Amendment 92 Version 2 to CB 120993 OPCD Permanent State Zoning Compliance ORD

Sponsor: Councilmember Strauss

Expanding Stacked Flat Bonus for Trees

Effect: This amendment would give bonus development standards to stacked flat projects in NR zones that include green infrastructure. As transmitted, the legislation proposes a maximum floor area ratio standard for higher density projects of 1.2 for attached and detached dwelling units, and 1.4 for stacked dwelling units, with no other specific requirements. As drafted, this amendment would change that higher FAR allowance such that maximum FAR would be 2.0 for stacked dwelling units, if they meet certain requirements related to tree retention.

Amend Section 30 as follows:

Section 30. A new Chapter 23.44 is added to the Seattle Municipal Code as follows: Chapter 23.44 NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTIAL

23.44.050 Floor area

A. Gross floor area. In Neighborhood Residential zones, gross floor area includes exterior corridors, breezeways, and stairways that provide building circulation and access to dwelling units or sleeping rooms. Balconies, patios, and decks that are associated with a single dwelling unit or sleeping room and that are not used for common circulation are not considered gross floor area.

B. Floor area ratio (FAR) limits. The FAR limit in Neighborhood Residential zones for lots with residential uses is as shown in Table A for 23.44.050. The FAR limit in Neighborhood Residential zones for lots without residential uses is 1.2. The applicable FAR limit applies to the total chargeable floor area of all structures on the lot.

Γable A for 23.44.050	
Floor area ratio (FAR) in NR zones	
Density (dwelling units per lot size)	FAR
Less dense than 1 unit / 4,000 square feet	0.6
1 unit / 4,000 square feet to 1 unit / 2,201 square feet	0.8
1 unit / 2,200 square feet to 1 unit / 1,601 square feet	1.0
l unit / 1,600 square feet or denser	1.2, except that it is 1.62.0 for stacked
	dwelling units that meet the
	requirements of 23.44.050.D.

- C. The following floor area is exempt from FAR limits:
 - 1. All stories, or portions of stories, that are underground.
- 2. All portions of a story that extend no more than 4 feet above existing or finished grade, whichever is lower, excluding access.
 - 3. Common walls separating individual attached dwelling units.
 - D. The FAR limit for stacked dwelling units that meet one of the following criteria is 2.0:
 - 1. Retain a Tier 1 tree, as defined in Section 25.11.130;
 - 2. Retain two Tier 2 trees as defined in Section 25.11.130.

23.44.060 Maximum density and minimum lot size

- A. Except as provided in subsection 23.44.060.C, the maximum density is:
 - 1. For stacked dwelling units, one dwelling unit per 600 square feet of lot area;
- 2. For stacked dwelling units that meet one of the following criteria, one dwelling unit per 500 square feet of lot area:

HB Harper Select Committee on the Comprehensive Plan 9/17/25 D1

- a. Retain a Tier 1 tree, as defined in Section 25.11.130;
 - b. Retain two Tier 2 trees as defined in Section 25.11.130.
