



# EMERGENCY ACTION & FIRE PREVENTION PLAN: Cannabis Businesses

In accordance with the Chula Vista Municipal Code [CVMC 5.19.050.B.1.e], as further outlined under the City's Cannabis Regulations [§0502], an Emergency Action and Fire Prevention Plan shall be provided to and approved by the Chula Vista Fire Department. Specifically, a preliminary Emergency Action and Fire Prevention Plan (the Plan) must be submitted with the Phase Two application materials. The Plan must incorporate the applicable provisions contained in

Chapter 4, sections 404-407 of the California Fire Code (CFC), 2016 edition, including emergency preparedness requirements; fire safety and evacuation plans; emergency evacuation drills; employee training and response procedures; and hazard communication requirements.

**CFC Chapters 404-407 applicable provisions are detailed below.**

## SECTION 404: FIRE SAFETY AND EVACUATION PLANS

**404.2.1 Fire evacuation plans.** Fire evacuation plans shall include the following:

1. Emergency egress or escape routes and whether evacuation of the building is to be complete by selected floors or areas only or with a defend-in-place response.
2. Procedures for employees who must remain to operate critical equipment before evacuating.
3. Procedures for the use of elevators to evacuate the building where occupant evacuation elevators complying with Section 3008 of the California Building Code are provided.
4. Procedures for assisted rescue for persons unable to use the general means of egress unassisted.
5. Procedures for accounting for employees and occupants after evacuation has been complete
6. Identification and assignment of personnel responsible for rescue or emergency medical aid.
7. The preferred and any alternative means of notifying occupants of a fire or emergency.
8. The preferred and any alternative means of reporting fires and other emergencies to the fire department or designated emergency response organization.
9. Identification and assignment of personnel who can be contacted for further information or explanation of duties under the plan.
10. A description of the emergency voice/alarm communication system alert tone and preprogrammed voice messages, where provided.

**404.2.2 Fire safety plans.** Fire safety plans shall include the following:

1. The procedure for reporting a fire or other emergency.
2. The life safety strategy including the following:
  - 2.1. Procedures for notifying occupants, including areas with a private mode alarm system.
  - 2.2. Procedures for occupants under a defend-in-place response.
  - 2.3. Procedures for evacuating occupants, including those who need evacuation assistance.
3. Site plans indicating the following:
  - 3.1. The occupancy assembly point.
  - 3.2. The locations of fire hydrants.
  - 3.3. The normal routes of fire department vehicle access.
4. Floor plans identifying the locations of the following:
  - 4.1. Exits.
  - 4.2. Primary evacuation routes
  - 4.3. Secondary evacuation routes.
  - 4.4. Accessible egress routes.
    - 4.4.1. Areas of refuge.
    - 4.4.2. Exterior areas for assisted rescue.
  - 4.5. Refuge areas associated with smoke barriers and horizontal exits.
  - 4.6. Manual fire alarm boxes.
  - 4.7. Portable fire extinguishers.
  - 4.8. Occupant-use hose stations.
  - 4.9. Fire alarm annunciators and controls.
5. A list of major fire hazards associated with the normal use and occupancy of the premises, including maintenance and housekeeping procedures.
6. Identification and assignment of personnel responsible for

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maintenance of systems and equipment installed to prevent or control fires.

7. Identification and assignment of personnel responsible for maintenance, housekeeping and controlling fuel hazard sources.

**404.3 Maintenance.** Fire safety and evacuation plans shall be reviewed or updated annually or as necessitated by changes in staff assignments, occupancy or the physical arrangement of the building.

**404.4 Availability.** Fire safety and evacuation plans shall be available in the workplace for reference and review by employees, and copies shall be furnished to the fire code official for review upon request.

**404.4.1 Distribution.** The fire safety and evacuation plans shall be distributed to the tenants and building service employees by the owner or owner's agent. Tenants shall distribute to their employees applicable parts of the fire safety plan affecting the employees' actions in the event of a fire or other emergency.

**404.6.1** Owner(s) or operator(s) shall employ the following method of providing emergency procedures and information to the building occupants:

A floor plan providing emergency procedures information shall be posted at every stairway landing, at every elevator landing, and immediately inside all public entrances to the suite/building. The information shall be posted so that it describes the represented floor level and can be easily seen immediately upon entering the floor level of the building. Emergency procedures information shall be printed with a minimum of 3/16-inch high nondecorative lettering providing a sharp contrast to the background.

**404.6.1.2** Emergency procedures information shall provide all ambulatory, nonambulatory, and the physically disabled instructions to be followed in the event of an emergency. Emergency procedures information shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Location of exits.
2. Location of fire alarm initiating stations, if required.
3. What the fire alarm, if required, sounds and looks like (audible and visual warning devices).
4. Fire department emergency telephone number 911.
5. The prohibition of elevator use during emergencies, if any.

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## SECTION 405: EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILLS

**405.1 General.** Emergency evacuation drills complying with Sections 405.2 through 405.9 shall be conducted not less than once annually.

**405.3 Leadership.** Responsibility for the planning and conduct of drills shall be assigned to competent persons designated to exercise leadership.

**405.4 Time.** Drills shall be held at unexpected times and under varying conditions to simulate the unusual conditions that occur in case of fire.

**405.5 Record keeping.** Records shall be maintained of required emergency evacuation drills and include the following information:

1. Identity of the person conducting the drill.
2. Date and time of the drill.
3. Notification method used.
4. Employees on duty and participating.
5. Number of occupants evacuated.
6. Special conditions simulated.
7. Problems encountered.
8. Weather conditions when occupants were evacuated.
9. Time required to accomplish complete evacuation.

**405.6 Notification.** Where required by the fire code official, prior notification of emergency evacuation drills shall be given to the fire code official.

**405.7 Initiation.** Where a fire alarm system is provided, emergency evacuation drills shall be initiated by activating the fire alarm system.

**405.8 Accountability.** As building occupants arrive at the assembly point, efforts shall be made to determine if all occupants have been successfully evacuated or have been accounted for.

**405.9 Recall and reentry.** An electrically or mechanically operated signal used to recall occupants after an evacuation shall be separate and distinct from the signal used to initiate the evacuation. The recall signal initiation means shall be manually operated and under the control of the person in charge of the premises or the official in charge of the incident. Persons shall not reenter the premises until authorized to do so by the official in charge.

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## SECTION 406: EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND RESPONSE PROCEDURES

**406.1 General.** Employees shall be trained in fire emergency procedures based on plans prepared in accordance with Section 404.

**406.2 Frequency.** Employees shall receive training in the contents of fire safety and evacuation plans and their duties as part of new employee orientation and not less than annually thereafter. Records of training shall be maintained.

**406.3 Employee training program.** Employees shall be trained in fire prevention, evacuation and fire safety in accordance with Sections 406.3.1 through 406.3.4.

**406.3.1 Fire prevention training.** Employees shall be apprised of the fire hazards of the materials and processes to which they are exposed. Each employee shall be instructed in the proper procedures for preventing fires in the conduct of their assigned duties.

**406.3.2 Evacuation training.** Employees shall be familiarized with the fire alarm and evacuation signals, their assigned duties in the event of an alarm or emergency, evacuation routes, areas of refuge, exterior assembly areas and procedures for evacuation.

**406.3.3 Fire safety training.** Employees assigned firefighting duties shall be trained to know the locations and proper use of portable fire extinguishers or other manual fire-fighting equipment and the protective clothing or equipment required for its safe and proper use.

**406.4 Emergency lockdown training.** Where a facility has a lockdown plan, employees shall be trained on their assigned duties and procedures in the event of an emergency lockdown.

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## SECTION 407: HAZARD COMMUNICATION

**407.1 General.** The provisions of Sections 407.2 through 407.7 shall be applicable where hazardous materials subject to permits under Section 5001.5 are located on the premises or where required by the fire code official.

**407.2 Material Safety Data Sheets.** Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for all hazardous materials shall be either readily available on the premises as a paper copy, or where approved, shall be permitted to be readily retrievable by electronic access.

**407.3 Identification.** Individual containers of hazardous materials, cartons or packages shall be marked or labeled in accordance with applicable federal regulations. Buildings, rooms and spaces containing hazardous materials shall be identified by hazard warning signs in accordance with Section 5003.5.

**407.4 Training.** Persons responsible for the operation of areas in which hazardous materials are stored, dispensed, handled or used shall be familiar with the chemical nature of the materials and the appropriate mitigating actions necessary in the event of a fire, leak or spill. Responsible persons shall be designated and trained to be liaison personnel for the fire department. These persons shall aid the fire department in preplanning emergency responses and identification of where hazardous materials are located, and shall have access to Material Safety Data Sheets and be knowledgeable in the site emergency response procedures.

**407.5 Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement.** Where required by the fire code official, each application for a permit shall include a Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement (HMIS) in accordance with Section 5001.5.2.

**407.6 Hazardous Materials Management Plan.** Where required by the fire code official, each application for a permit shall include a Hazardous Materials Management Plan (HMMP) in accordance with Section 5001.5.1. The fire code official is authorized to accept a similar plan required by other regulations.

**407.7 Facility closure plans.** The permit holder or applicant shall submit to the fire code official a facility closure plan in accordance with Section 5001.6.3 to terminate storage, dispensing, handling or use of hazardous materials.