

Ordinance No. 6049

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PROVISIONS IN THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE TO ADDRESS FIRE PROTECTION OF FLOORS BY AMENDING SECTION 15.13.280 OF THE RAPID CITY MUNICIPAL CODE**

WHEREAS, in Ordinance 6009, the City of Rapid City amended Chapter 15.13 of the Rapid City Municipal Code and adopted the 2012 edition of the International Residential Code (IRC); and

WHEREAS, Section 501.3 of the IRC requires that the underside of a floor be covered with sheetrock or plywood unless the space is protected by an automatic sprinkler system or unless other limited exceptions apply; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 6009 deleted Section 501.3 of the International Residential Code regarding fire protection of floors; and

WHEREAS, the City now wishes to incorporate some of the provisions in IRC Section 501.3 concerning fire protection of floors;

WHEREAS, the Common Council believes it to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the City's citizens to amend R.C.M.C. 15.13.280 to incorporate provisions concerning fire protection of floors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Rapid City, that R.C.M.C. 15.13.280 is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

**15.13.280 IRC Chapter 5, Section R501.3, Fire protection of floors – Amended.**

IRC Chapter 5, Section 501.3, Fire protection of floors, is hereby amended to read~~deleted~~ in its entirety as follows:-

**R501.3 Fire protection of floors.** Floor assemblies, not required elsewhere in this code to be fire-resistance rated, shall be provided with a 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum wallboard membrane, 5/8-inch (16 mm) wood structural panel membrane, or equivalent on the underside of the floor framing member.

**Exceptions:**

1. Floor assemblies located directly over a space protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904, NFPA13D, or other approved equivalent sprinkler system.

2. Floor assemblies located directly over a crawl space not intended for storage or fuel-fired appliances.

3. Portions of floor assemblies can be unprotected when complying with the following:

3.1. The aggregate area of the unprotected portions shall not exceed 80 square feet per story

3.2. Fire blocking in accordance with Section R302.11.1 shall be installed along the perimeter of the unprotected portion to separate the unprotected portion from the remainder of the floor assembly.

4. Wood floor assemblies using dimension lumber or structural composite lumber equal to or greater than 2-inch by 10-inch (50.8 mm by 254 mm) nominal dimension, or other approved floor assemblies demonstrating equivalent fire performance.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

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Mayor

ATTEST

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Finance Officer

(seal)

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Published:

Effective: