

ORDINANCE NO. 1805

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article I, Article II and Article III, Chapter 25 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended; which Chapter 25 relates to PLUMBING AND GAS FITTING; which Article I relates to IN GENERAL; which Article II related to PLUMBING SPECIFICATIONS and now relates to PERMITS REQUIRED FOR PLUMBING OR GAS FITTING WORK; FEES FOR PERMITS and which Article III related to INSPECTIONS AND TESTS OF PLUMBING and now relates to CHANGES IN MODEL PLUMBING CODE FOR THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Article I, Chapter 25 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 25-1. Title.

This Chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Plumbing and Gas Fitting Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia".

Sec. 25-2. Model Plumbing Code for the Washington Metropolitan Area, prepared by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments - Adopted.

That certain code known as the Model Plumbing Code for the Washington Metropolitan Area, prepared by the Washington Council of Governments, being particularly the September 13, 1971 Second Edition thereof, and the whole thereof save and except such portions as are hereinafter amended, added to or deleted by Section 25-32 be and the same hereby is adopted and incorporated therein as fully as if set out at length herein.

Sec. 25-3. Same - Official copy.

One copy of said Model Plumbing Code, to be known as the official copy, shall be manually signed on its cover by the Mayor and the Plumbing Inspector and shall be filed and kept at all times in the office of the Plumbing Inspector, City Hall, Alexandria, Virginia.

Sec. 25-4. Same - Copies for public inspection.

At least five (5) copies of said Model Plumbing Code shall be placed in the office of the Plumbing Inspector, City Hall, Alexandria, Virginia, where they may be viewed, examined and obtained between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday inclusive of each week, except for holidays.

Sec. 25-5. Same - Amendments, additions and deletions - Official copy.

One copy of each ordinance adopting deletions, modifications or amendments to said Model Plumbing Code, to be known as the official copy, shall be manually signed on its first page by the Mayor and the Plumbing Inspector and filed and kept at all times in the office of the Plumbing Inspector, City Hall, Alexandria, Virginia.

Sec. 25-6. Same - Same - Copies for public inspection.

At least five (5) copies of each ordinance adopting deletions, modifications and amendments to said Model Plumbing Code shall be placed in the office of the Plumbing Inspector, City Hall, Alexandria, Virginia.

Sec. 25-7. Appointment, term and compensation of Plumbing Inspector.

A Plumbing Inspector shall be appointed by the Director of Building and Mechanical Inspections subject to approval of the City Manager, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the City Manager, and his compensation shall be fixed from time to time by the City Council.

Sec. 25-8. Duties of Plumbing Inspector generally.

It shall be the duty of the Plumbing Inspector to inspect all plumbing and gas fitting in the course of construction, alteration or repair, to make prescribed tests, and generally see that the plumbing and gas fitting regulations of the city are duly carried out and observed.

He shall keep suitable records of permits, inspections, tests, complaints and all matters coming under his jurisdiction as provided in the plumbing and gas fitting regulations, and shall make reports as directed.

The Plumbing Inspector shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter and shall be the administrative authority referred to in the model code adopted by reference in Section 25-2.

Sec. 25-9. Authority of Plumbing Inspector.

The Plumbing Inspector shall have full authority to do all things necessary to carry into effect all provisions of this chapter and may condemn plumbing and gas fitting work not executed in accordance therewith, or plumbing or gas fixtures, fittings, appliances and materials not complying with the requirements thereof.

When a plumbing or gas fitting permit has been issued, the Plumbing Inspector shall have the right to enter the premises subject to the permit during reasonable hours to enforce the provisions of this chapter. In all other cases, in the discharge of his duties, the plumbing inspector may, when granted permission by the owner, or some person with reasonably apparent authority to act for the owner, enter and inspect premises during reasonable hours to enforce the provisions of this chapter. When such permission is refused or cannot be obtained, a proper warrant shall be obtained prior to entry.

He or any officer of the law shall stop any work of excavation for plumbing or gas fitting purposes or any plumbing or gas fitting work under way for which no permit has been issued or which is not proceeding in accordance with the terms of a permit issued therefor.

Sec. 25-10. Inspectors.

