

Amendment A Version 1 to CB 120832 – SDCI Construction Codes ORD

Sponsor: Councilmember Nelson

Cost-effectiveness analysis for Seattle Energy Code amendments

**Effect:** This would (1) add a recital stating the City’s goal to balance housing affordability with the benefits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing energy efficiency when updating the Seattle Energy Code; and (2) add a new section requiring that the Executive develop a process that includes a cost-effectiveness analysis of proposed Seattle amendments to the Washington State Energy Code and solicit input from a new stakeholder task force, including non-profit and market rate developers, during the next construction code update cycle, if applicable. The City may only amend the commercial and multifamily provisions of the code, per State statute.

Prior to adopting the 2021 Washington State Energy Code, the Washington State Building Code Council was required to consider a cost-effectiveness analysis comparing the proposed 2021 update to the 2018 Washington State Energy Code. The City’s practice has been to routinely incorporate more stringent provisions than the State, which are evaluated by the City’s Construction Codes Advisory Board, and has not previously conducted this type of analysis or convened a separate task force of stakeholders as part of the process. The cost-effectiveness analysis and new task force would not be needed if the Executive determines that the City will adopt the State code.

1. Add a recital to CB 120932, as follows:

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle seeks to balance housing affordability with the benefits of reduced greenhouse gas emissions and increased energy efficiency when updating the Seattle Energy Code; NOW, THEREFORE,

2. Add a new section to CB 120932 and renumber subsequent sections, as follows:

Section 10. When considering additional code requirements that depart from the Washington State Energy Code, the Executive shall develop a process that includes a cost-effectiveness analysis, using the same methodology as the State, informed by input from a new task force that includes, but is not limited to, non-profit and market rate housing developers.

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City Council  
October 8, 2024  
D1c

Section ~~10~~ 11. Section 4 of this ordinance shall take effect on November 15, 2024.

Section ~~11~~ 12. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code  
Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.