

# Seattle Fire Departments Permits/Services Clean Up Ordinance

Providing a Safer Seattle for All Who Live, Visit, and Do  
Business in Our City

Date  
12/14/2021

Seattle Fire  
Department



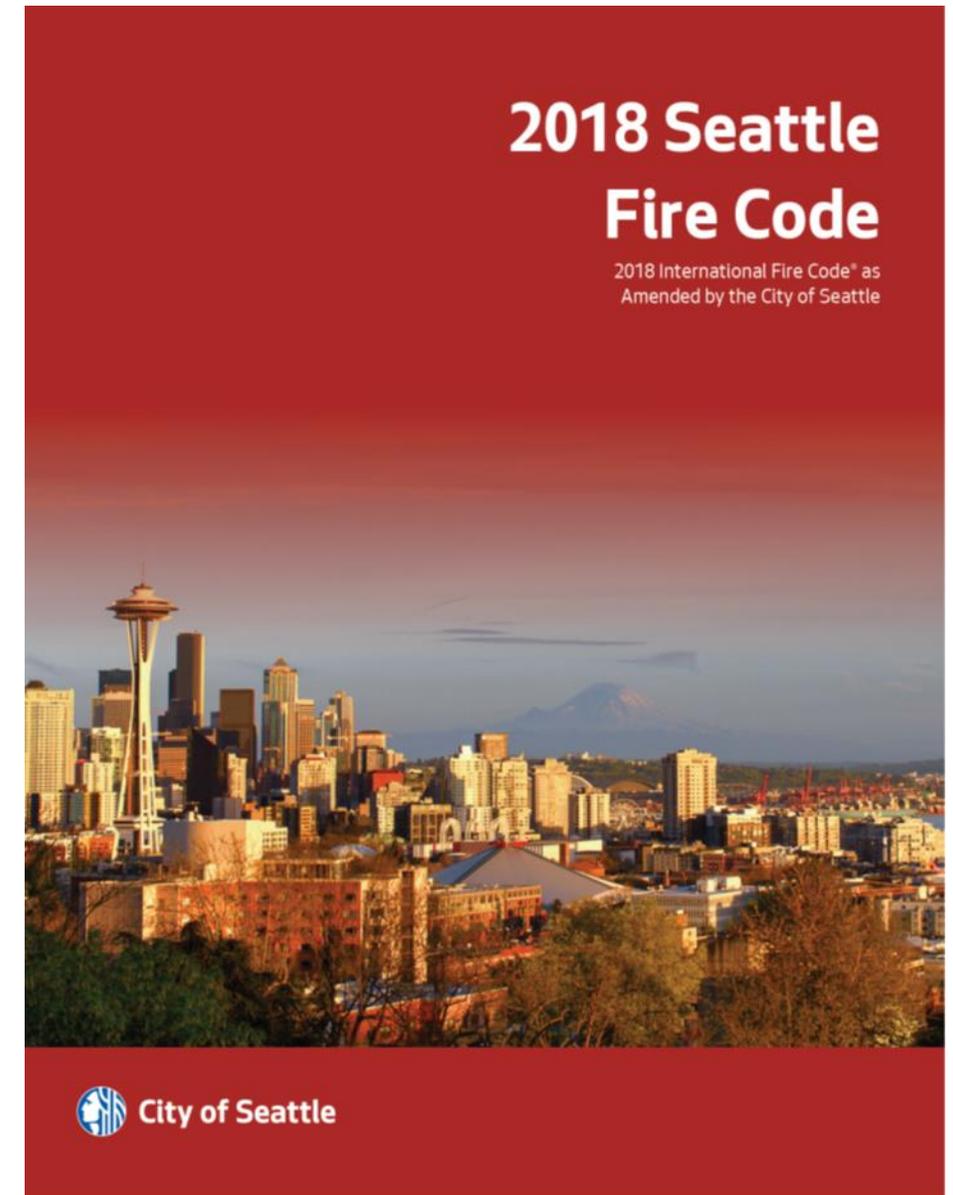
**City of Seattle**

# What the Ordinance Does

- Provides a set of “clean up” actions to harmonize the Seattle Municipal Code provisions for SFD permits and services with the new Seattle Fire Code and with existing practices.
- No substantive policy changes.
- No material fiscal impacts.

# Seattle Fire Code – Passed by City Council Q1 2021

- Based on 2018 International Fire Code
  - Developed by national committees
  - Used throughout nation
- Washington State adopted with statewide amendments
  - In effect 2/1/2021
- Seattle City Council adopted with further local amendments
  - Developed during a three year process with SFD and the Seattle Fire Code Advisory Board
  - Ordinance #126283, effective March 2021



# SFD Fire Prevention Services

- **Permits** special events, hazardous materials use/storage, annual assembly permits
- **Inspections** new construction, special events, high-rise building inspections, annual building inspections
- **Certifications** for vendors installing and maintaining fire protection systems
- **Plan review services** for new buildings and remodels, incorporated into SDCI's process including Seattle Services Portal/Accela
- **Education and outreach**



# Aligning with 2018 Code - Permits

- New permits in national and local code, generally for emerging technologies
- **Example: Installation of fuel cell power systems**
  - New tech, still very uncommon
  - Typically hydrogen or phosphoric acid provides power for the building
  - Permit requirements: equipment listed (rigorously tested), fire rated barriers and separations from the rest of the building, ventilation and exhaust, gas alarms
  - This ordinance adds the permit to the SMC to align with the requirement in adopted WA and Seattle Fire Codes



# Aligning with 2018 Code - Food Truck Permits

- Seattle: already had permit for propane used in food booths and trucks – nationwide experience w/fires
- This ordinance updates SMC
  - Food truck permit (mobile)
  - Food booths (non-mobile)
- Working with businesses and communities to implement
  - Business feedback: Reduce permitting costs/timelines for businesses that move through many cities
  - RSJ review: high immigrant business ownership
  - Seattle leadership: regional checklist, mutually accepted inspections → lower costs, better permit experience
  - Language accessibility w/OIRA for inspection checklist, 9 top tier languages, shared regionally to increase impact



# Questions?

