

**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
**ORDINANCE** \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL BILL 117873

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AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Fuel Gas Code amending Section 22.420.010 and adopting by reference Chapters 2 through 8 of the 2012 International Fuel Gas Code, and amending certain of those chapters; adopting a new Chapter 1 for the Seattle Fuel Gas Code related to administration, permitting and enforcement; and repealing Sections 2-7 of Ordinance 123381.

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

Section 1. Section 22.400.010 of the Seattle Municipal Code is amended as follows:

**22.420.010 Adoption of International Fuel Gas Code((-))**

The Seattle Fuel Gas Code consists of: (1) the following portions of the ((2009)) 2012 edition of the International Fuel Gas Code published by the International Code Council, as amended by City Council by ordinance: Chapters 2-8, together with the adopted amendments and additions, and (2) Chapter 1 relating to administration, permitting and enforcement adopted by City Council by ordinance. One copy of the ((2009)) 2012 International Fuel Gas Code is filed with the City Clerk in C.F. ((340927)) 313184.

Section 2. The following chapter is adopted as Chapter 1 of the Seattle Fuel Gas Code to read as follows:

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**CHAPTER 1**  
**ADMINISTRATION**  
**SECTION 101**

**TITLE**

**101.1 Title.** These regulations shall be known as the "Seattle Fuel Gas Code," may be cited as such, and are referred to herein as "this code." All references to the *International Fuel Gas Code* contained in this code mean the *Seattle Fuel Gas Code*.

**SECTION 102**

**PURPOSE**

**102.1 Purpose.** The purpose of this code is to provide minimum standards to safeguard life or limb, health, property and public welfare by regulating and controlling the design, construction, installation, quality of materials, location, operation, and maintenance or use of fuel gas systems within the City.

The purpose of this code is to provide for and promote the health, safety and welfare of the general public, and not to create or otherwise establish or designate any particular class or group of persons who will or should be especially protected or benefited by the terms of this code.

**SECTION 103**

**APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE**

**103.1 Scope.** The provisions of this code apply to the erection, installation, alteration, repair, relocation, replacement, addition to, use or maintenance of fuel-gas piping systems, fuel-gas utilization equipment and related accessories within the City. The design and testing of equipment regulated by this code are subject to the approval of the code official.

**Exceptions:**

1. Detached one- and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories above grade plane with a separate means of

1 egress and their accessory structures shall comply with the *International Residential*  
2 *Code*.

- 3 2. The standards for liquefied petroleum gas installations are the 2011 edition of NFPA  
4 58 (Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code) and the 2012 edition of ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54  
5 (National Fuel Gas Code), as amended.

6 **103.2 Applicability of city laws.** A mechanical permit application shall be considered under  
7 the Seattle Mechanical, Fuel Gas and Energy codes in effect on a date as provided below, or on a  
8 date as otherwise required by law.

- 9 1. Mechanical permit applications shall be considered under the codes in effect on the date  
10 used to determine the codes applicable to the building permit application according to  
11 Seattle Building Code Section 101.3 if any of Items 1.1 through 1.3 apply:

12 1.1 The mechanical permit application is submitted as part of a building permit  
13 application;

14 1.2 The mechanical permit application is for work directly associated with a building  
15 permit but is submitted separately from the building permit application; or

16 1.3 The mechanical permit application is for initial tenant alterations submitted no later  
17 than 18 months after the date of the approved final inspection for the building, and is  
18 submitted before the expiration date of the building permit for the tenant alteration, as  
19 determined by Seattle Building Code Section 106.9.

- 20 2. Mechanical permit applications other than those subject to Item 1 shall be considered  
21 under the codes in effect on the date a complete mechanical permit application is  
22 submitted that complies with all the requirements of Section 116.

23 **103.3 Alterations.** Additions, alterations, repairs and replacement of equipment or systems shall  
24 comply with the provisions for new equipment and systems except as otherwise provided in  
25 Section 104 of this code.

1 **103.4 Internal consistency.** Where, in any specific case, different sections of this code specify  
2 different materials, methods of construction or other requirements, the most restrictive governs.  
3 Where there is a conflict between a general requirement and a specific requirement, the specific  
4 requirement is applicable.

5 **103.5 Referenced codes and standards.** The codes and standards referenced in this code are  
6 part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where  
7 differences occur between provisions of this code and referenced codes and standards, the  
8 provisions of this code apply.

9 **Exception:** Where enforcement of a code provision would violate the conditions of the  
10 listing of the equipment or appliance, the conditions of the listing and manufacturer's  
11 instructions apply.

12 **103.6 Appendices.** Provisions in the *International Fuel Gas Code* appendices do not apply  
13 unless specifically adopted.

14 **103.7 Metric units.** Wherever in this ordinance there is a conflict between metric units of  
15 measurement and English units, the English units govern.

16 **103.8 References to other codes.** Whenever an International, National or Uniform Code is  
17 referenced in this code, it means the Seattle edition of that code, including local amendments.  
18 References to the "Building Code", "Mechanical", "Fire Code", "Residential Code" and  
19 "Plumbing Code" mean the Seattle editions of those codes.

## SECTION 104

### APPLICATION TO EXISTING MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

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22 **104.1 Additions, alterations or repairs.** Additions, alterations, renovations or repairs may be  
23 made to any mechanical system without requiring the existing mechanical system to comply with  
24 all the requirements of this code, if the addition, alteration, renovation or repair conforms to the  
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1 standards required for a new mechanical system. Additions, alterations, renovations or repairs  
2 shall not cause an existing system to become unsafe, unhealthy or overloaded.

3 Minor additions, alterations, renovations, and repairs to existing mechanical systems may be  
4 installed in accordance with the law in effect at the time the original installation was made, if  
5 approved by the code official.

6 **104.2 Existing installations.** Mechanical systems lawful at the time of the adoption of this code  
7 may continue their use, be maintained or repaired, be converted to another type of fuel, or have  
8 components replaced if the use, maintenance, repair, conversion of fuel, or component  
9 replacement is done in accordance with the basic original design and location, and no hazard to  
10 life, health or property has been or is created by such mechanical system.

11 **104.3 Changes in building occupancy.** Mechanical systems that are a part of a building or  
12 structure undergoing a change in use or occupancy as defined in the Building Code shall comply  
13 with all requirements of this code that are applicable to the new use or occupancy.

14 **104.4 Maintenance.** All mechanical systems, materials, equipment, appurtenances and all parts  
15 thereof shall be maintained in proper operating condition in accordance with the original design  
16 and in a safe and hazard-free condition. All devices or safeguards that were required by a code in  
17 effect when the mechanical system was installed shall be maintained in conformance with the  
18 code edition under which installed. The owner or the owner's designated agent is responsible for  
19 maintenance of mechanical systems and equipment. To determine compliance with this  
20 subsection, the code official may cause a mechanical system or equipment to be reinspected.

21 The fire chief and the code official each have authority to obtain compliance with the  
22 requirements of this subsection.

23 **Exception:** The code official may modify the requirements of this section where all or a  
24 portion of the building is unoccupied.

1 **104.5 Moved buildings.** Building or structures moved into or within the City shall comply with  
2 standards adopted by the code official. No building shall be moved into or within the City  
3 unless, prior to moving, the code official has inspected the building for compliance with this  
4 code and the permit holder has agreed to correct all deficiencies found and has been issued a  
5 building permit for the work. A bond or cash deposit in an amount sufficient to abate or  
6 demolish the building shall be posted prior to issuance of a permit. See Section 116 for  
7 information required on plans. Any moved building that is not in complete compliance with  
8 standards for moved buildings within 18 months from the date of permit issuance and is found to  
9 be a public nuisance may be abated.

10 **104.6 Historic buildings and structures.** The code official may modify the specific  
11 requirements of this code as it applies to landmarks and require in lieu thereof alternate  
12 requirements that, in the opinion of the code official, will result in a reasonable degree of safety  
13 to the public and the occupants of those buildings.

14 For purposes of this section a landmark is a building or structure that has been nominated for  
15 designation or has been designated for preservation by the City Landmarks Preservation Board,  
16 or that has been designated for preservation by the State of Washington, or has been listed or  
17 determined eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or is a structure in a  
18 landmark or special review district subject to a requirement to obtain a certificate of approval  
19 before making a change to the external appearance of the structure.

## 20 SECTION 105

### 21 ALTERNATE MATERIALS AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION

22 **105.1 Alternate materials and methods.** This code does not prevent the use of any material,  
23 design or method of construction not specifically allowed or prohibited by this code, provided  
24 the alternate has been approved and its use authorized by the code official. The code official may  
25 approve an alternate, provided the code official finds that the proposed alternate complies with

1 the provisions of this code and that the alternate, when considered together with other safety  
2 features of the building or other relevant circumstances, will provide at least an equivalent level  
3 of strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, safety and sanitation. The code official may  
4 require that sufficient evidence or proof be submitted to reasonably substantiate any claims  
5 regarding the use or suitability of the alternate. The code official may, but is not required to,  
6 record the approval of alternates and any relevant information in the files of the code official or  
7 on the approved construction documents.

## 8 SECTION 106

### 9 MODIFICATIONS

10 **106.1 Modifications.** The code official may modify the provisions of this code for individual  
11 cases if the code official finds: (1) there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the  
12 provisions of this code; (2) the modification is in conformity with the intent and purpose of this  
13 code; and (3) the modification will provide a reasonable level of strength, effectiveness, fire  
14 resistance, durability, safety and sanitation when considered together with other safety features  
15 of the building or other relevant circumstances. The code official may, but is not required to,  
16 record the approval of modifications and any relevant information in the files of the code official  
17 or on the approved construction documents.

## 18 SECTION 107

### 19 TESTS

20 **107.1 Tests.** Whenever there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this  
21 code or evidence that any material or method of construction does not conform to the  
22 requirements of this code, the code official may require tests as proof of compliance, to be made  
23 at no expense to the City. Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized  
24 test standards. If there are no recognized and accepted test methods for the proposed alternate,  
25 the code official shall determine the test procedures. All tests shall be made by an approved

1 agency. Reports of such tests shall be retained by the code official for the period required for  
2 retention of public records.

## 3 SECTION 108

### 4 ORGANIZATION AND DUTIES OF CODE OFFICIAL

5 **108.1 Jurisdiction of the Department of Planning and Development.** The Department of  
6 Planning and Development is authorized to administer and enforce this code. Enforcement of  
7 Chapters 4 and 7 are the primary responsibility of the Director of Public Health. The Department  
8 of Planning and Development is under the administrative and operational control of the Director,  
9 who is the code official.

10 **108.2 Designees.** The code official may appoint such officers, inspectors, assistants and  
11 employees as are authorized from time to time. The code official may authorize such employees  
12 and other agents as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the code official.

13 **108.3 Right of entry.** With the consent of the owner or occupier of a building or premises, or  
14 pursuant to a lawfully issued warrant, the code official may enter a building or premises at any  
15 reasonable time to perform the duties imposed by this code.

16 **108.4 Liability.** Nothing in this code is intended to be nor shall be construed to create or form  
17 the basis for any liability on the part of the City, or its officers, employees or agents, for any  
18 injury or damage resulting from the failure of equipment to conform to the provisions of this  
19 code, or by reason or as a consequence of any inspection, notice, order, certificate, permission or  
20 approval authorized or issued or done in connection with the implementation or enforcement of  
21 this code, or by reason of any action or inaction on the part of the City related in any manner to  
22 the enforcement of this code by its officers, employees or agents.

23 This code shall not be construed to lessen or relieve the responsibility of any person owning,  
24 operating or controlling any equipment, building or structure for any damages to persons or  
25 property caused by defects, nor shall the Department of Planning and Development or the City of

1 Seattle be held to have assumed any such liability by reason of the inspections authorized by this  
2 code or any permits or certificates issued under this code.

3 **108.5 Cooperation of other officials and officers.** The code official may request, and shall  
4 receive so far as is required in the discharge of the code official's duties, the assistance and  
5 cooperation of other officials of the City of Seattle.

6 **108.6 Responsibility for compliance.** Compliance with the requirements of this code is the  
7 obligation of the owner of the building, structure or premises, the duly authorized agent of the  
8 owner, and other persons responsible for the condition or work, and not of the City or any of its  
9 officers, employees or agents.

## 10 SECTION 109

### 11 UNSAFE EQUIPMENT AND HAZARD CORRECTION ORDER

12 **109.1 Unsafe equipment.** Any equipment regulated by this code that is found to be unsafe is  
13 hereby declared to be a public nuisance and may be abated.

14 **109.2 Emergency order.** Whenever the code official finds that any equipment regulated by this  
15 code is in such a dangerous and unsafe condition as to constitute an imminent hazard to life or  
16 limb, the code official may issue an emergency order directing that the equipment be restored to  
17 a safe condition by a date certain. The order may also require that the building, structure or  
18 premises, or portion thereof, containing the equipment be vacated within a reasonable time to be  
19 specified in the order. In the case of extreme danger, the order may specify immediate vacation  
20 of the building, structure or premises, or may authorize immediate disconnection of the utilities  
21 or energy source.

22 **109.2.1 Service of emergency order.** The order shall be posted on the premises or  
23 personally served on the owner of the building or premises or any person responsible for the  
24 condition. The order shall specify the time for compliance.

1 **109.2.2 Effect of emergency order.** No person may occupy a building, structure or  
2 premises, or portion thereof, after the date on which the building is required to be vacated  
3 until the building, structure or premises, or portion thereof, is restored to a safe condition as  
4 required by the order and this code. It is a violation for any person to fail to comply with an  
5 emergency order issued by the building official.

6 **109.3 Hazard correction order.** Whenever the code official finds that unsafe equipment exists,  
7 the code official may issue a hazard correction order specifying the conditions causing the  
8 equipment to be unsafe and directing the owner or other person responsible for the unsafe  
9 equipment to correct the condition by a date certain. In lieu of correction, the owner may submit  
10 a report or analysis to the code official analyzing said conditions and establishing that the  
11 equipment is, in fact, safe. The code official may require that the report or analysis be prepared  
12 by a licensed engineer.

13 **109.3.1 Service of hazard correction order.** The order shall be posted on the premises or  
14 served on the owner of the building or premises or any person responsible for the condition  
15 by certified mail with return receipt requested. The order shall specify the time for  
16 compliance.

17 **109.3.2 Effect of hazard correction order.** It is a violation for any person to fail to comply  
18 with a hazard correction order as specified in this subsection.

## 19 SECTION 110

### 20 ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

21 **110.1 Administrative review by the building official.** Applicants may request administrative  
22 review by the building official of decisions or actions pertaining to the administration and  
23 enforcement of this code. Requests shall be addressed to the building official.

24 **110.2 Administrative review by the Construction Codes Advisory Board.** Applicants may  
25 request CCAB review of decisions or actions pertaining to the application and interpretation of

1 this code by the Construction Codes Advisory Board (CCAB), except for stop work orders,  
2 notices of violations and revocations of permits. The review will be performed by three or more  
3 members of the Construction Codes Advisory Board, chosen by the Board Chair. The Chair shall  
4 consider the subject of the review and members' expertise when selecting members to conduct a  
5 review. The decision of the review panel is advisory only; the final decision is made by the code  
6 official.

## 7 SECTION 111

### 8 ENFORCEMENT, VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

9 **111.1 Violations.** It is a violation of this code for any person to:

- 10 1. Install, erect, construct, enlarge, alter, repair, replace, remodel, move, improve, remove,  
11 convert or demolish, equip, occupy, use or maintain any mechanical system or equipment  
12 or cause or permit the same to be done in the City, contrary to or in violation of any of  
13 the provisions of this code.
- 14 2. Use any material or install any device, appliance or equipment that is subject to this code  
15 and has not been approved by the code official.
- 16 3. Knowingly aid, abet, counsel, encourage, hire, induce or otherwise procure another to  
17 violate or fail to comply with this code.
- 18 4. Violate or fail to comply with any final order issued by the code official pursuant to the  
19 provisions of this code.
- 20 5. Remove, mutilate, destroy or conceal any notice or order issued or posted by the code  
21 official pursuant to the provisions of this code, or any notice or order issued or posted by  
22 the code official in response to a natural disaster or other emergency.
- 23 6. Conduct work under a permit without requesting an inspection as required by Section  
24 119.

1 **111.2 Notice of violation.** If, after investigation, the code official determines that standards or  
2 requirements of this code have been violated or that orders or requirements have not been  
3 complied with, the code official may serve a notice of violation upon the owner, agent, or other  
4 person responsible for the action or condition. The notice of violation shall state the standards or  
5 requirements violated, shall state what corrective action, if any, is necessary to comply with the  
6 standards or requirements, and shall set a reasonable time for compliance.

7 **111.2.1 Service of notice of violation.** The notice shall be served upon the owner, agent or  
8 other responsible person by personal service or regular first class mail addressed to the last  
9 known address of such person, or if no address is available after reasonable inquiry, the  
10 notice may be posted in a conspicuous place on the premises. The notice may also be posted  
11 if served by personal service or first class mail. Nothing in this section limits or precludes  
12 any action or proceeding to enforce this code, and nothing obligates or requires the code  
13 official to issue a notice of violation prior to the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

14 **111.2.2 Review of notice of violation by the code official.** Any person affected by a notice  
15 of violation issued pursuant to section 111.2 may obtain a review of the notice by making a  
16 request in writing within ten days after service of the notice. When the last day of the period  
17 computed is a Saturday, Sunday, or City holiday, the period runs until 5 p.m. of the next  
18 business day.

19 **111.2.2.1 Review procedure.** The review shall occur not less than ten nor more than 20  
20 days after the request is received by the code official unless otherwise agreed to by the  
21 person requesting the review. Any person affected by the notice of violation may submit  
22 additional information to the code official.

23 The review shall be made by a representative of the code official who will review any  
24 additional information that is submitted and the basis for issuance of the notice of

1 violation. The reviewer may request clarification of the information received and a site  
2 visit.

3 **111.2.2.2 Decision.** After the review, the code official shall:

- 4 1. Sustain the notice;
- 5 2. Withdraw the notice;
- 6 3. Continue the review to a date certain; or
- 7 4. Amend the notice.

8 **111.2.2.3 Order.** The code official shall issue an order containing the decision within 15  
9 days of the date that the review is completed and shall cause the order to be mailed by  
10 regular first class mail to the persons requesting the review and the persons named on the  
11 notice of violation, addressed to their last known address.

12 **111.3 Stop work orders.** The code official may issue a stop work order whenever any work is  
13 being done contrary to the provisions of this code, or in the event of dangerous or unsafe  
14 conditions related to equipment or construction. The stop work order shall identify the violation  
15 and may prohibit work or other activity on the site.

16 **111.3.1 Service of stop work order.** The code official may serve the stop work order by  
17 posting it in a conspicuous place at the site, if posting is physically possible. If posting is not  
18 physically possible, then the stop work order may be served in the manner set forth in  
19 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 4.28.080 for service of a summons or by sending it by  
20 first class mail to the last known address of: the property owner, the person doing or causing  
21 the work to be done, or the holder of a permit if work is being stopped on a permit. For  
22 purposes of this section, service is complete at the time of posting or of personal service, or if  
23 mailed, three days after the date of mailing. When the last day of the period so computed is a  
24 Saturday, Sunday or City holiday, the period runs until 5:00 p.m. on the next business day.

1 **111.3.2 Effective date of stop work order.** Stop work orders are effective when posted, or  
2 if posting is not physically possible, when one of the persons identified in Section 111.3.1 is  
3 served.

4 **111.3.3 Review of stop work orders by the code official.** Any person aggrieved by a stop  
5 work order may obtain a review of the order by delivering to the code official a request in  
6 writing within two business days of the date of service of the stop work order.

7 **111.3.3.1 Review procedure.** The review shall occur within two business days after  
8 receipt by the code official of the request for review is completed unless otherwise agreed  
9 by the person making the request. Any person affected by the stop work order may  
10 submit additional information to the code official for consideration as part of the review  
11 at any time prior to the review. The review will be made by a representative of the code  
12 official who will review all additional information received and may also request a site  
13 visit.

14 **111.3.3.2 Decision.** After the review, the code official may:

- 15 1. Sustain the stop work order;
- 16 2. Withdraw the stop work order;
- 17 3. Modify the stop work order; or
- 18 4. Continue the review to a date certain.

19 **111.3.3.3 Order.** The code official shall issue an order of the code official containing the  
20 decision within two business days after the review and shall cause the order to be sent by  
21 regular first class mail to the person or persons requesting the review, any person on  
22 whom the stop work order was served, and any other person who requested a copy before  
23 issuance of the order, addressed to their last known address.

24 **111.4 Authority to disconnect utilities in emergencies.** The code official has the authority to  
25 disconnect fuel-gas utility service or energy supplies to a building, structure, premises or

1 equipment regulated by this code in case of emergency where necessary to eliminate an  
2 immediate hazard to life or property. The code official may enter any building or premises to  
3 disconnect utility service. The code official shall, whenever possible, notify the serving utility,  
4 the owner and the occupant of the building, structure or premises of the decision to disconnect  
5 prior to taking such action, and shall notify the serving utility, owner and occupant of the  
6 building, structure or premises in writing of such disconnection immediately thereafter.

7 **111.5 Authority to condemn equipment.** Whenever the code official determines that any  
8 equipment or portion thereof regulated by this code is hazardous to life, health or property, the  
9 code official shall order in writing that such equipment either be disconnected, removed or  
10 restored to a safe or sanitary condition, as appropriate. The written notice shall fix a date certain  
11 for compliance with such order. It is a violation for any person to use or maintain defective  
12 equipment after receiving such notice.

13 When any equipment or installation is to be disconnected, the code official shall give written  
14 notice of such disconnection and causes therefore within 24 hours to the serving utility, the  
15 owner and the occupant of the building, structure or premises. When any equipment is  
16 maintained in violation of this code, and in violation of a notice issued pursuant to the provisions  
17 of this section, the code official shall institute any appropriate action to prevent, restrain, correct  
18 or abate the violation.

19 **111.6 Connection after order to disconnect.** No person shall make connections from any  
20 energy, fuel or power supply nor supply energy or fuel to any equipment regulated by this code  
21 that has been disconnected or ordered to be disconnected by the code official, or the use of which  
22 has been ordered to be discontinued by the code official until the code official authorizes the  
23 reconnection and use of such equipment.

24 **111.7 Civil penalties.** Any person violating or failing to comply with the provisions of this  
25 code is subject to a cumulative civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$500 per day for each

1 violation from the date the violation occurs or begins until compliance is achieved. In cases  
2 where the code official has issued a notice of violation, the violation will be deemed to begin, for  
3 purposes of determining the number of days of violation, on the date compliance is required by  
4 the notice of violation.

5 **111.8 Enforcement in Municipal Court.** Civil actions to enforce this chapter shall be brought  
6 exclusively in Seattle Municipal Court, except as otherwise required by law or court rule. In any  
7 civil action for a penalty, the City has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence  
8 that a violation exists or existed; the issuance of a notice of violation or of an order following a  
9 review by the Code official is not itself evidence that a violation exists.

10 **111.9 Judicial review.** Because civil actions to enforce this code must be brought exclusively  
11 in Seattle Municipal Court pursuant to Section 111.8, orders of the code official, including  
12 notices of violation issued under this chapter are not subject to judicial review pursuant to  
13 chapter 36.70C Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

14 **111.10 Alternative criminal penalty.** Anyone who violates or fails to comply with any notice  
15 of violation or order issued by the code official pursuant to this code or who removes, mutilates,  
16 destroys or conceals a notice issued or posted by the code official shall, upon conviction thereof,  
17 be punished by a fine of not more than \$5000 or by imprisonment for not more than 365 days, or  
18 by both such fine and imprisonment for each separate violation. Each day's violation shall  
19 constitute a separate offense.

20 **111.11 Additional relief.** The code official may seek legal or equitable relief to enjoin any acts  
21 or practices and abate any condition when necessary to achieve compliance.

## 22 SECTION 112

### 23 RECORDING OF ORDERS AND NOTICES

24 **112.1 Recording.** The code official may record a copy of any order or notice with the  
25 Department of Records and Elections of King County.

**SECTION 113**

**RULES OF THE CODE OFFICIAL**

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3 **113.1 Authority.** The code official has authority to issue interpretations of this code and to adopt  
4 and enforce rules and regulations supplemental to this code as may be deemed necessary to  
5 clarify the application of the provisions of this code. Such interpretations, rules and regulations  
6 shall be in conformity with the intent and purpose of this code.

7 **113.2 Procedure for adoption of rules.** The code official shall promulgate, adopt and issue  
8 rules according to the procedures specified in the Administrative Code, Chapter 3.02 of the  
9 Seattle Municipal Code.

**SECTION 114**

**CONSTRUCTION CODES ADVISORY BOARD**

10  
11 **114.1 CCAB committee.** A committee of the Construction Codes Advisory Board may  
12 examine proposed administrative rules, appeals and amendments relating to this code and related  
13 provisions of other codes and make recommendations to the code official and to the City Council  
14 for changes in this code. The committee will be called on as needed by the Construction Codes  
15 Advisory Board.  
16

**SECTION 115**

**PERMITS**

17  
18 **115.1 Permits required.** Except as otherwise specifically provided in this code, a permit shall be  
19 obtained from the code official prior to each installation, alteration, repair, replacement or  
20 remodel of any equipment or mechanical system regulated by this code. A separate mechanical  
21 permit is required for each separate building or structure.  
22

23 **115.2 Work exempt from permit.** A mechanical permit is not required for the work listed  
24 below.  
25

- 1 1. Any portable heating appliance, portable ventilating equipment, or portable cooling unit,  
2 if the total capacity of these portable appliances does not exceed 40 percent of the  
3 cumulative heating, cooling or ventilating requirements of a building or dwelling unit and  
4 does not exceed 3 kW or 10,000 Btu input.
- 5 2. Any closed system of steam, hot or chilled water piping within heating or cooling  
6 equipment regulated by this code.
- 7 3. Minor work or the replacement of any component part of a mechanical system that does  
8 not alter its original approval and complies with other applicable requirements of this  
9 code.

10 **115.3 Compliance required.** All work shall comply with this code, even where no permit is  
11 required.

12 **115.4 Flood hazard areas.** In addition to the permit required by this section, all work to be  
13 performed in areas of special flood hazard as defined in Chapter 25.06 of the Seattle Municipal  
14 Code, are subject to additional standards and requirements set forth in Chapter 25.06, the Seattle  
15 Floodplain Development Ordinance.

16 **115.5 Emergency repairs.** In the case of an emergency, the installation, alteration or repair of  
17 any refrigeration system or equipment may be made without a permit, provided that application  
18 for a permit is made within the later of 24 hours or one working day from the time when the  
19 emergency work was started.

## 20 SECTION 116

### 21 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

22 **116.1 Application.** To obtain a permit, the applicant shall first file an application in writing on a  
23 form furnished by the code official or in another format determined by the code official. Every  
24 such application shall:

- 25 1. Identify and describe the work to be covered by the permit for which application is made.

- 1 2. Describe the land on which the proposed work is to be done by legal description, property  
2 address or similar description that will readily identify and definitely locate the proposed  
3 building or work.
- 4 3. Provide the contractor's business name, address, phone number and current contractor  
5 registration number (required if contractor has been selected).
- 6 4. Be accompanied by construction documents, including plans, diagrams, computations  
7 and specifications, equipment schedules and other data as required in Sections 116.2 and  
8 116.3.
- 9 5. State the valuation of the mechanical work to be done. The valuation of the mechanical  
10 work is the estimated current value of all labor and material, whether actually paid for or  
11 not, for which the permit is sought.
- 12 6. Be signed by the owner of the property or building, or the owner's authorized agent, who  
13 may be required to submit evidence to indicate such authority.
- 14 7. Give such other data and information as may be required by the code official.
- 15 8. Indicate the name of the owner and contractor and the name, address and phone number  
16 of a contact person.

17 **116.2 Construction documents.** Construction documents shall be submitted in one or more sets  
18 with each application for a permit, or shall be submitted in electronic format determined by the  
19 code official. The code official may require plans, computations and specifications to be  
20 prepared and designed by an engineer or architect licensed by the state to practice as such.  
21 Projects having a total mechanical valuation of \$50,000 or larger shall have a mechanical  
22 engineering stamp and signature on each sheet.

23 **Exception:** A mechanical engineer's stamp or submission of construction documents is not  
24 required if the code official finds that the nature of the work applied for is such that review of  
25 construction documents is not necessary to obtain compliance with this code.

1 **116.3 Information on construction documents.**

2 **116.3.1 Clarity of plans.** Plans shall be drawn to a clearly indicated and commonly accepted  
3 scale upon substantial paper such as blueprint quality or standard drafting paper. Tissue  
4 paper, posterboard or cardboard will not be accepted. The plans shall be of microfilm quality  
5 and limited to a minimum size of 18 inches by 18 inches and a maximum size of 41 inches  
6 by 54 inches. Plans and specifications shall be of sufficient clarity to show that the proposed  
7 installation will conform to the provisions of this code and to the provisions of all applicable  
8 laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and orders. Plans may be submitted in electronic format  
9 as determined by the code official.

10 **116.3.2 Fire-resistive notes.** The code official may require that plans for buildings more than  
11 two stories in height of other than Group R-3 and Group U occupancies indicate how  
12 required structural and fire-resistive integrity will be maintained where a penetration will be  
13 made for electrical, mechanical, plumbing and communication conduits, pipes and similar  
14 systems.

15 **116.3.3 Information required on plans.** The plans or specifications shall show the  
16 following:

- 17 1. Layout for each floor with dimensions of all working spaces and a legend of all  
18 symbols used.
- 19 2. Location, size and material of all piping.
- 20 3. Location, size and materials of all air ducts, air inlets and air outlets.
- 21 4. Location of all fans, warm-air furnaces, boilers, absorption units, refrigerant  
22 compressors and condensers and the weight of all pieces of such equipment weighing  
23 200 pounds or more.

- 1 5. Rated capacity or horsepower and efficiency rating of all boilers, warm-air furnaces,  
2 heat exchangers, blower fans, refrigerant compressors and absorption units. See also  
3 the *International Energy Conservation Code*.
- 4 6. Location, size and material of all combustion products vents and chimneys.
- 5 7. Location and area of all ventilation and combustion air openings and ducts.
- 6 8. Location of all air dampers and fire shutters.
- 7 9. The first sheet of each set of plans and specifications shall show the address of the  
8 proposed work and the name and address of the owner or lessee of the premises.
- 9 10. Architectural drawings, typical envelope cross sections and other drawings or data  
10 may be required to support system sizing calculations or other thermal requirements  
11 of this code or the *International Energy Conservation Code*.

## 12 SECTION 117

### 13 APPLICATION REVIEW AND PERMIT ISSUANCE

14 **117.1 Issuance of Permits.** The application and construction documents shall be reviewed by  
15 the code official. The construction documents may be reviewed by other departments of the City  
16 to check compliance with the laws and ordinances under their jurisdiction.

17 **117.1.2 Decision and issuance of permit.** If the code official finds that the work as  
18 described in an application for a permit and the construction documents substantially  
19 conform to the requirements of this code and other pertinent laws and ordinances and that the  
20 fees specified in the Seattle Municipal Code, Title 22, Subtitle IX, Permit Fees, have been  
21 paid, the code official shall issue a permit to the applicant. When the permit is issued, the  
22 applicant or the applicant's authorized agent becomes the permit holder.

23 **117.1.3 Compliance with approved plans and permit.** When the code official issues a  
24 permit, the code official shall endorse the permit in writing or in electronic format and stamp  
25 the plans "APPROVED." Such approved plans and permit shall not be changed, modified or

1 altered without authorization from the code official, and all work shall be done in accordance  
2 with the approved construction documents and permit except as the code official may require  
3 during field inspection to correct errors or omissions.

4 **117.2 Revisions to the permit.** When changes to the approved work are made during  
5 construction, approval of the code official shall be obtained prior to execution. The building or  
6 mechanical inspector may approve minor changes for work not reducing the structural strength  
7 or fire and life safety of the structure. The building or mechanical inspector shall determine if it  
8 is necessary to revise the approved construction documents. If revised plans are required,  
9 changes shall be shown on two sets of plans that shall be submitted to and approved by the code  
10 official, accompanied by appropriate fees as specified in the Seattle Municipal Code, Title 22,  
11 Subtitle IX, Permit Fees prior to occupancy. All changes shall conform to the requirements of  
12 this code and other pertinent laws and ordinances and other issued permits.

13 Minor changes shall not incur additional fees if these changes do not (1) add to the general  
14 scope of work; (2) change the basic design concept; (3) involve major relocation of equipment,  
15 ducts, or pipes; (4) substantially alter approved equipment size; or (5) require extensive re-  
16 view of the plans and specifications.

17 **117.3 Cancellation of permit applications.** Applications may be cancelled if no permit is  
18 issued by the earlier of the following: (1) twelve months following the date of application; or (2)  
19 sixty days after the date of written notice that the permit is ready to be issued. After cancellation,  
20 construction documents may be returned to the applicant or destroyed by the code official.

21 The code official shall notify the applicant in writing at least 30 days before the application is  
22 cancelled. The notice shall specify a date by which a request for extension must be submitted in  
23 order to avoid cancellation. The date shall be at least two weeks prior to the date on which the  
24 application will be cancelled.

1 **117.4 Extensions prior to permit issuance.** At the discretion of the code official, applications  
2 for projects that require more than 12 months to review and approve may be extended for a  
3 period that provides reasonable time to complete the review and approval, but in no case longer  
4 than 24 months from the date of the original application. No application may be extended more  
5 than once. After cancellation, the applicant shall submit a new application and pay a new fee to  
6 restart the application process.

7 Notwithstanding other provisions of this code, applications may be extended where issuance  
8 of the permit is delayed by litigation, preparation of environmental impact statements, appeals,  
9 strikes or other causes related to the application that are beyond the applicant's control, or while  
10 the applicant is making progress toward issuance of a master use permit.

11 **117.5 Retention of plans.** One set of approved plans, which may be on microfilm or in  
12 electronic format, shall be retained by the code official. One set of approved plans shall be  
13 returned to the applicant and shall be kept at the site of the building or work for use by the  
14 inspection personnel at all times when the work authorized is in progress.

15 **117.6 Validity of permit.** The issuance or granting of a permit or approval of construction  
16 documents shall:

- 17 1. Not be construed to be a permit for, or an approval of, any violation of any of the  
18 provisions of this code or other pertinent laws and ordinances.
- 19 2. Not prevent the code official from requiring the correction of errors in the construction  
20 documents, or from preventing building operations being carried on thereunder when in  
21 violation of this code or of other pertinent laws and ordinances of the City.
- 22 3. Not prevent the code official from requiring correction of conditions found to be in  
23 violation of this code or other pertinent laws and ordinances of the City, or
- 24 4. Not be construed to extend the period of time for which any such permit is issued or  
25 otherwise affect any period of time for compliance specified in any notice or order issued

1 by the code official or other administrative authority requiring the correction of any such  
2 conditions.

3 **117.7 Expiration of permits.** Authority to do the work authorized by a permit expires 18  
4 months from the date of issuance. An approved renewal extends the life of permit for an  
5 additional 18 months from the prior expiration date. An approved reestablishment extends the  
6 life of the permit for 18 months from the date the permit expired.

7 **Exceptions:**

- 8 1. Initial permits for major construction projects that require more than 18 months to  
9 complete may be issued for a period that provides reasonable time to complete the  
10 work, according to an approved construction schedule. The building official may  
11 authorize a permit expiration date not to exceed three years from the date of issuance.
- 12 2. The code official may issue permits that expire in less than 18 months if the code  
13 official determines a shorter period is appropriate to complete the work.

14 **117.8 Renewal of permits.** Permits may be renewed and renewed permits may be further  
15 renewed by the code official, if the following conditions are met:

- 16 1. Application for renewal is made within the 30 day period immediately preceding the date  
17 of expiration of the permit; and
- 18 2. If the project has had an associated discretionary Land Use review, and the land use  
19 approval has not expired; and
- 20 3. If an application for renewal is made more than 18 months after the date of mandatory  
21 compliance with a new or revised edition of this code, the permit shall not be renewed  
22 unless:
  - 23 3.1 The code official determines that the permit complies, or is modified to comply  
24 with the Seattle Mechanical, Fuel Gas and Energy codes in effect on the date of  
25 application for renewal; or

1 3.2 The work authorized by the permit is substantially underway and progressing at a  
2 rate approved by the building official. "Substantially underway" means that  
3 normally required inspections have been approved for work such as foundations,  
4 framing, mechanical, insulation and finish work is being completed on a continuing  
5 basis; or

6 3.3 Commencement or completion of the work authorized by the permit is delayed by  
7 litigation, appeals, strikes or other extraordinary circumstances related to the work  
8 authorized by the permit, beyond the permit holder's control, subject to approval by  
9 the code official.

10 **117.9 Reestablishment of expired permits.** A new permit is required to complete work if a  
11 permit has expired and was not renewed.

12 **Exception:** A permit that expired less than one year prior to the date of a request for  
13 reestablishment may be reestablished upon approval of the code official if it complies with  
14 Items 2 and 3 of Section 117.8. Once re-established the permit will not be considered to  
15 have expired. The new expiration date of a re-established permit shall be determined in  
16 accordance with Section 117.7.

17 **117.10 Revocation of mechanical permits.** Whenever the code official determines there are  
18 grounds for revoking a permit, the code official may issue a notice of revocation. The notice of  
19 revocation shall identify the reason for the proposed revocation, including the violations, the  
20 conditions violated, and any alleged false or misleading information provided.

21 **117.10.1 Standards for revocation.** The code official may revoke a permit if:

- 22 1. The code or the permit has been or is being violated and issuance of a notice of  
23 violation or stop work order has been or would be ineffective to secure compliance  
24 because of circumstances related to the violation; or
- 25 2. The permit was obtained with false or misleading information.



1 same to be sent by regular first class mail to the person or persons requesting the review,  
2 any other person on whom the notice of revocation was served, and any other person who  
3 requested a copy before issuance of the order.

## 4 SECTION 118

### 5 FEES

6 **118.1 Fees.** A fee for each mechanical permit and for other activities related to the enforcement  
7 of this code shall be paid as set forth in the Seattle Municipal Code, Title 22, Subtitle IX, Permit  
8 Fees .

## 9 SECTION 119

### 10 INSPECTIONS

11 **119.1 General.** All construction or work for which a permit is required is subject to inspection  
12 by the code official, and certain types of construction shall have special inspections by registered  
13 special inspectors specified in Chapter 17 of the *International Building Code*.

14 **119.2 Inspection requests.** The owner of the property or the owner's authorized agent, or the  
15 person designated by the owner/agent to do the work authorized by a permit shall notify the code  
16 official that work requiring inspection as specified in this section and Section 120 is ready for  
17 inspection.

18 **119.3 Access for inspection.** The permit holder and of the person requesting any inspections  
19 required by this code shall provide access to and means for proper inspection of such work,  
20 including safety equipment required by the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Agency.  
21 The work shall remain accessible and exposed for inspection purposes until approved by the  
22 code official. Neither the code official nor the City shall be liable for expense entailed in the  
23 required removal or replacement of any material to allow inspection.

24 **119.4 Inspection record.** Work requiring a mechanical permit shall not be commenced until the  
25 permit holder or the permit holder's agent has posted an inspection record in a conspicuous place

1 on the premises and in a position that allows the code official to conveniently make the required  
2 entries regarding inspection of the work. This record shall be maintained in such a position by  
3 the permit holder or the permit holder's agent until final approval has been granted by the code  
4 official.

5 **119.5 Approvals required.** No work shall be done on any part of the building or structure  
6 beyond the point indicated in each successive inspection without first obtaining the written  
7 approval of the code official. Written approval shall be given only after an inspection has been  
8 made of each successive step in the construction as indicated by each of the inspections required  
9 in this code.

10 **119.5.1 Effect of approval.** Approval as a result of an inspection is not approval of any  
11 violation of the provisions of this code or of other pertinent laws and ordinances of the City.  
12 Inspections presuming to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of this code or of  
13 other pertinent laws and ordinances of the City are not valid.

14 **119.6 Final inspection.** When the installation of a mechanical system is complete, an additional  
15 and final inspection shall be made.

16 **119.7 Operation of mechanical equipment.** The requirements of this section do not prohibit the  
17 operation of any mechanical systems installed to replace existing equipment or fixtures serving  
18 an occupied portion of the building in the event a request for inspection of such equipment or  
19 fixture has been filed with the code official not more than 48 hours after such replacement work  
20 is completed, and before any portion of such mechanical system is concealed by any permanent  
21 portion of the building.

22 **119.8 Other inspections.** In addition to the "called" inspections specified above, the code  
23 official may make or require any other inspections of any mechanical work to ascertain  
24 compliance with the provisions of this code and other laws and ordinances that are enforced by  
25 the code official.

1 **119.9 Special investigation.** If work for which a permit or approval is required is commenced  
2 or performed prior to making formal application and receiving the code official's permission to  
3 proceed, the code official may make a special investigation inspection before a permit is issued  
4 for the work. If a special investigation is made, a special investigation fee may be assessed in  
5 accordance with the Fee Subtitle.

6 **119.10 Reinspections.** The code official may require a reinspection if work for which inspection  
7 is called is not complete, corrections required are not made, the inspection record is not properly  
8 posted on the work site, the approved plans are not readily available to the inspector, access is  
9 not provided on the date for which inspection is requested, if deviations from construction  
10 documents that require the approval of the code official have been made without proper  
11 approval, or as otherwise required by the code official.

12 **119.10.1 Compliance with Section 104.4.** For the purpose of determining compliance with  
13 Section 104.4, Maintenance, the code official or the fire chief may cause any structure or  
14 system to be reinspected.

15 **119.10.2 Reinspection fee.** The code official may assess a reinspection fee as set forth in  
16 the Seattle Municipal Code, Title 22, Subtitle IX, Permit Fees for any action for which  
17 reinspection is required. In instances where reinspection fees have been assessed, no  
18 additional inspection of the work will be performed until the required fees have been paid.

## 19 SECTION 120

### 20 CONNECTION APPROVAL

21 **120.1 Energy connections.** No person shall make connections from a source of energy fuel to a  
22 mechanical system or equipment regulated by this code for which a permit is required until  
23 approved by the code official.

24

25

26

27

28

1 **120.2 Temporary connections.** The code official may authorize temporary connection of the  
2 mechanical equipment to the source of energy fuel for the purpose of testing the equipment, or  
3 for use under a temporary certificate of occupancy.

4  
5 Section 3. The following sections of Chapter 2 of the International Fuel Gas Code, 2012  
6 Edition, are amended as follows:

7 **CHAPTER 2**  
8 **DEFINITIONS**  
9 **SECTION 201 (IFGC)**  
10 **GENERAL**

11 \*\*\*

12 **201.3 Terms defined in other codes.** Where terms are not defined in this code and are defined  
13 in the *International Building Code*, *International Fire Code*, *International Mechanical Code* or  
14 (~~*International*~~) *Uniform Plumbing Code*, such terms shall have meanings ascribed to them as in  
15 those codes.

16 \*\*\*

17 **SECTION 202 (IFGC)**  
18 **GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

19 \*\*\*

20 **BOILER** (~~(, LOW PRESSURE)~~). A self-contained *appliance* for supplying steam or hot water.  
21 (~~Hot water heating boiler~~). A boiler in which no steam is generated, from which hot water is  
22 circulated for heating purposes and then returned to the boiler, and that operates at water  
23 pressures not exceeding 160 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) (1100 kPa gauge) and at water  
24 temperatures not exceeding 250°F (121°C) at or near the boiler *outlet*.

1 **Hot water supply boiler.** A boiler, completely filled with water, which furnishes hot water to be  
2 used externally to itself, and that operates at water pressures not exceeding 160 psig (1100 kPa  
3 gauge) and at water temperatures not exceeding 250°F (121°C) at or near the boiler *outlet*.

4 **Steam heating boiler.** A boiler in which steam is generated and that operates at a steam pressure  
5 not exceeding 15 psig (100 kPa gauge).))

6 **BOILER CODE.** *The Seattle Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.*

7 \*\*\*

8 **[A] CODE.** These regulations, subsequent amendments thereto or any emergency rule or  
9 regulation that ((the administrative authority having jurisdiction has lawfully)) have been  
10 adopted.

11 **[A] CODE OFFICIAL.** The ((officer or other designated authority charged with the  
12 administration and enforcement of this code,)) Director of the Department of Planning and  
13 Development or a duly authorized representative.

14 \*\*\*

15 **PERSON.** Any individual, receiver, administrator, executor, assignee, trustee in bankruptcy,  
16 trust, estate, firm, partnership, joint venture, club, company, joint stock company, business trust,  
17 municipal corporation, political subdivision of the State of Washington, corporation, limited  
18 liability company, association, society or any group of individuals acting as a unit, whether  
19 mutual, cooperative, fraternal, nonprofit or otherwise, and the United States or any  
20 instrumentality thereof.

21 \*\*\*

22 **UNSAFE.** Constituting a fire or health hazard or otherwise dangerous to human life, or  
23 constituting a hazard to safety, health or public welfare

24 \*\*\*

1 **WATER HEATER.** Any heating *appliance* or *equipment*, not exceeding a pressure of 160 psi  
2 (1103 kPa), a volume of 120 gallons (454 L) and a heat input of 200,000 Btu/h (58.6 kW), that  
3 heats potable water and supplies such water to the potable hot water distribution system.

4  
5 Section 4. The following sections of Chapter 3 of the International Fuel Gas Code, 2012  
6 Edition, are amended as follows:

7 **CHAPTER 3**  
8 **GENERAL REGULATIONS**  
9 **SECTION 301 (IFGC)**  
10 **GENERAL**

11 **301.1 Scope.** This chapter shall govern the approval and installation of all *equipment* and  
12 *appliances* that comprise parts of the installations regulated by this code in accordance with  
13 Section ((401.2)) 103.1. See also the *International Fire Code*.

14 **301.1.1 Other fuels.** The requirements for combustion and dilution air for gas-fired  
15 *appliances* shall be governed by Section 304. The requirements for combustion and dilution  
16 *air* for *appliances* operating with fuels other than fuel gas shall be regulated by the  
17 *International Mechanical Code*. The standards for liquefied petroleum gas installations shall  
18 be the 2011 Edition of NFPA 58 (Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code) and the 2012 Edition of  
19 ANSI Z223.1/NFPA 54 (National Fuel Gas Code).

20 \*\*\*

21 **301.6 Plumbing connections.** Potable water supply and building drainage system connections to  
22 *appliances* regulated by this code shall be in accordance with the ((*International*)) *Uniform*  
23 *Plumbing Code*.

24 \*\*\*

SECTION 303 (IFGC)  
APPLIANCE LOCATION

\*\*\*

**[B] 303.8 Installation of pipes or ducts conveying gases, vapors or liquids in hoistways, machine rooms or machinery spaces.** Pipes and ducts conveying gases, vapors or liquids are not permitted to be installed in elevator hoistways, elevator machine rooms and elevator machinery spaces.

**Exceptions:**

1. Only ducts for heating, cooling, ventilating and venting these spaces are permitted to be installed in the hoistway, machine room and machinery space.
2. Ducts and electrical conduit may pass through an elevator machine room or machinery space provided they are separated from the room or space by construction equal to the rated construction of the room or space and located so that all required clearances are maintained. If a vented machine room is not vented directly to the outside of the building, the vent shall be enclosed within a fire barrier with at least a one-hour fire-resistance rating, or as required for shafts where it passes through occupied floors.
3. Subject to the approval of the code official, pipes protected with double containment and pipes with threaded or welded joints may be permitted. Pipes shall not be located less than 7 feet (2134 mm) above the floor in machine rooms.

**[B] 303.9 Interior exit stairways and exit passageways.** Mechanical systems shall not be located in interior exit stairways and exit passageways. Penetrations passing entirely through both protective membranes are prohibited.

\*\*\*

SECTION 306 (IFGC)  
ACCESS AND SERVICE SPACE

\*\*\*

**[M] 306.3 Appliances in attics.** Attics containing appliances shall be provided with an opening and unobstructed passageway large enough to allow removal of the largest *appliance*. The passageway shall not be less than 30 inches (762 mm) high and 22 inches (559 mm) wide and not more than 20 feet (6096 mm) in length measured along the centerline of the passageway from the opening to the *appliance*. The passageway shall have continuous solid flooring not less than 24 inches (610 mm) wide. A level service space not less than 30 inches (762 mm) deep and 30 inches (762 mm) wide shall be present at the front or service side of the *appliance*. The clear *access* opening dimensions shall be a minimum of 20 inches by 30 inches (508 mm by 762 mm), and large enough to allow removal of the largest *appliance*.

**Exceptions:**

1. The passageway and level service space are not required where the *appliance* is capable of being serviced and removed through the required opening.
2. Where the passageway is not less than 6 feet (1829 mm) high for its entire length, the passageway shall be not greater than 50 feet (15 250 mm) in length.

**[M] 306.3.1 Electrical requirements.** A luminaire controlled by a switch located at the required passageway opening and a receptacle outlet shall be provided at or near the *appliance* location in accordance with ((NFPA 70)) the Seattle Electrical Code.

**[M] 306.4 Appliances under floors.** Under-floor spaces containing appliances shall be provided with an *access* opening and unobstructed passageway large enough to remove the largest *appliance*. The passageway shall not be less than 30 inches (762 mm) high and 22 inches (559 mm) wide, nor more than 20 feet (6096 mm) in length measured along the centerline of the passageway from the opening to the *appliance*. A level service space not less than 30 inches (762

1 mm) deep and 30 inches (762 mm) wide shall be present at the front or service side of the  
2 *appliance*. If the depth of the passageway or the service space exceeds 12 inches (305 mm)  
3 below the adjoining grade, the walls of the passageway shall be lined with concrete or masonry  
4 extending 4 inches (102 mm) above the adjoining grade and having sufficient lateral-bearing  
5 capacity to resist collapse. The clear *access* opening dimensions shall be a minimum of 22 inches  
6 by 30 inches (559 mm by 762 mm), and large enough to allow removal of the largest *appliance*.

7 **Exceptions:**

- 8 1. The passageway is not required where the level service space is present when the *access* is  
9 open and the *appliance* is capable of being serviced and removed through the required opening.  
10 2. Where the passageway is not less than 6 feet high (1829 mm) for its entire length, the  
11 passageway shall not be limited in length.

12 **[M] 306.4.1 Electrical requirements.** A luminaire controlled by a switch located at the required  
13 passageway opening and a receptacle outlet shall be provided at or near the *appliance* location in  
14 accordance with ((NFPA-70)) the Seattle Electrical Code.

15 **[M] 306.5 Equipment and appliances on roofs or elevated structures.** Where equipment or  
16 appliances requiring access ((or appliances)) are located on an elevated structure or the roof of a  
17 building such that personnel will have to climb higher than 16 feet (4877 mm) above grade to  
18 access such equipment or appliances, an interior or exterior means of access shall be provided.  
19 Such access shall not require climbing over obstructions greater than 30 inches (762 mm) in  
20 height or walking on roofs having a slope greater than 4 units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33-  
21 percent slope). Such access shall not require the use of portable ladders.

22 Permanent ladders installed to provide the required *access* shall comply with the following  
23 minimum design criteria:

- 24 1. The side railing shall extend above the parapet or roof edge not less than ((30)) 42 inches  
25 (((762)) 1067 mm).

- 1 2. Ladders shall have rung spacing not to exceed ~~((14))~~ 12 inches ~~(((356)))~~ 305 on center. The
- 2 upper-most rung shall be a maximum of 24 inches (610 mm) below the upper edge of the roof
- 3 hatch, roof or parapet, as applicable.
- 4 3. Ladders shall have a toe spacing not less than ~~((6))~~ 7 inches ~~(((152)))~~ 178 mm deep.
- 5 4. There shall be a minimum of 18 inches (457 mm) between rails.
- 6 5. Rungs shall have a minimum 0.75-inch (19 mm) diameter and be capable of withstanding a
- 7 300-pound (136.1 kg) load.
- 8 6. Ladders over 30 feet (9144 mm) in height shall be provided with offset sections and landings
- 9 capable of withstanding 100 pounds per square foot (488.2 kg/ m<sup>2</sup>). Landing dimensions shall be
- 10 not less than 18 inches (457 mm) and not less than the width of the ladder served. A guard rail
- 11 shall be provided on all open sides of the landing.
- 12 7. Climbing clearance. The distance from the centerline of the rungs to the nearest permanent
- 13 object on the climbing side of the ladder shall be a minimum of 30 inches (762 mm) measured
- 14 perpendicular to the rungs. This distance shall be maintained from the point of ladder access to
- 15 the bottom of the roof hatch. A minimum clear width of 15 inches (381 mm) shall be provided
- 16 on both sides of the ladder measured from the midpoint of and parallel with the rungs except
- 17 where cages or wells are installed.
- 18 8. Landing required. The ladder shall be provided with a clear and unobstructed bottom landing
- 19 area having a minimum dimension of 30 inches (762 mm) by 30 inches (762 mm) centered in
- 20 front of the ladder.
- 21 9. Ladders shall be protected against corrosion by *approved* means.
- 22 10. Access to ladders shall be provided at all times.

