



August 6, 2021

Subject: Valet Trash Services

The Arvada Fire Protection District (AFPD) has seen an increase in valet trash services within our jurisdiction utilized at apartment and condominium complexes. Valet trash services collect a limited amount of occupant-generated combustible trash or recyclable materials from dwelling units, where trash is left outside the dwelling units for scheduled pickup.

This service is in violation of the adopted fire code. The 2018 International Fire Code, Section 315.3.2 Means of Egress states that “combustible materials shall not be stored in exits or enclosures for stairways and ramps” and Section 1031.2 Reliability states that “required exit access, exits and exit discharges shall be continuously maintained free from obstructions or impediments to full instant use in the case of fire or other emergency where the building area served by the means of egress is occupied. An exit or exit passageway shall not be used for any purpose that interferes with a means of egress”.

On August 5th, 2021, the city of Arvada’s Building Code Advisory Board upheld the AFPD’s interpretation and enforcement of the code violation that this service creates. Given that decision and under Section 104.1 of the adopted fire code, the AFPD will continue to enforce our interpretation of the adopted fire code and require the removal of this service in all instances.

Effective immediately, any instance of valet trash services within the AFPD jurisdiction is in violation of the adopted fire code and shall be eliminated from the site. If still in use, the property will receive an Order to Comply requiring the immediate removal of the service from the community it serves.

Sincerely,

Steven Parker, EFO, FM
Fire Marshal
Arvada Fire Protection District
Direct: 303-403-0477
E-Mail: steven.parker@arvadafireco.gov