

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	Executive Contact/Phone:
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** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Mechanical Code; amending Section 22.400.010 of the Seattle Municipal Code and adopting by reference Chapters 2 through 9 and Chapters 11 through 16 of the 2015 International Mechanical Code with amendments; and adopting a new Chapter 1 related to administration, permitting, and enforcement; and repealing Sections 2 through 14 of Ordinance 124275.

Summary and background of the Legislation: This legislation adopts the 2015 Seattle Mechanical Code (SMC), consisting of the 2015 International Mechanical Code and Seattle amendments. The legislation is one of nine coordinated bills updating the regulations regarding construction and use of buildings in Seattle.

The SMC is based on current state and national standards for building construction. New editions of these codes are adopted by the State of Washington every 3 years, and State law requires local jurisdictions to enforce the code. The proposed draft SMC was reviewed by a public stakeholder group comprised of Mechanical Engineers, Architects, Contractors, Installers, and the Equipment Sales industry. The City's Construction Codes Advisory Board (CCAB) then reviewed this updated proposal in a series of meetings over a several month period. The Board recommends the SMC for your approval.

The most significant changes in the 2015 Seattle Mechanical Code are included in the highlights section below:

Highlights of changes in 2015 Seattle Mechanical Code

Most of Seattle's amendments to the International Mechanical Code are being carried forward from the 2012 Mechanical Code. Most of the changes in the International Mechanical Code, the Washington State Code, and the Seattle amendments are technical changes that will not have a major impact on construction. The most significant of the changes are listed here.

From the Mechanical Code:

Definitions:

The definition for "Boiler" and "Water Heater" have been modified to match those definitions in the Seattle Fuel Gas Code, Boiler Code, and Seattle Residential Code.

New Section 306.6 Appliances above ceilings:

Requires that appliances located above the ceiling must be accessible for inspection, service, and repair without removing permanent portions of the building.

New Section 407 Ambulatory care facilities for group I-2 occupancies:

This new section now identifies the sections of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) licensed ambulatory care facilities, acute care hospitals, and nursing homes shall comply with for mechanical ventilation.

Table 507.2.1, footnote 6:

It has been made clear that where neither a Type I nor Type II kitchen hood is required, general kitchen exhaust is still required.

Table 507.1.2, footnote 5:

When more than one appliance over 6kW total is used in a community or party room in apartment and condominium, day care, or office lunch room, a Type II kitchen hood is required.

Section 507.2.7 Type I hoods penetrating a ceiling:

This section now clarifies that a Type I hood may penetrate the plane of the adjacent ceiling without a rated enclosure when the ceiling is a minimum of 18 inches from the hood and the area above the ceiling is separated from a plenum.

New Section 505.1 General:

Waste or linen chutes are now required to be gravity vented or mechanically ventilated.

New Sections 606.2.4 and 606.2.5:

In R occupancies in high-rise and non high-rise buildings, these provisions make it more explicit that corridors require smoke detection, and new exceptions have been added to identify where smoke detection is not required.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

This legislation creates, funds, or amends a CIP Project.

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This legislation does not have direct financial implications.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a) Does the legislation have indirect or long-term financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above?
No.
- b) Is there financial cost or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?
No.
- c) Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

The legislation will require all departments that renovate buildings in the city of Seattle to comply with the 2015 codes.

d) Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

No.

e) Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?

No.

f) Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?

No.

g) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

The legislation will affect construction, alteration and demolition of property but is not directed at any specific property.

h) Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.

No impact on vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities is anticipated.

i) If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the long-term and measurable goals of the program? Please describe how this legislation would help achieve the program's desired goals. This legislation does not include any new initiatives or major expansion of any program.

j) Other Issues:

List attachments/exhibits below: