**15-153**

**1. State Building Code to be Amended:**

International Building Code  State Energy Code

ICC ANSI A117.1 Accessibility Code  International Mechanical Code

International Existing Building Code  International Fuel Gas Code

International Residential Code  NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code

International Fire Code  NFPA 58 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code

Uniform Plumbing Code  Wildland Urban Interface Code

**Section(s): 1401.6.6**

**Title:** proposed modification to Vertical Opening Protection Value

**2. Proponent Name (Specific local government, organization or individual):**

**Proponent:** Dean Giles, representing the City of Spokane

**Title:** Professional Plan Examiner; Acting Building Official

**Date:** May 20, 2015

**3. Designated Contact Person:**

**Name:** Dean Giles

**Title:** Acting Building Official

**Address:** 808 W Spokane Falls Blvd

Spokane, WA 99201

**Office Phone:** 509-625-6121

**Cell:**

**E-Mail address:** dgiles@spokanecity.org

**4. Proposed Code Amendment**. Reproduce the section to be amended by underlining all added language, striking through all deleted language. Insert new sections in the appropriate place in the code in order to continue the established numbering system of the code. If more than one section is proposed for amendment or more than one page is needed for reproducing the affected section of the code additional pages may be attached. (Examples on the SBCC [website](https://fortress.wa.gov/ga/apps/sbcc/Page.aspx?nid=191))

**Code:** **2015 IEBC** **Section**: **1401.6.6**

Enforceable code language must be used; see an example [by clicking here](https://fortress.wa.gov/ga/apps/SBCC/File.ashx?cid=1803).

Amend section to read as follows:

Revise text as follows:

**1401.6.6 Vertical openings.** Evaluate the fire-resistance

rating of interior exit stairways or ramps, hoistways, escalator

openings, and other shaft enclosures within the building,

and openings between two or more floors. Table

1401.6.6(1) contains the appropriate protection values.

Multiply that value by the construction-type factor found

in Table 1401.6.6(2). Enter the vertical opening value and

its sign (positive or negative) in Table 1401.7 under Safety

Parameter 1401.6.6, Vertical Openings, for fire safety,

means of egress, and general safety. ~~If the structure is a~~

~~one-story building or if all the unenclosed vertical openings~~

~~within the building conform to the requirements of~~

~~Section 713 of the~~ *~~International Building Code~~*~~, enter a~~

~~value of 2. The maximum positive value for this requirement~~

~~shall be 2.~~

**TABLE 1401.6.6(1)**

**VERTICAL OPENING PROTECTION VALUE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PROTECTION | VALUE |
| None(unprotected opening) | -2 times number of floors connected |
| Less than 1 hour | -1 times number of floors connected |
| 1 to less than 2 hours | ~~1~~ 0 |
| 2 hours or more | ~~2~~  1 |
| 1 Story building or meets IBC Chapter 713 | 2 |

1. **Briefly explain your proposed amendment, including the purpose, benefits and problems addressed.** Specifically note any impacts or benefits to business, and specify construction types, industries and services that would be affected. Finally, please note any potential impact on enforcement such as special reporting requirements or additional inspections required.

**Reason:** With regards to occupant safety, an elevator or stair shaft without smoke and draft control is little better than an unprotected opening, especially in taller buildings. The existing Table 1401.6.6(1) only lists fire ratings of the shaft enclosures. There are many older buildings that have rated shafts but no smoke/draft control (in the form of elevator lobby, additional fire doors or pressurization). *The 2012 IFC requires retroactive correction of this condition in existing buildings- see attached commentary to section 1103.4.* An evaluation of building safety must include smoke control. This change would more accurately depict existing building conditions in terms of occupant safety. In terms of potential remodel work, it would encourage opening protection (potential negative points) and address smoke transmission ( potential positive points).

1. **Specify what criteria this proposal meets.** You may select more than one.

The amendment is needed to address a critical life/safety need.

The amendment is needed to address a specific state policy or statute.

The amendment is needed for consistency with state or federal regulations.

The amendment is needed to address a unique character of the state.

The amendment corrects errors and omissions.

1. **Is there an economic impact:**  Yes      No

Explain: Will not increase the cost of construction. This code change is for clarification only.

If there is an economic impact, use the Table below to estimate the costs and savings of the proposal on construction practices, users and/or the public, the enforcement community, and operation and maintenance. If preferred, you may submit an alternate cost benefit analysis.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Building Type | Construction[[1]](#footnote-1) | | Enforcement[[2]](#footnote-2) | | Operations & Maintenance[[3]](#footnote-3) | |
| Costs | Cost/DU | Costs | Benefits4 | Costs | Benefits4 |
| Residential |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Single family |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Multi-family | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference |
| Commercial/Retail | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference |
| Industrial | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference |
| Institutional | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference | No difference |

Please send your completed proposal to: [sbcc@ga.wa.gov](mailto:sbcc@ga.wa.gov)

All questions must be answered to be considered complete. Incomplete proposals will not be accepted.

1. $ / square foot of floor area or other cost. Attach data. **Construction** costs are costs prior to occupancy, and include both design and direct construction costs

   that impact the total cost of the construction to the owner/consumer. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Cost per project plan. