FIRE SAFETY DOESN’T HAVE TO COME AT A PRICE FOR PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITIES.

Two analyses show costs of using non-combustible building materials either on par or less than wood.

Using non-combustible materials has been proven to saves lives. But too many communities have been relying on wood construction because they believe it saves money for multifamily buildings. Analyses from Dodge Data & Analytics (DDA) and RS Means highlight the affordability of non-combustible construction in Philadelphia is virtually the same as building with wood. The results mean local construction and developers thrive, while residents and businesses stay protected.

A comprehensive analysis using DDA data for 1-7 story buildings built in Philadelphia from 2014-2018 (all building types including parking garages). The takeaway? Non-combustible buildings (concrete and masonry) cost 26.5% less than combustible (wood) buildings.*

*With over half a million real projects tracked annually, DDA is the most comprehensive and economic model ensuring insight and forecasting confidence.

A comprehensive cost estimate using RS Means for a typical four-story, 100,000 square-foot apartment building located in Philadelphia. The building consists of 92 apartments, 60 one-bedroom apartments and 32 two-bedroom apartments. The analysis indicated that the costs for non-combustible construction (concrete) are less than combustible (wood) construction.**

**RS Means is the world’s leading provider of construction cost data software and services to help owners, architects, engineers, and contractors precisely estimate cost of new building construction.

We can afford to put the safety of Philadelphia residents first. Pass a citywide ordinance to build with non-combustible materials. Learn more by visiting BuildwithStrength.com.