City Council Meeting Date: April 9, 2007 **Agenda Item: 9(a)**

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Adoption of Ordinance 466 Amending the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) to add Interior Standards; Amend SMC Title 20 to include provisions for Relocation Assistance; and Update the City's Code Enforcement Priority Guideline List
DEPARTMENT:	Planning and Development Services
PRESENTED BY:	Joseph W. Tovar, Director of Planning & Development Services Rachael Markle, Asst. Director Planning & Development Services Kristie Anderson, Code Enforcement Officer

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:
At the City Council meeting of February 12, 2007 the Council instructed staff to prepare an Ordinance to amend the adopted International Property Maintenance Code to include minimum standards for the interior of structures. Council also instructed staff to prepare an Ordinance to consider a Relocation Assistance policy. Finally, Council agreed to consider updates to the City's Code Enforcement Priority Guideline List.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
Interior Maintenance Standards
If the Council decides to amend the City's adopted version of the International Property Maintenance Code to include minimum standards for the interior of structures, it is anticipated that the City will receive an average of (5-6) five -six calls annually related to interior issues that may result in a code enforcement action. This potential increase in case activity in and of itself would have a minimal impact on resources. However, any increases in case load will have an impact on responsiveness if the complaint is confirmed and not resolved voluntarily.

Relocation Assistance
In the event that the City evokes the use of RCW 59.18.085 to require a landlord to provide relocation assistance to tenants displaced following a landlord's failure to comply with applicable codes, additional staff resources will be expended. However, staff expects that this situation would be rare if it ever occurs. In addition, if the City provides the relocation assistance funds in the event the landlord does not comply with RCW 59.18.085 these funds and associated legal costs are recoverable with interest by placing a tax lien on the property.

Code Enforcement Priority Guidelines
If the Council chooses to increase the priority of an issue or add issues to the priority list, then the priority of other issues would need to shift or additional resources would need to be allocated to the code enforcement program.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 466 adding minimum interior standards to the adopted International Property Maintenance Code and directing use of relocation assistance; and Staff recommends approval of the proposed changes to the City's Code Enforcement Priority Guideline List.

Approved by: City Manager RBG City Attorney

INTRODUCTION

Council confirmed interest in pursuing the following:

- Adoption portions of the International Property Maintenance Code related to minimum standards for the interior of structures;
- Adoption of regulations to facilitate the use of RCW 59.18.085 Relocation Assistance Policy; and
- Update of the City's Code Enforcement Priorities List.

The purpose of this staff report is to bring the above bulleted issues for Council's consideration and possible adoption or approval.

BACKGROUND

In July 2004, the City adopted with local amendments the International Building Code, International Residential Code, International Fire Code, International Mechanical Code, and International Fuel Gas Code. The City did not adopt the International Property Maintenance Code in 2004 deferring consideration of this code as part of the Council's work on the 2005-2006 Goals.

As part of a 2005-2006 Goal, in September 12, 2005 the Council adopted several amendments to the Development Code and Shoreline Municipal Code in an effort to address concerns identified by citizens. As part of this, the Council adopted the International Property Maintenance Code with amendments to establish minimum standards for the maintenance of the exterior of structures and premises. The Council did not adopt the International Property Maintenance Code sections related to establishing minimum standards for the interior of structures.

The Council requested additional information in regards to interior property maintenance standards which staff presented at the February 12, 2007 meeting. In addition to the information regarding interior property maintenance standards, staff presented the concept of adopting a Relocation Assistance policy and updates to the City's Code Enforcement Priorities List. Council instructed staff to return with a proposed Ordinance to amend the adopted International Property Maintenance Code to include minimum standards for the interiors of structures; to prepare an Ordinance to consider adoption of a Relocation Assistance Policy; and a draft of proposed changes the City's Code Enforcement Priority List.

DISCUSSION

Minimum interior housing standards:
The majority of property owners and tenants are responsible and conscientious, however some properties fall below the minimum health and safety standards. For these substandard properties (approximately 2 – 4% of the rental stock), the City needs

the Property Maintenance Code's concise guide on how to maintain the interiors of structures to provide minimum health and safety standards for citizens.

International Property Maintenance Code establishes minimum conditions and the responsibilities of persons for **maintenance** of structures, equipment, premises and exterior properties. By adding the interior standards back into the International Property Maintenance Code, we will be regulating the interior of a structure and equipment therein to ensure that it is maintained in good repair, structurally sound and in a sanitary condition. The intent of this code is to maintain structures to avoid creating situations that endanger health, property or safety.

What types of things does the International Property Maintenance Code cover in regards to maintenance of interior areas?

The IPMC addresses maintenance of:

- Structural members
- Interior surfaces (including windows & doors)
- Stairs & walking surfaces
- Handrails and guards – installed and maintained where required
- Interior doors
- Light, Ventilation & Occupancy Limitations –
  Occupancy Limitations
  - ***NOTE: The staff recommendation does not include the IPMC sections related to overcrowding as this could conflict with the City's definition of family.***
- Plumbing Facilities & Fixture Requirements
  - ***NOTE: The staff recommendation does not include the IPMC sections relating to required plumbing fixtures for employee facilities as these provisions may be too generalized and restrictive.***
- Water Systems
- Sanitary Drainage System
- Mechanical & Electrical Facilities and Equipment
  Heating Facilities
  - Residential dwellings shall have permanently installed, safe, functioning heating facilities capable of maintaining a room temperature of 65° (**NOTE: *suggested reduction by staff from 68°)*** in all habitable rooms, bathrooms.
- Fire Safety Requirements

The proposed amendments to the City's adopted International Property Maintenance Code are located in Attachment A which is incorporated by reference in proposed Ordinance 466.

Relocation Assistance to Renters Displaced as a result of a code enforcement action as authorized by RCW 59.18.085.

In 2005 the State of Washington adopted revisions to RCW 59.18.085 (Attachment B: RCW 59.18.085), the Residential landlord tenant act. When landlords have failed to remedy code violations after repeated notice and IF a municipality declares rental units unfit for human habitation, the landlord is required to pay relocation assistance to the displaced tenants. This is a tool that we may not need at the moment, but would like Council to consider so that we may be better prepared should the need arise.

This tool would allow the City to provide relocation assistance of the greater of $2000 or three times the monthly rent for tenants that are displaced by a code enforcement action taken by the City if the property owner does not provide such assistance within 7 days of notification that a dwelling unit is declared unfit. One of the purposes of this RCW provision was to provide enforcement mechanisms to cities, towns, counties, or municipal corporations including the ability to advance relocation funds to tenants who are displaced as a result of a landlord's failure to remedy code violations and later to collect the full amounts of these relocation funds, along with interest and penalties, from landlords.

In order to employ the tools provided in RCW 59.18.085, the Council needs to confirm its intent to invoke the use of the provisions. The proposed amendments to Title 20 of the Shoreline Municipal Code: 1) add the Council's intent to utilize the provisions of RCW 59.18.085 if and when applicable; and 2) set forth the procedures for collection.

Minor Recodification. If the Council adopts the interior property maintenance standards, the City will be using the International Property Maintenance Code to define its broadest class of nuisance Code Violations rather than the 1997 Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings. The proposed ordinance repeals the adoption section for the UCADB from Title 20. Minor non-substantive recodification of the code enforcement subchapter includes consolidating separate references to civil penalties and abatement; and reordering the subsections to more directly reflect the order of steps used in the code enforcement process. Finally, clarification that abatement is demolition, repair or removal of a condition is continued from the local amendment to the UCADB that is now being repealed. This is important to allow removal of garbage accumulations which are included as a Code Violation under the Garbage Code, but not included as a repair of a structure under the Property Maintenance Code.

Code Enforcement Priorities Guidelines

The Code Enforcement Priorities list was approved by Council in 2000. Attachment C contains the Code Enforcement Priority Guidelines shown in legislative format. The following is a discussion of the staff proposed changes:

1) Change the bullets to numbers to confirm the general order of importance. In practice, staff has been treating the bulleted list to be in order of importance.

2) Priority 3: update by removing rivers, streams, wetlands, riparian areas and replace with critical areas. Critical areas encompasses all environmentally sensitive areas that are regulated by the City.

3) Priority 4: "Illegal Dumping in Progress" - move to the end of the Urgent Level Priorities.

4) Add a new Priority 8: "Work without Permit – faulty or unsafe construction &/or construction of habitable space".

5) Delete Priority 13 "Violations of a Stop Work Lite" – this is covered in Priority 5 "Violations of Stop Work Order or Notice to Vacate".

6) Move Priority 15 "Land use violations with major impact" from Medium Level Priority to an Important Level Priority. These issues have required more immediate attention than the other issues listed in the Medium Level priority list. For example, an illegal home occupation is reported due to deliveries be made to the home that are related to the business. The delivery trucks are routinely parking partially in the traveled Right of Way. This is a land use violation with major impacts and we have been responding to this type of a complaint more expediently than we would a Medium Level Priority.

7) Move Priority 16 "Violations of permit conditions, remediation or mitigation requirements from an Important Level to a Medium Priority Level. These issues are typically are not on par with the issues listed in the Important Level Priorities. These issues tend to be things like – removal of required landscaping; removal of a required parking space(s) without safety implications.

8) Delete Priority 23 "Referrals from City Council, City employees or outside agencies" from the Priority List. These referrals should be considered according to the established priority guidelines.

9) Delete Priority 24 "Remedial Monitoring". We do not monitor for violations. When a property has been brought into compliance, we view the property the same as we all properties.

10) Clarify Priority 27, 28, 29 and 30 by adding "unless creating a hazardous condition". If a hazardous situation is created, the complaint may be elevated to an Urgent Level Priority.