**Interpretation:** Item 10 allows access to ladders to be restricted to authorized personnel, and prohibits storage that blocks or restricts access to the ladder.

1 Catwalks installed to provide the required *access* shall be not less than 24 inches (610 mm)  
2 wide and shall have railings as required for service platforms.

3 **Exception:** This section shall not apply to Group R-3 occupancies.

4 **[M] 306.5.1 Sloped roofs.** Where appliances, *equipment*, fans or other components that require  
5 service are installed on a roof having a slope of 3 units vertical in 12 units horizontal (25-percent  
6 slope) or greater and having an edge more than 30 inches (762 mm) above grade at such edge, a  
7 level platform shall be provided on each side of the *appliance* or *equipment* to which *access* is  
8 required for service, repair or maintenance. The platform shall be not less than 30 inches (762  
9 mm) in any dimension and shall be provided with guards. The guards shall extend not less than  
10 42 inches (1067 mm) above the platform, shall be constructed so as to prevent the passage of a  
11 21-inch-diameter (533 mm) sphere and shall comply with the loading requirements for guards  
12 specified in the *International Building Code*. *Access* shall not require walking on roofs having a  
13 slope greater than 4 units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33-percent slope). Where *access*  
14 involves obstructions greater than 30 inches (762 mm) in height, such obstructions shall be  
15 provided with ladders installed in accordance with Section 306.5 or stairs installed in accordance  
16 with the requirements specified in the *International Building Code* in the path of travel to and  
17 from appliances, fans or *equipment* requiring service.

18 **[M] 306.5.2 Electrical requirements.** A receptacle outlet shall be provided at or near the  
19 *appliance* location in accordance with ((NFPA 70)) the *Seattle Electrical Code*.

20 \*\*\*

21 **SECTION 307 (IFGC)**  
22 **CONDENSATE DISPOSAL**

23 \*\*\*

24 **307.2 Fuel-burning appliances.** Liquid combustion byproducts of condensing appliances shall  
25 be collected, ph-neutralized and discharged to an *approved* plumbing fixture or disposal area in

1 accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Condensate *pip*ing shall be of  
2 *approved* corrosion-resistant material and shall not be smaller than the drain connection on the  
3 *appliance*. Such *pip*ing shall maintain a minimum slope in the direction of discharge of not less  
4 than one-eighth unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (1-percent slope).

5 **[M] 307.3 Drain pipe materials and sizes.** Components of the condensate disposal system shall  
6 be cast iron, galvanized steel, copper, cross-linked polyethylene, polybutylene, polyethylene,  
7 ABS, CPVC or PVC pipe or tubing. All components shall be selected for the pressure and  
8 temperature rating of the installation. Joints and connections shall be made in accordance with  
9 the applicable provisions of Chapter 7 of the (~~*International*~~) *Uniform Plumbing Code* relative  
10 to the material type. Condensate waste and drain line size shall be not less than 3/4- inch (19  
11 mm) internal diameter and shall not decrease in size from the drain pan connection to the place  
12 of condensate disposal. Where the drain pipes from more than one unit are manifolded together  
13 for condensate drainage, the pipe or tubing shall be sized in accordance with an *approved*  
14 method.

15 \*\*\*

16 **303.7 Pit locations.** Appliances installed in pits or excavations shall not come in direct contact  
17 with the surrounding soil. The sides of the pit or excavation shall be held back a minimum of 12  
18 inches (305 mm) from the *appliance*, and a minimum of 30 inches (762 mm) on the control side.

19 Where the depth exceeds 12 inches (305 mm) below adjoining grade, the walls of the pit or  
20 excavation shall be lined with concrete or masonry, such concrete or masonry shall extend a  
21 minimum of 4 inches (102 mm) above adjoining grade and shall have sufficient lateral load-  
22 bearing capacity to resist collapse. The *appliance* shall be protected from flooding in an  
23 *approved* manner.

24 \*\*\*

**SECTION 309 (IFGC)**

**ELECTRICAL**

**309.1 Grounding.** Gas *pip*ing shall not be used as a grounding electrode.

**309.2 Connections.** Electrical connections between appliances and the building wiring, including the grounding of the appliances, shall conform to ((NFPA-70)) the Seattle Electrical Code.

\*\*\*

Section 5. The following sections of Chapter 4 of the International Fuel Gas Code, 2012 Edition, are amended as follows:

**CHAPTER 4**

**GAS PIPING INSTALLATIONS**

**SECTION 401 (IFGC)**

**GENERAL**

\*\*\*

**401.9 Identification.** Each length of pipe and tubing and each pipe fitting, utilized in a fuel gas system, shall bear the identification of the manufacturer.

**[W] Exception:** The manufacturer identification for fittings and pipe nipples shall be on each piece or shall be printed on the fitting or nipple packaging or provided documentation.

\*\*\*

**SECTION 402 (IFGS)**

**PIPE SIZING**

\*\*\*

**402.4 Sizing tables and equations.** Where Tables 402.4(1) through 402.4(35) are used to size *pip*ing or tubing, the pipe length shall be determined in accordance with Section 402.4.1, 402.4.2 or 402.4.3.

Where Equations 4-1 and 4-2 are used to size *pipng* or tubing, the pipe or tubing shall have smooth inside walls and the pipe length shall be determined in accordance with Section 402.4.1, 402.4.2 or 402.4.3. Before Equations 4-1 or 4-2 are permitted to be used, plans stamped by a registered design professional shall be submitted and approved by the code official.

1. Low-pressure gas equation [Less than 1½ pounds per square inch (psi) (10.3 kPa)]:

$$D = \frac{Q^{0.381}}{19.17 \left( \frac{\Delta H}{C_r \times L} \right)^{0.206}} \quad \text{(Equation 4-1)}$$

2. High-pressure gas equation [1½ psi (10.3 kPa) and above]:

$$D = \frac{Q^{0.381}}{18.93 \left[ \frac{(P_1^2 - P_2^2) \times Y}{C_r \times L} \right]^{0.206}} \quad \text{(Equation 4-2)}$$

where:

- $D$  = Inside diameter of pipe, inches (mm).
- $Q$  = Input rate *appliance(s)*, cubic feet per hour at 60°F (16°C) and 30-inch mercury column.
- $P_1$  = Upstream pressure, psia ( $P_1 + 14.7$ ).
- $P_2$  = Downstream pressure, psia ( $P_2 + 14.7$ ).
- $L$  = Equivalent length of pipe, feet.
- $\Delta H$  = Pressure drop, inch water column (27.7 inch water column = 1 psi).

TABLE 402.4  
 **$C_r$  AND  $Y$  VALUES FOR NATURAL GAS AND UNDILUTED PROPANE AT STANDARD CONDITIONS**

GAS	EQUATION FACTORS	
	$C_r$	$Y$
Natural gas	0.6094	0.9992
Undiluted propane	1.2462	0.9910

For SI: 1 cubic foot = 0.028 m<sup>3</sup>, 1 foot = 305 mm,  
 1 inch water column = 0.2488 kPa,  
 1 pound per square inch = 6.895 kPa,  
 1 British thermal unit per hour = 0.293 W.

1  
2 **402.4.1 Longest length method.** The pipe size of each section of gas *pipng* shall be  
3 determined using the longest length of *pipng* from the *point of delivery* to the most remote  
4 *outlet* and the load of the section.

5 **402.4.2 Branch length method.** Pipe shall be sized as follows:

- 6 1. Pipe size of each section of the longest pipe run from the *point of delivery* to the most remote  
7 *outlet* shall be determined using the longest run of *pipng* and the load of the section.  
8 2. The pipe size of each section of branch *pipng* not previously sized shall be determined using  
9 the length of *pipng* from the *point of delivery* to the most remote *outlet* in each branch and the  
10 load of the section.

11 **402.4.3 Hybrid pressure.** The pipe size for each section of higher pressure gas *pipng* shall  
12 be determined using the longest length of *pipng* from the *point of delivery* to the most  
13 remote line pressure regulator. The pipe size from the line pressure regulator to each *outlet*  
14 shall be determined using the length of *pipng* from the regulator to the most remote outlet  
15 served by the regulator.

16 \*\*\*

17 **402.6 Maximum design operating pressure.** The maximum design operating pressure for  
18 *pipng* systems located inside buildings shall not exceed 5 pounds per square inch gauge (psig)  
19 (34 kPa gauge) except where one or more of the following conditions are met:

- 20 1. The *pipng* system is welded.  
21 2. The *pipng* is located in a ventilated chase or otherwise enclosed for protection against  
22 accidental gas accumulation.  
23 3. The *pipng* is located inside buildings or separate areas of buildings used exclusively for:  
24 3.1. Industrial processing or heating;  
25 3.2. Research;

1 3.3. Warehousing; or

2 3.4. Boiler or mechanical rooms.

3 4. The *pipng* is a temporary installation for buildings under construction.

4 5. The piping serves appliances or *equipment* used for agricultural purposes.

5 6. The *pipng* system is an LP-gas *pipng* system with a design operating pressure greater than 20  
6 psi (137.9 kPa) and complies with NFPA 58.

7 Plans for piping systems over 5 psig (34.5 kPa) shall be designed by an engineer licensed to  
8 practice in the State of Washington, and shall not be installed until approved by the code official.

9 **402.6.1 Liquefied petroleum gas systems.** LP-gas systems designed to operate below -5°F  
10 (-21°C) or with butane or a propane-butane mix shall be designed to either accommodate  
11 liquid LP-gas or prevent LP-gas vapor from condensing into a liquid.

## 12 SECTION 403 (IFGS)

### 13 PIPING MATERIALS

14 \*\*\*

15 **403.7 Workmanship and defects.** Pipe, tubing and fittings shall be clear and free from cutting  
16 burrs and defects in structure or threading, and shall be thoroughly brushed, and chip and scale  
17 blown.

18 Defects in pipe, tubing and fittings shall not be repaired. Defective pipe, tubing and fittings  
19 shall be replaced. No gas piping shall be strained or pinched, and no appliance shall be supported  
20 by, or develop any strain or stress on, its supply piping.

21 \*\*\*

22 **403.10 Metallic piping joints and fittings.** The type of *pipng* joint used shall be suitable for the  
23 pressure-temperature conditions and shall be selected giving consideration to joint tightness and  
24 mechanical strength under the service conditions. The joint shall be able to sustain the maximum

1 end force caused by the internal pressure and any additional forces caused by temperature  
2 expansion or contraction, vibration, fatigue or the weight of the pipe and its contents.

3 **403.10.1 Pipe joints.** Pipe joints shall be threaded, flanged, brazed or welded. Where  
4 nonferrous pipe is brazed, the brazing materials shall have a melting point in excess of  
5 1,000°F (538°C). Brazing alloys shall not contain more than 0.05-percent phosphorus.

6 **403.10.1.1 Welding.** All welding in the piping system shall be done in accordance with  
7 ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Section IX.

