engineer**. A separate submittal for all fire sprinkler plans is required**.

a. The fire sprinkler system backflow prevention assembly shall be installed in accordance with City of Paso Robles Public Works Standard WA-27.

b. The fire department pumper connection shall be located within 100 feet of a fire hydrant.

c. The fire department pumper connection shall be facing the public street or fire lane fronting the protected building and shall be installed so the **center line of the connection is 30 to 36 inches above the adjacent finished grade.**

Fire Suppression Systems

I. Fire Sprinkler Systems –cont'd

d. A concrete pad shall be incorporated into the design of the backflow prevention assembly to allow firefighters and maintenance personnel to stand on concrete while operating the assembly.

e. A sign shall be installed at the Fire Department Pumper Connection (FDC) as detailed in Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services Standard **001.1**

f. A sign shall be installed on the Fire Sprinkler Riser as detailed in Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services Standard **001.4**

II. Sprinkler System Modifications:

If modification to an existing sprinkler system is required, a licensed C-16 contractor shall perform all work. The sprinkler system shall be brought up to current NFPA standards for seismic restraints, hangers and bracing. A 5-year test and inspection of the system, as required by Title 19 California Code of Regulations, shall be performed by a C-16 contractor. Plans and calculations shall be approved by the Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services prior to the start of building construction.

It is the responsibility of the contractor or owner to have all work inspected and approved prior to proceeding. The following inspections must be performed in the order shown. Inspections may be scheduled by calling the Emergency Services Department at (805) 227-7560, with a minimum of 24 hours' notice.

a. Underground and buried piping, sand and thrust blocks are inspected by the Emergency Services Department.

b. Underground flush and pressure tests are inspected by the Emergency Services Department. This test must occur prior to connecting to the riser.

c. Material inspection of pipe, hangers and valves are inspected by the Emergency Services Department. This must occur on the ground **prior to installation.**

d. Rough inspection of riser location, pipe, sprinkler heads, hangers and earthquake bracing are inspected by the Emergency Services Department.

e. Hydrostatic test of the overhead system is inspected by the Emergency Services Department.

Fire Suppression Systems

II. Sprinkler System Modifications – cont'd

f. Any fire sprinkler system work done without approved plans and a permit on the job site may result in the issuance of a STOP WORK order. ALL SPRINKLER SYSTEM COMPONENTS INSTALLED WITHOUT APPROVED PLANS AND A PERMIT MAY BE REQUIRED TO BE IMMEDIATELY REMOVED FROM THE BUILDING. **This may cause significant delay in the completion of the project**.

III. Hood and Duct Fire Extinguishing Systems:

A Class-I hood and approved fire suppression system shall be provided for the protection of commercial type food, heat processing equipment that produces grease laden vapors. All Class-I hoods shall have a continuous liquid tight weld around the seams, joints and penetrations. Cooking facilities in assembly occupancies, educational occupancies and congregate residences shall be considered commercial-type food and heat processing equipment.

The extinguishing system used for protection of commercial type cooking equipment shall be installed so that the entire cooking surface, including deep fat fryers, griddles, upright broilers, char broilers, range tops and grills are protected. Protection shall also be provided for the enclosed plenum space within the hood above the filters and exhaust ducts serving the hood.

The system used for fire protection of commercial type cooking equipment shall be either a system listed for application with such equipment or an automatic fixed pipe system that is specifically designed for such application. All systems shall comply with the requirements of the Uniform Mechanical Code, California Fire Code, and UL 300 listing and appropriate NFPA standards. Systems shall be installed in accordance with their listing and the manufacturer's instructions.

a. Any new or existing system in which new appliances have been added or existing appliances relocated, shall be protected with a UL 300 System.

b. Cooking equipment such as a BBQ using solid fuel such as wood shall have a water extinguishing system for the hood system.

All automatic fire extinguishing systems shall be interconnected to the fuel or electrical current supply so that the fuel or current is automatically shut off to all equipment under the hood when the system is activated. In buildings protected by an approved fire alarm system, activation of the hood suppression system shall initiate an alarm to the UL listed central station fire alarm company in accordance with NFPA-96.

Fire Suppression Systems

III. Hood and Duct Fire Extinguishing Systems – cont'd

Any fire suppression system work done without approved plans and a Permit on the job site may result in the issuance of a STOP WORK order. ALL FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM COMPONENTS INSTALLED WITHOUT APPROVED PLANS AND A PERMIT MAY BE REQUIRED TO BE IMMEDIATELY REMOVED FROM THE BUILDING.
This may cause significant delay in the completion of the project.

IV. Kitchen Fire Extinguishers

A 'K' rated fire extinguisher is required for the cooking operation in the area of the kitchen. Travel distance shall not exceed 30 feet from the cooking surface. No other type of extinguisher shall be permitted within the kitchen area. A placard shall be conspicuously placed near the extinguisher that states **"The fire protection system shall be activated prior to using the fire extinguisher".**

V. Spray Booths: Spray booths shall be required when the application of flammable or combustible paint, varnish, lacquer, stain or other flammable or combustible liquid applied as a spray by compressed air, airless or hydraulic atomization, steam, electrostatic or other methods or means in a continuous or intermittent process.

a. Materials used to construct spray booths shall be substantially constructed of steel not less than 18 gauge in thickness or other approved noncombustible materials.

b. Interior surfaces shall be smooth and continuous without edges and otherwise designed to prevent pocketing of residue, to allow free passage of exhaust air from all parts of the interior.

c. Floors shall be of noncombustible material or shall be covered with a noncombustible, non-sparking material to facilitate safe cleaning and removal of residue.

d. Spray booths having a frontal area of more than 9 square feet and not equipped with doors shall have a metal deflector or fire curtain not less than 4 ½ inches deep installed at the upper outer edge of the booth over the booth opening.

e. When spray booths are illuminated, fixed lighting units which transmit light into the spray booth through heat-treated or hammered wire glass shall be used. Glass panels shall be arranged to minimize breakage so that normal accumulation of residue on the exposed surface of a panel will not be raised to a dangerous temperature by heat from the source of illumination.

Fire Suppression Systems

V. Spray Booths – cont'd

f. Exit Doors from pre-manufactured paint spray booths shall not be less than 2 feet 6 inches wide, by 6 feet 8 inches tall.

g. The area of any individual spray booth in a building shall not exceed the lesser of the aggregate size limit or 1,500 square feet.

All spray booths shall be separated from other operations by not less than 3 feet, by a wall or partition. All areas of spray booths shall be readily available for cleaning and a clear space of not less than 3 feet shall be kept free of storage or combustible materials.

Spray booths and spraying rooms shall be protected by an approved automatic fire extinguishing system. The system shall be extended to protect exhaust plenums, exhaust ducts and both sides of dry filters when such filters are used. A balloon test shall be conducted and witnessed by the Department of Emergency Services before a final clearance is issued.

Fire Alarm Systems

I. Fire Alarm Systems:

An approved fire alarm system shall be designed and installed as specified in the California Fire Code, California Building Code and NFPA 72 standards. Plans shall be submitted to and approved by the Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services prior to installation. Firm alarm systems Fire alarm systems shall be required in the following occupancies:

a. Group A. Division 1,2 & 2.1

b. Group E

c. Group H

d. Group I. Division 1.1,1.2, 2 & 3

e. Group R. Division 1, 2.1, 2.1.1, 2.2 , 2.2.1 , 2.3 & R-4

A fire alarm system will be required if an Automatic Fire Sprinkler System is installed with 20 or more heads. (One and Two family dwellings do not apply).

New construction to an existing building or tenant improvements with structural change, with an existing fire alarm system, shall provide additional audio/visual devices for new areas such as restrooms, fire rated corridors and stairwells. The existing system shall be brought up to current codes. All additions shall accommodate the existing system.

II. Smoke Detectors:

Dwelling units, congregate residences and hotel or lodging house guestrooms that are used for sleeping purposes shall be provided with smoke detectors. Installation of smoke detectors shall be in accordance with State Fire Marshal Standards, the California Building Code and the approved manufacturer instructions.

When a fire alarm control unit is required as part of a monitored fire alarm system or monitored fire sprinkler system, jurisdictions should follow NFPA 72, Section 1-5.6. A single smoke detector is required to be installed to protect the fire alarm unit from failing to send its signal to the monitoring agency due to a localized fire within the area where a Fire Alarm Control Unit is located. The smoke detector shall be installed directly above the Fire Alarm Control Panel.

III. Deferred submittal:

Deferred submittal of fire alarm plans is permitted.

Fire alarm system work done without approved plans and a permit on the job site may result in the issuance of a stop work order.

Fire Alarm Systems

III. **Deferred Submittal – cont'd**

The existing fire alarm system shall be brought up to current codes and designed to accommodate the existing system including but not limited to:

a. Provide audio/visual alarm devices for all areas of new construction, including restrooms and fire rated corridors and stairwells.

b. Submit alarm plans under separate permit for approval by Department of Emergency Services.

c. Perform acceptance test of entire alarm system prior to occupancy.

IV. All alarm systems permits shall be issued by the Paso Robles Emergency Services Department.

Life Safety Requirements

I. Emergency Lighting:

Emergency lighting shall be provided for emergency egress when the occupancy load is 100 or more persons. There shall be one lumen at floor level. Calculations shall be provided to verify emergency lighting lumens. A 90-minute power off test will be required prior to occupancy to determine lighting adequacy.

II. Occupancy Load Posting:

Occupancy load signs shall be posted in a clearly visible location. The Building Official shall determine the load.

III. Exits:

All Exits shall comply with the California Building Code. Panic hardware shall be required on all exit doors serving 50 or more persons. All exits will be provided with an all-weather surface walkway from the building to a public way and shall meet the following requirements:

a. 44 inch minimum width.

b. 44 inch corridor width.

c. 84 inch minimum overhead clearance.

IV. Exit Signs:

The path of exit travel to and within exits in a building shall be identified by exit signs conforming to the requirements of the California Building Code. Exit signs shall be readily visible from any direction of approach. Exit signs shall be located as necessary to clearly indicate the direction of egress travel. No point shall be more than 100 feet from the nearest visible sign.

Exit signs may be omitted in the following occupancies and conditions:

a. Main exterior exit doors which obviously and clearly are identifiable as exit doors, need not have exit signs when approved by the Building Official
b. In rooms or areas which require only one exit or exit access.
c. In Group R, Division 3 Occupancies and within individual units of Group R, Division 1 Occupancies.
d. Exits or exit access from rooms or areas with an occupancy load of less than 50 persons.

Life Safety Requirements

IV. Exit signs – cont'd

Exit signs shall be internally or externally illuminated. When the face of an exit sign is externally illuminated, it shall have an intensity of not less than 5 foot candles from either of two electric lamps. Internally illuminated signs shall have the same intensity and be listed for the purpose.

Exit signs shall be illuminated at all times. To insure continued illumination for duration of not less than 1½ hours in case of a primary power loss, the exit sign shall have an additional power source from storage batteries, unit equipment or an on-site generator. Installation shall be in accordance with the Electrical Code.

V. Floor Level Exit Signs:

All occupancies with an occupant load over 50 shall have low level exit signs.
The bottom of the sign shall not be less than 6 inches, nor more than 8 inches above the floor level and shall indicate the path of exit travel. For exit and exit access doors, the sign shall be on the door or adjacent to the door with the closest edge of the sign within 4 inches of the door frame.

