



Signature Report

May 29, 2007

Ordinance 15803

Proposed No. 2007-0256.1

Sponsors Phillips

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to fire safety regulations in
2 King County; adopting, amending and supplementing the
3 International Fire Code; amending Ordinance 2097, Section
4 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.010, Ordinance 12560,
5 Section 159, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.350, Ordinance
6 12560, Section 165, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.380,
7 Ordinance 14111, Section 201, as amended, and K.C.C.
8 17.04.430, Ordinance 14111, Section 210, as amended, and
9 K.C.C. 17.04.510, Ordinance 12560, Section 174, as
10 amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.560, Ordinance 8726, Section 1,
11 as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.630, Ordinance 15828,
12 Section 2, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.08.010, Ordinance
13 5828, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.08.040,
14 Ordinance 5828, Section 8, as amended, and K.C.C.
15 17.08.070 and Ordinance 5828, Section 10, as amended, and
16 K.C.C. 17.08.090 and adding new sections to K.C.C.
17 chapter 17.04.

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SECTION 1. Ordinance 2097, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.010 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

Adoption. The International Fire Code (~~(2003)~~ 2006 Edition, as published by the International Code Council, as amended in chapter(~~s 51-44 and 51-45~~) 51-54 WAC, effective July 1, (~~(2004)~~ 2007, together with amendments, additions, and deletions adopted in this chapter by reference, together with King County modifications are adopted as the Fire Code of King County, and referred to in this chapter as "this code." Administrative rules may be adopted in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 2.98 to further clarify and implement these code requirements. The King County modifications shall be codified in this chapter.

SECTION 2. Ordinance 12560, Section 159, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.350 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

Definitions - Fire detection system. Section 202 of the International Fire Code is supplemented with the following:

Definitions - Fire detection system (IFC 202). "Fire detection system" means a heat and/or smoke detection system monitored by a central and/or remote station conforming to the (~~(2003)~~ current edition of the International Fire Code as adopted by the Washington State Building Code Council and/or the Fire Marshal or his/her designee.

SECTION 3. Ordinance 12560, Section 165, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.380 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

Fire apparatus access roads - Specifications - Surface. Section 503.2.3 of the International Fire Code is not adopted and the following is substituted:

41 **Surface (IFC 503.2.3).** Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and
42 maintained to support the imposed loads of 25 tons, or as required by Fire Marshal and
43 shall be provided with a surface so as to provide all-weather driving capabilities
44 ~~((which))~~ that comply with ~~((Ordinance 11187,))~~ K.C.C. chapter 14.42, King County
45 Road Standards ~~((Chapter 14))~~.

46 SECTION 4. Ordinance 14111, Section 201, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.430
47 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

48 **Access to building openings and roofs - Required access.** Section 504.1, of the
49 International Fire Code is not adopted and the following is substituted:

50 **Required access (IFC 504.1).** Exterior doors and openings required by this code
51 or the Building Code shall be maintained readily accessible for emergency access by the
52 fire department.

53 An approved access walkway leading from fire apparatus access roads to exterior
54 openings required by this code or the Building Code shall be provided when required by
55 the chief.

56 All rescue windows required for Group R Occupancies, except for detached one
57 and two family dwellings, shall be accessible by a 35 foot ground extension ladder placed
58 so that the inclination of such ladder does not exceed 70 degrees. Ladders shall be
59 located within the property lines.

60 SECTION 5. Ordinance 14111, Section 210, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.510
61 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

62 **General - Marking of fire-protection equipment and fire hydrants.** Section
63 901 of the International Fire Code is supplemented with the following:

64 **Marking of fire-protection equipment and fire hydrants (IFC ((901-9))**
65 **901.10).** Fire-protection equipment and fire hydrants shall be clearly identified in an
66 approved manner to prevent obstruction by parking and other obstructions.

67 1. All fire department connections shall have a sign complying with the
68 International Fire Code or as approved by the Fire Marshal. The sign shall specify what
69 type of water-based fire protection system it serves and building areas served.

70 2. All main control valves and sectional valves for water-based fire protection
71 system shall have a sign specifying what the valves control.

72 3. All sprinklers and standpipe risers shall have signs indicating the type of
73 water-based fire protection system it is.

74 NEW SECTION. SECTION 6. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 17.04 a
75 new section to read as follows:

76 **Automatic sprinkler systems – Group E.** Section 903.2.2 of the International
77 Fire Code is not adopted and the following is substituted:

78 **Automatic sprinkler systems – Group E (IFC 903.2.2).** An automatic sprinkler
79 system shall be provided for Group E occupancies.