Assistant plumbing inspectors duly designated by the Plumbing Inspector, are authorized to make inspections and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

The Plumbing Inspector and all assistant plumbing inspectors shall carry and exhibit appropriate identification before entering premises for the purpose of making an inspection.

Sec. 25-11. When lawful to engage in plumbing work and gas fitting.

It shall be unlawful for any person to do any plumbing work or to engage in the work of plumbing or gas fitting in the city unless he is certified as a master plumber as hereinafter provided or unless he is a qualified journeyman plumber employed and paid by a master plumber and works according to the direction and under the personal supervision of a certified master plumber or unless he is a duly registered plumber's apprentice employed and paid by a master plumber and works under the direction and supervision of a certified master plumber or a certified journeyman plumber or unless he holds a valid certificate "A" provided for in Section 25-12(c).

It shall be unlawful, however, for a master gas fitter, certified as hereinafter provided, or a journeyman gas fitter, qualified as hereinafter provided and employed by a master gas fitter and who works under the direction and personal supervision of a master gas fitter, or a duly registered gas fitter's apprentice employed by a master gas fitter and who works under the direction and personal supervision of a master gas fitter, or a qualified journeyman gas fitter, to engage in the work of gas fitting.

Sec. 25-12. Employment of person not certified as master plumber or master gas fitter.

It shall be unlawful for any owner, lessee or agent or any person having any authority or duty in connection with any building or premises, to employ any person to do any plumbing or gas fitting work in any such building or premises unless such person is certified as a master plumber.

Sec. 25-13. Composition of plumbing board; appointment, term and compensation of members.

The plumbing board shall consist of the director of public health, the director of public works, the director of building and mechanical inspections, and the plumbing inspector as a non-voting member, by virtue of their offices; and one master plumber, one journeyman plumber and two citizens appointed by the city council. The terms of the master plumber, journeyman plumber and the two citizens shall be for two years. Vacancies shall be filled by the city council for the unexpired portion of a term. The members of the plumbing board shall serve as such without pay.

Sec. 25-14. Chairman of plumbing board; quorum; meetings.

The plumbing board shall select its own chairman from those members selected by city council. Five members of the plumbing board present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum. Meetings of the plumbing board shall be held at the call of the chairman, but shall be held no less frequently than once every three months.

Sec. 25-15. Examinations.

(a) Certificates as master plumbers shall be granted by the plumbing board after a written examination to determine the fitness of such applicants for such certificates. Certificates as journeyman plumbers shall be granted by the plumbing inspector after a written or an oral examination, or both, to determine the fitness of applicants for such certificates.

(b) Certificates as master gas fitters shall be granted by the plumbing board after an examination by like method to determine the fitness of applicants for such certificates. Certificates as journeyman gas fitters shall be granted by the plumbing inspector after an examination by like method to determine the fitness of applicants for such certificates.

(c) A certificate "A" may be issued to any person who has passed the examination for plumbing contractors given by the State Registration Board for contractors without the required examination of paragraphs (a) and (b) above. This certificate "A" will be valid only so long as the State Registration Certificate is in full effect for the person holding it. If the State Registration Certificate of the person receiving the certificate "A" from the Alexandria Plumbing Board should become void for any reason, the certificate "A" granted under this section shall also become void. Fees required for certificate "A" shall be the same as applies to master plumbers.

Sec. 25-16. Qualifications of applicants for certificates; registration of apprentices and helpers.

(a) Master plumber's license. Applicants for licenses as master plumbers shall be at least twenty-one years of age and shall furnish evidence they have had at least five years' experience in practical plumbing, three years of which shall have been served as a journeyman plumber, or, in lieu thereof, have graduated from a college or university in a course of mechanical engineering or sanitary engineering and can show at least two years of practical experience in plumbing work.

They shall be examined as to their knowledge of the practice of the trade of plumbing, their knowledge of the requirements of regulations governing the installation of plumbing in the city, their ability to lay out and plan plumbing work, their knowledge of physics and mechanics insofar as they apply to plumbing design and construction, and they shall generally demonstrate to the board their fitness to properly and intelligently carry on the business of a master, employing or directing plumbers in the city.

(b) Journeyman plumber's license. Applicants for licenses as journeyman plumbers shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall furnish evidence that they have had at least three years' experience as an apprentice plumber or helper or have graduated from a recognized journeyman plumber school with one year of practical experience as an apprentice plumber or one year as a plumber's helper.

They shall be examined as to their knowledge of the practice of the trade of plumbing, their knowledge of the requirements of regulations governing the installation of plumbing in the city, their knowledge of physics and mechanics insofar as they are applied to plumbing design and construction, and they shall generally demonstrate to the board their fitness to properly perform and execute plumbing work.

(c) Registration of plumbers, apprentices and helpers. Plumbers must be registered with the plumbing inspector before being employed by a master plumber. It shall be unlawful for a master plumber to employ a journeyman plumber before he has registered and obtained his journeyman examination card. Apprentices and helpers shall be registered with the plumbing inspector within fifteen days after their employment.

(d) Master gas fitter's license. Applicants for licenses as master gas fitters shall be at least twenty-one years of age and shall furnish evidence that they have had at least five years' experience as journeyman gas fitters.

They shall be examined as to their knowledge of the practice of the trade of gas fitting, including domestic hot water heating insulation work, their knowledge of the requirements of regulations in the city governing the installation of piping systems, fixtures, appliances and devices for conveyance and consumption of gas for power, refrigeration, heating, illumination or other purposes, their ability to lay out and plan gas fitting work, their knowledge of physics and mechanics insofar as they apply to gas fitting design and construction, and they shall generally demonstrate to the board their fitness to properly and intelligently carry on the business of a master, employing or directing gas fitters in the city.

(e) Journeyman gas fitter's license. Applicants for licenses as journeyman gas fitters shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall furnish evidence that they have had at least three years' experience as an apprentice gas fitter or helper or two years' practical experience and have graduated from a recognized gas fitters' school.

They shall be examined as to their knowledge of the practice of the trade of gas fitting, including domestic hot water heating insulation work, their knowledge of the requirements of regulations in the city governing the installation of piping systems, fixtures, appliances and devices for conveyance and consumption of gas for power, refrigeration, heating, illumination or other purposes, their ability to lay out and plan gas fitting work, their knowledge of physics and mechanics insofar as they apply to gas fitting design and construction, and they shall generally demonstrate to the board their fitness to properly perform and execute gas fitting work.

(f) Registration of gas fitters, apprentices and helpers. Gas fitters must be registered with the plumbing inspector before being employed by a master gas fitter. It shall be unlawful for a master gas fitter to employ a gas fitter before he has registered and obtained his journeyman examination card. Gas fitter apprentices and helpers shall be registered with the plumbing inspector within fifteen days after their appointment.

#### Sec. 25-17. Re-examination, master plumbers and gas fitters.

In instances where an applicant fails an examination or re-examination he shall be ineligible for any subsequent re-examination for the following time periods:

- (a) After first examination, 1 month.
- (b) After first re-examination, 3 months.
- (c) After second re-examination and all subsequent re-examinations, 6 months.

#### Sec. 25-18. Fees for examinations and re-examinations.

The fee for each examination and for each re-examination of master plumbers shall be ten dollars. The fee for each examination and for each re-examination of master gas fitters shall be ten dollars. The fee for the examination of journeyman plumbers shall be two dollars and fifty cents. The fee for the examination of journeyman gas fitters shall be two dollars and fifty cents. No fees are required for the re-examination of journeyman plumbers or journeyman gas fitters. Required fees shall accompany applications.

#### Sec. 25-19. Period for certificates; fees for certificates and renewals.

The license period shall be the calendar year of the city. The first license shall date from the first day of the month during which the applicant for the license shall satisfactorily pass the prescribed examination and shall end December thirty-first following. The fee for the first license as a master plumber shall be twenty-five dollars for any part of the first license period and shall be paid at the time of issuance. The fee for the first license as a master gas fitter shall be twenty-five dollars for any part of the first license period and shall be paid at the time of issuance. Renewals shall be for the full calendar year of the city, and the fee for the master plumber's renewal shall be ten dollars, and the fee for the master gas fitter's renewal shall be ten dollars. An application for renewal shall be accompanied by the license fee, and shall be made in person before the expiration of a prior license. The plumbing board shall have power to refuse the renewal of any license allowed to lapse and it may in such case require re-application for a new license to be issued only after passing an examination as hereinbefore provided. The fee for the journeymen plumbers' and journeymen gas fitters' renewals shall be three dollars.

Sec. 25-20. Bonds of master plumbers and master gas fitters.

On receiving a certificate, and before engaging in business, every master plumber and every master gas fitter shall give bond with an approved surety company in the sum of five thousand dollars, payable to the city, conditioned upon the faithful performance of and compliance with all of the provisions of this chapter. The bond shall be approved by the city attorney and filed with the director of finance.

In lieu of individual bonds for each master plumber or master gas fitter, a joint bond from any association of master plumbers or master gas fitters, as the case may be, bonding every member as above may be accepted at the discretion of the plumbing board, not less in aggregate amount than ten thousand dollars.

Sec. 25-21. Certificate prerequisite to advertising as plumber or gas fitter.

It shall be unlawful for any person to display a sign stating or implying that he is carrying on the business of plumbing work, or to advertise by means of business cards, stationery or any publication, or to claim orally to a prospective customer, or otherwise indicate, that he is in the business of plumbing or is offering to do plumbing, unless he is certified as a master plumber as provided herein.

It shall be unlawful for any person to display a sign stating or implying that he is carrying on the business of gas fitting work, or to advertise by means of business cards, stationery or any publication, or to claim orally to a prospective customer, or otherwise indicate that he is in the business of gas fitting or is offering to do gas fitting, unless he is certified as a master gas fitter as provided herein.

Sec. 25-22. Trucks used in plumbing or gas fitting work to show license.

Any truck used in the city by plumbers in connection with plumbing work in the city shall have a master plumbers license number clearly marked on the exterior of the truck. Any truck used in the city by gas fitters in connection with gas fitting work in the city shall have a gas fitters license number clearly marked on the exterior of the truck.

Sec. 25-23. Firms or corporations engaged in plumbing or gas fitting.

A firm or corporation may engage in the plumbing business, provided a master plumber is a bona fide member of the firm or the owner of at least twenty per cent of the stock of the corporation, but all of the plumbing and gas work done by the firm must be executed by or under the immediate supervision of the licensed member and by a licensed journeyman plumber. All permits must be issued in the name of the licensed master plumber.

A firm or corporation may engage in the gas fitting business, provided a master gas fitter is a bona fide member of the firm or the owner of at least twenty per cent of the stock of the corporation, but all of the gas fitting work done by the firm must be executed by or under the immediate supervision of a licensed member and by a licensed journeyman gas fitter. All permits must be issued in the name of the licensed master gas fitter.

Sec. 25-24. Misuse of master plumber's or master gas fitter's certificate.

A master plumber's certificate shall not be loaned or extended to cover plumbing work done or contracted for by any other person than the certificate holder. No master gas fitter's certificate shall be loaned or extended to cover gas fitting work or contracted for by any person other than the certificate holder.

Any certificate so prostituted shall be subject to suspension or revocation as provided hereinafter.

No certified master plumber shall work as a journeyman plumber for another master plumber and at the same time carry on business as a master plumber. No certified master gas fitter shall work as a journeyman gas fitter for another master gas fitter and at the same time carry on the business as a master gas fitter.

Sec. 25-25. Suspension and revocation of certificates.

The plumbing board shall have authority to suspend temporarily any master plumber's certificate, journeyman plumber's certificate, master gas fitter's certificate or journeyman gas fitter's certificate for failure to correct faulty work, doing work without a permit or for any other good and sufficient cause, or may revoke or annul any such certificate or permit issued for repeated failure to comply with instructions of the inspector of plumbing, repeatedly undertaking work without permit, or other sufficient reason; provided, that no such certificate shall be revoked except by a two-thirds vote of the board, after a public hearing by the plumbing board, at which the certificate holder may be represented by counsel.

Sec. 25-26. Filing of detailed plans prerequisite to issuance of permit in certain cases.

Before permits will be issued for any plumbing work involving more than four (4) fittings in the waste (drain), vent, gas or water piping system the plumber shall file detailed plans of the work he proposes to do, and the permit shall not be issued until the plan has been approved by the inspector of plumbing. Before a permit will be issued for gas fitting work, such plans shall be filed when required by the plumbing inspector.

Sec. 25-27. Installation of on-site water mains and fire lines; additional regulations.

All on-site water mains and fire lines must be installed by a licensed master plumber.

Mechanical joints shall be permitted on cast iron water service pipes, provided the pipe joined and the joint will withstand a two hundred pound hydraulic pressure test.

Push joints shall be permitted on cast iron water service pipe, provided:

- (a) The pipe joined and the joint will withstand a two hundred pound hydraulic pressure test.
- (b) The pipe joined is of a diameter of four inches or greater.
- (c) The joint is located more than eight feet away from any building or structure.
- (d) The pipe joined and the joint is in a ground location.
- (e) The ground at the location of the pipe joined and the joint is fast ground and not subject to subsidence or settling.
- (f) The joint is not used to connect any fitting.

Sec. 25-28. Appeals.

Whenever an application for a permit is refused or when it is claimed that the provisions of this chapter do not apply or that the true intent and meaning of this chapter have been misconstrued or wrongly interpreted the applicant may appeal the decision to the plumbing board, provided such applicant shall, within thirty (30) days from the date of the decision appealed, file in the office of the plumbing inspector a signed, written notice of appeal setting forth a brief statement of the reasons therefor. In the event such an appeal is filed, the plumbing board shall schedule at least one public hearing on the matter. The plumbing board may affirm, reverse or modify the decision.

Sec. 25-29. Penalties.

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this chapter or fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder, or who shall perform work in violation of any plans submitted and approved thereunder, and from which no appeal has been taken, or who shall fail to comply with the decision of the plumbing board on appeal, shall severally for each and every such violation and non-compliance respectively, upon conviction be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars (\$10.00) nor more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).

Violations of the provisions of this chapter may also be restrained, prohibited or enjoined by appropriate proceedings, such proceedings may be in lieu of or in addition to action for a penalty.

Section 2. That Article II, Chapter 25 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Article II. Permits required for Plumbing or Gas Fitting Work; Fees for Permits.

Sec. 25-30. Permit Fees.

It shall be unlawful for any master plumber or master gas fitter to do any plumbing or gas fitting until he shall have first applied for and received a permit from the plumbing inspector provided that no permit shall be required for minor repairs or replacements as defined in Sec. 105-2(3) of the Model Plumbing Code adopted in Section 25-2 of this chapter and provided further that emergency repairs or replacements of existing fixtures not requiring a plan as set forth in Section 25-26 may be made without a permit prior to the receipt of a permit, but a permit shall be obtained not later than five (5) working days after the repair or replacement. Permits for emergency repairs or replacements may be applied for by mail.

The fees for permits shall be as follows:

Plumbing in new residential buildings, containing not more than two dwelling units (new plan); plus \$0.75 for every plumbing fixture or floor drain, plus \$1.50 for final inspection. This fee applies also to putting complete new plumbing in existing unplumbed buildings . . . . .	\$7.50
Plumbing in additions, or remodeling or changes in existing plumbing systems in old residential buildings, containing not more than two dwelling units, plus \$0.75 for every plumbing fixture or floor drain . . . . .	\$2.50

Plumbing in new residential buildings, containing more than two dwelling units (new plan); plus \$0.75 for each plumbing fixture, trap or drain, plus \$3.00 final inspection for each floor . . . . .	\$7.50
Plumbing in additions or remodeling or changes in existing plumbing systems in old residential buildings, containing more than two dwelling units, plus \$0.75 for every plumbing fixture or drain . . . . .	\$2.50
Plumbing in new commercial buildings (new plan); plus \$0.75 for every fixture, future outlet or any kind of trap or drain; plus \$3.00 final inspection each floor . . . . .	\$7.50
Plumbing in old commercial buildings; plus \$0.75 for each fixture for three or more fixtures, including floor drains . . . . .	\$7.50
Plumbing in old commercial buildings; plus \$0.75 for each fixture for two or less fixtures. . . . .	\$2.50
Replace plumbing fixture to an existing system without changes, thereto, for every plumbing fixture or floor drain . . . . .	\$1.50
Renewing water lines inside or outside of buildings. . . . .	\$2.00
Renewing sewer lines inside or outside of buildings . . . . .	\$2.00
Replacing hot water storage tank . . . . .	\$1.50
Installation of washing machines or replacement. . . . .	\$1.50
Connecting compressors, each . . . . .	\$1.50
Installation of garbage disposal units or replacement. . . . .	\$1.50
Installation of dishwashing units or replacements. . . . .	\$1.50
Installation of electric water heaters or replacements . . . . .	\$1.50
Installation of ice machine or replacement . . . . .	\$1.50
Installation of ice maker on refrigerator or replacement . . . . .	\$1.50
Installation of gas service piping in new buildings, plus \$0.75 for every appliance . . . . .	\$2.50
Setting and connecting gas ranges, gas water heaters; installation or replacement . . . . .	\$1.50
Installation of gas refrigerators or replacement: . . . . .	\$1.50
Installation of gas water heater or replacement. . . . .	\$1.50
Gas log . . . . .	\$1.50
Old gas line . . . . .	\$1.00

Gas light installation or replacement . . . . .	\$1.50
Gas grill installation or replacement . . . . .	\$1.50
Gas fired incinerators . . . . .	\$1.75
Installation of gas generators or replacement . . . . .	\$3.00
Clothes dryer installation or replacement . . . . .	\$1.75
Installation of gas space heaters, or replacement, each . . . . .	\$1.75
Installation of gas unit heaters, or replacement, each . . . . .	\$2.50
Installation of gas fired boilers, each or replacement . . . . .	\$2.50
Installation or replacement of gas conversion burners, each . . . . .	\$3.00
Installation of air conditioning units, each (includes gas line) . . . . .	\$3.00
Installation of furnace and air conditioning units when installed together . . . . .	\$5.00
Installation of tee for humidifier or replacement . . . . .	\$1.50
Additional inspections made necessary by undue delays in work, or failure to have system tight, each . . . . .	\$3.00
Additional inspections made necessary by the use of improper materials or failure to be ready for inspection when ordered, each . . . . .	\$3.00

Sec. 25-31. Abandoned or discontinued work.

- (a) Should any person to whom a permit has been issued for plumbing or gas work abandon the installation for any reason, he shall immediately notify the plumbing division.
- (b) If an installation has been partially completed, the permit grantee, upon abandoning the installation, shall notify the plumbing division and request an inspection. A record shall be kept of the results of the inspection.
- (c) If a permit grantee abandons an installation after work has been started, the work shall be inspected and a notice of any violations shall be sent to the permit grantee and the bonding company. The master plumber or master gas fitter who then proceeds with the installation shall secure a permit for the entire job and shall be responsible for all work.
- (d) If no work has been done, a permit grantee shall be entitled to a refund of 75% of the permit fee, provided that request for a refund is made within six months after date of permit.

No refund shall be granted to the permit grantee for work already installed and inspected.

- (e) Before proceeding with any plumbing or gas work which has been started by any other person, an owner or master plumber or master gas fitter shall make request for an inspection of the installation, and shall secure a permit for the entire job and shall be responsible for all work.
- (f) Any person to whom a permit has been issued for plumbing or gas work shall give written notice to the plumbing division if the plumbing contractor is discharged by the owner. This shall not be construed to relieve the owner or plumber from the terms of any agreement but will allow the issuance of a new permit to another plumber to complete the work.

Section 3. That Article III, Chapter 25 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Article III. Changes in Model Plumbing Code for the  
Washington Metropolitan Area.

Sec. 25-32. Changes in model plumbing code.

That the code known as the Model Plumbing Code for the Washington Metropolitan Area, prepared by the Washington Council of Governments, being particularly the September 13, 1971, Second Edition thereof, which is adopted and incorporated herein by Section 25-2 of Article I, Chapter 25 of the City Code, be and the same hereby is deleted, modified and amended in the following respects:

Section 108-3 entitled DEFINITIONS (page 12) is amended by changing the definition of "PRIVATE SEWER OR WATER MAIN" to read:

Private Sewer or Water Main -- a sewer or main built in a recorded easement or within the property lines of a parcel of land under one ownership, intended to serve separate units of warehouses, shopping centers or other commercial uses.

Section 108-3 entitled DEFINITIONS (page 13) is amended by changing the definition of "SEWER LATERAL" to read:

Sewer Lateral -- See "Building (House) Sewer"

Section 209 entitled DINING FACILITIES (page 20) is amended by changing subsection (b) thereof to read:

- (b) Cafeterias, Soda Fountains and other food handling operations. A hand basin shall be provided behind the bar where food is prepared. Each such area is to be provided with a floor drain properly vented.

