

LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

INFORMATION REGARDING SIGNALING DEVICES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED AND AUDIBLE ALARMS - PARKING GARAGES

On May 5, 1997, the Los Angeles Fire Department and the Department of Building and Safety issued a letter describing requirements regarding signaling devices for the hearing impaired and audible alarms. The purpose of this informational bulletin is to clarify the installation and design criteria for parking garages. In the letter mentioned above, Item #11 states that “strobes for the hearing impaired shall be installed in the following locations for buildings or occupancies where a fire warning system is required.” This list included “any other area for common use”.

Parking garages and parking structures that are required to have a fire alarm system may provide strobe coverage in driveways only.

Installation may comply with the following requirements:

- Strobes shall be provided no more than 50 linear feet apart down the center of the driveway.
- Strobes shall be mounted a maximum distance of 25' away from end of driveway.
- Strobe intensity shall be 110 candela (cd).
- Strobes shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72.

This informational bulletin addresses parking garages and parking structures required to have a fire alarm in the City of Los Angeles only and does not take precedence over nor does it supercede any other requirement of the Americans with Disabilities Act.