

No and Low Carbon Buildings, Duane Jonlin, City of Seattle Energy Code and Conservation Advisor

Key Takeaways for Elected Leaders

Core issues and policies:

Code jurisdiction

- All jurisdictions adopt and enforce the WA State Energy Code
 - Seattle's amendments go above and beyond that code.
 - Seattle requires better heating, water heating, envelope, lighting than the State code.
- The State allows jurisdictions to modify the Commercial part of the Energy Code, which covers commercial buildings and multifamily 4 stories and higher. Usually Seattle is the only jurisdiction that amends the Energy Code locally.
- WA State doesn't let jurisdictions amend code that applies to small residential buildings (single family duplex, townhouse)
 - This means any changes to small residential need to be made at the State Hearing process.
 - It is extremely helpful when Mayors and Councilmembers (outside of Seattle) participate in this process; pushing the State to develop more aggressive codes.
 - It is important to jurisdictions to have consistency across our codes for single family, so a State-developed multi-tier code is desirable.
 - A multi-tier Energy Code option could potentially pass this upcoming code cycle (2021 Energy Code), which would allow jurisdictions to select which tier meets their local carbon goals

Elected official support

What is needed from elected officials to move amendments forward locally:

- Elected officials can support strong building codes in their jurisdictions by engaging with the right staff.
- The Building Official controls whether these amendments get adopted, so please reach out to that person to start that conversation and move them to a place where local adoption will happen.

Staffing and resources

- Duane and a couple other staff are funded by Seattle City Light as part of their energy conservation program. This enables Seattle to have resources to develop codes – which is uncommon in even large jurisdictions.
- By partnering in the K4C, Seattle can share their expertise and resources to help other jurisdictions easily adopt some or all of these amendments (above the State Code) locally.
- Seattle's Energy Code amendment package has been modified by the Regional Code Collaboration (RCC) so it can be adopted more broadly by other jurisdictions. This amendment package, in addition to associated cost/staffing impacts,

No and Low Carbon Buildings, Duane Jonlin, City of Seattle Energy Code and Conservation Advisor

reasoning, and training information has been distributed to local governmental green building staff and Building Officials. For more information, please contact RCC Manager, Kathleen Petrie: kpetrie@kingcounty.gov

Policy and Directive for strong Energy Codes

- Seattle legislation mandating that Seattle achieves carbon neutrality is the driver behind Seattle adopting Energy Code amendments that are stronger than the WA State Energy Code.
- Seattle's Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) is required to report on carbon emission reduction achievement/non-achievement to the Mayor annually.

Stakeholder Outreach

How did Seattle engage with stakeholders when developing its code?

- Seattle did an enormous amount of outreach:
 - Eight 2.5-hour public meetings
 - Three 2-hour Construction Code Advisory Board meetings (Seattle's 12-member board representing an array of disciplines)
 - 40 presentations to wide variety of individual organizations
 - Hundreds of conversations/e-mails

Where do ideas for amendments come from?

- Duane Jonlin
- Copying innovative codes adopted in other places such as Austin, TX, New York, California, etc.
- Seattle engineering community

Duane extends his assistance to everyone, so don't hesitate to reach out:

Duane.Jonlin@seattle.gov