

CITY OF ENGLEWOOD

ORDINANCE NO. 09-_____

AN ORDINANCE MANDATING THE EXTERIOR IDENTIFICATION OF ALL STRUCTURES CONSISTING OF TRUSS OR PRE-MANUFACTURED BUILDING COMPONENTS THAT ARE NOT CURRENTLY REGULATED FOR IDENTIFICATION WITHIN THE NEW JERSEY UNIFORM FIRE CODE.

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the City of Englewood to promote public safety for its residents, personnel and employees, including but not limited to its firefighters;

WHEREAS, certain structures within the City of Englewood consisting of Truss or pre-manufactured building components present particular problems and concerns regarding safety; and

WHEREAS, the ability to identify these buildings in advance of a fire event or other emergency will provide firefighters and fire suppression crews with critical information to be utilized during firefighting operations and will significantly enhance the safety of those performing these operations not to mention protecting residents and others who may be in harms way at such emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Ordinance is to govern the administration, use and requirements of the City of Englewood’s Truss identification program;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Governing Body of the City of Englewood, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

(a) The purpose of this Ordinance is to mandate the exterior identification of all structures within the City of Englewood that utilize lightweight wood, wood truss, steel truss, composite truss, laminated wood, wood “I” beams, or any other pre-manufactured lumber as a method to construct, renovate, or alter any section of an individual structure or dwelling unit. The pre incident identification of these buildings will provide fire suppression crews with critical strategic and tactical information to be utilized during firefighting operations and significantly enhance the safety of fire suppression personnel operating at emergency incidents. This Ordinance shall apply to all structures consisting of truss or pre-manufactured building components not currently regulated for identification within the New Jersey Edition of the International Fire Code.

(b) This Ordinance shall govern the administration, use, and requirements of the City of Englewood’s Truss Identification Program.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

As used in this article, the following words and phrases shall be defined as hereinafter indicated:

Alteration means the rearrangement of any space by the construction of walls, partitions, the addition or elimination of any door or window, the extension or rearrangement of any system, the installation of any additional equipment or fixtures and any work which effects a primary structural component.

Building Pre-Plan Inspection means any pre-occupancy site visit conducted by fire department personnel utilized to gather building information, develop strategic and tactical incident action plans, review construction type(s), and familiarizes personnel with the individual construction site or renovation project.

Building Sub-Code Official means a qualified person appointed by the local municipality that enforces the provisions of the building sub code within the jurisdiction of the local enforcing agency (LEA).

Code Enforcement means the department responsible for all construction code and housing/property maintenance code inspections, zoning regulations and inspections, and all construction plan reviews within the City of Englewood.

Code Enforcement inspector means any employee assigned to the Code Enforcement office responsible to conduct code enforcement inspections and plan reviews.

Company officer means any officer (Lieutenant, Captain, Deputy Chief, Chief) assigned to the fire suppression division of the Englewood Fire Department.

Composite truss means any truss building component comprised of a mixture of wood and steel truss components.

“CT” means the insignia utilized to identify the use of a composite truss support system within the building.

“F” means the insignia utilized to identify the use of the structural components identified in Section 1 “Purpose” as a floor support system.

“Fire” or Fire Department means the Englewood Fire Department.

Fire Chief means the individual responsible for the daily operations of the Englewood Fire Department.

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Fire Department inspection means a complimentary inspection conducted by fire department personnel at the request of the property owner to assist in determining the type of floor and/or roof support system present within an individual building or dwelling unit.

Fire inspection means an inspection of an individual building and/or property designed to determine if any violations of local fire code ordinances or the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code are in existence.

Fire Inspector means any employee assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau responsible for conducting fire code inspections.

Fire Official means the individual responsible for the daily operations of the fire prevention bureau.

Lightweight wood truss means a collection of lightweight structural components (2" x 4" or less) joined in a triangular unit that can be used to support either floors or roofs.

Local Enforcing Agency (LEA) means a municipal entity charged with the administration and enforcement of the regulations consisting of the construction official, sub code officials, fire official, and assistants in accordance with N.J.S.A 52:27D-126 and the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code.

"LW" means the insignia that is used to identify the use of laminated wooden beams support system within the building.

Pre-manufactured lumber means any assembly of materials or products that is intended to comprise all or part of a building or structure and that is assembled off-site by a repetitive process under circumstances intended to insure uniformity of quality and material content. The term shall include but not be limited to, manufactured homes and industrialized modular buildings.

Plan review means any review of required building plans conducted by Code Enforcement personnel, sub code officials, fire official, or fire chief.

Program administrator means the Fire Chief (or his designee) that is responsible to administer and supervise the provisions of this Ordinance.

Property owner means the owner or owners in fee of the property or a lesser estate therein, a mortgagee or vendee in possession, an assignee of rents, receiver, executor, trustee, lessee or any other person, firm or corporation, directly or indirectly in control of a building, structure, or real property and shall include any subdivision thereof the State.

Renovation means the removal and replacement or covering of existing interior or exterior finish, trim, doors, windows, or other materials with new materials that serve the same purpose and do not change the configuration of space. Renovation shall include the replacement of equipment or fixtures.

“R” means the insignia utilized to identify the use of the structural components identified in Section 1 “Purpose” as a roof support system.

“R/F” means the insignia utilized to identify the use of the structural components identified in Section 1 “Purpose” as a roof and floor support system.

Steel truss means a collection of steel structural components joined in a triangular unit that can be used to support either floors or roofs.

“S/T” means the insignia used to identify the use of a steel truss support system within the building.

Truss means a structural building component made of a group of triangles in one plane.

Truss identification emblem means a red/white reflective triangular shaped aluminum emblem measuring approximately eight (8) inches horizontally by seven (7) inches vertically. The center of the emblem shall contain insignias corresponding to the location and type of truss or pre-manufactured support system(s) within the building. The top insignia shall identify the type of support system. The bottom insignia shall identify the location of the support system.

Wood “I” beam means a floor or roof beam consisting of solid or laminated wooden 2” x 4” (or less) for the top and bottom horizontal chords and an oriented strand board (OSB) web of plywood vertically set between them.

“WT” means the insignia used to identify the use of a wood truss support system within the building.

“WI” means the insignia used to identify the use of a wooden “I” beam support system within the building.

SECTION 3. DETERMINATION OF USE, IMPLEMENTATION, AND PLACEMENT

- (a) The property owner of any existing or new building that contains the structural building components defined in Section 2 “Definitions” above, in its construction, renovation or alteration shall be required to install a truss identification emblem on the exterior of the structure or unit.
- (b) The identification of the use of the structural components identified in Section 2 “Definitions” above, to construct, renovate, or alter any building may occur through one or more of the following methods.
 1. Fire Prevention inspection
 2. Building pre-plan/site inspection

3. Code Enforcement inspections
 4. Plan review
 5. Fire Department hazard assessment inspection
- (c) Immediately upon the identification of the use of the structural components governed by this Ordinance as a method of construction, renovation, or alteration, the construction official, code enforcement inspector, fire inspector, or company officer identifying same shall notify the program administrator or his designee. Internal fire department notification shall be in the form of a written memo and shall include the type of construction, location(s) within structure, address, block/lot, and name of property owner forwarded to the program administrator or his designee. Notification to the program administrator or his designee from the Code Enforcement office shall be made in accord with standard Construction Office notification protocol.
- (d) The program administrator (or his designee) shall then contact the property owner to inform them of the requirements set forth by this Ordinance and schedule any immediate or future inspections that will be required to assist the property owner with compliance and emblem placement.
- (e) The program administrator (or his designee) shall ensure that all follow up inspections and site visits are coordinated and scheduled to coincide with the completion of the building construction, alteration, or renovation project.
- (f) Upon completion of the construction, renovation, or alteration project it shall be the responsibility of the property owner to permanently affix the truss identification emblem to the building or unit at the approved location as stipulated within this Ordinance. This installation shall be completed within 30 days of the completion of the construction, renovation, or alteration project. The property owner shall be responsible to maintain the emblem.
- (g) Upon completion of the construction, renovation, or alteration project it shall be the responsibility of the program administrator (or his designee) to ensure that the property owner installs the truss identification emblem at the approved location and has complied with all sections of this Ordinance. In addition, the program administrator (or his designee) shall provide the property owner with all contact information in order to assist the property owner with any future inquiries regarding compliance with this Ordinance.
- (h) The truss identification emblem shall be supplied to the property owner by the Englewood Fire Department at no cost.
- (i) In the event the emblem becomes detached from the building or unit and is lost the property owner shall immediately contact the Fire Department for a replacement emblem at no charge to the property owner.
- (j) The truss identification emblem shall be affixed to the exterior right side of the building or unit directly adjacent to the foundation for the main entrance stairs, at a point no less

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than twelve (12) inches and no more than thirty-six (36) inches from the edge of the stairway foundation. In addition, the emblem shall be affixed to the building or unit at a height directly in line with the top platform of the main entrance stairs.

- (k) The location shall provide firefighters with an immediate, unobstructed view of the truss identification emblem upon reaching the front entrance of the building or unit.
- (l) The truss identification emblem shall be located in an area that will not detract from the exterior appearance of the building or unit.

SECTION 4. VIOLATIONS

It shall be a violation of this Ordinance if the property owner fails to install the required truss identification emblem within thirty (30) days following receipt of written notification from the program administrator.

SECTION 5. PENALTIES

Any person violating a provision of this Ordinance shall be subject to a fine of up to \$1,000.00.

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SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law. If any portion of the Ordinance is deemed invalid the remaining parts remain in effect.

Approved:

Attest:

Lenore Schiavelli, City Clerk