Council is being asked to approve the proposed changes to the Code Enforcement Priority Guideline List.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 466 adding minimum interior standards to the adopted International Property Maintenance Code and directing use of relocation assistance; and Staff recommends approval of the proposed changes to the City's Code Enforcement Priority Guideline List.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A	Ordinance No. 466 Amendments to the adopted International Property Maintenance Code and Title 20.30 Subchapter 9. Code Enforcement
Attachment B	RCW 59.18.085
Attachment C	Proposed Updates to the Code Enforcement Priority Guidelines

ORDINANCE NO. 466

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON AMENDING CODE ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS TO ADD INTERIOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE STANDARDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE AND AUTHORIZATION OF RELOCATION COSTS FOR TENANTS OF UNFIT RESIDENCES; AND AMENDING SECTION 15.05.020 AND CHAPTER 20.30 OF THE SHORELINE MUNICIPAL CODE

WHEREAS the City Council approved a work plan for 2004-2005 that included a goal to "Review and consider improvements in code enforcement standards"; and

WHEREAS on September 12, 2005 the City Council adopted the 2003 International Property Maintenance Code as amended to include minimum standards for the exterior of properties only; and

WHEREAS at the September 12, 2005 meeting the City Council requested staff to perform additional study on the International Property Maintenance Code minimum standards for the interior of properties; and

WHEREAS staff presented the results of the additional study requested at the February 12, 2007 City Council meeting; and

WHEREAS City Council considered the additional information presented at the February 12, 2007 meeting and instructed staff to prepare an Ordinance to consider adoption of the 2003 International Property Maintenance Code minimum standards for the interiors of structures; and

WHEREAS, RCW 59.18.085 requires that landlords pay relocation assistance in the event tenants are displaced by a City declaration that dwelling units are unfit for human habitation and provides that the City of Shoreline may provide relocation assistance to displaced tenants in the event that the landlord fails to do so; and

WHEREAS adoption of International Property Maintenance Code sections on abatement of buildings unfit for human habitation replaces similar procedures under the currently used Uniform Code of Abatement of Dangerous Building ; now therefore

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment. SMC 15.05.020(K) is amended as follows:

15.05.020 (K) Adoption of referenced codes.

The 2003 International Property Maintenance Code published by the International Code Council as amended and filed under city clerk's receiving number ~~3505~~ 4283.

Section 2. Amendment. SMC 20.30.740 is amended to read as follows:

20.30.740 Enforcement provisions.

. . . [A-C unchanged]

D. Civil Penalties.

1. A civil penalty for violation of the terms and conditions of a notice and order shall be imposed in the amount of $500.00. The total initial penalties assessed for notice and orders and stop work orders pursuant to this section shall apply for the first 14-day period following the violation of the order, if no appeal is filed. The penalties for the next 14-day period shall be 150 percent of the initial penalties, and the penalties for the next 14-day period and each such period or portion thereafter, shall be double the amount of the initial penalties.

2. Any responsible party who has committed a violation of the provisions of Chapter 20.80 SMC, Critical Areas, or Chapter 20.50 SMC, General Development Standards (tree conservation, land clearing and site grading standards), will not only be required to restore unlawfully removed trees or damaged critical areas, insofar as that is possible and beneficial, as determined by the Director, but will also be required to pay civil penalties in addition to penalties under subsection (D)(1) of this section, for the redress of ecological, recreation, and economic values lost or damaged due to the violation. Civil penalties will be assessed according to the following factors:

a. An amount determined to be equivalent to the economic benefit that the responsible party derives from the violation measured as the total of:

i. The resulting increase in market value of the property; and

ii. The value received by the responsible party; and

iii. The savings of construction costs realized by the responsible party as a result of performing any act in violation of the chapter; and

b. A penalty of $1,000 if the violation was deliberate, the result of knowingly false information submitted by the property owner, agent, or contractor, or the result of reckless disregard on the part of the property owner, agent, or their contractor. The property owner shall assume the burden of proof for demonstrating that the violation was not deliberate; and

c. A penalty of $2,000 if the violation has severe ecological impacts, including temporary or permanent loss of resource values or functions.

3. A repeat violation means a violation of the same regulation in any location within the City by the same responsible party, for which voluntary compliance previously has been sought or any enforcement action taken, within the immediate preceding 24-consecutive-month period, and will incur double the civil penalties set forth above.

4. Under RCW 59.18.085, if, after sixty (60) days from the date that the City first advanced relocation assistance funds to displaced tenants, the landlord does not repay the amount of relocation assistance advanced by the City, the City shall assess civil penalties in the amount of fifty dollars ($50.00) per day for each tenant to whom the City has advanced a relocation assistance payment.

4-5. The responsible parties have a duty to notify the Director of any actions taken to achieve compliance with the notice and order. For purposes of assessing civil penalties, a violation shall be considered ongoing until the responsible party has come into compliance with the notice and order and has notified the Director of this compliance, and an official inspection has verified compliance.

5-6. Civil penalties may be waived or reimbursed to the payer by the Director, with the concurrence of the Finance Director, under the following circumstances:

a. The notice and order was issued in error; or

b. The civil penalties were assessed in error; or

c. Notice failed to reach the property owner due to unusual circumstances; or

d. Compelling new information warranting waiver has been presented to the Director since the notice and order was issued and documented with the waiver decision.

E. Abatement.

1. All public nuisances are subject to abatement under this subchapter.

2. Imminent Nuisance and Summary Abatement. If a condition, substance, act or nuisance exists which causes a condition the continued existence of which constitutes an immediate and emergent threat to the public health, safety or welfare or to the environment, the City may summarily and without prior notice abate the condition. Notice of such abatement, including the reason for the abatement, shall be given to the person responsible for the property and the violation as soon as reasonably possible after the abatement. The Director shall make the determination of a condition, substance, act or other occurrence

constituting an imminent nuisance requiring summary abatement. Costs, both direct and indirect, of the abatement may be assessed as provided in this chapter.

3. In the case of such unfit dwellings, buildings, structures, and premises or portions thereof, the Director, as an alternative to any other remedy provided in this subchapter, may abate such conditions by demolition, repair, removal, or securing the site and have abatement costs collected as taxes by the King County treasury pursuant to SMC 20.30.775. If an occupied rental dwelling or its premises are declared unfit and required to be vacated by a notice and order, and the landlord fails to pay relocation assistance as set forth in RCW 59.18.085, the City shall advance relocation assistance funds to eligible tenants in accordance with RCW 59.18.085.

F. Additional Enforcement Provisions. The enforcement provisions of this section are not exclusive, and may be used in addition to other enforcement provisions authorized by the Shoreline Municipal Code or by state law, including filing for injunctive relief or filing of a civil action

Section 2. Recodification. SMC 20.30.750 is recodified as SMC 20.30.740; SMC 20.30.760 is recodified as SMC 20.30.750; SMC 20.30.770 is recodified as SMC 20.30.760; and SMC 20.30.740 is recodified as SMC 20.30.770.

Section 3. Repeal. Subsection SMC 20.30.770(J) is repealed in its entirety.

Section 4. Amendment. SMC 20.30.775 is amended to read as follows:

20.30.775 Collection of penalties and costs.

A. All monies collected from the assessment of civil penalties and for abatement costs and work shall be allocated to support expenditures for abatement, and shall be accounted for through either creation of a fund or other appropriate accounting mechanism in the Department issuing the notice and order under which the abatement occurred.

B. The amount of cost of repairs, alterations or improvements; or vacating and closing; or removal or demolition by the Director shall be assessed against the real property upon which such cost was incurred unless such amount is previously paid. For the purposes of this section, the cost of vacating and closing shall include (i) the amount of relocation assistance payments advanced to the tenants under RCW 59.18.085 that a property owner has not repaid to the City and (ii) all penalties and interest that accrue as a result of the failure of the property owner to timely repay the amount of these relocation assistance payments under RCW 59.18.085.

Upon certification ~~to him~~ by the City Finance Director of the assessment amount being due and owing, the County Treasurer shall enter the amount of such assessment upon the tax rolls against the property for the current year and the

same shall become a part of the general taxes for that year to be collected at the same time and with interest at such rates and in such manner as provided for in RCW 84.56.020, as now or hereafter amended, for delinquent taxes, and when collected to be deposited to the credit of the general fund of the City.

If the dwelling, building structure, or premises is removed or demolished by the Director, the Director shall, if possible, sell the materials from such dwelling, building, structure, or premises and shall credit the proceeds of such sale against the cost of the removal or demolition and if there be any balance remaining, it shall be paid to the parties entitled thereto, as determined by the Director, after deducting the costs incident thereto.

The assessment shall constitute a lien against the property, which shall be of equal rank with State, county and municipal taxes.

C. In addition to, or in lieu of, the provisions set forth in this subchapter, the City may commence a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction to collect for any such charges incurred by the City to obtain compliance pursuant to this chapter and/or to collect any penalties that have been assessed.

Section 5. Effective Date and Publication. A summary of this ordinance consisting of its title shall be published in the official newspaper of the City. The ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five days after passage and publication.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON APRIL 9, 2007.

_____
Mayor Robert L. Ransom

ATTEST:

_____
Scott Passey
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Ian Sievers
City Attorney

Date of Publication:
Effective Date:

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Ian Sievers
City Attorney

Date of Publication:
Effective Date:

Attachment B

RCW 59.18.085
Rental of condemned or unlawful dwelling -- Tenant's remedies -- Relocation assistance -- Penalties.

(1) If a governmental agency responsible for the enforcement of a building, housing, or other appropriate code has notified the landlord that a dwelling is condemned or unlawful to occupy due to the existence of conditions that violate applicable codes, statutes, ordinances, or regulations, a landlord shall not enter into a rental agreement for the dwelling unit until the conditions are corrected.

(2) If a landlord knowingly violates subsection (1) of this section, the tenant shall recover either three months' periodic rent or up to treble the actual damages sustained as a result of the violation, whichever is greater, costs of suit, or arbitration and reasonable attorneys' fees. If the tenant elects to terminate the tenancy as a result of the conditions leading to the posting, or if the appropriate governmental agency requires that the tenant vacate the premises, the tenant also shall recover:

(a) The entire amount of any deposit prepaid by the tenant; and

(b) All prepaid rent.

(3)(a) If a governmental agency responsible for the enforcement of a building, housing, or other appropriate code has notified the landlord that a dwelling will be condemned or will be unlawful to occupy due to the existence of conditions that violate applicable codes, statutes, ordinances, or regulations, a landlord, who knew or should have known of the existence of these conditions, shall be required to pay relocation assistance to the displaced tenants except that:

(i) A landlord shall not be required to pay relocation assistance to any displaced tenant in a case in which the condemnation or no occupancy order affects one or more dwelling units and directly results from conditions caused by a tenant's or any third party's illegal conduct without the landlord's prior knowledge;

(ii) A landlord shall not be required to pay relocation assistance to any displaced tenant in a case in which the condemnation or no occupancy order affects one or more dwelling units and results from conditions arising from a natural disaster such as, but not exclusively, an earthquake, tsunami, wind storm, or hurricane; and

(iii) A landlord shall not be required to pay relocation assistance to any displaced tenant in a case in which a condemnation affects one or more dwelling units and the tenant's displacement is a direct result of the acquisition of the property by eminent domain.

(b) Relocation assistance provided to displaced tenants under this subsection shall be the greater amount of two thousand dollars per dwelling unit or three times the monthly rent. In addition to relocation assistance, the landlord shall be required to pay to the displaced tenants the entire amount of any deposit prepaid by the tenant and all prepaid rent.

(c) The landlord shall pay relocation assistance and any prepaid deposit and prepaid rent to displaced tenants within seven days of the governmental agency sending notice of the condemnation, eviction, or displacement order to the landlord. The landlord shall pay relocation assistance and any prepaid deposit and prepaid rent either by making individual payments by certified check to displaced tenants or by providing a certified check to the governmental agency ordering condemnation, eviction, or displacement, for distribution to the displaced tenants. If the landlord fails to complete payment of relocation assistance within the period required under this subsection, the city, town, county, or

municipal corporation may advance the cost of the relocation assistance payments to the displaced tenants.

(d) During the period from the date that a governmental agency responsible for the enforcement of a building, housing, or other appropriate code first notifies the landlord of conditions that violate applicable codes, statutes, ordinances, or regulations to the time that relocation assistance payments are paid to eligible tenants, or the conditions leading to the notification are corrected, the landlord may not:

(i) Evict, harass, or intimidate tenants into vacating their units for the purpose of avoiding or diminishing application of this section;

(ii) Reduce services to any tenant; or

(iii) Materially increase or change the obligations of any tenant, including but not limited to any rent increase.

(e) Displaced tenants shall be entitled to recover any relocation assistance, prepaid deposits, and prepaid rent required by (b) of this subsection. In addition, displaced tenants shall be entitled to recover any actual damages sustained by them as a result of the condemnation, eviction, or displacement that exceed the amount of relocation assistance that is payable. In any action brought by displaced tenants to recover any payments or damages required or authorized by this subsection (3)(e) or (c) of this subsection that are not paid by the landlord or advanced by the city, town, county, or municipal corporation, the displaced tenants shall also be entitled to recover their costs of suit or arbitration and reasonable attorneys' fees.

(f) If, after sixty days from the date that the city, town, county, or municipal corporation first advanced relocation assistance funds to the displaced tenants, a landlord has failed to repay the amount of relocation assistance advanced by the city, town, county, or municipal corporation under (c) of this subsection, then the city, town, county, or municipal corporation shall assess civil penalties in the amount of fifty dollars per day for each tenant to whom the city, town, county, or municipal corporation has advanced a relocation assistance payment.

(g) In addition to the penalties set forth in (f) of this subsection, interest will accrue on the amount of relocation assistance paid by the city, town, county, or municipal corporation for which the property owner has not reimbursed the city, town, county, or municipal corporation. The rate of interest shall be the maximum legal rate of interest permitted under RCW 19.52.020, commencing thirty days after the date that the city first advanced relocation assistance funds to the displaced tenants.

(h) If the city, town, county, or municipal corporation must initiate legal action in order to recover the amount of relocation assistance payments that it has advanced to low-income tenants, including any interest and penalties under (f) and (g) of this subsection, the city, town, county, or municipal corporation shall be entitled to attorneys' fees and costs arising from its legal action.

(4) The government agency that has notified the landlord that a dwelling will be condemned or will be unlawful to occupy shall notify the displaced tenants that they may be entitled to relocation assistance under this section.

(5) No payment received by a displaced tenant under this section may be considered as income for the purpose of determining the eligibility or extent of eligibility of any person for assistance under any state law or for the purposes of any tax imposed under Title 82 RCW, and the payments shall not be deducted from any amount to which any recipient would otherwise be entitled under Title 74 RCW.

[2005 c 364 § 2; 1989 c 342 § 13.]

NOTES:

Purpose -- 2005 c 364: "The people of the state of Washington deserve decent, safe, and sanitary housing. Certain tenants in the state of Washington have remained in rental housing that does not meet the state's minimum standards for health and safety because they cannot afford to pay the costs of relocation in advance of occupying new, safe, and habitable housing. In egregious cases, authorities have been forced to condemn property when landlords have failed to remedy building code or health code violations after repeated notice, and, as a result, families with limited financial resources have been displaced and left with nowhere to go.

The purpose of this act is to establish a process by which displaced tenants would receive funds for relocation from landlords who fail to provide safe and sanitary housing after due notice of building code or health code violations. It is also the purpose of this act to provide enforcement mechanisms to cities, towns, counties, or municipal corporations including the ability to advance relocation funds to tenants who are displaced as a result of a landlord's failure to remedy building code or health code violations and later to collect the full amounts of these relocation funds, along with interest and penalties, from landlords." [2005 c 364 § 1.]

Construction -- 2005 c 364: "The powers and authority conferred by this act are in addition and supplemental to powers or authority conferred by any other law or authority, and nothing contained herein shall be construed to preempt any local ordinance requiring relocation assistance to tenants displaced by a landlord's failure to remedy building code or health code violations." [2005 c 364 § 4.]

Priority Level Guidelines

The following guidelines were established to help guide the initial response times, as well as the initial enforcement actions. Because each case will likely be unique, investigators must use their best judgment to combine all factors and determine an appropriate response and level of enforcement. The priority may be adjusted following initial research because of additional information, factors revealed during field inspection, or the development of exigent circumstances. Generally speaking, the greater the threat to public health and safety, and to the environment, the higher the priority.

Urgent Level Priority (hazardous)

1. Violations that present an imminent threat to public health and safety, including hazardous conditions
2. Violations that present an imminent threat to the environment
3. Violations affecting ~~rivers, wetlands~~ critical area with significant impact
4. ~~Illegal dumping in progress~~ *(moved to end of Urgent Level Priority).*
5. Violations of Stop Work Order or Notice to Vacate
6. Requests for immediate assistance from other agencies (i.e. Police, Health, Dept of Ecology, etc)
7. Illegal dumping in progress *(moved from old # 4)*

Important Level Priority

8. Work without Permit – faulty or unsafe construction &/or construction of habitable space

~~7.~~9. Violations of permit conditions, remediation or mitigation requirements *(moved to Medium Level Priority.*

~~8.~~10. Major accumulations of junk and debris and attractive nuisances to children

~~9.~~11. Wetlands violations with minimal impact

~~10.~~12. Illegal dumping with suspect information

~~11.~~13. ~~Violations of Stop Work Lite~~ (deleted because covered in #5)

~~12.~~14. Substandard housing not presenting an imminent threat

15. Land use violations with major impact *(moved from Medium Level Priority)*

Medium Level Priority (non hazardous)

16. Violations of permit conditions, remediation or mitigation requirements *(moved from Important Level Priority)*

~~13.~~17. Extensive illegal auto repair activity

~~14.~~18. Junk vehicles (repeat offense or 3+ vehicles)

~~15.~~19. ~~Land use violations with major impact~~. *(moved to Important Level Priority)*

~~16.~~20. Repeat violations

~~17.~~21. Violations of permitted activities

~~18.~~22. Proactive projects

~~19.~~23. ~~Referrals from City Council, City employees or outside agencies~~ *referrals should be prioritized according to established priority criteria)*

~~20.~~24. ~~Remedial monitoring~~ *(deleted - we do not do – we have a complaint based program)*

Routine/Low Level Priority (non hazardous)

~~21.~~25. Minor accumulations of junk and debris

~~22.~~26. Land use violations with minimum impact (i.e. one inoperable vehicle, one vehicle parked on pervious surface, etc)

~~23.~~27. Sign complaints (unless creating hazard condition)

~~24.~~28. Sidewalk obstructions (unless creating hazard condition)

~~25.~~29. Fence complaints (unless creating hazard condition)

~~26.~~30. Setback violations (unless creating hazard condition)

City of Shoreline
Property Maintenance Code

Adopted September 12, 2005
Published September 15, 2005
Effective Date September 20, 2005

Amended from the 2003 International Property Maintenance Code published by the International Code Council as amended and filed under City of Shoreline - City Clerk's receiving number ~~35054~~283.

PREFACE

Introduction

Internationally, code officials recognize the need for a modern, up-to-date property maintenance code governing the maintenance of existing buildings. The *International Property Maintenance Code*, in this 2003 edition, is designed to meet this need through model code regulations that contain clear and specific property maintenance requirements with required property improvement provisions.

This 2003 edition is fully compatible with all the *International Codes* ("I-Codes") published by the International Code Council (ICC), including the *International Building Code, ICC Electrical Code, International Energy Conservation Code, International Existing Building Code, International Fire Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Mechanical Code, ICC Performance Code, International Plumbing Code, International Private Sewage Disposal Code, International Residential Code, International Urban-Wildland Interface Code* and *International Zoning Code.*

The *International Property Maintenance Code* provisions provide many benefits, among which is the model code development process that offers an international forum for code officials and other interested parties to discuss performance and prescriptive code requirements. This forum provides an excellent arena to debate proposed revisions. This model code also encourages international consistency in the application of provisions.

This code is founded on principles intended to establish provisions consistent with the scope of a property maintenance code that adequately protects public health, safety and welfare; provisions that do not unnecessarily increase construction costs; provisions that do not restrict the use of new materials, productions or methods of construction; and provisions that do not give preferential treatment to particular types or classes of materials, products or methods of construction.

Letter Designations in Front of Section Numbers

In each code development cycle, proposed changes to this code are considered at the Code Development Hearing by the International Property Maintenance Code Development Committee, whose action constitutes a recommendation to the voting membership for final action on the proposed change. Proposed changes to a code section whose number begins with a letter in brackets are considered by a different code development committee. For instance, proposed changes to code sections which have the letter [F] in front (e.g., [F] 704.1), are considered by the International Fire Code Development Committee at the Code Development Hearing. Where this designation is applicable to the entire content of a main section of the code, the designation appears at the main section number and title and is not repeated at every subsection in that section.

The content of sections in this code which begin with a letter designation are maintained by another code development committee in accordance with the following: [F] = International Fire Code Development Committee; and [P] = International Plumbing Code Development Committee.

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CHAPTER 1
ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 101
GENERAL

101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the *Property Maintenance Code* of City of Shoreline, hereinafter referred to as "this code."

101.2 Scope. The provisions of this code shall apply to all existing residential and nonresidential structures and all existing premises and constitute minimum requirements and standards for premises, structures, equipment and facilities for light, ventilation, space, heating, sanitation, protection from the elements, life safety, safety from fire and other hazards, and for safe and sanitary maintenance; the responsibility of owners, operators and occupants; the occupancy of existing structures and premises, and for administration, enforcement and penalties.

101.3 Intent. This code shall be construed to secure its expressed intent, which is to ensure public health, safety and welfare insofar as they are affected by the continued occupancy and maintenance of structures and premises. Existing structures and premises that do not comply with these provisions shall be altered or repaired to provide a minimum level of health and safety as required herein. Repairs, alterations, additions to and change of occupancy in existing buildings shall comply with the *International Building Code*.

101.4 Severability. If a section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this code is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this code.

SECTION 102
APPLICABILITY

102.1 General. The provisions of this code shall apply to all matters affecting or relating to structures and premises, as set forth in Section 101. Where, in a specific case, different sections of this code specify different requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.

