

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

AM No. 589-2021

Meeting Date: September 14, 2021

From: MAYOR

Subject: AN OMNIBUS ORDINANCE AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 23 TO PROVIDE CLARITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CODE AND RELATED MATTERS.

This ordinance proposes several changes to Title 23 as summarized below:

Section 1. Delete Municipal contractor licensing requirements. These requirements appear to be mostly redundant with state licensing requirements. The municipal Backflow Assembly Tester Certificate of Qualification remains. Special inspector licensing remains.

Section 2. Delete Municipal contractor licensing requirements.

Section 3. Amend Section 23.10.104.2.1, items U. and V. by increasing the permit exemption threshold for the repair or replacement of exterior wall and roof coverings and gypsum wallboard repair/replacement from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Section 4. Amend Section 23.10.104.2.2 by adding a permit exemption for the replacement of light fixtures with LED fixtures. The replacement fixture must be installed in the same location and not involve the extension of wiring in order to qualify for the exemption from the requirement for a permit.

Section 5. Amend 23.10.104.3.1 by deleting the limitations on the use of temporary structures. Temporary structures can then be occupied for any use allowed by AMC Titles 21 and 23.

Section 6. Amend the permit fee calculation method for residential projects having a valuation of \$40,000 or less. The permit fees will be calculated at a rate of 0.9 times the valuation with a minimum fee of \$360. This is the same procedure for valuations in excess of \$40,000.

Section 7. Amend Section 23.10.104.9 to delete the option to audit up to 8% of plan reviews conducted by independent (private sector) reviewing professionals.

Section 8. Amend Section 23.10.104.14.4 to allow the building official to extend permit applications beyond 180 days.

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1 **Section 9.** Amend Section 23.10.104.14.8 to allow more flexibility in reactivating
2 and extending permits.

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4 **Section 10.** Amend the permit fee calculation method for residential projects having
5 a valuation of \$40,000 or less. The permit fees will be calculated at a rate of 0.9
6 times the valuation with a minimum fee of \$360. This is the same procedure for
7 valuations in excess of \$40,000.

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9 **Section 11.** Delete Municipal contractor licensing requirements. The municipal
10 Backflow Assembly Tester Certificate of Qualification remains. Special inspector
11 licensing remains.

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13 **Section 12.** Amend the permit fee calculation method for residential projects having
14 a valuation of \$40,000 or less. The permit fees will be calculated at a rate of 0.9
15 times the valuation with a minimum fee of \$360. This is the same procedure for
16 valuations in excess of \$40,000.

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18 **Section 13.** Delete Municipal contractor licensing requirements. The municipal
19 Backflow Assembly Tester Certificate of Qualification remains. Special inspector
20 licensing remains.

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22 **Section 14.** Amend Title 23, Chapter 10, Table 3-L by adding certification and
23 equipment approval fees that were inadvertently dropped from municipal code. The
24 previous fee for excavator certification was \$480, while the proposed fee is \$100.
25 The previous fee for well driller and pump installer certification was \$300, while the
26 proposed fee is \$100. These are annual fees that more closely reflect department
27 costs related to certifications. The previous fee for equipment certification was
28 \$900, while the proposed fee is \$145 per hour of staff review time. We propose an
29 hourly fee to more accurately reflect the effort required to review and approve new
30 equipment.

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32 **Section 15.** Delete Municipal contractor licensing requirements. The municipal
33 Backflow Assembly Tester Certificate of Qualification remains. Special inspector
34 licensing remains.

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36 **Section 16.** Correct references in the amendment to IBC Section 1613.4.

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38 **Section 17.** Add language to clarify the assessment of the special inspector
39 licensing fee.

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41 **Section 18.** Delete obsolete information in the amendment to IBC Section
42 1803.5.12. This deletion was inadvertently missed by staff during the last code
43 update cycle. Anchorage's Geotechnical Advisory Commission supports this
44 deletion in order to eliminate conflicting provisions. This proposed correction has
45 no effect on one- and two-family construction.

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47 **Section 19.** Amend Title 23, Chapter 25 (the Uniform Plumbing Code, UPC) to
48 allow air admittance valves in lieu of conventional plumbing fixture venting.

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2 **Section 20.** Amend the 2017 National Electrical Code, Section 210.8(A) to not
3 require ground-fault circuit-interrupter protection for a ceiling-mounted receptacle
4 serving a garage door opener. The NEC requires GFCI protection for all receptacles
5 located inside a garage.

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7 **Section 21.** Amend Title 23, Chapter 45 (International Fire Code), Section 202 by
8 adding a definition for Limited Access Roadway.

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10 **Section 22.** Amend Title 23, Chapter 45 (International Fire Code), Section
11 23.45.502.1 by deleting the definition for Driveway.

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13 **Section 23.** Amend Title 23, Chapter 45 (International Fire Code), Appendix D,
14 Section D103.2 to allow a steeper grade for fire apparatus access roads.

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16 **Section 24.** Amend Section 23.85.R302.3 (International Residential Code, IRC) to
17 delete the requirement that ADUs be separated from the primary dwelling with one-
18 hour fire-rated assemblies (like the dwelling unit separation required in a duplex).

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20 **Section 25.** Delete the local amendment that does not allow unventilated hot roof
21 construction.

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23 **Section 26.** Amend Title 23, Chapter 85 (IRC), Appendix K, Section AK101.1 to
24 not require sound attenuation for:

- 25
- ADUs.
 - The addition of a dwelling unit to an existing detached dwelling unit or
27 townhouse.
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29 Pursuant to AMC 2.30.053B.1., a Summary of Economic Effects is attached to this
30 ordinance.

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33 Prepared by: Ross Noffsinger, Engineering Services Manager,
34 Development Services

35 Approved by: Robert Doehl, Director/Building Official, Development
36 Services

37 Approved by: Adam Trombley, Community Development Director

38 Concur: Karol (Karl) Raszkievicz, OMB Director

39 Concur: Patrick Bergt, Municipal Attorney

40 Concur: Travis C. Frisk, CFO

41 Concur: Amy Demboski, Municipal Manager

42 Respectfully submitted: Dave Bronson, Mayor

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