This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2018 International Fire Code.

The following shall apply to the location of new or relocated elevator sump pump key switches:

When elevator sump pits are provided, keyed switches shall be provided for fire department use in the event of an emergency. Keys for operation of the sump pump shall be provided for the fire department and shall be located in the fire department lock box. The following is the Des Moines Fire Prevention Bureau’s policy on the location of sump pump key switches:

1.) If a fire department command center is present, the key switch shall be located in the fire command center. The key switch shall be clearly identified as, “ELEVATOR SUMP PUMP SWITCH.”

2.) If a fire department command center is NOT present, the key switch shall be located within 5 feet of the fire alarm control panel. The key switch shall be clearly identified as, “ELEVATOR SUMP PUMP SWITCH.”

3.) If neither of the aforementioned locations is easily accessible (e.g. existing buildings), the key switch shall be located in a location acceptable to the fire code official.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

Office of the Fire Protection Engineer
City of Des Moines Fire Department
Fire Prevention Bureau
2715 Dean Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50317
Office: (515) 237-1316
Fax: (515) 283-4907
Email: firedept@dmgov.org