



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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Public Safety

ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago is a home rule unit of government pursuant to the Illinois Constitution, Article VII, Section 6 (a); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to its home rule power, the City of Chicago may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs, including promoting the quality of life, health, safety, and the welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, earlier this year the St. Louis Fire Department announced that it was using federal grant funds to provide firefighters with technology to improve their response times; and

WHEREAS, the pre-incident plan technology to be utilized in St. Louis is intended to better serve firefighters for the collective safety of building occupants and the public; and

WHEREAS, electronic pre-incident plans have the ability to provide first responders with instant en-route and on-site access to site plans, floor plans, hazardous material details, utility shut-off locations, geographical maps, fire hydrants locations, lists of persons with special and other critical building and infrastructure information;

WHEREAS, several buildings in Chicago have been electronically pre-planned, including Loyola University Chicago, which in 2009 became the first university in the United States to implement a fully electronic pre-incident plan to help lessen property damage and prevent loss of lives as a result of campus fires; now, therefore

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. Sections 13-78-010, 13-78-040, and 13-78-080 of the Municipal Code of Chicago are hereby amended by deleting the language stricken through and by inserting the language underscored, as follows:

13-78-010 Definitions.

(Omitted text is unaffected by this ordinance)

"Electronic pre-incident plan" is an electronic emergency evacuation plan for occupant emergency evacuation and drill, prepared and maintained in compliance with this Chapter.

(Omitted text is unaffected by this ordinance)

13-78-040 Creation and filing of plan.

(a) Every high-rise building shall have a plan in place. Every Category 1 and Category 2 building and every Category 3 and Category 4 building which is also of occupancy classification C (assembly) or D (open air assembly unit) shall additionally have an electronic plan in place. The owner shall be responsible for creating, implementing, maintaining and updating a plan for that building. The owner shall review the plan annually and as a result of such annual review, shall amend or update the plan as necessary to ensure that it is accurate and complete. The plan shall be made available upon request to personnel of the department of buildings, the office of emergency management and communications, the fire department, and the department of police. Upon any change of ownership or management of a high-rise building, the previous owner shall provide all copies of the plan required by this chapter to the new owner.

b) The owner of each Category 1 and Category 2 building, and the owner of each Category 3 and Category 4 building which is also of occupancy classification C (assembly) or D (open air assembly unit), shall be responsible for filing a copy of that building's Plan and electronic plan with the city's office of emergency management and communications. The owner of each Category 3 and Category 4 building which is also of occupancy classification A (residential), E (business), F (mercantile), or G (industrial) is encouraged, but not required, to file a copy of that building's plan with the city's office of emergency management and communications. Any plan or electronic plan filed with the city's office of emergency management and communications shall be in such form(s) and format(s) as that office requires.

c) For all high-rise buildings with a plan on file with the city's office of emergency management and communications, in the event the plan is amended or updated as a result of an annual review or more frequently on an owner's initiative, a copy of the amended or updated plan must be filed with the city's office of emergency management and communications.

d) Consistent with applicable law, the city shall treat all plans submitted as confidential, and shall provide the owner with a copy of any appeal, received by the office of emergency management and communications, of the office of emergency management and communications' notice of denial provided to a third party seeking inspection and copies of that owner's plan.

e) If a high-rise building has two or more owners, the owners may create, implement, maintain and amend and update a single plan for that building on a collective basis or through the delegation of one owner for such purposes, or such owners may create, implement, maintain and amend and update separate plans covering their respective portions of the building.

13-78-080 Minimum plan and electronic pre-incident plan requirements.

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The provisions of this section reflect minimum requirements which are not intended to restrict owners from implementing such additional measures as warranted.

a) Each plan shall contain a description of the actions all occupants should take in an emergency evacuation or drill during the regular business hours of the building and during nonregular business hours of the building. Each plan shall set out a procedure for an evacuation of five floors below and two floors above any emergency resulting from a fire on a certain floor, and shall also set out a procedure for a full evacuation of the building.

b) Each plan shall specify in detail the evacuation role and duties of the designated personnel required by Section 13-78-050, and shall state the names and in-house and wireless telephone and pager numbers for the F.S.D., deputies F.S.D., and building evacuation supervisor.

c) Each plan shall require the creation and posting, in all elevator lobbies, of the high-rise building's core floor plan, showing floor-by-floor corridors, stairways, evacuation routes, areas of rescue assistance and elevator lobbies. With respect to residential high-rise buildings, the core floor plan also shall be made available to each residential unit for posting inside the residential unit.

d) Each plan shall establish a fire command station in the building lobby or entrance level for operations management in an emergency by the F.S.D., deputy F.S.D., or, for Category 4 buildings that have not designated an F.S.D. or deputy F.S.D., other appropriate person.

e) Each plan shall list the name and normal floor location of each regular occupant who has voluntarily self-identified that they need assistance and the type of assistance required to swiftly exit the high rise building in case of an emergency. Each plan shall designate and describe the location of one or more places of refuge or rescue, if any, for all such occupants in an emergency. As to each such occupant, the plan shall provide for an individual who is one of the personnel designated pursuant to Section 13-78-050 to assist such occupant during an evacuation or safety drill.

(T) Each electronic pre-incident plan shall contain building construction details, fire protection information, a site plan, a floor plan, utility shutoffs, hazardous material details, aerial views, maps, photos, fire hydrant locations, and identify persons requiring special assistance.

(f g) Each plan shall be filed: (1) in the office of the high-rise building; (2) at the security desk; and (3) in the vicinity of the fireman's elevator recall key or life safety panel or, as to residential buildings, in an identifiable location in the fire pump room. The plan shall be made readily available to building staff and to the designated personnel required by Section 13-78-050 at all times.

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SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect one hundred and twenty (120) days after its

passage and publication.