



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	3/10/09	Interpretation	08-071
Topic	Automatic Sprinkler System Increase		
Code Section(s)	2007 California Building Code Section 504.2		
Requested by	Chris Texter, AIA Principal KTG Y Group, Inc. 17992 Mitchell South Irvine, CA 92614 (949) 851- 2133 ctexter@ktgy.com		

2007 CBC Section 504.2 Automatic Sprinkler System Increase

Part 1 – “Where a building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, the value specified in Table 503 for maximum height and area is increased by 20 feet and the maximum number of stories is increased by one. Increases are permitted in addition to area increase in accordance with Section 506.2.”

- 1. May any occupancy of any type of construction be increased by one story and have area increases allowed with frontages per 506.2 with NFPA 13 sprinklers?**

Yes, section 504.2 allows a height increase due to the installation of automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 903.1.1 in addition to area increases in accordance with section 506.2.

2007 CBC Section 504.2

Part 2 “in other than high rise buildings, Group A, E, H, I, L and R occupancies and other applications listed in Section 111 regulated by the office of the State Fire Marshal, these increases are permitted in addition to the area increase in accordance with Section 506.3”

- 2A. High Rise buildings and these six occupancies may not have area increases per 506.3 (sprinklers), but, per Part 1 above, these may still have a story increase and area increase per frontages per 506.2?**

No, occupancies regulated by OSFM (high-rise buildings, Group A, E, H, I, L and R occupancies and other applications listed in Section 111) are prohibited from utilizing both height and area increases together due to automatic sprinkler installation.

- 2B. May High Rise buildings and these six occupancies have area increases per 506.3 and area increases with frontage per 506.2 but can not have story increases?**

Yes.

Code Section 504.2

Part 3 – “For Group R-2 buildings of Type VA construction equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, the value specified in Table 503 for maximum, height is increased by 20 feet and the maximum number of stories is increased by one, but shall not exceed 60 feet or four stories, respectively. These increases are permitted in addition to the area increase in accordance with Section 506.3.”

- 3. May R-2, type VA buildings have a story increase and area increase for frontage in accordance with Section 506.2 and area increase for sprinklers in accordance with Section 506.3?**

No, section 506.2 does not provide for height increases only area. Section 506.2 and 506.3 may be utilized together for area increases only.