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Cheryl Swab
SFD, Confidence Testing Fee ORD
April 26, 2011
Version #1a.

ORDINANCE _____

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AN ORDINANCE relating to the Building and Construction Codes, Subtitle VI Fire Code; adding a new Section 22.602.090 to the Seattle Municipal Code to add a new \$10 report fee for processing required life safety system confidence testing documentation.

WHEREAS, Ordinance 123393 amended the Seattle Fire code to incorporate the 2009 International Fire Code as part of the Seattle Fire code; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle Fire Code provides that life safety systems, including non-required systems, be confidence tested on a periodic basis; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 104.1 of the Seattle Fire Code, the Seattle Fire Department's fire code official duly promulgated Administrative Rule 9.01.02 which sets forth confidence test requirements for life safety systems; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Rule 9.02.09 requires that confidence testing be performed by technicians certified by the Seattle Fire Department, that appropriate labeling be applied to systems that have been tested; and that reports concerning the testing be filed with the Seattle Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the administrative costs associated with the filing of confidence testing reports exceeds \$10 per report; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the Seattle Fire Department recover the costs incurred in filing confidence testing reports, provided that the Department does not recover amounts that exceed such costs; and

WHEREAS, the imposition of a \$10 fee would allow the Seattle Fire Department recover a portion of its costs related to the recording of confidence testing data, but no more;
NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A new Section 22.602.090 is added to the Seattle Municipal code as follows:

22.602.090 Fees for filing confidence test documentation

The Fire Chief or his designee shall collect and the responsible party shall pay a \$10 fee for processing documentation pertaining to confidence testing conducted in accordance with



1 Administrative Rule 9.02.09, Confidence Test Requirements for Life Safety Systems, as required
2 by the Seattle Fire Code.

3 Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days from and after its
4 approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after
5 presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

6 Passed by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2011, and
7 signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this
8 ____ day of _____, 2011.

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11 _____
12 President _____ of the City Council

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14 Approved by me this ____ day of _____, 2011.

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17 _____
18 Michael McGinn, Mayor

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20 Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2011.

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23 _____
24 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

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26
27 (Seal)



FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Fire	Cheryl Swab 386-1451	Joe Regis 386-1090

Legislation Title:

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Building and Construction Codes, Subtitle VI Fire Code; adding a new Section 22.602.090 to the Seattle Municipal Code to add a new \$10 report fee for processing required life safety system confidence testing documentation.

Summary of the Legislation:

The Seattle Fire Code provides that life safety systems, including non-required systems be confidence tested on a periodic basis. Confidence testing is performed by technicians certified by the Seattle Fire Department and ensures that fire and life safety systems (e.g., building sprinkler systems) are up to date and in working order; that appropriate labeling be applied to systems that have been tested; and that reports concerning the testing be filed with the Seattle Fire Department.

Background:

The Seattle Fire Code requires building owners to maintain fire protection systems and test these systems on a regular basis. Building owners must schedule annual and five-year confidence tests. Confidence tests are conducted by a certified service technician. After a system is tested, a service label is attached to the system and a confidence testing form is sent to the Confidence Testing Unit so that the information can be recorded in the database. This is a new fee. Collecting this fee will bring in approximately \$95,000 in revenue in 2011 and \$190,000 in 2012. This would allow the Fire Department to recover 60% of the cost of the Confidence Testing unit.

Please check one of the following:

This legislation does not have any financial implications.

This legislation has financial implications.

Appropriations:

Fund Name and Number	Department	Budget Control Level*	2011 Appropriation	2012 Anticipated Appropriation
N/A				
TOTAL				

Appropriations Notes:



Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement: Resulting from this Legislation:

Fund Name and Number	Department	Revenue Source	2011 Revenue	2012 Revenue
General Fund 00100	SFD	Confidence Testing	\$95,000	\$190,000
TOTAL			\$95,000	\$190,000

Revenue/Reimbursement Notes:

Total Regular Positions Created, Modified, or Abrogated through this Legislation, Including FTE Impact:

Position Title and Department	Position # for Existing Positions	Fund Name & #	PT/FT	2011 Positions	2011 FTE	2012 Positions*	2012 FTE*
N/A							
TOTAL							

Position Notes:

Do positions sunset in the future?

N/A

Spending/Cash Flow:

Fund Name & #	Department	Budget Control Level*	2011 Expenditures	2012 Anticipated Expenditures
N/A				
TOTAL				

Spending/Cash Flow Notes:

What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?

The Fire Department would not recoup costs associated with the processing of confidence testing reports.

Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

No.

What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?

Discontinue collecting Confidence Testing reports. Some fire and life safety systems may be allowed to be out of date and untested; staff would be reduced.



Cheryl Swab
SFD Confidence Testing FeeFISC
April 26, 2011
Version #2

Is the legislation subject to public hearing requirements?

No.

Other Issues:

List attachments to the fiscal note below:





City of Seattle
Office of the Mayor

May 2, 2011

Honorable Richard Conlin
President
Seattle City Council
City Hall, 2nd Floor

Dear Council President Conlin:

I am transmitting the attached proposed Council Bill to add a fee to be submitted with each confidence report submitted to the Seattle Fire Department. The Seattle Fire Code provides that life safety systems, including non required systems be confidence tested on a periodic basis. Confidence testing is performed by technicians certified by the Seattle Fire Department and ensures that fire and life safety systems (e.g., building sprinkler systems) are up to date and in working order; that appropriate labeling be applied to systems that have been tested; and that reports concerning the testing be filed with the Seattle Fire Department.

The Seattle Fire Code requires building owners to maintain fire protection systems and test these systems on a regular basis. Building owners must schedule annual and five-year confidence tests. Confidence tests are conducted by a certified service technician. After a system is tested, a service label is attached to the system and a confidence testing form is sent to the Confidence-Testing Unit so that the information can be recorded in the database.

Collecting this fee will bring in approximately \$95,000 in revenue in 2011 and \$190,000 in 2012. This would allow the Fire Department to recover 60% of the cost of the Confidence Testing unit. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. Should you have questions, please contact Cheryl Swab at 206-386-1451.

Sincerely,

Michael McGinn
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Honorable Members of the Seattle City Council