



CITY OF BALTIMORE  
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

<b>TO</b>	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
<b>FROM</b>	Corren Johnson, Director – Department of Transportation
<b>DATE</b>	April 10, 2024
<b>SUBJECT</b>	24-0502 Building, Fire, and Related Codes – 2021 Edition

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## **Position: Support**

### Introduction

The Department of Transportation has reviewed Council Bill 24-0502 Building, Fire, and Related Codes – 2021 Edition. For the purpose of adopting a revised Building, Fire, and Related Codes Article, comprising the Maryland Building Performance Standards (effective May 29, 2023), the International Building Code (2021 Edition), the National Electrical Code (2020 Edition), the International Fuel Gas Code (2021 Edition), the International Mechanical Code (2021 Edition), the International Plumbing Code (2021 Edition), the International Property Maintenance Code (2021 Edition), the International Fire Code (2021 Edition), the International Energy Conservation Code (2021 Edition), the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings (2021 Edition), the International Green Conservation Code (2021 Edition), and the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (2021 Edition), all as supplemented, amended, or otherwise modified by this Ordinance; providing for the effect, construction, and effective date of these new standards and codes; conforming, correcting, and clarifying certain language; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the adoption of new building, fire, property maintenance, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, and related codes for Baltimore City.

### DOT Analysis

Council Bill 24-0502 serves to update several articles in the City Code, mainly as it relates to fire safety and building standards. The City Code currently references previous editions of several international codes. Updating these references to newer editions aligns City regulations with best practices. The International Code Council publishes standards, or “codes,” adopted by countless governments across the globe. These codes create consistent, predictable standards for homeowners, local developers, event organizers, and large businesses alike.

The Department estimates limited to no impact to its operations due to the nature of the regulations being updated by Council Bill 24-0502. Right-of-way is generally regulated by City-specific regulations such as the Book of Standards and the Complete Streets Manual. The Department’s role in the special events permitting process will not be impacted by the changes proposed in Council Bill 24-0502.

### Conclusion

It is important that City regulations keep pace with modern safety standards and best practices. The Department supports the advancement of Council Bill 24-0502.