8 **403.10.2 Tubing joints.** Tubing joints shall be made with *approved* gas tubing fittings,  
9 brazed with a material having a melting point in excess of 1,000°F (538°C) or made with  
10 press-connect fittings complying with ANSI LC-4. Brazing alloys shall not contain more  
11 than 0.05-percent phosphorus.

12 **403.10.3 Flared joints.** Flared joints shall be used only in systems constructed from  
13 nonferrous pipe and tubing where experience or tests have demonstrated that the joint is  
14 suitable for the conditions and where provisions are made in the design to prevent separation  
15 of the joints.

16 **403.10.4 Metallic fittings.** Metallic fittings shall comply with the following:

- 17 1. Threaded fittings in sizes larger than 4 inches (102 mm) shall not be used except where  
18 *approved*.
- 19 2. Fittings used with steel or wrought-iron pipe shall be steel, brass, bronze, malleable iron or  
20 cast iron.
- 21 3. Fittings used with copper or brass pipe shall be copper, brass or bronze.
- 22 4. Fittings used with aluminum-alloy pipe shall be of aluminum alloy.
- 23 5. Cast-iron fittings:
- 24 5.1. Flanges shall be permitted.
- 25 5.2. Bushings shall not be used.

1 5.3. Fittings shall not be used in systems containing flammable gas-air mixtures.

2 5.4. Fittings in sizes 4 inches (102 mm) and larger shall not be used indoors except where  
3 *approved*.

4 5.5. Fittings in sizes 6 inches (152 mm) and larger shall not be used except where *approved*.

5 6. Aluminum-alloy fittings. Threads shall not form the joint seal.

6 7. Zinc aluminum-alloy fittings. Fittings shall not be used in systems containing flammable gas-  
7 air mixtures.

8 8. Special fittings. Fittings such as couplings, proprietary-type joints, saddle tees, gland-type  
9 compression fittings, and flared, flareless or compression-type tubing fittings shall be: used  
10 within the fitting manufacturer's pressure-temperature recommendations; used within the service  
11 conditions anticipated with respect to vibration, fatigue, thermal expansion or contraction;  
12 installed or braced to prevent separation of the joint by gas pressure or external physical damage;  
13 and shall be *approved*.

14 \*\*\*

## 15 SECTION 406 (IFGS)

### 16 INSPECTION, TESTING AND PURGING

17 **406.1 General.** Prior to acceptance and initial operation, all *pipng* installations shall be visually  
18 inspected and pressure tested to determine that the materials, design, fabrication and installation  
19 practices comply with the requirements of this code.

20 **406.1.1 Inspections.** Inspection shall consist of visual examination, during or after  
21 manufacture, fabrication, assembly or pressure tests.

22 **406.1.2 Repairs and additions.** In the event repairs or additions are made after the pressure  
23 test, the affected *pipng* shall be tested. Minor repairs and additions, as determined by the  
24 code official, are not required to be pressure tested provided that the work is inspected and  
25

1 connections are tested with a noncorrosive leak-detecting fluid or other *approved* leak-  
2 detecting methods.

3 **406.1.3 New branches.** Where new branches are installed to new *appliances*, only the newly  
4 installed branches shall be required to be pressure tested. Connections between the new  
5 *pipng* and the existing *pipng* shall be tested with a noncorrosive leak-detecting fluid or other  
6 *approved* leak-detecting methods.

7 **406.1.4 Section testing.** A *pipng* system shall be permitted to be tested as a complete unit or  
8 in sections. Under no circumstances shall a valve in a line be used as a bulkhead between gas  
9 in one section of the *pipng* system and test medium in an adjacent section, unless two valves  
10 are installed in series with a valved "telltale" located between these valves. A valve shall not  
11 be subjected to the test pressure unless it can be determined that the valve, including the  
12 valve-closing mechanism, is designed to safely withstand the test pressure.

13 **406.1.5 Regulators and valve assemblies.** Regulator and valve assemblies fabricated  
14 independently of the *pipng* system in which they are to be installed shall be permitted to be  
15 tested with inert gas or air at the time of fabrication.

16 **406.1.6 Pipe clearing.** Prior to testing, the interior of the pipe shall be cleared of all foreign  
17 material.

18 \*\*\*

19 **[F] 413.9 Discharge of CNG from motor vehicle fuel storage containers.** The discharge of  
20 CNG from motor vehicle fuel cylinders for the purposes of maintenance, cylinder certification,  
21 calibration of dispensers or other activities shall be in accordance with this section. The  
22 discharge of CNG from motor vehicle fuel cylinders shall be accomplished through a closed  
23 transfer system or an *approved* method of atmospheric venting in accordance with Section  
24 413.9.1 or 413.9.2.

1 [F] **413.9.1 Closed transfer system.** A documented procedure which explains the logical  
2 sequence for discharging the cylinder shall be provided to the code official for review and  
3 approval. The procedure shall include what actions the operator will take in the event of a  
4 low-pressure or high-pressure natural gas release during the discharging activity. A drawing  
5 illustrating the arrangement of *pipng*, regulators and *equipment* settings shall be provided to  
6 the code official for review and approval. The drawing shall illustrate the *pipng* and  
7 regulator arrangement and shall be shown in spatial relation to the location of the  
8 compressor, storage vessels and emergency shutdown devices.

9 [F] **413.9.2 Atmospheric venting.** Atmospheric venting of motor vehicle fuel cylinders shall  
10 be in accordance with Sections 413.9.2.1 through 413.9.2.6.

11 [F] **413.9.2.1 Plans and specifications.** A drawing illustrating the location of the vessel  
12 support, *pipng*, the method of grounding and bonding, and other requirements specified  
13 herein shall be provided to the code official for review and approval.

14 [F] **413.9.2.2 Cylinder stability.** A method of rigidly supporting the vessel during the  
15 venting of CNG shall be provided. The selected method shall provide not less than two  
16 points of support and shall prevent the horizontal and lateral movement of the vessel. The  
17 system shall be designed to prevent the movement of the vessel based on the highest gas-  
18 release velocity through valve orifices at the vessel's rated pressure and volume. The  
19 structure or appurtenance shall be constructed of *noncombustible materials*.

20 [F] **413.9.2.3 Separation.** The structure or appurtenance used for stabilizing the cylinder  
21 shall be separated from the site *equipment*, features and exposures and shall be located in  
22 accordance with Table 413.9.2.3.

23 [F] **413.9.2.4 Grounding and bonding.** The structure or appurtenance used for  
24 supporting the cylinder shall be grounded in accordance with ((NFPA 70)) the Seattle



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**CHAPTER 6**  
**SPECIFIC APPLIANCES**

\*\*\*

**SECTION 614 (IFGC)**  
**CLOTHES DRYER EXHAUST**

\*\*\*

**[M] 614.2 Duct penetrations.** Ducts that exhaust clothes dryers shall not penetrate or be located within any fireblocking, draftstopping or any wall, floor/ceiling or other assembly required by the *International Building Code* to be fire-resistance rated, unless such duct is constructed of galvanized steel or aluminum of the thickness specified in Table 603.4 of the *International Mechanical Code* and the fire-resistance rating is maintained in accordance with the *International Building Code*. Fire dampers shall not be installed in clothes dryer exhaust duct systems.

**614.2.1 Protection required.** Protective shield plates shall be placed where nails or screws from finish or other work are likely to penetrate the clothes dryer exhaust duct. Shield plates shall be placed on the finished face of all framing members where there is less than 1-1/4 inches (32 mm) between the duct and the finished face of the framing member. Protective shield plates shall be constructed of steel, shall have a minimum thickness of 0.062 inch (1.6 mm) and shall extend a minimum of 2 inches (51 mm) above sole plates and below top plates.

\*\*\*

**[M] 614.6 Domestic clothes dryer exhaust ducts.** Exhaust ducts for domestic clothes dryers shall conform to the requirements of Sections 614.6.1 through 614.6.7.

1 [M] 614.6.1 **Material and size.** Exhaust ducts shall have a smooth interior finish and shall be  
2 constructed of metal a minimum 0.016 inch (0.4 mm) thick. The exhaust duct size shall be 4  
3 inches (102 mm) nominal in diameter.

4 [M] 614.6.2 **Duct installation.** Exhaust ducts shall be supported at 4-foot (1219 mm)  
5 intervals and secured in place. The insert end of the duct shall extend into the adjoining duct  
6 or fitting in the direction of airflow. Ducts shall not be joined with screws or similar fasteners  
7 that protrude into the inside of the duct.

8 ~~(( [M] 614.6.3 **Protection required.** Protective shield plates shall be placed where nails or  
9 screws from finish or other work are likely to penetrate the clothes dryer exhaust duct. Shield  
10 plates shall be placed on the finished face of all framing members where there is less than 11/4  
11 inches (32 mm) between the duct and the finished face of the framing member. Protective shield  
12 plates shall be constructed of steel, shall have a minimum thickness of 0.062 inch (1.6 mm) and  
13 shall extend a minimum of 2 inches (51 mm) above sole plates and below top plates.))~~

14 [M] 614.6.4 **Transition ducts.** Transition ducts used to connect the dryer to the exhaust duct  
15 system shall be a single length that is *listed* and *labeled* in accordance with UL 2158A.  
16 Transition ducts shall be a maximum of 8 feet (2438 mm) in length, and shall not be  
17 concealed within construction.

18 [M] 614.6.5 **Duct length.** The maximum allowable exhaust duct length shall be determined  
19 by one of the methods specified in Section 614.6.5.1 or 614.6.5.2.

20 [M] 614.6.5.1 **Specified length.** The maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be 35 feet  
21 (10 668 mm) from the connection to the transition duct from the dryer to the outlet  
22 terminal. Where fittings are utilized, the maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be  
23 reduced in accordance with Table 614.6.5.1.  
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[M] TABLE 614.6.5.1  
DRYER EXHAUST DUCT FITTING EQUIVALENT LENGTH

DRYER EXHAUST DUCT FITTING TYPE	EQUIVALENT LENGTH
4 inch radius mitered 45-degree elbow	2 feet, 6 inches
4 inch radius mitered 90-degree elbow	5 feet
6 inch radius smooth 45-degree elbow	1 foot
6 inch radius smooth 90-degree elbow	1 foot, 9 inches
8 inch radius smooth 45-degree elbow	1 foot
8 inch radius smooth 90-degree elbow	1 foot, 7 inches
10 inch radius smooth 45-degree elbow	9 inches
10 inch radius smooth 90-degree elbow	1 foot, 6 inches

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 degree = 0.01745 rad.

[M] 614.6.5.2 **Manufacturer's instructions.** The maximum length of the exhaust duct shall be determined by the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions. The code official shall be provided with a copy of the installation instructions for the make and model of the dryer. Where the exhaust duct is to be concealed, the installation instructions shall be provided to the code official prior to the concealment inspection. In the absence of fitting equivalent length calculations from the clothes dryer manufacturer, Table 614.6.5.1 shall be utilized.