102.2 Maintenance. Equipment, systems, devices and safeguards required by this code or a previous regulation or code under which the structure or premises was constructed, altered or repaired shall be maintained in good working order. No owner, operator or occupant shall cause any service, facility, equipment or utility which is required under this section to be removed from or shut off from or discontinued for any occupied dwelling, except for such temporary interruption as necessary while repairs or alterations are in progress. The requirements of this code are not intended to provide the basis for removal or abrogation of fire protection and safety systems and devices in existing structures. Except as otherwise specified herein, the owner or the owner's designated agent shall be responsible for the maintenance of buildings, structures and premises.

102.3 Application of other codes. Repairs, additions or alterations to a structure, or changes of occupancy, shall be done in accordance with the procedures and provisions of *Title 15 of the City of Shoreline Municipal Code*. Nothing in this code shall be construed to cancel, modify or set aside any provision of *Title 20 of the City of Shoreline Municipal Code (Shoreline Development Code)*.

102.4 Existing remedies. The provisions in this code shall not be construed to abolish or impair existing remedies of the jurisdiction or its officers or agencies relating to the removal or demolition of any structure which is dangerous, unsafe and unsanitary.

102.5 Workmanship. Repairs, maintenance work, alterations or installations which are caused directly or indirectly by the enforcement of this code shall be executed and installed in a workmanlike manner and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

102.6 Historic buildings. The provisions of this code shall not be mandatory for existing buildings or structures designated as historic buildings when such buildings or structures are judged by the code official to be safe and in the public interest of health, safety and welfare.

102.7 Referenced codes and standards. The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be those that are listed in Chapter 8 and considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and the referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

102.8 Requirements not covered by code. Requirements necessary for the strength, stability or proper operation of an existing fixture, structure or equipment, or for the public safety, health and general welfare, not specifically covered by this code, shall be determined by the code official.

SECTION 103
CODE ENFORCEMENT

103.1 General. The code official is charged with carrying out the provisions of this code, and the City Manager or designee thereof shall be known as the code official.

103.4 Liability. The code official, officer or employee charged with the enforcement of this code, while acting for the jurisdiction, shall not thereby be rendered liable personally, and is hereby relieved from all personal liability for any damage accruing to persons or property as a result of an act required or permitted in the discharge of official duties.

Any suit instituted against any officer or employee because of an act performed by that officer or employee in the lawful discharge of duties and under the provisions of this code shall be defended by the legal representative of the jurisdiction until the final termination of the proceedings. The code official or any subordinate shall not be liable for costs in an action, suit or proceeding that is instituted in pursuance of the provisions of this code; and any officer of the department of property maintenance inspection, acting in good faith and without malice, shall be free from liability for acts performed under any of its provisions or by reason of any act or omission in the performance of official duties in connection therewith.

103.5 Fees. The fees for activities and services performed by the department in carrying out its responsibilities under this code shall be as indicated in the following schedule.

> Reinspection fees may be assessed if work is incomplete, corrections not completed or the allotted time is depleted. All City of Shoreline fees shall be established by Shoreline Municipal Code Chapter 3.01.010. Fees will be assessed at the hourly charge in minimum fifteen (15) minute increments.

SECTION 104
DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE CODE OFFICIAL

104.1 General. The code official shall enforce the provisions of this code.

104.2 Rule-making authority. The code official shall have authority as necessary in the interest of public health, safety and general welfare, to adopt and promulgate rules and procedures; to interpret and implement the provisions of this code; to secure the intent thereof; and to designate requirements applicable because of local climatic or other conditions. Such rules shall not have

the effect of waiving structural or fire performance requirements specifically provided for in this code, or of violating accepted engineering methods involving public safety.

104.3 Inspections. The code official shall make all of the required inspections, or shall accept reports of inspection by approved agencies or individuals. All reports of such inspections shall be in writing and be certified by a responsible officer of such approved agency or by the responsible individual. The code official is authorized to engage such expert opinion as deemed necessary to report upon unusual technical issues that arise, subject to the approval of the appointing authority.

104.4 Right of entry. The code official is authorized to enter the structure or premises at reasonable times to inspect subject to constitutional restrictions on unreasonable searches and seizures. If entry is refused or not obtained, the code official is authorized to pursue recourse as provided by law.

104.5 Identification. The code official shall carry proper identification when inspecting structures or premises in the performance of duties under this code.

104.6 Notices and orders. The code official shall issue all necessary notices or orders to ensure compliance with this code.

104.7 Department records. The code official shall keep official records of all business and activities of the department specified in the provisions of this code. Such records shall be retained in the official records as long as the building or structure to which such records relate remains in existence, unless otherwise provided for by other regulations.

104.8 Coordination of inspections. Whenever in the enforcement of this code or another code or ordinance, the responsibility of more than one code official of the jurisdiction is involved, it shall be the duty of the code officials involved to coordinate their inspections and administrative orders as fully as practicable so that the owners and occupants of the structure shall not be subjected to visits by numerous inspectors or multiple or conflicting orders. Whenever an inspector from any agency or department observes an apparent or actual violation of some provision of some law, ordinance or code not within the inspector's authority to enforce, the inspector shall report the findings to the code official having jurisdiction.

SECTION 105
APPROVAL

105.1 Modifications. Whenever there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the code official shall have the authority to grant modifications for individual cases, provided the code official shall first find that special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical and the modification is in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, life and fire safety requirements. The details of action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the department files.

105.2 Alternative materials, methods and equipment. The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. An alternative material or method of construction shall be approved where the code official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety.

105.3 Required testing. Whenever there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this code, or evidence that a material or method does not conform to the requirements of this code, or in order to substantiate claims for alternative materials or methods, the code official shall have the authority to require tests to be made as evidence of compliance at no expense to the jurisdiction.

105.3.1 Test methods. Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods, the code official shall be permitted to approve appropriate testing procedures performed by an approved agency.

105.3.2 Test reports. Reports of tests shall be retained by the code official for the period required for retention of public records.

105.4 Material and equipment reuse. Materials, equipment and devices shall not be reused unless such elements are in good repair or have been reconditioned and tested when necessary, placed in good and proper working condition and approved.

SECTION 106
VIOLATIONS

106.1 Unlawful acts. It shall be unlawful for a person, firm or corporation to be in conflict with or in violation of any of the provisions of this code.

106.2 Notice of violation. The code official shall serve a notice of violation order in accordance with Shoreline Municipal Code, Title 20, Chapter 30, subchapter 9.

106.3 Prosecution of violation. Prosecution of violations shall be in accordance with Shoreline Municipal Code Title 20, Chapter 30.

106.4 Violation penalties. Penalties shall be assessed in accordance with Shoreline Municipal Code Title 20, Chapter 30.

106.5 Abatement of violation. Abatement of violations shall be in accordance with Shoreline Municipal Code Title 20, Chapter 30.

SECTION 107
NOTICES AND ORDERS

107.1 Notice to person responsible. Whenever the code official determines that there has been a violation of this code or has grounds to believe that a violation has occurred, notice shall be given in the manner prescribed in Shoreline Municipal Code, Title 20, Chapter 30, subchapter 9.

107.2 Form. Such notice prescribed in Section 107.1 shall be in accordance with: Shoreline Municipal Code, Title 20, Chapter 30, subchapter 9.

107.3 Method of service. Such notice shall be deemed to be properly served: if delivered in accordance with Shoreline Municipal Code, Title 20, Chapter 30, subchapter 9.

107.4 Penalties. Penalties for noncompliance with orders and notices shall be as set forth in Shoreline Municipal Code, Title 20, Chapter 30, subchapter 9.

107.5 Transfer of ownership. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dwelling unit or structure who has received a notice and order or upon whom a notice and order has been served to sell, transfer, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of such dwelling unit or structure to another until the provisions of the notice and order has been complied with, or until such owner shall first

furnish the grantee, transferee, mortgagee or lessee a true copy of any notice and order issued by the code official and shall furnish to the code official a signed and notarized statement from the grantee, transferee, mortgagee or lessee, acknowledging the receipt of such notice and order and fully accepting the responsibility without condition for making the corrections or repairs required by such notice and order.

SECTION 108
UNSAFE STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT

108.1 General. When a structure or equipment is found by the code official to be unsafe, or when a structure is found unfit for human occupancy, or is found unlawful, such structure shall be condemned pursuant to the provisions of this code.

108.1.1 Unsafe structures. An unsafe structure is one that is found to be dangerous to the life, health, property or safety of the public or the occupants of the structure by not providing minimum safeguards to protect or warn occupants in the event of fire, or because such structure contains unsafe equipment or is so damaged, decayed, dilapidated, structurally unsafe or of such faulty construction or unstable foundation, that partial or complete collapse is possible.

108.1.2 Unsafe equipment. Unsafe equipment includes any boiler, heating equipment, elevator, moving stairway, electrical wiring or device, flammable liquid containers or other equipment on the premises or within the structure which is in such disrepair or condition that such equipment is a hazard to life, health, property or safety of the public or occupants of the premises or structure.

108.1.3 Structure unfit for human occupancy. A structure is unfit for human occupancy whenever the code official finds that such structure is unsafe, unlawful or, because of the degree to which the structure is in disrepair or lacks maintenance, is insanitary, vermin or rat infested, contains filth and contamination, or lacks ventilation, illumination, sanitary or heating facilities or other essential equipment required by this code, or because the location of the structure constitutes a hazard to the occupants of the structure or to the public.

108.1.4 Unlawful structure. An unlawful structure is one found in whole or in part to be occupied by more persons than permitted under this code, or was erected, altered or occupied contrary to law.

108.2 Closing of vacant structures. If the structure is vacant and unfit for human habitation and occupancy, and is not in danger of structural collapse, the code official is authorized to post a placard of condemnation on the premises and order the structure closed up so as not to be an attractive nuisance. Upon failure of the owner to close up the premises within the time specified in the order, the code official shall cause the premises to be closed and secured through any available public agency or by contract or arrangement by private persons and the cost thereof shall be charged against the real estate upon which the structure is located and shall be a lien upon such real estate and may be collected by any other legal resource.

108.3 Notice. Whenever the code official has condemned a structure or equipment under the provisions of this section, notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place in or about the structure affected by such notice and served on the owner or the person or persons responsible for the structure or equipment in accordance with Section 107.3. If the notice pertains to equipment, it shall also be placed on the condemned equipment. The notice shall be in the form prescribed in Section 107.2.

108.4 Placarding. Upon failure of the owner or person responsible to comply with the notice provisions within the time given, the code official shall post on the premises or on defective equipment a placard bearing the word "Condemned" and a statement of the penalties provided for occupying the premises, operating the equipment or removing the placard.

108.4.1 Placard removal. The code official shall remove the condemnation placard whenever the defect or defects upon which the condemnation and placarding action were based have been eliminated. Any person who defaces or removes a condemnation placard without the approval of the code official shall be subject to the penalties provided by this code.

108.5 Prohibited occupancy. Any occupied structure condemned and placarded by the code official shall be vacated as ordered by the code official. Any person who shall occupy a placarded premises or shall operate placarded equipment, and any owner or any person responsible for the premises who shall let anyone occupy a placarded premises or operate placarded equipment shall be liable for the penalties provided by this code.

108.6 Relocation assistance. If an occupied rental dwelling or its premises are declared unfit and required to be vacated by a notice and order, the City shall advance relocation assistance funds to eligible tenants as set forth in RCW 59.18.085 in the event the landlord fails to pay the relocation assistance as required by RCW 59.18.085.

SECTION 109
EMERGENCY MEASURES

109.1 Imminent danger. When, in the opinion of the code official, there is imminent danger of failure or collapse of a building or structure which endangers life, or when any structure or part of a structure has fallen and life is endangered by the occupation of the structure, or when there is actual or potential danger to those in the proximity of any structure/premise. Potentially dangerous conditions include explosives, explosive fumes or vapors or the presence of toxic fumes, gases or materials, or operation of defective or dangerous equipment, open pits, wells, shafts, or other dangerous excavations unprotected or inadequately protected. The code official is hereby authorized and empowered to order and require the occupants to vacate the premises forthwith. The code official shall cause to be posted a notice reading as follows: "This Structure/Premise Is Unsafe and Its Occupancy/Use Has Been Prohibited by the Code Official." It shall be unlawful for any person to enter upon this property except for the purpose of securing the property,, making the required repairs, removing the hazardous condition or of demolishing the same.

109.2 Temporary safeguards. Notwithstanding other provisions of this code, whenever, in the opinion of the code official, there is imminent danger due to an unsafe condition, the code official shall order the necessary work to be done, including the boarding up of openings and/or the fencing of premises, to render such structure/premise temporarily safe whether or not the legal procedure herein described has been instituted; and shall cause such other action to be taken as the code official deems necessary to meet such emergency.

109.3 Closing streets. When necessary for public safety, the code official shall temporarily close structures and close, or order the authority having jurisdiction to close, sidewalks, streets, public ways and places adjacent to unsafe structures, and prohibit the same from being utilized.

109.4 Emergency repairs. For the purposes of this section, the code official shall employ the necessary labor and materials to perform the required work as expeditiously as possible.

109.5 Costs of emergency repairs. Costs incurred in the performance of emergency work shall be paid by the jurisdiction. The legal counsel of the jurisdiction shall institute appropriate action against the owner of the premises where the unsafe structure is or was located for the recovery of such costs.

109.6 Hearing. Any person ordered to take emergency measures shall comply with such order forthwith. Any affected person shall thereafter, , be afforded a hearing as prescribed in Shoreline Municipal Code, Title 20, Chapter 30, subchapter 9.

SECTION 110
DEMOLITION OR REPAIR

110.1 General. The code official shall order the owner of any premises upon which is located any structure, which in the code official's judgment is so old, dilapidated or has become so out of repair as to be dangerous, unsafe, unsanitary or otherwise unfit for human habitation or occupancy, and such that it is unreasonable to repair the structure, to demolish and remove such structure; or if such structure is capable of being made safe by repairs, to repair and make safe and sanitary or to demolish and remove at the owner's option; or where there has been a cessation of normal construction of any structure for a period of more than two years, to demolish and remove such structure.

110.2 Notices and orders. All notices and orders shall comply with Section 107.

110.3 Failure to comply. If the owner of a premises fails to comply with a demolition order within the time prescribed, the code official shall cause the structure to be repaired or demolished and removed, either through an available public agency or by contract or arrangement with private persons, and the cost of such repair or demolition and removal shall be charged against the real estate upon which the structure is located and shall be a lien upon such real estate. Repair as used in the IPMC shall include removal of the condition.

SECTION 111
MEANS OF APPEAL

111.1Application for appeal. Any person directly affected by a decision of the code official or a notice or order issued under this code shall have the right to appeal as prescribed in Shoreline Municipal Code, Title 20, Chapter 30, subchapter 9 An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the true intent of this code or the rules legally adopted there under have been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of this code do not fully apply, or the requirements of this code are adequately satisfied by other means.

CHAPTER 2
DEFINITIONS

SECTION 201
GENERAL

201.1 Scope. Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following terms shall, for the purposes of this code, have the meanings shown in this chapter.

201.2 Interchangeability. Words stated in the present tense include the future; words stated in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the plural and the plural, the singular.

201.3 Terms defined in other codes. Where terms are not defined in this code and are defined in the *International Building Code*, *International Fire Code*, *International Zoning Code*, *International Plumbing Code*, *International Mechanical Code*, *International Existing Building Code* or the ICC *Electrical Code*, such terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them as in those codes.

201.4 Terms not defined. Where terms are not defined through the methods authorized by this section, such terms shall have ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

201.5 Parts. Whenever the words "dwelling unit," "dwelling," "premises," "building," "rooming house," "rooming unit" "housekeeping unit" or "story" are stated in this code, they shall be construed as though they were followed by the words "or any part thereof."

SECTION 202
GENERAL DEFINITIONS

APPROVED. Approved by the code official.

BASEMENT. That portion of a building which is partly or completely below grade.

BATHROOM. A room containing plumbing fixtures including a bathtub or shower.

BEDROOM. Any room or space used or intended to be used for sleeping purposes.

CODE OFFICIAL. The City Manager or his/her designee is charged with the administration and enforcement of this code.

CONDEMN. To adjudge unfit for occupancy or use.

DWELLING UNIT. A single unit providing complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.

EASEMENT. That portion of land or property reserved for present or future use by a person or agency other than the legal fee owner(s) of the property. The easement shall be permitted to be for use under, on or above a said lot or lots.

EXTERIOR PROPERTY. The open space on the premises and on adjoining property under the control of owners or operators of such premises.

EXTERMINATION. The control and elimination of insects, rats or other pests by eliminating their harborage places; by removing or making inaccessible materials that serve as their food; by poison spraying, fumigating, trapping or by any other approved pest elimination methods.

GARBAGE. The animal or vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food.

GUARD. A building component or a system of building components located at or near the open sides of elevated walking surfaces that minimizes the possibility of a fall from the walking surface to a lower level.

HABITABLE SPACE. Space in a structure for living, sleeping, eating or cooking. Bathrooms, toilet rooms, closets, halls, storage or utility spaces, and similar areas are not considered habitable spaces.

HOUSEKEEPING UNIT. A room or group of rooms forming a single habitable space equipped and intended to be used for living, sleeping, cooking and eating which does not contain, within such a unit, a toilet, lavatory and bathtub or shower.

IMMINENT DANGER. A condition which could cause serious or life-threatening injury or death at any time.

INFESTATION. The presence, within or contiguous to, a structure or premises of insects, rats, vermin or other pests.

INOPERABLE MOTOR VEHICLE. A vehicle which cannot be driven upon the public streets for reason including but not limited to being unlicensed, wrecked, abandoned, in a state of disrepair, or incapable of being moved under its own power.

LABELED. Devices, equipment, appliances, or materials to which has been affixed a label, seal, symbol or other identifying mark of a nationally recognized testing laboratory, inspection agency or other organization concerned with product evaluation that maintains periodic inspection of the production of the above-labeled items and by whose label the manufacturer attests to compliance with applicable nationally recognized standards.

LET FOR OCCUPANCY OR LET. To permit, provide or offer possession or occupancy of a dwelling, dwelling unit, rooming unit, building, premise or structure by a person who is or is not the legal owner of record thereof, pursuant to a written or unwritten lease, agreement or license, or pursuant to a recorded or unrecorded agreement of contract for the sale of land.

OCCUPANCY. The purpose for which a building or portion thereof is utilized or occupied.

OCCUPANT. Any individual living or sleeping in a building, or having possession of a space within a building.

OPENABLE AREA. That part of a window, skylight or door which is available for unobstructed ventilation and which opens directly to the outdoors.

OPERATOR. Any person who has charge, care or control of a structure or premises which is let or offered for occupancy.

OWNER. Any person, agent, operator, firm or corporation having a legal or equitable interest in the property; or recorded in the official records of the state, county or municipality as holding title to the property; or otherwise having control of the property, including the guardian of the estate of any such person, and the executor or administrator of the estate of such person if ordered to take possession of real property by a court.

PERSON. An individual, corporation, partnership or any other group acting as a unit.

PREMISES. A lot, plot or parcel of land, easement or public way, including any structures thereon.

PUBLIC WAY. Any street, alley or similar parcel of land essentially unobstructed from the ground to the sky, which is deeded, dedicated or otherwise permanently appropriated to the public for public use.

ROOMING HOUSE. A building arranged or occupied for lodging, with or without meals, for compensation and not occupied as a one- or two-family dwelling.

ROOMING UNIT. Any room or group of rooms forming a single habitable unit occupied or intended to be occupied for sleeping or living, but not for cooking purposes.

RUBBISH. Combustible and noncombustible waste materials, except garbage; the term shall include the residue from the burning of wood, coal, coke and other combustible materials, paper,

rags, cartons, boxes, wood, excelsior, rubber, leather, tree branches, yard trimmings, tin cans, metals, mineral matter, glass, crockery and dust and other similar materials.

STRICT LIABILITY OFFENSE. An offense in which the prosecution in a legal proceeding is not required to prove criminal intent as a part of its case. It is enough to prove that the defendant either did an act which was prohibited, or failed to do an act which the defendant was legally required to do.

STRUCTURE. That which is built or constructed or a portion thereof.

TENANT. A person, corporation, partnership or group, whether or not the legal owner of record, occupying a building or portion thereof as a unit.

TOILET ROOM. A room containing a water closet or urinal but not a bathtub or shower.

VENTILATION. The natural or mechanical process of supplying conditioned or unconditioned air to, or removing such air from, any space.

WATER CLOSET. A water-flushed plumbing fixture designed to receive human waste directly from the user of the fixture.

WORKMANLIKE. Executed in a skilled manner; e.g., generally plumb, level, square, in line, undamaged and without marring adjacent work.

YARD. An open space on the same lot with a structure.

CHAPTER 3
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 301
GENERAL

301.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum conditions and the responsibilities of persons for maintenance of structures, equipment, premises and exterior property.

301.2 Responsibility. The owner of the premises shall maintain the structures, premises and exterior property in compliance with these requirements, except as otherwise provided for in this code. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant or permit another person to occupy premises which are not in a sanitary and safe condition and which do not comply with the requirements of this chapter. Occupants of a dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit are responsible for keeping in a clean, sanitary and safe condition that part of the dwelling unit, rooming unit, housekeeping unit or premises which they occupy and control.

301.3 Vacant structures and land. All vacant structures and premises thereof or vacant land shall be maintained in a clean, safe, secure and sanitary condition as provided herein so as not to cause a blighting problem or adversely affect the public health or safety.

SECTION 302
EXTERIOR PROPERTY AREAS

302.1 Sanitation. All exterior property and premises shall be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition. The occupant shall keep that part of the exterior property which such occupant occupies or controls in a clean and sanitary condition.

302.2 Grading and drainage. All premises shall be graded and maintained to prevent the erosion of soil and to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water thereon, or within any structure located thereon.

Exception: Approved retention areas and reservoirs.

302.3 Sidewalks and driveways. All sidewalks, walkways, stairs, driveways, parking spaces and similar areas shall be kept in a proper state of repair, and maintained free from hazardous conditions.

302.5 Rodent harborage. All structures and exterior property shall be kept free from rodent harborage and infestation. Where rodents are found, they shall be promptly exterminated by approved processes which will not be injurious to human health. After extermination, proper precautions shall be taken to eliminate rodent harborage and prevent reinfestation.

302.6 Exhaust vents. Pipes, ducts, conductors, fans or blowers shall not discharge gases, steam, vapor, hot air, grease, smoke, odors or other gaseous or particulate wastes directly upon abutting or adjacent public or private property or that of another tenant.

302.7 Accessory structures. All accessory structures, including detached garages, fences and walls, shall be maintained structurally sound and in good repair.

302.8 Motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, and boats. Except as provided for in other regulations, no inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicle, recreational vehicle or boat shall be parked, kept or stored on any premises, and no vehicle, recreational vehicle or boat shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, damaged to the extent it prevents normal operation, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled. Painting of vehicles is prohibited unless conducted inside an approved spray booth.

Exception: A vehicle of any type is permitted to undergo major overhaul, including body work, provided that such work is performed inside a structure or similarly enclosed area designed and approved for such purposes.

302.9 Defacement of property. No person shall willfully or wantonly damage, mutilate or deface any exterior surface of any structure or building on any private or public property by placing thereon any marking, carving or graffiti. It shall be the responsibility of the owner to restore said surface to an approved state of maintenance and repair.

SECTION 303
SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS AND HOT TUBS

303.1 Enclosures. Private swimming pools, hot tubs and spas, containing water more than 24 inches (610 mm) in depth shall be completely surrounded by a fence or barrier at least 48 inches (1219 mm) in height above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier away from the pool. Gates and doors in such barriers shall be self-closing and self-latching. Where the self-latching device is less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate. Self-closing and self-latching gates shall be maintained such that the gate will positively close and latch when released from an open position of 6 inches (152 mm) from the gatepost. No existing pool enclosure shall be removed, replaced or changed in a manner that reduces its effectiveness as a safety barrier.

SECTION 304
EXTERIOR STRUCTURE

304.1 General. The exterior of a structure shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare.

304.2 Protective treatment. All exterior surfaces, including but not limited to, doors, door and window frames, cornices, porches, trim, balconies, decks and fences shall be maintained in good condition. Exterior wood surfaces, other than decay-resistant woods, shall be protected from the elements and decay by painting or other protective covering or treatment. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint shall be eliminated and surfaces repainted. All siding and masonry joints as well as those between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors, and skylights shall be maintained weather resistant and water tight. All metal surfaces subject to rust or corrosion shall be coated to inhibit such rust and corrosion and all surfaces with rust or corrosion shall be stabilized and coated to inhibit future rust and corrosion. Oxidation stains shall be removed from exterior surfaces. Surfaces designed for stabilization by oxidation are exempt from this requirement.

304.3 Premises identification. Buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches (102 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch (12.7 mm).

304.4 Structural members. All structural members shall be maintained free from deterioration, and shall be capable of safely supporting the imposed dead and live loads.

304.5 Foundation walls. All foundation walls shall be maintained plumb and free from open cracks and breaks and shall be kept in such condition so as to prevent the entry of rodents and other pests.

304.6 Exterior walls. All exterior walls shall be free from holes, breaks, and loose or rotting materials; and maintained weatherproof and properly surface coated where required to prevent deterioration.

304.7 Roofs and drainage. The roof and flashing shall be sound, tight and not have defects that admit rain. Roof drainage shall be adequate to prevent dampness or deterioration in the walls or interior portion of the structure. Roof drains, gutters and downspouts shall be maintained in good repair and free from obstructions. Roof water shall not be discharged in a manner that creates a public nuisance.

304.8 Decorative features. All cornices, belt courses, corbels, terra cotta trim, wall facings and similar decorative features shall be maintained in good repair with proper anchorage and in a safe condition.

304.9 Overhang extensions. All overhang extensions including, but not limited to canopies, marquees, signs, metal awnings, fire escapes, standpipes and exhaust ducts shall be maintained in good repair and be properly anchored so as to be kept in a sound condition. When required, all exposed surfaces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather-coating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.

304.10 Stairways, decks, porches and balconies. Every exterior stairway, deck, porch and balcony, and all appurtenances attached thereto, shall be maintained structurally sound, in good repair, with proper anchorage and capable of supporting the imposed loads.

304.11 Chimneys and towers. All chimneys, cooling towers, smoke stacks, and similar appurtenances shall be maintained structurally safe and sound, and in good repair. All exposed surfaces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather-coating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.

304.12 Handrails and guards. Every handrail and guard shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.

304.13 Window, skylight and door frames. Every window, skylight, door and frame shall be kept in sound condition, good repair and weather tight.

304.13.1 Glazing. All glazing materials shall be maintained free from cracks and holes.

304.13.2 Openable windows. Every window, other than a fixed window, shall be easily openable and capable of being held in position by window hardware.

304.15 Doors. All exterior doors, door assemblies and hardware shall be maintained in good condition. Locks at all entrances to dwelling units, rooming units and guestrooms shall tightly secure the door. Locks on means of egress doors shall be in accordance with Section 702.3.

304.16 Basement hatchways. Every basement hatchway shall be maintained to prevent the entrance of rodents, rain and surface drainage water.

304.17 Guards for basement windows. Every basement window that is openable shall be supplied with rodent shields, storm windows or other approved protection against the entry of rodents.

304.18 Building security. Doors, windows or hatchways for dwelling units, room units or housekeeping units shall be provided with devices designed to provide security for the occupants and property within.

304.18.1 Doors. Doors providing access to a dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with a deadbolt lock meeting specifications set forth herein. Such deadbolt locks shall be operated only by the turning of a knob or a key and shall have a lock throw of not less than 1-inch. For the purpose of this section, a sliding bolt shall not be considered an acceptable deadbolt lock. Such deadbolt locks shall be installed according to manufacturer's specifications and maintained in good working order. All deadbolt locks required by this section shall be designed and installed in such a manner so as to be operable inside of the dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit without the use of a key, tool, combination thereof or any other special knowledge or effort.

304.18.2 Windows. Operable windows located in whole or in part within 6 feet (1828 mm) above ground level or a walking surface below that provide access to a dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with a window sash locking devices.

304.18.3 Basement hatchways. Basement hatchways that provide access to a dwelling unit, rooming unit or housekeeping unit that is rented, leased or let shall be equipped with devices that secure the units from unauthorized entry.

SECTION 305
INTERIOR STRUCTURE

305.1 General. The interior of a structure and equipment therein shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and in a sanitary condition. Occupants shall keep that part of the structure which they occupy or control in a clean and sanitary condition. Every owner of a structure containing a rooming house, housekeeping units, a hotel, a dormitory, two or more dwelling units or two or more nonresidential occupancies, shall

maintain, in a clean and sanitary condition, the shared or public areas of the structure and exterior property.

305.2 Structural members. All structural members shall be maintained structurally sound, and be capable of supporting the imposed loads.

305.3 Interior surfaces. All interior surfaces, including windows and doors, shall be maintained in good, clean and sanitary condition. Peeling, chipping, flaking or abraded paint shall be repaired, removed or covered. Cracked or loose plaster, decayed wood and other defective surface conditions shall be corrected.

305.4 Stairs and walking surfaces. Every stair, ramp, landing, balcony, porch, deck or other walking surface shall be maintained in sound condition and good repair.

305.5 Handrails and guards. Every handrail and guard shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.

305.6 Interior doors. Every interior door shall fit reasonably well within its frame and shall be capable of being opened and closed by being properly and securely attached to jambs, headers or tracks as intended by the manufacturer of the attachment hardware.

SECTION 306
HANDRAILS AND GUARDRAILS

306.1 General. Every exterior and interior flight of stairs having more than four risers shall have a handrail on one side of the stair and every open portion of a stair, landing, balcony, porch, deck, ramp or other walking surface which is more than 30 inches (762 mm) above the floor or grade below shall have guards. Handrails shall not be less than 30 inches (762 mm) high or more than 42 inches (1067 mm) high measured vertically above the nosing of the tread or above the finished floor of the landing or walking surfaces. Guards shall not be less than 30 inches (762 mm) high above the floor of the landing, balcony, porch, deck, or ramp or other walking surface.

Exception: Guards shall not be required where exempted by the adopted building code.

SECTION 307
RUBBISH AND GARBAGE

(See garbage code – shoreline municipal code 13.14)

SECTION 308
EXTERMINATION

308.1 Infestation. All structures shall be kept free from insect and rodent infestation. All structures in which insects or rodents are found shall be promptly exterminated by approved

processes that will not be injurious to human health. After extermination, proper precautions shall be taken to prevent reinfestation.

308.2 Owner. The owner of any structure shall be responsible for extermination within the structure prior to renting or leasing the structure.

308.3 Single occupant. The occupant of a one-family dwelling or of a single-tenant nonresidential structure shall be responsible for extermination on the premises.

308.4 Multiple occupancy. The owner of a structure containing two or more dwelling units, a multiple occupancy, a rooming house or a nonresidential structure shall be responsible for extermination in the public or shared areas of the structure and exterior property. If infestation is caused by failure of an occupant to prevent such infestation in the area occupied, the occupant shall be responsible for extermination.

308.5 Occupant. The occupant of any structure shall be responsible for the continued rodent and pest-free condition of the structure.

Exception: Where the infestations are caused by defects in the structure, the owner shall be responsible for extermination.

SECTION 308
EXTERMINATION

308.1 Infestation. All structures shall be kept free from insect and rodent infestation. All structures in which insects or rodents are found shall be promptly exterminated by approved processes that will not be injurious to human health. After extermination, proper precautions shall be taken to prevent reinfestation.

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308.4 Multiple occupancy. The owner of a structure containing two or more dwelling units, a multiple occupancy, a rooming house or a nonresidential structure shall be responsible for extermination in the public or shared areas of the structure and exterior property. If infestation is caused by failure of an occupant to prevent such infestation in the area occupied, the occupant shall be responsible for extermination.

308.5 Occupant. The occupant of any structure shall be responsible for the continued rodent and pest-free condition of the structure.

Exception: Where the infestations are caused by defects in the structure, the owner shall be responsible for extermination.

CHAPTER 4
LIGHT, VENTILATION AND OCCUPANCY LIMITATIONS

SECTION 401
GENERAL

401.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum conditions and standards for light, ventilation and space for occupying a structure.

401.2 Responsibility. The owner of the structure shall provide and maintain light, ventilation and space conditions in compliance with these requirements. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant, or permit another person to occupy, any premises that do not comply with the requirements of this chapter.

401.3 Alternative devices. In lieu of the means for natural light and ventilation herein prescribed, artificial light or mechanical ventilation complying with the *International Building Code* shall be permitted.

SECTION 402
LIGHT

402.1 Habitable spaces. Every habitable space shall have at least one window of approved size facing directly to the outdoors or to a court. The minimum total glazed area for every habitable space shall be 8 percent of the floor area of such room. Wherever walls or other portions of a structure face a window of any room and such obstructions are located less than 3 feet (914 mm) from the window and extend to a level above that of the ceiling of the room, such window shall not be deemed to face directly to the outdoors nor to a court and shall not be included as contributing to the required minimum total window area for the room.

> **Exception:** Where natural light for rooms or spaces without exterior glazing areas is provided through an adjoining room, the unobstructed opening to the adjoining room shall be at least 8 percent of the floor area of the interior room or space, but not less than 25 square feet (2.33m2). The exterior glazing area shall be based on the total floor area being served.

402.2 Common halls and stairways. Every common hall and stairway in residential occupancies, other than in one- and two family dwellings, shall be lighted at all times with at least a 60-watt standard incandescent light bulb for each 200 square feet (19 m2) of floor area or equivalent illumination, provided that the spacing between lights shall not be greater than 30 feet

(9144 mm). In other than residential occupancies, means of egress, including exterior means of egress stairways shall be illuminated at all times the building space served by the means of egress is occupied with a minimum of 1 foot-candle (11 lux) at floors, landings and treads.

402.3 Other spaces. All other spaces shall be provided with natural or artificial light sufficient to permit the maintenance of sanitary conditions, and the safe occupancy of the space and utilization of the appliances, equipment and fixtures.

SECTION 403
VENTILATION

403.1 Habitable spaces. Every habitable space shall have at least one openable window. The total openable area of the window in every room shall be equal to at least 45 percent of the minimum glazed area required in Section 402.1.

> **Exception:** Where rooms and spaces without openings to the outdoors are ventilated through an adjoining room, the unobstructed opening to the adjoining room shall be at least 8 percent of the floor area of the interior room or space, but not less than 25 square feet (2.33m2). The ventilation openings to the outdoors shall be based on a total floor area being ventilated.

403.2 Bathrooms and toilet rooms. Every bathroom and toilet room shall comply with the ventilation requirements for habitable spaces as required by Section 403.1, except that a window shall not be required in such spaces equipped with a mechanical ventilation system. Air exhausted by a mechanical ventilation system from a bathroom or toilet room shall discharge to the outdoors and shall not be recirculated.

403.3 Cooking facilities. Unless approved through the certificate of occupancy, cooking shall not be permitted in any rooming unit or dormitory unit, and a cooking facility or appliance shall not be permitted to be present in a rooming unit or dormitory unit.

> **Exception:** Where specifically approved in writing by the code official.

403.4 Process ventilation. Where injurious, toxic, irritating or noxious fumes, gases, dusts or mists are generated, a local exhaust ventilation system shall be provided to remove the contaminating agent at the source. Air shall be exhausted to the exterior and not be recirculated to any space.

403.5 Clothes dryer exhaust. Clothes dryer exhaust systems shall be independent of all other systems and shall be exhausted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

SECTION 404
OCCUPANCY LIMITATIONS

404.1 Privacy. Dwelling units, hotel units, housekeeping units, rooming units and dormitory units shall be arranged to provide privacy and be separate from other adjoining spaces.

404.2 Minimum room widths. A habitable room, other than a kitchen, shall not be less than 7 feet (2134 mm) in any plan dimension. Kitchens shall have a clear passageway of not less than 3 feet (914 mm) between counter fronts and appliances or counter fronts and walls.

404.3 Minimum ceiling heights. Habitable spaces, hallways, corridors, laundry areas, bathrooms, toilet rooms and habitable basement areas shall have a clear ceiling height of not less than 7 feet (2134 mm).

Exceptions:

1. In one- and two-family dwellings, beams or girders spaced not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) on center and projecting not more than 6 inches (152 mm) below the required ceiling height.

2. Basement rooms in one- and two-family dwellings occupied exclusively for laundry, study or recreation purposes, having a ceiling height of not less than 6 feet 8 inches (2033 mm) with not less than 6 feet 4 inches (1932 mm) of clear height under beams, girders, ducts and similar obstructions.

3. Rooms occupied exclusively for sleeping, study or similar purposes and having a sloped ceiling over all or part of the room, with a clear ceiling height of at least 7 feet (2134 mm) over not less than one-third of the required minimum floor area. In calculating the floor area of such rooms, only those portions of the floor area with a clear ceiling height of 5 feet (1524 mm) or more shall be included.

404.4 Bedroom requirements. Every bedroom shall comply with the requirements of Sections 404.4.1 through 404.4.5.

404.4.1 Area for sleeping purposes. Every bedroom occupied by one person shall contain at least 70 square feet (6.5 m2) of floor area, and every bedroom occupied by more than one person shall contain at least 50 square feet (4.6 m2) of

floor area for each occupant thereof.

404.4.2 Access from bedrooms. Bedrooms shall not constitute the only means of access to other bedrooms or habitable spaces and shall not serve as the only means of egress from other habitable spaces.

Exception: Units that contain fewer than two bedrooms.

404.4.3 Water closet accessibility. Every bedroom shall have access to at least one water closet and one lavatory without passing through another bedroom. Every bedroom in a dwelling unit shall have access to at least one water closet and lavatory located in the same story as the bedroom or an adjacent story.

404.4.4 Prohibited occupancy. Kitchens and nonhabitable spaces shall not be used for sleeping purposes.

404.4.5 Other requirements. Bedrooms shall comply with the applicable provisions of this code including, but not limited to, the light, ventilation, room area, ceiling height and room width requirements of this chapter; the plumbing facilities and water-heating facilities requirements of Chapter 5; the heating facilities and electrical receptacle requirements of Chapter 6; and the smoke detector and emergency escape requirements of Chapter 7.

404.6 Efficiency unit. Nothing in this section shall prohibit an efficiency living unit from meeting the following requirements:

1. A unit occupied by not more than two occupants shall have a clear floor area of not less than 220 square feet (20.4 m2). A unit occupied by three occupants shall have a clear floor area of not less than 320 square feet (29.7 m2). These required areas shall be exclusive of the areas required by Items 2 and 3.

2. The unit shall be provided with a kitchen sink, cooking appliance and refrigeration facilities, each having a clear working space of not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in front. Light and ventilation conforming to this code shall be provided.

3. The unit shall be provided with a separate bathroom containing a water closet, lavatory and bathtub or shower.

4. The maximum number of occupants shall be three.

404.7 Food preparation. All spaces to be occupied for food preparation purposes shall contain suitable space and equipment to store, prepare and serve foods in a sanitary manner. There shall be adequate facilities and services for the sanitary

disposal of food wastes and refuse, including facilities for temporary storage.

CHAPTER 5
PLUMBING FACILITIES AND FIXTURE REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 501
GENERAL

501.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum plumbing systems, facilities and plumbing fixtures to be provided.

501.2 Responsibility. The owner of the structure shall provide and maintain such plumbing facilities and plumbing fixtures in compliance with these requirements. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant or permit another person to occupy any structure or premises which does not comply with the requirements of this chapter.

[P] SECTION 502
REQUIRED FACILITIES

502.1 Dwelling units. Every dwelling unit shall contain its own bathtub or shower, lavatory, water closet and kitchen sink which shall be maintained in a sanitary, safe working condition. The lavatory shall be placed in the same room as the water closet or located in close proximity to the door leading directly into the room in which such water closet is located. A kitchen sink shall not be used as a substitute for the required lavatory.

502.2 Rooming houses. At least one water closet, lavatory and bathtub or shower shall be supplied for each four rooming units.

502.3 Hotels. Where private water closets, lavatories and baths are not provided, one water closet, one lavatory and one bathtub or shower having access from a public hallway shall be provided for each ten occupants.

P] SECTION 503
TOILET ROOMS

503.1 Privacy. Toilet rooms and bathrooms shall provide privacy and shall not constitute the only passageway to a hall or other space, or to the exterior. A door and interior locking device shall be provided for all common or shared bathrooms and toilet rooms in a multiple dwelling.

503.2 Location. Toilet rooms and bathrooms serving hotel units, rooming units or dormitory units or housekeeping units, shall have access by traversing not more than one flight of stairs and shall have access from a common hall or passageway.

[P] SECTION 504
PLUMBING SYSTEMS AND FIXTURES

504.1 General. All plumbing fixtures shall be properly installed and maintained in working order, and shall be kept free from obstructions, leaks and defects and be capable of performing the function for which such plumbing fixtures are designed. All plumbing fixtures shall be maintained in a safe, sanitary and functional condition.

504.2 Fixture clearances. Plumbing fixtures shall have adequate clearances for usage and cleaning.

504.3 Plumbing system hazards. Where it is found that a plumbing system in a structure constitutes a hazard to the occupants or the structure by reason of inadequate service, inadequate venting, cross connection, back siphonage, improper installation, deterioration or damage or for similar reasons, the code official shall require the defects to be corrected to eliminate the hazard.

SECTION 505
WATER SYSTEM

505.1 General. Every sink, lavatory, bathtub or shower, drinking fountain, water closet or other plumbing fixture shall be properly connected to either a public water system or to an approved private water system. All kitchen sinks, lavatories, laundry facilities, bathtubs and showers shall be supplied with hot or tempered and cold running water in accordance with the *Plumbing Code* adopted by the City of Shoreline.

[P] 505.2 Contamination. The water supply shall be maintained free from contamination, and all water inlets for plumbing fixtures shall be located above the flood-level rim of the fixture. Shampoo basin faucets, janitor sink faucets and other hose bibs or faucets to which hoses are attached and left in place, shall be protected by an approved atmospheric-type vacuum breaker or an approved permanently attached hose connection vacuum breaker.

505.3 Supply. The water supply system shall be installed and maintained to provide a supply of water to plumbing fixtures, devices and appurtenances in sufficient volume and at pressures

adequate to enable the fixtures to function properly, safely, and free from defects and leaks.

505.4 Water heating facilities. Water heating facilities shall be properly installed, maintained and capable of providing an adequate amount of water to be drawn at every required sink, lavatory, bathtub, shower and laundry facility at a temperature of not less than 110°F (43°C).A gas-burning water heater shall not be located in any bathroom, toilet room, bedroom or other occupied room normally kept closed, unless adequate combustion air is provided. An approved combination temperature and pressure-relief valve and relief valve discharge pipe shall be properly installed and maintained on water heaters.

[P] SECTION 506
SANITARY DRAINAGE SYSTEM

506.1 General. All plumbing fixtures shall be properly connected to either a public sewer system or to an approved private sewage disposal system.

506.2 Maintenance. Every plumbing stack, vent, waste and sewer line shall function properly and be kept free from obstructions, leaks and defects.

[P] SECTION 507
STORM DRAINAGE

507.1 General. Drainage of roofs and paved areas, yards and courts, and other open areas on the premises shall not be discharged in a manner that creates a public nuisance.

CHAPTER 6
MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 601
GENERAL

601.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum mechanical and electrical facilities and equipment to be provided.

601.2 Responsibility. The owner of the structure shall provide and maintain mechanical and electrical facilities and equipment in compliance with these requirements. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant or permit another person to occupy any premises which does not comply with the requirements of this chapter.

SECTION 602
HEATING FACILITIES

602.1 Facilities required. Heating facilities shall be provided in structures as required by this section.

602.2 Residential occupancies. Dwellings shall be provided with permanently installed, safe, functioning heating facilities and an approved power or fuel supply system capable of maintaining a room temperature of 68°F (20°C) in all habitable rooms, bathrooms and toilet rooms. Cooking appliances shall not be used to provide space heating to meet the requirements of this section.

602.3 Heat supply. Every owner and operator of any building who rents, leases or lets one or more dwelling unit, rooming unit, dormitory or guestroom on terms, either expressed or implied, to furnish heat to the occupants thereof shall supply heat during the period from October 1st to April 30th to maintain a temperature of not less than 65°F (18°C) in all habitable rooms, bathrooms, and toilet rooms.

> **Exceptions:**
> When the outdoor temperature is below the winter outdoor design temperature for the locality, maintenance of the minimum room temperature shall not be required provided that the heating system is operating at its full design capacity. The winter outdoor design temperature for the locality shall be as indicated in the *Plumbing Code adopted by the City of Shoreline.*

602.5 Room temperature measurement. The required room temperatures shall be measured 3 feet (914mm) above the floor near the center of the room and 2 feet (610 mm) inward from the center of each exterior wall.

SECTION 603
MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT

603.1 Mechanical appliances. All mechanical appliances, fireplaces, solid fuel-burning appliances, cooking appliances and water heating appliances shall be properly installed and maintained in a safe working condition, and shall be capable of performing the intended function.

603.2 Removal of combustion products. All fuel-burning equipment and appliances shall be connected to an approved chimney or vent.

Exception: Fuel-burning equipment and appliances which are labeled for unvented operation.

603.3 Clearances. All required clearances to combustible materials shall be maintained.

603.4 Safety controls. All safety controls for fuel-burning equipment shall be maintained in effective operation.

603.5 Combustion air. A supply of air for complete combustion of the fuel and for ventilation of the space containing the fuel-burning equipment shall be provided for the fuel-burning equipment.

603.6 Energy conservation devices. Devices intended to reduce fuel consumption by attachment to a fuel-burning appliance, to the fuel supply line thereto, or to the vent outlet or vent piping there from, shall not be installed unless labeled for such purpose and the installation is specifically approved.

SECTION 604
ELECTRICAL FACILITIES

604.1 Facilities required. Every occupied building shall be provided with an electrical system in compliance with the requirements of this section and Section 605.

604.2 Service. The size and usage of appliances and equipment shall serve as a basis for determining the need for additional facilities in accordance with the *Electrical Code* as adopted by the City of Shoreline. Dwelling units shall be served by a three-wire, 120/240 volt, single phase electrical service having a rating of not less than 60 amperes.

604.3 Electrical system hazards. Where it is found that the electrical system in a structure constitutes a hazard to the occupants or the structure by reason of inadequate service, improper fusing, insufficient receptacle and lighting outlets, improper wiring or installation, deterioration or damage, or for similar reasons, the code official shall require the defects to be corrected to eliminate the hazard.

SECTION 605
ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

605.1 Installation. All electrical equipment, wiring and appliances shall be properly installed and maintained in a safe and approved manner.

605.2 Receptacles. Every habitable space in a dwelling shall contain at least two separate and remote receptacle outlets. Every laundry area shall contain at least one grounded-type receptacle or a receptacle with a ground fault circuit interrupter. Every bathroom shall contain at least one receptacle. Any new bathroom receptacle outlet shall have ground fault circuit interrupter protection.

605.3 Lighting fixtures. Every public hall, interior stairway, toilet room, kitchen, bathroom, laundry room, boiler room and furnace room shall contain at least one electric lighting fixture.

SECTION 606
ELEVATORS, ESCALATORS AND DUMBWAITERS

606.1 General. Elevators, dumbwaiters and escalators shall be maintained to sustain safely all imposed loads, to operate properly, and to be free from physical and fire hazards. The most current certificate of inspection shall be on display at all times within the elevator or attached to the escalator or dumbwaiter; or the certificate shall be available for public inspection in the office of the building operator.

606.2 Elevators. In buildings equipped with passenger elevators, at least one elevator shall be maintained in operation at all times when the building is occupied.

> **Exception:** Buildings equipped with only one elevator shall be permitted to have the elevator temporarily out of service for testing or servicing.

SECTION 607
DUCT SYSTEMS

607.1 General. Duct systems shall be maintained free of obstructions and shall be capable of performing the required function.

CHAPTER 7
FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 701
GENERAL

701.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall govern the minimum conditions and standards for fire safety relating to structures and exterior premises, including fire safety facilities and equipment to be provided.

701.2 Responsibility. The owner of the premises shall provide and maintain such fire safety facilities and equipment in compliance with these requirements. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant or permit another person to occupy any premises that do not comply with the requirements of this chapter.

[F] SECTION 702
MEANS OF EGRESS

702.1 General. A safe, continuous and unobstructed path of travel shall be provided from any point in a building or structure to the public way. Means of egress shall comply with the *International Fire Code.*

702.2 Aisles. The required width of aisles in accordance with the *International Fire Code* shall be unobstructed.

702.3 Locked doors. All means of egress doors shall be readily openable from the side from which egress is to be made without the need for keys, special knowledge or effort, except where the door hardware conforms to that permitted by the *International Building Code.*

702.4 Emergency escape openings. Required emergency escape openings shall be maintained in accordance with the code in effect at the time of construction, and the following. Required emergency escape and rescue openings shall be operational from the inside of the room without the use of keys or tools. Bars, grilles, grates or similar devices are permitted to be placed over emergency escape and rescue openings provided the minimum net clear opening size complies with the code that was in effect at the time of construction and such devices shall be releasable or removable from the inside without the use of a key, tool or force greater than that which is required for normal operation of the escape and rescue opening.

[F] SECTION 703
FIRE-RESISTANCE RATINGS

703.1 Fire-resistance-rated assemblies. The required fire-resistance rating of fire-resistance-rated walls, fire stops, shaft enclosures, partitions and floors shall be maintained.

703.2 Opening protectives. Required opening protectives shall be maintained in an operative condition. All fire and smokestop doors shall be maintained in operable condition. Fire doors and smoke barrier doors shall not be blocked or obstructed or otherwise made inoperable.

[F] SECTION 704
FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

704.1 General. All systems, devices and equipment to detect a fire, actuate an alarm, or suppress or control a fire or any combination thereof shall be maintained in an operable condition at all times in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

704.2 Smoke alarms. Single or multiple-station smoke alarms shall be installed and maintained in Groups R-2, R-3, R-4 and in dwellings not regulated in Group R occupancies, regardless of occupant load at all of the following locations:

1. On the ceiling or wall outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedrooms.
2. In each room use d for sleeping purposes.
3. In each story within a dwelling unit, including basements and cellars but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics. In dwellings or dwelling units with split levels and without an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than one full story below the upper level.

Single or multiple-station smoke alarms shall be installed in other groups in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

704.3 Power source. In Group R occupancies and in dwellings not regulated as Group R occupancies, single-station smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring provided that such wiring is served from a commercial source and shall be equipped with a battery backup. Smoke alarms shall emit a signal when the batteries are low. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than as required for overcurrent protection.

> **Exception:** Smoke alarms are permitted to be solely battery operated in buildings where no construction is taking place, buildings that are not served from a commercial power source and in existing areas of buildings undergoing alterations or repairs that do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure, unless there is an attic, crawl space or basement available which could provide access for building wiring without the removal of interior finishes.

704.4 Interconnection. Where more than one smoke alarm is required to be installed within an individual dwelling unit in Group R-2, R-3, R-4 and in dwellings not regulated as Group R occupancies, the smoke alarms shall be interconnected in such

a manner that the activation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in the individual unit. The alarm shall be clearly audible in all bedrooms over background noise levels with all intervening doors closed.

Exceptions:

1. Interconnection is not required in buildings which are not undergoing alterations, repairs, or construction of any kind.
2. Smoke alarms in existing areas are not required to be interconnected where alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure, unless there is an attic, crawl space or basement available which could provide access for interconnection without the removal of interior finishes.

CHAPTER 8
REFERENCED STANDARDS

This chapter lists the standards that are referenced in various sections of this document. The standards are listed herein by the promulgating agency of the standard, the standard identification, the effective date and title and the section or sections of this document that reference the standard. The application of the referenced standards shall be as specified in Section 102.7.

ICC International Code Council
5203 Leesburg Pike, Suite 600
Falls Church, VA 22041

Standard reference number	Title	Referenced in code section number
ICC EC—03	ICC Electrical Code™ — Administrative Provisions	201.3, 604.2
IBC—03	International Building Code®	201.3, 302.7.1, 401.3, 702.3, 702.4
IEBC—03	International Existing Building Code™	101.3, 102.3, 201.3
IFC—03	International Fire Code®	201.3, 702.1, 702.2, 704.1, 704.2
IMC—03	International Mechanical Code®	201.3
IPC—03	International Plumbing Code®	201.3, 505.1, 602.2, 602.3

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