Section 210 entitled DAY SCHOOLS, PRE-SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARTENS (page 20) is amended to read:

DAY SCHOOLS, PRE-SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARTENS  
The requirements of Chapter 8 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, shall be complied with.

Section 306-2 entitled Shower Compartments (page 22) is amended to read:

Shower Compartments

Shower compartments, except those installed directly on the ground, or those having metal or approved precast enameled receptors, shall have a lead or copper shower pan or the equivalent thereof. The pan shall turn up at least 3 inches above the finished floor level and shall be securely fastened to the fixture waste outlet pipe at the seepage entrance, making a watertight joint between the pan and the outlet pipe.

Section 319-10 entitled Miscellaneous Interceptors (page 28 and 29) is amended by adding thereto the following subsection:

- (e) Coin operated Car Wash. No coin operated car wash may be permitted to be installed and used until plans have been submitted to and approved by the administrative authority. The plans must show the method of connection to an approved sanitary sewer system, disposal of rain and subsurface water and the protection of the potable water system.

Section 403-9 entitled Lawn Sprinkler and Irrigation Systems (page 34) is amended to read:

Lawn Sprinkler and Irrigation Systems

The supply pipe to a lawn sprinkler or irrigation system shall be equipped with an approved shut off valve and an approved backflow preventor properly installed.

Section 404-1 entitled Volume and Pressure Conditions (page 34) is amended by adding the following sentence:

Water supply to shower heads, lavatories, and similar equipment shall be equipped with approved water saving devices.

Section 406-10 entitled Water-Tight Pan (page 37) is amended by adding the following sentence:

The pan shall be adequately sized with a recessed depth of 2".

Section 501 entitled METHOD OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL (page 43) - subsection (b) thereof is amended to read:

- (b) Public sewer shall be deemed to be available to a one or two family dwelling when such sewer abuts the premises on which the building is located, and any part of the building is within 300 feet of sewer and connection may be made lawfully thereto according to city requirements.

Section 501 entitled METHOD OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL (page 43) - subsection (c) thereof is amended by adding thereto the following:

- (c) Any extension of public sewer required hereby shall be made at the expense of the owner of the premises to be served. Such extension shall conform to regulations of the Department of Public Works and will be inspected by said Division. This section shall not preclude installation of an extension of greater length if required by, or approved by, the Department of Public Works.

Section 501 entitled METHOD OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL (page 43) - subsection (d) thereof is amended to read:

- (d) Septic tanks must comply with the provisions of Chapter 28 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended.

Section 501 entitled METHOD OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL (page 43) - subsection (h) thereof is amended to read:

- (h) The drainage and plumbing system of each new building and of new work installed in an existing building shall be separate from and independent of that of any other building, except as provided below, and every building shall have an independent connection with a public or private sewer when available. Where two or more dwellings, stores, shops, establishments, tenements, warehouses, garages or other structures or two or more of either of them are built upon the same lot or parcel of land even if under the same roof or a part of a larger structure, each shall be considered as a separate building and shall have a separate sewer and independent connection and shall not drain through the sewer of any other building or premises or under or through any other building.

Exceptions.

- (1) Where one building stands in the rear of another building on an interior lot and no public or private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, court, yard, or driveway, the house drain from the front building may be extended to the rear building, and the whole will be considered as one house drain.
- (2) In the case of multi-family apartment buildings under one ownership the word "building" shall be construed to mean a structure under one roof, whether or not divided vertically by solid firewalls. Any subsequent division, subdivision or resubdivision of such a building into separate ownerships shall require that the provisions of this section shall apply in full to such divided building; provided further, that such compliance must take place within one year of the date of such division.
- (3) Commercial buildings under one roof containing several different units where the landlord is responsible for the maintenance and repair of plumbing, may be served by one system upon written request by the owner so long as separate units within said building are not subdividable under both the Zoning and Building Codes.

Section 507 entitled METHODS FOR HANDLING SUBSOIL DRAINAGE (page 46) subsection (d) thereof is amended to read:

- (d) Area drains are prohibited from entering septic tanks or public or private sewer systems unless specifically approved in writing by the Administrative Authority having jurisdiction. Areaway drains are prohibited on any house or building sewer flowing or pumped into the Potomac Interceptor Sewer.

Section 509-2 entitled Trenching for Building Sewer and Water Service (page 47) is amended by adding thereto the following subsection:

- (e) All taps into a sanitary sewer shall be made under the supervision of a plumbing inspector. All material necessary for making the tap shall be furnished by the owner of property for which the tap is to be made. All taps must be made under the supervision of a licensed master plumber with a licensed journeyman plumber making the tap. The connection of a house sewer to a public sanitary sewer shall be made using an approved saddle. The tap shall be made with a 1/16 bend with the tap entering the upper air space of the trunk sewer, unless otherwise approved by the plumbing inspector.

The maximum size house sewer which may be connected to a ten inch or large public sanitary sewer is six inches. All other connections of a house sewer to a public sanitary sewer require the installation of an approved manhole, at the property owners' expense, except a wye (Y) connection may be permitted to be installed in the construction of a new public sewer if approved by the Plumbing Division and Department of Public Works before construction begins.

Taps shall be at least two feet apart. Taps into public manholes must be approved by the Plumbing Division and Department of Public Works before tap is made. Taps into public storm sewer shall be made as directed by Department of Public Works and Plumbing Division. Trenches and excavations shall conform to the 1966 State Safety Code for construction, demolition and excavation, and shall be maintained in a safe condition and shall be kept free from water to permit adequate inspection. All sewer taps and laterals in public streets, roads, pavements, alleys, and utility right-of-ways must be free of jumps or grades in excess of 1/4 inch per foot until they reach the property line or the limit of the easement unless approved in advance by the Plumbing Division and the Department of Public Works.

Chapter 5 entitled DRAINAGE AND VENT SYSTEMS is amended by adding thereto (at page 72) a new subsection numbered 532-17 to read:

- 532-17 Tests for Industrialized Building or Mobile Home  
No industrialized building or mobile home shall be connected to the onsite utilities until the system has stood an air test of 1 1/2" of water column for a period of fifteen minutes. This test shall be done by plugging the waste and vent openings and filling the traps with water.

Section 606-1 entitled Building Sewers (page 78) is amended to read:

Building sewers, except as provided in 606-1a shall be constructed of the following material: cast iron pipe of the grade known as extra heavy from the tap at the City sewer into and including underground floor of building. Pipe shall be bell and spigot with joints made by properly packed and caulked lead or by approved neoprene gaskets. The joints shall be water-tight and root-proof. The building sewers shall be tested with a ten (10) foot head of water.

- (a) Building sewers in public roads, streets, pavements, alleys, driveways, parking areas, right of way or in areas subject to superimposed loads shall be cradled in dry mix concrete or installed on a 6-inch bed of No. 12 coarse aggregate stone.
- (b) No building sewer shall be laid with less than eighteen (18) inches of cover except that when a building sewer terminates in a septic tank its minimum cover shall be twelve (12) inches. Building sewers in public streets or roads shall be laid at a depth to provide minimum cover of three and one-half (3 1/2) feet or otherwise be completely incased in concrete.
- (c) Building sewers in filled or unstable ground shall be laid on a reinforced concrete pad or approved equal.

Section 606-2 entitled Methods for Laying Building or House Sewers (page 78 and 79) is amended by deleting therefrom subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).

Section 606-3 entitled Types of Joints for Building Sewers (page 79 and 80) is amended by deleting therefrom subsections (b), (c), (d) and (e).

Section 607-1 (page 80) is amended to read:

607-1 All main or branch, soil, wastes and vent pipes within the building shall be of cast iron, galvanized steel, galvanized wrought iron, lead, brass, copper, ABS or PVC plastic pipe Schedule 40, except that no steel, wrought iron pipe, DWV copper, lead, brass or ABS or PVC plastic pipes shall be used for underground soil waste or vent pipe.

Chapter 6 entitled MATERIALS is amended by adding thereto (at page 83) a new subsection numbered 617-11 to read:

617-11 Saddle Fittings

An approved saddle fitting may be used above ground for connection of tubing for humidifiers and similar low flow equipment to water supply pipe.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city not later than five days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The Clerk of the Council shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective the date of its final passage.

CHARLES E. BEATLEY, Jr.  
MAYOR

Final Passage: September 26, 1972