SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	Executive Contact/Phone:
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** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Fire Code, adopting as the Seattle Fire Code the 2015 edition of the International Fire Code with some exceptions, amending and adding various provisions to that code; amending Section 22.600.020 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and repealing Sections 2 through 44 of Ordinance 124288.

Summary and background of the Legislation: This legislation adopts the 2015 Seattle Fire Code, consisting of the 2015 International Fire Code and Seattle amendments. The 2015 International Fire Code is the technical fire code and edition specified respectively by the State Legislature and State Building Code Council as the minimum standard for use throughout our state. New editions of this code are adopted by the State every three years. By adopting such codes locally and making amendments, we are able to address many unique characteristics of our community. Companion codes including the building code, residential code, mechanical code, and fuel gas code are being submitted simultaneously by the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection, each a separate ordinance.

Notable changes between the current 2012 Seattle Fire Code and the proposed legislation include new local amendments regulating the use of flame effects (fire performers) before an audience with a new requirement that such buildings be provided with fire sprinkler systems; new certification requirements for persons designing and installing fire alarm systems; clarification regarding requirements for outdoor tire storage acknowledging the size limits of properties where tires are stored; differentiation between two types of repair garages, one major and one minor, removal of a permit requirement within the Seattle Fire Code for helicopter lifts, for which a city special event permit is required; additional restrictions on sky lanterns; and a new requirement for signage associated with Fire Department Connections on high rise buildings.

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

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

____ **This legislation creates, funds, or amends a CIP Project.**

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

_X___ This legislation does not have direct financial implications.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a) Does the legislation have indirect or long-term financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above?
No.

b) Is there financial cost or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?
If not implemented, Seattle would be enforcing an outdated fire code that is not in alignment with the State fire code or the companion codes (which cross reference each other in various sections) in Seattle including building code, mechanical code, electrical code and fuel gas code.

c) Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?
Departments that build or alter buildings or store, use or operate hazardous materials and processes will be required to meet the updated fire code requirements. However, state law requires all cities and counties to adopt the state fire code. The Seattle amendments are enhancements of the state fire code.

d) Is a public hearing required for this legislation? No.

e) Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?
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) Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities?
The fire code requirements are not specific to any particular community.

i) If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the long-term and measurable goals of the program? Please describe how this legislation would help achieve the program's desired goals.
N/A

j) Other Issues:
None.