80 **Exceptions.**

81 1. Portable school classrooms, provided the aggregate area of any cluster or
82 portion of a cluster of portable school classrooms does not exceed 5,000 square feet
83 (1465m²) and clusters of portable school classrooms shall be separated as required in
84 Chapter 5 of the building code.

85 2. Group E Occupancies with an occupant load of 50 or less, not including
86 daycare facilities that provide care for more than 12 children 2 ½ years of age or less.

87 SECTION 7. Ordinance 12560, Section 174, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.560
88 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

89 **Automatic sprinkler systems - Where required - Residential units and**
90 **accessory structures built under the IRC.** Section 903.2.10 of the International Fire
91 Code is supplemented with the following:

92 **Residential units and accessory structures built under the IRC (IFC**
93 **903.2.10.4).** An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in structures built under the
94 International Residential Code (IRC):

- 95 1. Exceeding 2,500 square feet gross floor area (including attached garages)
96 without adequate fire flow except as cited in K.C.C. 17.08.030;
- 97 2. Without approved fire department access as defined in the King County road
98 standards (~~(of King County Ordinance 11187 (Article 9, section 902))~~) and IFC 503, as
99 amended; or
- 100 3. If 2,000 gallons per minute or more fire flow is required or where the total
101 floor area included within the surrounding exterior walls on all floor levels including
102 basements exceeds 10,000 square feet. For townhouses, each unit is considered a
103 separate building.

104 **EXCEPTIONS:** Attached decks, exterior porches and carports open on two
105 sides.

- 106 4. Where special hazards or unusual conditions exists in addition to the normal
107 hazard of the space due to the design, size, volume or use of the space, the Fire Marshal
108 is authorized to require additional safeguards suitable for the protection of the hazard or
109 condition involved. Additional safeguards can consist of automatic fire alarm system,

110 automatic sprinkler or water spray system, standpipe and hose, fixed or portable fire
111 extinguishers, or other special fire-extinguishing systems. Where such systems are
112 provided, they shall be designed and installed in accordance with the International Fire
113 Code.

114 NEW SECTION. SECTION 8. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 17.04 a
115 new section to read as follows:

116 **Fire alarm and detection systems – Group E.** Section 907.2.3 of the
117 International Fire Code not adopted and the following is substituted:

118 **Fire alarm and detection systems – Group E (IFC 907.2.3).** A manual fire
119 alarm system shall be installed in Group E occupancies. When automatic sprinkler
120 systems or smoke detectors are installed, such systems or detectors shall be connected to
121 the building fire alarm system.

122 **EXCEPTIONS:**

123 1. Group E occupancies providing infant daycare for children 2 ½ years or less of
124 age for 12 or fewer and all other Group E occupancies with an occupant load of less than
125 50.

126 2. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required in Group E occupancies where all of
127 the following apply:

128 2.1. Interior corridors are protected by smoke detectors with alarm verification.

129 2.2. Auditoriums, cafeterias, gymnasiums and the like are protected by heat
130 detectors or other approved detection devices.

131 2.3. Shops and laboratories involving dusts or vapors are protected by heat
132 detectors or other approved detection devices.

133 2.4. Off-premises monitoring is provided.

134 2.5. The capability to activate the evacuation signal from a central point is
135 provided.

136 2.6. In buildings where normally occupied spaces are provided with a two-way
137 communication system between such spaces and a constantly attended receiving station
138 from where a general evacuation alarm can be sounded, except in locations specifically
139 designated by the fire code official.

140 3. Manual fire alarm boxes shall not be required in Group E occupancies where
141 the building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system, the
142 notification appliances will activate on sprinkler water flow and manual activation is
143 provided from a normally occupied location.

144 SECTION 9. Ordinance 8726, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.04.630 are
145 each hereby amended to read as follows:

146 **Outdoor storage of containers and portable tanks - Location on property.**

147 Section 3404.4.2 of the International Fire Code is not adopted and the following is
148 substituted:

149 **Location on property.** Outdoor ((S))storage of ((flammable and combustible))
150 liquids in ((closed)) containers and portable tanks ((outside of buildings)) shall be in
151 accordance with ((Section 3403 and sections 3404.4.1 through 3404.4.8. Capacity limits
152 for containers and portable tanks shall be in accordance with Section 3404.3)) Table
153 3404.4.2. Storage of liquids near buildings located on the same property shall be in
154 accordance with this section.

155 **EXCEPTION:** Outdoor storage of flammable liquids in excess of ten gallons is
156 not permitted on property used for single family, duplex and townhouse dwellings.

157 SECTION 10. Ordinance 15828, Section 2, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.08.010 are
158 each hereby amended to read as follows:

159 **Definitions.**

160 A. Unless otherwise provided in this section, the definitions in the International
161 Fire Code, as adopted in K.C.C. 17.04.010, and in the rules and regulations of the state
162 board of health regarding public water systems, chapter 346-290 WAC ((248-54-560)),
163 shall apply to this chapter.

164 B. For the purposes of this chapter, "fire department" means the fire authority
165 normally responsible for fire suppression in a specified area.

166 C. For the purposes of this chapter, "water flow" means the minimum quantity of
167 water required for domestic use or fire fighting, whichever is higher, at a specified
168 building, development or site, expressed in continuous gallons per minute at twenty
169 pounds per square inch residual pressure for a designated duration of time.

170 D. For the purposes of this chapter, "fire marshal" means the King County fire
171 marshal or his or her designated representative.

172 E. For the purposes of this chapter, "water main" means piping used to deliver
173 water to any fire hydrants or to one or more individual service connections.

174 SECTION 11. Ordinance 5828, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.08.040 are
175 each hereby amended to read as follows:

176 **Water main requirements.**

177 A. All new required water mains subject to this chapter that serve fire hydrants
178 shall be a minimum of eight inches inside diameter for dead end mains and six inches
179 inside diameter for circulating mains. Hydrant leads less than fifty feet in length may be
180 six inches in diameter.

181 B. All new required water mains subject to this chapter shall have fire hydrants
182 installed to conform to the requirements of this chapter.

183 C. All new required water mains subject to this chapter shall meet applicable
184 engineering and health standards adopted by the state of Washington or the water
185 purveyor, including chapters ((248-54 and 248-57)) 246-290 and 246-293 WAC.

186 SECTION 12. Ordinance 5828, Section 8, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.08.070 are
187 each hereby amended to read as follows:

188 **Minimum water flow requirements.**

189 A. The department shall adopt rules and regulations based upon the Guide for
190 Determination of Required Fire Flow, 1974 Edition, published by the Insurance Service
191 Office, establishing criteria for determination of water flow requirements sufficient to
192 provide reasonable fire protection.

193 B. In no event, shall the water flow required for any use be less than that required
194 by chapters ((248-54 and 248-57)) 246-290 and 246-293 WAC.

195 SECTION 13. Ordinance 5828, Section 10, as amended, and K.C.C. 17.08.090 are
196 each hereby amended to read as follows:

197 **Variations.**

198 A. The fire marshal shall have the authority to approve deviations from the
199 standards established under this chapter when it is shown that:

200 1. Strict compliance would require unreasonable fire hydrant locations, fire flow
201 requirements or water main sizes; and

202 2. The variance would not unreasonably affect adequate fire protection to the
203 area or structures served.

204 B. The fire marshal may approve variances, except as provided in subsection C.
205 of this section for connections to single family residences served by existing water
206 system that have fire hydrants and fire flow of at least five hundred gallons per minute if
207 the variance would not unreasonably affect fire protection and only if the purveyor's
208 approved comprehensive plan includes a method for increasing fire flow to current
209 standards.

210 C. The fire marshal shall not approve any variance which would result in a
211 violation of chapters ((248-54 and 248-57)) 246-290 and 246-293 WAC without prior
212 approval of the state Department of Social and Health Services.

213 SECTION 14. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application
214 to any person or circumstance is held invalid the remainder of the ordinance or the

215 application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

216 SECTION 15. Effective date. This ordinance takes effect July 1, 2007.

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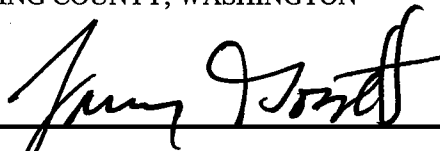
Ordinance 15803 was introduced on 4/23/2007 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 5/29/2007, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Gossett, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Constantine

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Ms. Hague

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



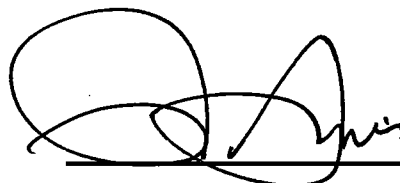
Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 7 day of June, 2007.



Ron Sims, County Executive

Attachments None

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CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL