

## SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE\*

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Contact/Phone:</b>
Fire	Ken Brouillette 206-386-1455	William Chen 206-233-7274

*\* 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 Seattle’s construction codes; adopting the 2018 International Fire Code by reference as the Seattle Fire Code; amending certain chapters of and adding new chapters to the Seattle Fire Code; amending Sections 3.02.125, 22.600.020, and 22.602.090 of the Seattle Municipal Code; repealing Sections 1 and 3 through 35 of Ordinance 125138, Section 1 of Ordinance 125392, and Sections 1 through 9 of Ordinance 125948; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

**Summary and background of the Legislation:** This legislation adopts the 2018 Seattle Fire Code, consisting of the 2018 International Fire Code and Seattle amendments. The 2018 International Fire Code is the technical fire code and edition specified respectively by the State Legislature and State Building Code Council as the minimum standard for use throughout our state. New editions of this code are adopted by the State every three years. By adopting such codes locally and making amendments, we are able to address many unique characteristics of our community. Companion codes including the building code, residential code, mechanical code, and fuel gas code are being submitted simultaneously by the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection, each a separate ordinance.

Notable changes between the current 2015 Seattle Fire Code and the proposed legislation include new local amendments that now allow alternative fuel vehicles on display in buildings to leave their batteries connected to maintain the safety systems installed, new exceptions are added which allow more flexibility for storage of combustible materials in buildings that are protected with a fire sprinkler system, new integrated testing requirements not to exceed 10 years for High-Rise buildings which will provide assurance that the installed fire protection and life safety systems will continue to provide protection to the building and the occupants, a new chapter to address energy systems that were not previously addressed in the previous edition of the Seattle Fire Code and now provides basic protection requirements to the hazards that exist for occupants and emergency responders, and new requirements for the on-demand mobile fueling industry which allows fueling of motor vehicles in designated areas such as parking lots that meet certain requirements but does not allow the fueling to occur on public streets.

The amendments proposed in this ordinance have the approval of the Fire Code Advisory Board whose members represent the public, labor, business, industries, and technical and professional disciplines. The members of this board have been meeting to review the proposed code for the past twenty-four months.

The ratify and confirm language in section 7 allows synchronizing the fire department permit review and processing with the rest of the City's building codes.

## 2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?       Yes  No

## 3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget?       Yes  No

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?  
No.

Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?  
No.

## 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**  
Departments that build or alter buildings or store, use or operate hazardous materials and processes will be required to meet the updated fire code requirements. However, state law requires all cities and counties to adopt the state fire code. The Seattle amendments are enhancements of the state fire code.
- b. **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**  
No.
- c. **Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**  
No.
- d. **Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**  
No.
- e. **Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public?**  
The fire code requirements are not specific to any particular community. Client Assistance Memorandums to help explain fire code requirements are developed in multiple languages.
- f. **Climate Change Implications**  
1. **Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?**  
No.

**2. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle’s resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.**

N/A.

**g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program’s desired goal(s)?**

No.

**List attachments/exhibits below:**

Summary Attachment A – Code Reviser’s Statement on RCW 35.21.180