Fire Alarm Requirements

Permitting

Any new installation and work on existing fire alarm systems must be permitted.

Projects involving 10 devices (initiating devices and notification appliances) or fewer can be permitted with a scope of work letter meeting the following requirements:

1) Description of the work, including number of devices
2) Attestation that all work will comply with the 2019 or subsequent edition of NFPA 72
3) Attestation that the modifications will function within the existing electronic design (voltage drop and battery calculations)
4) The APS or other acceptable license number of the design professional

Manufacturers’ specifications or “cut sheets” for all equipment installed shall be submitted with the permit application.

Signal Communications

A single communications path, in accordance with NFPA 72, is permitted to be installed on fire alarm systems in the City of Grand Prairie.

Use of Telephone Lines Discouraged

- Two (2) telephone lines are not an approved means of signal transmission for fire alarms; a non-telephone method must be installed.
- Due to the imminent withdrawal of support for “plain old telephone system (POTS)” lines, the use of telephone lines as a means of signal transmission is discouraged.
- Permit fees to install non-telephone transmission method(s) are waived by applying for a “Fire – Fire Alarm Wireless Communicator” permit type.

General Requirements

For office/warehouse and multiple-tenant buildings with fire alarm or dedicated function systems, a single notification appliance in a normally occupied location is required. “Full coverage” evacuation signals are not.

Sprinkler-protected buildings are permitted to have manual pull stations eliminated, reduced, or relocated as allowed by the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC). Please contact the Fire Marshal’s office if more specific information is required.