

Report of The Fire TAC:

December 9, 2002

1. Eight members and the Chairman was in attendance.
2. The Fire TAC discussed the following Dec. Statement and provided recommendation for consideration by the Commission:

DCA02-DEC-352. Petitioner David G. Bishop, architect, requests interpretation of FBC Section 704.2.4 and Table 704.2.4 with regard to the fire rating of an exist access corridor.

Action:

Question: Is it required to have the exit access corridor in a middle school to be one hour fire resistance rating when the building is designed for automatic fire sprinkler?

Answer: Yes. Table 704.2.4 requires one hour fire resistance rating for exist access corridors in sprinklered E - Occupancy buildings.

With regard to the conflict between the FBC and the FFPC requirement for exit access corridor, the FBC requirement will provide for higher safety and thus supercedes the FFPC requirement. However, it was the intent of the Fire TAC during the development of the FBC, to make the FBC consistent with the FFPC and to limit the requirement for rated exit access corridor to Assembly Occupancy only. Thus, the Committee recommends that the Dec. statement explain to the Petitioner that the Building Official may utilize Section 103.7, Alternate Material and Methods, to allow for non-rated exit access corridor in the building in question, using the design for automatic fire sprinkler as an equivalent alternative to the fire rated access corridor.

3. Mr. Bernie Greeberg gave presentation on sodium hydrochloride storage tank and was asked to submit code change proposal for consideration at next code change cycle.
4. The Committee discussed the meaning of the term "specific area" as stated in Section 704.1.1 of the Draft Florida Existing Buildings Cod and recommended to that term be changed to read "entire floor".
5. The Committee recommends that the Commission send a letter to State Fire Marshal requesting that the FFPC revision cycle co-inside with the FBC revision cycle".