



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 202
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-5010 • FAX: (808) 768-5011

CAROL FUKUNAGA

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 6
PHONE: 768-5006 FAX: 768-1199
EMAIL: cafukunaga@honolulu.gov

January 31, 2022

TO: Chief Sheldon Hao
Honolulu Fire Department

ATTN: Deputy Chief Jason Samala
Honolulu Fire Department

FROM: Councilmember Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Committee on Public Infrastructure and Technology (PIT)

RE: Follow-Up Questions regarding HFD's 3-Month Fire Safety Report (D-0746)
and Current Status of Life Safety Evaluations filed with HFD (Jan. 31, 2022)

Mahalo for Honolulu Fire Department's (HFD) *Department Communication D-0746 – Three-Month report relating to Fire Safety*. Your transmittal reports that the department received 161 building fire and life safety evaluations (LSE) from licensed design professionals identified on Attachment 1. Of the 161 LSEs, 8 received an acceptable level of fire safety.

I am requesting an update on the current number of Life Safety Evaluations filed with your department as of January 31, 2022, and the number of 'passing' scores achieved by residential condominium associations subject to the Ordinance 19-4 compliance requirements.

I would also appreciate responses to the following questions:

1. The "vertical openings" category included 136 low score parameters out of the 161 LSEs submitted to the department. Does this mean that at least 136 condominium properties received low scores in this category because of existing vertical openings in their buildings?

If the answer is yes, what distinguishes the 8 LSEs that received a 'passing' score or an acceptable level of fire safety from properties that received low scores in the 'vertical openings' category?

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Did the 8 properties whose LSEs were determined to be an acceptable level of fire safety address 'vertical openings' as part of plumbing system upgrades undertaken pursuant to State statutory reserve requirements to address major maintenance needs through long-term planning, design and financing for such building improvements?

2. Please explain the conditions that cause a residential condominium property to receive low scores on the category "fire alarm systems" (145 low scores out of 161 LSEs) and the category "smoke alarms" (134 low scores out of 161 LSEs).

What types of fire alarm systems comprise the types of alarm systems that would receive 'passing' scores in this category? What types of smoke alarm systems comprise the types of alarm systems that would receive 'passing' scores in this category?

I would appreciate your response **by Tuesday, February 8, 2022** to aid in our preparations for a Permitted-Interaction Group meeting on **Bill 37, CD1** issues in February.

Please contact Legislative Aide Traci Toguchi at traci.toguchi@honolulu.gov or (808) 768-5074 if you have additional questions regarding the above information requests.