Flammable & Combustible Liquid Tanks

All Flammable and Combustible Liquid tank installations shall comply with Chapter 34 of the California Fire Code as well as the following:

I. Flammable Liquid Dispensers and Associated Devices:

a. All state, county and local permits shall be obtained prior to installation.

b. All electrical installations shall comply with the California Fire Code and the National Electrical Code for hazardous locations.

c. All dispensing devices shall be UL listed. The dispensers shall be located on a raised island, 6 inches minimum in height above the adjacent grade and shall not be closer than 10 feet from any building. Dispensers shall be at least 20 feet from any source of ignition.

d. An emergency pump shut off switch shall be located within 75 feet of any portion of the pump island. The switch shall be labeled "Emergency Pump Shutoff" and shall be clearly visible in any direction for 75 feet.

e. Signs shall be posted on the islands in sufficient quantity and size to be clearly visible within 50 feet of the dispensers. The signs shall state "No Smoking, Stop Motor". Signs shall also be provided stating "Gasoline and/or Diesel shall not be dispensed into unapproved containers".

II. Flammable and Combustible Liquid Storage Tanks / Installation:

a. Storage of flammable or combustible liquids in above ground tanks is prohibited in all areas of the city, except those zoning districts where the use is permitted, subject to approval of a conditional use permit.

b. Above ground tanks shall be installed according to Chapter(s) 22 and 27 of the California Fire Code. Plans for installation shall be reviewed under a separate permit. All tanks shall be listed by UL for the product to be contained. Above ground tanks shall by protected from impact through the installation of bollards.

c. All unprotected above ground storage tanks for flammable liquids shall be protected by an automatic water spray system designed and installed according to the current NFPA. The system shall be actuated by a manual pull station(s) and heat detectors placed proportionally around the tank within the contained area. **Unprotected shall be defined as any tank having a fire resistance rating of less than 2 hours.**

Flammable & Combustible Liquid Tanks

II. Flammable and Combustible Liquid Storage Tanks/Installation – cont'd

d. A monitoring method capable of detecting hazardous material leakage from the primary containment into the secondary containment shall be provided.

e. New tank installations shall be tested to a minimum of 3 psi and a maximum of 5 psi for 30 minutes. Product piping shall be tested at 75 psi for 30 minutes and shall not be connected to the tank prior to testing. No tanks or piping shall be concealed prior to Fire Department approval. The installer shall provide the test gauges, calibrated in ½ psi increments.

III. Tank Removal:

The removal and disposition of storage tanks containing flammable and liquids/vapors shall be subject to the following:

a. Containers shall be purged of all flammable liquids/vapors by the use of dry ice, at a minimum of 2 pounds per 100 gallons tank capacity (or other approved equivalent).

b. The contractor shall provide on site monitoring equipment and a qualified operator for verification of purging.

c. A 20BC minimum rated fire extinguisher shall be located within 50 feet travel distance of the tank(s).

d. "No Smoking or Open Flame" signs shall be posted in sufficient quantity and size around work area to be clearly visible for a minimum of 30 feet.

e. All excavation work shall comply with federal, state and local regulations.

f. All contaminated product, residue and tanks shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the San Luis Obispo County Environmental Health Department.

g. The Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services shall be notified a minimum of 24 hours in advance of all tank removals.

h. The storage, use, handling, transportation, installation and maintenance of equipment pertaining to Liquid Petroleum gas shall be in accordance with California Fire Code, Chapter 38 and subject to approval of the Fire Chief.

Flammable & Combustible Liquid Tanks

IV. Tank Locations:

Tanks shall be located with respect to buildings, public ways, and lines of adjoining property which may be built upon, or openings in buildings according to table 3804.3 of the California Fire Code. Tanks shall also be located with respect to special hazards such as above ground flammable or combustible liquid tanks, oxygen or gaseous hydrogen containers, flooding or electric power lines.

Within the limits established by laws restricting the storage of LP gas for the protection of heavily populated or congested commercial areas, the aggregate capacity of any one installation shall not exceed a 2,000-gallon water capacity.

Multiple container installations with a total storage water capacity of more than 180,000 gallons (150,000 gallons LP gas capacity) shall be subdivided into groups containing not more than 180,000 gallons in each group. Such groups shall be separated by a distance of not less than 50 feet, unless the tanks are:

a. Mounted in an approved manner

b. Protected with an approved insulation on such areas that may be subject to impingement of ignited gas from pipelines or other leakage.

c. Protected by firewalls of approved construction.

d. Protected by an approved system for application of water or other approved means.

Where one of these forms of protection is provided, the separation shall not be less than 25 feet between such container groups.

a. No storage tank shall be located less than 10 feet from the nearest street line or sidewalk.

b. Filling connections for tanks shall not be located less than 15 feet from any opening into or under any building, where such opening is below the level of the filling connection. Avoid any situation where the tank is at higher grade than buildings containing sources of ignition.

c. Regulators shall be kept outside of buildings.

d. All tanks shall be mounted on stable noncombustible foundations.

Storage of Combustible Materials

I. **Storage:**

All storage shall be 12 feet or less. Any storage higher than 12 feet will be considered High-Pile Combustible Storage (definition below) and may require additional fixed fire protection measures such as fire sprinklers, smoke and heat vents, and curtain boards, a fire detection system, etc. These requirements are found in the California Fire Code, Table 2306.2 and 2308.3 (Pages 49 and 50).

a. High-Pile Combustible Storage: Is defined as combustible materials in combustible packing in closely packed piles, on pallets, in racks, or on shelves where the top of the storage is greater than 12 feet in height. High-pile combustible storage also includes certain high-hazard commodities, such as rubber tires, Group-A plastics, flammable liquids, idle pallets and similar commodities where the top of the storage is greater than 6 feet in height.

b. Commodity Classification: Commodities shall be classified as Class I, II, III, IV or High Hazard, in accordance with California Fire Code, Chapter 23.

c. Plastics shall be classified as Group A, B, or C in accordance with California Fire Code Section 2303. To determine proper commodity classification of products with limited quantities of Group A plastics in mixed commodities, use California Fire Code, Figure 2303.7.4. This figure identifies the quantity of Group A plastics allowed to be stored in a package, carton or on a pallet without increasing the hazard and commodity classification to “high hazard”. The designation and protection features of a high-piled combustible storage area intended for storage of different commodity classes shall be based on the highest hazard commodity stored, except as otherwise provided for by engineering analysis in the California Fire Code.

Hazardous Materials

I. **Hazardous Materials Storage:**

All storage of hazardous materials shall be in accordance with California Fire Code, Chapter 27 and the California Building Code. A business plan shall be prepared and provided to Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services prior to occupancy if the facility contains the following minimum amounts of a hazardous material:

- 55 Gallons
- 500 Pounds
- 250 Cubic Feet

Forms for the hazardous materials business plan can be obtained through the San Luis Obispo County Environmental Health at:

2156 Sierra Way
San Luis Obispo CA, 9340
Phone # (805) 781-5544
Fax # (805) 781-4211
Web Site: www.slocounty.ca.gov

II. **Lock Box:**

A key box shall be installed per the Paso Robles Department of Emergency Services specifications at the main entrance, and shall contain the Material Safety Data Sheets for the products stored, a floor plan detailing where they are stored, keys allowing the Department of Emergency Services access to all portions of the building and quantities stored.

III. **Storage Cabinet:**

Smaller amounts of hazardous materials, such as flammable/combustible liquids, shall be stored in a UL listed flammable liquids storage cabinet. The cabinet shall be labeled **"Danger, Flammable Liquids, No Smoking or Open Flames"** in letters not less than 4" in height and in contrast with their background.