# El Paso Fire Prevention

# Mission Statement

To prevent the loss of life and property from the effects of fire or other emergency and to render such public assistance as may be determined by the Fire Chief or higher authority.

# El Paso Fire Prevention Inspection Process

Fire Prevention Inspections are the single most important non-emergency activity performed by the fire service.

A viable Fire Inspection program is made up of four key phases

- Plan Review Phase – assures Life and Fire Safety
- Construction Phase – periodic inspections
- Final Inspection Phase – compliance with code and safe for occupancy
- Annual Inspection Phase – to assure continue standard of Fire and Life Safety

# Why we perform Fire Inspections

Fire Inspections are mandated by State Statutes, Local Codes, Regulations, and Ordinances

Examples:
**Child-care Centers** – Texas Administrative Code
**Foster Care** – Texas Department of Aging and Disability
**Adult Day Care** - Texas Department of Aging and Disability
**Assisted Living** - Texas Department of Aging and Disability
**Hospitals** - Texas Department of State Health Services

# WHY WE PERFORM FIRE INSPECTIONS

**Texas Department of Insurance**

Texas Addendum to the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule

*"A thorough fire prevention inspection of all nonresidential structures should be performed at least once a year. Hazardous properties and properties with high loss-of-life potential should be inspected more frequently."*

# How we perform Fire Inspections

- International Fire Code which is adopted by the City of El Paso is to reasonably prevent fires, explosions, and hazardous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures, and premises.
- Inspections are conducted by both Fire Companies and Fire Inspectors

# How often we inspect and why

**Fire Company Inspection:**

- Annual
- Hazard complaints
- Seasonal
- Pre-incident plan
- Post incident

**Fire Prevention Division:**

- Annual Permits/license
- Fire code complaints
- New/existing building construction
- Fire protection systems acceptance
- Plan reviews
- Upgrade/modifications of existing fire protection systems

# Benefits of Inspections

- Elimination of Hazardous Conditions
- Life safety
- Building familiarization
- Fire protection systems compliance
- Target hazard identification
- Pre-incident planning
- Public Education

# Rationale behind extinguishers spacing and periodic inspection

The value of a fire extinguisher is lies in the speed with which it can be used by personnel not trained as professional fire fighters

# RATIONALE BEHIND EXTINGUISHERS SPACING AND PERIODIC INSPECTION

IFC 2003 Fire Extinguisher size and placing for low hazard occupancy Table 906.3(1)

| | Light (low) Hazard occupancy | Ordinary (Moderate) Hazard Occupancy | Extra (high) Hazard Occupancy |
|---|---|---|---|
| Minimum rated single extinguisher | 2-A | 2-A | 4-A |
| Max floor area per unit of A | 3,000 sq ft | 1,500 sq ft | 1,000 sq ft |
| Max floor area for extinguisher | 11,250 sq ft | 11,250 sq ft | 11,250 sq ft |
| Max travel distance to extinguisher | 75 ft | 75 ft | 75 ft |

# Questions?