

Ordinance No. 536

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sub-section (B) 5, Section B 2, Part 1, Chapter VII, of Ordinance No. 290 known as the Building Code of the City of Alexandria, adopted May 23, 1939 and made effective July 21, 1939, which ordinance relates to building construction generally, and which subsection relates to construction of exterior fire escapes.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:

Section 1. That Sub-section (B) 5, Section B 2, Part 1, Chapter VII, of Ordinance No. 290, known as the Building Code of the City of Alexandria, adopted May 23, 1939 and made effective July 21, 1939, be and the same hereby is amended and re-ordained to read as follows:

5. Construction—(a) Railings.—Standards to be 1-inch pipe, two cross rails fastened with $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch bolt through wall and secured with 3 by $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch washer and nut.

(b) Platform.—Frame $1\frac{3}{4}$ by $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch bars, intermediate bars $1\frac{1}{2}$ by $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch not over 27 inches apart. Floor fittings of $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch round bars set $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches on centers and securely riveted to frame, or floor fittings constructed of expanded steel grating weighing not less than four pounds per square foot and securely riveted to frame. Frame to be secured to brackets by hook bolts.

(c) Stairs to be securely bolted to platform. Slide bars to be 3 by $\frac{3}{8}$ inch, steps 5 by $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, each step to be fastened with two $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch machine bolts or rivets in each side. Handrails on stairs to be of 1-inch pipe.

(d) Roof ladder.—Side bars to be 2 by $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch, steps $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch round rods 12 inches on centers. The roof ladder shall be fastened to roof with two flat braces 18 inches long, ladder to be of type known as firemen's gooseneck ladder and to extend to a height of at least 3 feet above the roof.

(e) Drop ladder.—Side bars to be 2 by $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch, steps $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch round rods 12 inches on centers. Handrail on each side to be of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch pipe. Yoke of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch round rods to be counterbalanced on $5/16$ -inch bronze or copper cable and arranged to move easily.

(f) Vertical drop ladders to be counterbalanced as above and guides arranged to keep ladder close into edge of platform and prevent swaying. This style of ladder is only to be used where swinging drop ladder can not be used.

(g) Brackets.—To be of 2 by $\frac{1}{2}$ inch bars and fastened with 1-inch bolt through wall, secured with 5 by $\frac{1}{4}$ inch washer and nut. Brackets to be not less than 22 inches in height and project full width of platform, and be spaced not to exceed 5 feet on centers.

(h) Drop ladder and brackets to be at least 12 feet above sidewalks and parkings and at least 14 feet in the clear above alleys.

(i) Where it is desired to make an ornamental fire escape, the above sizes and shapes of material may be varied but the equivalent strength of the sections used shall in no case be less than that of those specified above.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall be published in the Alexandria Gazette and it shall become effective the day after its publication.

William T. Wilkins
Mayor

March 26, 1948