



Legislation Text

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**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
**ORDINANCE** \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCIL BILL \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE relating to historic preservation, imposing controls upon the Seattle National Bank Building, a landmark designated by the Landmarks Preservation Board under Chapter 25.12 of the Seattle Municipal Code, and adding it to the Table of Historical Landmarks contained in Chapter 25.32 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, the Landmarks Ordinance, Chapter 25.12 of the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC), establishes a procedure for the designation and preservation of sites, improvements, and objects having historical, cultural, architectural, engineering, or geographic significance; and

WHEREAS, the Landmarks Preservation Board (Board), after a public meeting on April 18, 2012, voted to approve the nomination of the improvement located at 720 Second Avenue (which is referred to as the “Seattle National Bank Building” for the purposes of this ordinance), for designation as a landmark under SMC Chapter 25.12; and

WHEREAS, after a public meeting on June 6, 2012 the Board voted to approve the designation of the Seattle National Bank Building under SMC Chapter 25.12; and

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2012, the Board and the owner of the designated landmark agreed to controls and incentives; and

WHEREAS, the Board recommends that the City Council enact a designating ordinance approving the controls and incentives; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. DESIGNATION: Pursuant to SMC 25.12.660, the designation by the Landmarks Preservation Board (Board) of the improvement located at 720 Second Avenue (which is referred to as the “Seattle National Bank Building” for the purposes of this ordinance), is hereby acknowledged.

A. Legal Description. The Seattle National Bank Building is located on the property legally described as:

Lots 1 and 4, Block 6, Boren and Denny's Addition to the City of Seattle, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1 of Plats, Page 27, in King County, Washington.

B. Specific Features or Characteristics Designated. Pursuant to SMC 25.12.660.A.2, the following specific features or characteristics of the Seattle National Bank Building are designated: the exterior of the improvement known as the Seattle National Bank Building.

C. Basis of Designation. The designation was made because the Seattle National Bank Building is more than 25 years old, has significant character, interest or value as a part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, state or nation, has integrity or the ability to convey its significance, and satisfies the following from SMC 25.12.350:

1. It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, period, or of a method of construction (SMC 25.12.350.D).
2. It is an outstanding work of a designer or builder (SMC 25.12.350.E).
3. Because of its prominence of spatial location, contrasts of siting, age, or scale, it is an easily identifiable visual feature of its neighborhood or the City and contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of such neighborhood or the City (SMC 25.12.350.F).

Section 2. CONTROLS: The following controls are hereby imposed on the features or characteristics of the Seattle National Bank Building that were designated by the Board for preservation:

A. Certificate of Approval Process.

1. Except as provided in subsection 2.A.2 or subsection 2.B of this ordinance, the owner must obtain a Certificate of Approval issued by the Board pursuant to SMC Chapter 25.12, or the time for denying a Certificate of Approval must have expired, before the owner may make alterations or significant changes to the following specific features or characteristics: the exterior of the improvement known as the Seattle National Bank Building.
2. No Certificate of Approval is required for the following:
  - a. Any in-kind maintenance or repairs of the features or characteristics listed in subsection 2.A.1 of this

ordinance.

- b. Removal or replacement in-kind of the roof-mounted flagpole above the 2nd Avenue entrance.
- c. Removal or replacement in-kind of the freight elevator door and dumpster pad located on the eastern side of the structure.
- d. Removal of the skybridge attached to the east façade of the structure, provided that City Historic Preservation Officer approval is obtained for the manner of restoration of the east façade following such removal.
- e. Removal, repair or replacement in-kind of the security gate at the Columbia Street entrance to the structure.
- f. Temporary installation of fabric signage on the north elevation of the structure; as long as such signage (i) is removable without resulting in damage to the structure, and (ii) is used to advertise United Way of King County or any non-profit activities with which it is associated.

B. City Historic Preservation Officer Approval Process.

- 1. The City Historic Preservation Officer (CHPO) may review and approve alterations or significant changes to the features or characteristics listed in subsection 2.B.3 of this ordinance according to the following procedure:
  - a. The owner shall submit to the CHPO a written request for the alterations or significant changes, including applicable drawings or specifications.
  - b. If the CHPO, upon examination of submitted plans and specifications, determines that the alterations or significant changes are consistent with the purposes of SMC Chapter 25.12, the CHPO shall approve the alterations or significant changes without further action by the Board.
  - c. If the CHPO does not approve the alterations or significant changes, the owner may submit revised materials to the CHPO, or apply to the Board for a Certificate of Approval under SMC Chapter 25.12.
- 2. The CHPO shall transmit a written decision on the owner's request to the owner within 14 days of receipt of the request. Failure of the CHPO to timely transmit a written decision constitutes approval of the request.
- 3. CHPO approval of alterations or significant changes to the features or characteristics listed in subsection 2.A.1 of this ordinance is available for the following:
  - a. The installation, alteration, or removal of duct conduits, HVAC vents, grilles, fire escapes, pipes, and other similar wiring or mechanical elements necessary for the normal operation of the building.

- b. The installation, alteration, or removal of exterior security lighting, video cameras, and security system equipment.
- c. The installation, alteration, or removal of signage (other than signage exempt under Section 2.A.2.f above).
- d. Manner of restoration of the east (alley) façade of the structure following removal of the skybridge (see Section 2.A.2.d above).
- e. The installation, alteration, relocation, repair, or removal of the following items located on the roof of the structure: (i) mechanical equipment and elevator overrun structures; (ii) access hatches; (iii) air intake and exhaust structures and mechanical rooms; (iv) cooling towers; and (v) the skylight.

Section 3. INCENTIVES: The following incentives are hereby granted on the features or characteristics of the Seattle National Bank Building that were designated by the Board for preservation:

A. Uses not otherwise permitted in a zone may be authorized in a designated Landmark by means of an administrative conditional use permit issued pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code Title 23.

B. Special tax valuation for historic preservation may be available under RCW Chapter 84.26 upon application and compliance with the requirements of that statute.

C. Reduction or waiver, under certain conditions, of minimum accessory off-street parking requirements for uses permitted in a designated Landmark structure, may be permitted pursuant to SMC Title 23.

D. The Owner may be eligible to participate in the City's Landmark Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Bank after obtaining a determination from the City concerning the quantity of unused development rights for the Landmark that are eligible for transfer to receiving properties as Landmark TDR, pursuant to SMC 23.49.014.

Section 4. Enforcement of this ordinance and penalties for its violation are as provided in SMC 25.12.910.

Section 5. The Seattle National Bank Building is hereby added alphabetically to Section II, Buildings, of the Table of Historical Landmarks contained in SMC Chapter 25.32.

Section 6. The City Clerk is directed to record a certified copy of this ordinance with the King County Director of Records and Elections, deliver two certified copies to the CHPO, and deliver one copy to the Director of the Department of Planning and Development. The CHPO is directed to provide a certified copy of the ordinance to the owner of the landmark.

Section 7. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

Approved by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Filed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

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Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)