**Exception:** The maximum length of the duct may be increased in an engineered exhaust system when a listed and labeled dryer exhaust booster fan is installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

[M] 614.6.6 **Length identification.** Where the exhaust duct is concealed within the building construction, the equivalent length of the exhaust duct shall be identified on a permanent label or tag. The label or tag shall be located within 6 feet (1829 mm) of the exhaust duct connection.

[M] 614.6.7 **Exhaust duct required.** Where space for a clothes dryer is provided, an exhaust duct system shall be installed.

Where the clothes dryer is not installed at the time of occupancy, the exhaust duct shall be capped at the location of the future dryer.

**Exception:** Where a *listed* condensing clothes dryer is installed prior to occupancy of the structure.

\*\*\*

**SECTION 618 (IFGC)**

**~~((FORCED-))AIR-HANDLING UNITS ((WARM-AIR-FURNACES))~~**

\*\*\*

**618.4 Prohibited sources.** Outdoor or return air for forced-air heating and cooling systems shall not be taken from the following locations:

1. Closer than 10 feet (3048 mm) from an *appliance* vent outlet, a vent opening from a plumbing drainage system or the discharge outlet of an exhaust fan, unless the outlet is 3 feet (914 mm) above the outside air inlet.
2. Where there is the presence of objectionable odors, fumes or flammable vapors; or where located less than 10 feet (3048 mm) above the surface of any abutting public way or driveway; or where located at grade level by a sidewalk, street, alley or driveway.
3. A hazardous or insanitary location or a refrigeration machinery room as defined in the *International Mechanical Code*.
4. A room or space, the volume of which is less than 25 percent of the entire volume served by such system. Where connected by a permanent opening having an area sized in accordance with Section 618.2, adjoining rooms or spaces shall be considered as a single room or space for the purpose of determining the volume of such rooms or spaces.  
**Exception:** The minimum volume requirement shall not apply where the amount of return air taken from a room or space is less than or equal to the amount of supply air delivered to such room or space.
5. A room or space containing an appliance where such a room or space serves as the sole source of return air.

**Exception:** This shall not apply where:



SECTION 624 (IFGC)

WATER HEATERS

1  
2  
3 **624.1 General.** Water heaters shall be installed in accordance with the *Uniform Plumbing Code*  
4 and *Seattle Electrical Code*. ~~((tested in accordance with ANSI Z21.10.1 and ANSI Z21.10.3 and~~  
5 ~~shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Water heaters~~  
6 ~~utilizing fuels other than fuel gas shall be regulated by the *International Mechanical Code*.~~

7 **624.1.1 Installation requirements.** ~~The requirements for water heaters relative to sizing, relief~~  
8 ~~valves, drain pans and scald protection shall be in accordance with the *International Plumbing*~~  
9 ~~*Code*.~~

10 **624.2 Water heaters utilized for space heating.** ~~Water heaters utilized both to supply potable~~  
11 ~~hot water and provide hot water for space heating applications shall be *listed* and *labeled* for~~  
12 ~~such applications by the manufacturer and shall be installed in accordance with the~~  
13 ~~manufacturer's installation instructions and the *International Plumbing Code*. )~~

14 \*\*\*

SECTION 631 (IFGC)

BOILERS

15  
16  
17 **631.1 Standards.** Boilers shall ~~((be *listed* in accordance with the requirements of ANSI Z21.13~~  
18 ~~or UL 795. If applicable, the boiler shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the~~  
19 ~~requirements of ASME CSD-1 and as applicable, the ASME)) comply with the *Seattle Boiler*  
20 *and Pressure Vessel Code* ((Sections I, II, IV, V and IX and NFPA 85.~~

21 **631.2 Installation.** ~~In addition to the requirements of this code, the installation of boilers shall be~~  
22 ~~in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the *International Mechanical Code*.~~  
23 ~~Operating instructions of a permanent type shall be attached to the boiler. Boilers shall have all~~  
24 ~~controls set, adjusted and tested by the installer. A complete control diagram together with~~

1 complete boiler operating instructions shall be furnished by the installer. The manufacturer's  
2 rating data and the nameplate shall be attached to the boiler.

3 ~~631.3 Clearance to combustible materials.~~ Clearances to ~~combustible materials~~ shall be in  
4 accordance with Section 308.4.))

## SECTION 632 (IFGC)

### RESERVED

6  
7 ((EQUIPMENT INSTALLED IN EXISTING

### UNLISTED BOILERS

8  
9 ~~632.1 General.~~ Gas equipment installed in existing unlisted boilers shall comply with Section  
10 631.1 and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the  
11 *International Mechanical Code.*))

12 \*\*\*

13  
14 Section 7. The following sections of Chapter 7 of the International Fuel Gas Code, 2012  
15 Edition, are amended as follows:

## CHAPTER 7

### GASEOUS HYDROGEN SYSTEMS

17 \*\*\*

## SECTION 703 (IFGC)

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

20 \*\*\*

21  
22 [F] 703.6 Electrical wiring and equipment. Electrical wiring and equipment shall comply with  
23 ((NFPA 70)) the Seattle Electrical Code.

24 \*\*\*

1 Section 8. The following introductory text of Chapter 8 of the International Fuel Gas  
2 Code, 2012 Edition, is amended as follows:

3 **IFGC/IFGS CHAPTER 8**  
4 **REFERENCED STANDARDS**

5 This chapter lists the standards that are referenced in various sections of this document. The  
6 standards are listed herein by the promulgating agency of the standard, the standard  
7 identification, the effective date and title, and the section or sections of this document that  
8 reference the standard. The application of the referenced standards shall be as specified in  
9 Section (~~(102.8)~~) 103.8.

10 \*\*\*

11  
12 Section 9. Sections 2-7 of Ordinance 123381 are repealed.

13 Section 10. During the transition period, an applicant who submits a valid and fully  
14 complete mechanical permit application may elect to have the application considered under the  
15 provisions of Ordinance 123381 rather than this Ordinance. The transition period begins on the  
16 effective date of this Ordinance and extends through the later of: (a) October 11, 2013; or (b) the  
17 60th day following the effective date of this Ordinance (unless the 60th day is a Saturday,  
18 Sunday, or federal or City holiday, in which case the 60th day shall be deemed to be the next day  
19 that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or federal or City holiday).

20 Section 11. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable.  
21 The invalidity of any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or portion of this  
22 ordinance, or the invalidity of the application thereof to any person, owner, or circumstance shall  
23 not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance, or the validity of its application to other  
24 persons, owners, or circumstances.

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Section 12. 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2013, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

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

Approved by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael McGinn, Mayor

Filed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

**FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS**

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Contact Person/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Analyst/Phone:</b>
DPD	Maureen Traxler/233-3892	Melissa Lawrie/684-5805

**Legislation Title:**

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Fuel Gas Code amending Section 22.420.010 and adopting by reference Chapters 2 through 8 of the 2012 International Fuel Gas Code, and amending certain of those chapters; adopting a new Chapter 1 for the Seattle Fuel Gas Code related to administration, permitting and enforcement; and repealing Sections 2-7 of Ordinance 123381.

**Summary of the Legislation:**

This legislation adopts the 2012 Seattle Fuel Gas Code, consisting of the 2012 International Fuel Gas Code and Seattle amendments.

**Background:**

This legislation is one of seven coordinated bills that regulate construction and use of buildings in Seattle. Six are prepared by the Department of Planning and Development (DPD): the Seattle Building, Residential, Mechanical, Fuel Gas, Energy and Existing Building codes. The seventh bill adopts the 2012 Plumbing Code, which is administered by Public Health – Seattle & King County. These codes are the current state and national standards for building construction. A related bill adopting the 2012 Seattle Fire Code is being heard by the City Council Public Safety, Civil Rights and Technology Committee.

New editions of these codes are adopted by the State every 3 years, and State law requires local jurisdictions to enforce them. Seattle adds local amendments to the State codes. A list of the most significant Seattle amendments is attached.

X  **This legislation does not have any financial implications.**

**Other Implications:**

- a) **Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?**  
No
  
- b) **What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?**  
There is no cost if the legislation is not implemented.

- c) Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**  
Departments that will build or alter buildings or mechanical systems will be required to meet updated construction standards. However, state law requires all cities and counties to adopt the state codes. The Seattle amendments are enhancements of the state codes.
- d) What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?**  
The alternative is to adopt the state codes only, without Seattle amendments.
- e) Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**  
No.
- f) Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**  
No.
- g) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**  
No.
- h) Other Issues:**

**List attachments to the fiscal note below:**

Attachment 1: Changes in 2012 Seattle Fuel Gas Code

## Attachment 1

### Changes in 2012 Seattle Fuel Gas Code

#### Highlights of changes

*Only a few changes are proposed for the International Fuel Gas Code and Seattle amendments. Those that are changed are technical changes that will not have a major impact on construction. The most significant of the changes are listed here.*

- 103.2 More complete provisions for vesting of permit applications are added to chapter 1.
- 117 Rules about expiration, renewal and reestablishment of permits are clarified.
- 410.5 To prevent flashback fires and to prevent air from entering the fuel gas system, combination flashback arrestors and backflow check valves are required on fuel gas systems used with oxygen in welding and other hot work operations.



**City of Seattle**  
Office of the Mayor

July 16, 2013

Honorable Sally J. Clark  
President  
Seattle City Council  
City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Dear Council President Clark:

I am pleased to transmit the attached proposed Council Bill that adopts the 2012 Seattle Fuel Gas Code. It is one of seven coordinated bills that regulate construction and use of buildings in Seattle. Six are prepared by the Department of Planning and Development (DPD): the Seattle Building, Residential, Mechanical, Fuel Gas, Energy and Existing Building codes. The seventh bill adopts the 2012 Plumbing Code, which is administered by Public Health – Seattle & King County. These codes are the current state and national standards for building construction. A related bill adopting the 2012 Seattle Fire Code is being heard by the City Council Public Safety, Civil Rights and Technology Committee.

These codes are adopted by the State, and State law requires local jurisdictions to enforce them. Seattle adds local amendments to the State codes. (A list of the most significant Seattle amendments is attached to the fiscal note for this legislation.) The Construction Codes Advisory Board (CCAB) has reviewed these proposed ordinances. CCAB, which consists of representatives of the general public, and design, development and construction industries, has devoted countless hours to reviewing and discussing these proposals. A draft of the Seattle Fuel Gas Code was made available for public comment in February 2013, and a CCAB subcommittee reviewed it last fall. There is substantial consensus about this ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. Adoption of the new codes will provide additional flexibility of building design and will enhance safety for the citizens of Seattle. Should you have questions, please contact Maureen Traxler at 233-3892.

Sincerely,

Michael McGinn  
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Honorable Members of the Seattle City Council