

1 **..Title**

2 **Building and Construction – Fire Prevention Code – Sprinkler and Electrical Assistance**
3 **Revolving Funds.** – For the purpose of clarifying the Sprinkler Assistance Revolving Fund and
4 other technical changes.

5 **..Body**

6 **CITY COUNCIL OF THE**
7 **City of Annapolis**

8 **Ordinance 30-22**

9 **Introduced by: Alderwoman Tierney**
10 **Co-sponsored by:**

11 **Referred to**
12 **Economic Matters Committee**
13 **Finance Committee**

14 **AN ORDINANCE** concerning
15 Title 17 - BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION
16 Chapter 17.20 - FIRE PREVENTION CODE
17 Section 17.20.110 - Sprinkler and Electrical Assistance Revolving Fund; and
18 Section 17.20.120 - Fire sprinkler systems

19 **BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION – Fire Prevention Code – Sprinkler and Electrical**
20 **Assistance Revolving Funds**

21 **FOR** the purpose of assisting property owners to install sprinkler systems; increasing loan
22 amounts; and certain technical corrections.

23 **BY** repealing and reenacting with amendments the following portions of the Code of the City
24 of Annapolis, 2022 Edition

25 **17.20.110 - Sprinkler and Electrical Assistance Revolving Funds.**

26 **A. Purpose.** The Director of Finance shall establish and maintain a Sprinkler
27 Assistance Revolving Fund ~~and an Electrical Assistance Revolving Fund~~ and
28 necessary procedures for the purpose of encouraging the installation of sprinklers
29 ~~and upgrading of electrical systems~~ in existing buildings so as to increase the
30 safety of residents, Fire Fighters and First Responders, minimize damage
31 resulting from fire, and allow greater utilization of currently vacant or
32 underutilized space. The Sprinkler Assistance Revolving Fund will operate by

1 making low cost loans to developers or property owners of existing buildings that
2 do not have sprinkler systems installed at the time of an application. ~~The Electrical~~
3 ~~Assistance Revolving Fund will operate by making low cost loans to developers~~
4 ~~or property owners of older buildings in the Historic District that do not currently~~
5 ~~have modern electrical systems installed at the time of application.~~

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7 **B. Financing of Revolving Fund.** Funds authorized in the budget for the
8 Sprinkler ~~and Electrical Assistance~~ Revolving Funds may be made available for
9 eligible costs during any budget year.

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11 **C. Interest Rate.** The interest rate to be charged to the borrower is to be one
12 percent per year unless otherwise established by resolution of the City Council.

13
14 **D. Those Eligible to Receive Assistance from the Fund.** Loans may be made to
15 developers or owners for the rehabilitation of existing commercial or residential
16 buildings. Loans may not be made for new buildings. Loans may only be made
17 when the loans are part of a funding package that will result in the affected
18 building being fully sprinkled ~~or being fully brought into compliance with~~
19 ~~electrical requirements.~~ The Director of Finance shall give priority to those
20 seeking assistance for buildings that include long-term residential units.

21
22 **E. Costs that May be Funded Using the Revolving Fund.** Eligible costs that
23 may be funded by a loan are limited to ~~the installation of electrical systems in the~~
24 ~~Historic District for the Electrical Assistance Revolving Fund,~~ and costs directly
25 related to the installation of sprinklers, including design, labor, and materials and
26 hook-up to the City water supply less any City property tax credits for which the
27 property owner may be eligible pursuant to [Section 6.04.130](#) and [6.04.230](#) of this
28 Code.

29
30 **F. Loan Amounts.** A loan amount may not exceed ~~twenty~~ forty thousand dollars
31 (\$40,000) dollars, except for applicants ~~that~~ who retain hire a Minority Business
32 Enterprise (MBE) to install ~~no less than~~ or more thirty percent of the sprinkler ~~or~~

1 ~~electrical~~ system, may apply for a loan not to exceed ~~twenty-five~~ forty-five
2 thousand dollars (\$45,000) subject to the requirements set forth in this provision.
3 The MBE shall be certified by the Office of Minority Business Enterprise, a
4 division of the Maryland Department of Transportation. Applicants who apply for
5 a ~~MBE~~ loan featuring use of a MBE must provide proof to the Director of Finance
6 of the work performed on the project by the MBE.
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⁹**17.20.120 - Fire sprinkler systems.**

10 **A. Applicability.** All commercial buildings located on Main Street or Francis Street in
11 the Historic District that are adjacent to existing underground lateral lines are required
12 to be sprinklered no later than five years from the date of passage of this ordinance.
13 Any commercial building within the City of Annapolis that subsequently benefits from
14 the installation of adjacent underground lateral lines after the date of passage of this
15 ordinance shall be sprinklered no later than ~~three~~ five years from the date of the lateral
16 line installation.

17 **C. Plans.** In applying for a permit, the owner shall submit plans for the applicable
18 sprinkler system specified in the building code. Subject to NFPA review, an alternate
19 suppression system may be approved if the Department determines that a wet sprinkler
20 system cannot be installed without jeopardizing any historic components and the
21 existing fabric of the building. ~~Applications to install alternate suppression systems are~~
22 ~~not eligible to receive assistance from the sprinkler revolving fund.~~

23
24 **SECTION III: AND BE IT FURTHER ESTABLISHED AND ORDAINED BY THE**
25 **ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the catchlines or captions contained in this ordinance are
26 not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as part of this ordinance.
27

28 **SECTION IV: AND BE IT FURTHER ESTABLISHED AND ORDAINED BY THE**
29 **ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the publisher of the Code of the City of Annapolis, in
30 consultation with and subject to the approval of the City of Annapolis Office of Law, shall correct,
31 with no further action required by the City Council, cross-referenced and terminology rendered

1 incorrect by this ordinance. The publisher shall adequately describe any correction that is made
2 in an editor's note following the section affected.

3

4 **SECTION V: AND BE IT FURTHER ESTABLISHED AND ORDAINED BY THE**
5 **ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that this ordinance shall take effect from the date of its passage.

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Explanation:

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UPPERCASE indicates matter added to existing law.

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~~Strikethrough~~ indicates matter stricken from existing law.

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Underlining indicates amendments.

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