



Clark County Department of Building & Fire Prevention

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Division:	Building Division / Fire Prevention	Code Interpretation	FP-CI-041
Subject:	Application of Fire Flow to Canopy Structures	Effective Date:	09/20/2013
Code:	IFC 507.3, IFC 903.2 and IFC Appendix B	Revised Date:	New

A. CODE REQUIREMENT

IFC Section 507.3 requires fire flow for buildings and facilities by an approved method. IFC Appendix B is adopted as a part of the Clark County Fire Code and provides minimum fire flow requirements. The scope of Appendix B applies only to buildings or portions of buildings, but it does not include other structures or facilities.

B. INTERPRETATION

Free-standing canopies designed and solely used for weather protection shall be considered as independent structures. For canopies separated from any building by a minimum of 10 feet and open on all four sides to permit free egress in all directions away from the canopy structure, the application of IFC Appendix B is not required for the canopy structure. However, the requirements for fire sprinkler installation as amended in IFC 903.2 to trigger at a canopy size of 5,000 square feet or greater shall apply.

C. RATIONALE

There is not an outstanding loss history for canopies providing weather protection nor a practice of requiring fire flow for outdoor uses that do not have an overhead canopy. The addition of a canopy to outdoor operations is necessary and desirable in Southern Nevada due to climatic conditions. This addition of the canopy does not increase the hazard of the outdoor operations to the point where application of IFC Appendix B is warranted. By separating the canopy from any building, the impact of any incident under the canopy is localized. Additionally, canopies 5,000 square feet or greater are required protection via the installation of fire sprinklers.

Revision History:

POLICY #	TITLE	Effective Date	Revised	Reviewed
FP-CI-041	Application of Fire Flow to Canopy Structure	September 20, 2013	New	

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