SCOPE

Fire sprinkler system arm-over requirements.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the Fresno Fire Department’s (FFD or Department) requirements related to the installation of arm-overs in fire sprinkler systems.

BACKGROUND

As noted in National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 13, fire sprinkler system arm-overs are horizontal pipes extending from branch lines to a single sprinkler, or a sprinkler above and below a ceiling.

The fire code official has the authority to regulate installations of fire sprinkler systems and system components, which present unique installation challenges based upon local conditions.

REQUIREMENTS

Based upon the need for uniformity in application across the Department’s diverse service delivery area, and after careful deliberation, including the Department’s historical application of NFPA 13, the Department has determined that it is ordinarily permissible to install a maximum of two sprinkler heads on a single 1 inch arm-over when each sprinkler head is physically located and serves a different compartment within a building.

Multiple sprinkler heads may be supplied by a single 1 inch arm-over when the sprinkler system has been hydraulically calculated, and the hydraulic calculations demonstrate that the minimum pressure and volume for each sprinkler being supplied by the arm-over will be achieved.
The Fire Marshal (or designee) may modify, restrict or prohibit such installations at their sole discretion.

Note: These requirements apply to both required and voluntary systems.