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April 15, 2021

TO: Acting Fire Chief Lionel Camara, Jr.
Honolulu Fire Department

FROM: Councilmember Carol Fukunaga, *Chair*
Committee on Public Infrastructure and Technology

RE: Questions Relating to Departmental Communication D-237 – *Honolulu Fire Department on the Six-Month Report Pursuant to Ordinance 19-4 - Relating to Fire Safety*

Thank you for transmitting Honolulu Fire Department's Six-Month report relating to implementation of Ordinance 19-4 (Dept. Communication D-237) to the City Council on April 12, 2021.

It was startling to see that, out of the 102 Life Safety Evaluations (LSE) received by your department from licensed design professionals, only 6 LSE's are reported as having passed.

During the lengthy discussions involving alternatives to installation of fire sprinklers within individual units (as specified in **Ordinance 19-4**), I understood that HFD agreed to score various combinations of safety improvements other than fire sprinkler installation at agreed-upon levels among design professionals, condominium property managers-insurance and legal professionals to allow condo properties to develop alternatives to fire sprinkler installation that met the needs of their condo owners.

I would therefore appreciate your department's responses to the following questions relating to the April 8, 2021 report at the April 21, 2021 Public Infrastructure and Technology Committee (PIT) meeting:

1. Life Safety Evaluations (LSE) Submitted by Licensed Design Professionals: The report states that of the 102 LSEs submitted, 6 LSE passed.
 - a. Please identify the process that Honolulu Fire Department has used to score the 102 LSEs, and how the department determined that 6 out of 102 Life Safety Evaluations had 'passed.'
 - b. What does the term 'passed' signify?
 - c. What is the distinction between 'passed' and 'lowest values' in HFD's report?
 - d. What is the range of 'passing' scores?

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- e. What does HFD mean when the report states that 22 LSEs had 'low values for Vertical Openings? What is a 'passing' score for Vertical Openings?
 - f. What does HFD mean when the report states that 82 LSEs had low values for Vertical Openings and Fire Alarm Systems? What is a 'passing' score for Vertical Openings and Fire Alarm Systems?
 - g. What does HFD mean when the report states that 14 LSEs had the lowest values for Corridor Doors, Vertical Openings and Smoke Alarms? What is a 'passing' score for Corridor Doors, Vertical Openings and Smoke Alarms?
 - h. What does HFD mean when the report states that 24 LSEs had the lowest values for Corridor Doors, Vertical Openings and Fire Alarm Systems? What is a 'passing' score for Corridor Doors, Vertical Openings and Fire Alarm Systems?
 - i. What does HFD mean when the report states that 3 LSEs had a low value for Fire Alarm Systems? What is a 'passing' score for Fire Alarm Systems?
 - j. What does HFD mean when the report states that 31 LSEs had low values for Hazardous Conditions and Fire Alarm Systems? What is a 'passing' score for Hazardous Conditions and Fire Alarm Systems?
 - k. What does HFD mean when the report states that 42 had the lowest values for Vertical Openings and Smoke Alarms? What is a 'passing' score for Vertical Openings and Smoke Alarms?
 - l. What does HFD mean when the report states that 19 LSEs had the lowest values for Corridor Doors, Fire Alarm Systems and Smoke Alarms? What is a 'passing' score for Corridor Doors, Fire Alarm Systems and Smoke Alarms?
 - m. What does HFD mean when the report states that 50 LSEs had the lowest values for Fire Alarm Systems and Smoke Alarms? What is a 'passing' score for Fire Alarm Systems and Smoke Alarms?
 - n. What does HFD mean when the report states that 22 LSEs had the lowest values for Separation Walls, Corridor Doors, Vertical Openings and Fire Alarm Systems? What is a 'passing' score for Separation Walls, Corridor Doors, Vertical Openings and Fire Alarm Systems?
 - o. What does HFD mean when the report states that 14 LSE had the lowest values for Separation Walls, Corridor Doors, Vertical Openings, Fire Alarm Systems and Smoke Alarms? What is a 'passing' score for Separation Walls, Corridor Doors, Vertical Openings, Fire Alarm Systems and Smoke Alarms?
2. Please explain the department's statement in Subsection (e) of the report: *"The number of buildings that are in compliance with Ordinance 19-4: All buildings are currently in compliance."*
 3. Please explain the department's statement in Subsection (g) of the report: *"Any issues or concerns that have arisen relating to the implementation of Ordinance 19-4: There are no issues or concerns at this time."*
 4. Please explain the department's statement in Subsection (i) of the report: *"Any suggested amendments or changes to Ordinance 19-4 or to the building fire and life safety evaluation form. Thereafter, the AHJ shall provide an annual report not less than 20 days from the end of the fiscal year on the progress of the implementation of Ordinance 19-4, which shall include the information listed above: Currently, there are no suggested amendments or changes to Ordinance 19-4 or to the LSE."*

Thank you for your department's assistance in explaining your April 2021 report on progress of the implementation of **Ordinance 19-4** and the fire and life safety evaluation form. Please contact Senior Advisor Kimberly Ribellia if you have additional questions at kribellia@honolulu.gov or 768-5045.