

# Omnibus Legislation



Photo by John Skelton



**Seattle** Department of  
Construction & Inspections

July 16, 2024

# TODAY'S PRESENTATION

---

- Introduction
- Omnibus Legislation highlights
- Questions

# Omnibus Introduction

---

- Seattle has processed omnibus legislation about every two years since the mid-1990s
- Keeps code updated – code updates, correcting errors and omissions is a good government practice
- Recommended for local jurisdictions by the State of Washington
- The last Omnibus Ordinance was adopted in 2022.

# Introduction Continued

---

Includes multiple amendments:

- Largely to Land Use and Environmental codes
- Minor updates that do not warrant stand-alone legislation
- Correct errors and omissions
- Updates in response to changes in State law
- Clarifies confusing provisions

# Omnibus Highlights

---

Amendments generally identified by:

- City permit review staff
- Law Department
- Permit applicants
- Neighborhood representatives

# Omnibus Highlights

---

- Multiple changes to make the SMC consistent with RCW 69.50.710, changing the term “Marijuana” to “Cannabis”.
- Clarification of the amount of back of house space accessory to grocery stores to be exempt from the maximum size for the use (SMC 23.47A.010).
- Clarification to allow commercial outdoor activities adjacent to a lot that is both zoned residential and commercial (SMC 23.47A.011.)



# Omnibus Highlights cont.

---

- Several changes are proposed to Seattle Mixed zones to facilitate additional height for preserving open space (SMC 23.48.225) and to facilitate additional FAR for lots impacted by the Monorail (SMC 23.48.720.)
- Several changes are proposed to Downtown zones to clarify lodging height limit (SMC 23.49.008), the height of podiums along a portion of Third Ave, and tower spacing provisions (SMC 23.49.058.)
- Several administrative changes are proposed to 25.11 Tree Protection to provide for clarity of use and implementation.

# QUESTIONS?

---

Travis Saunders

travis.saunders@seattle.gov

(206) 386-1357

<https://www.seattle.gov/sdci/codes/changes-to-code/code-corrections>

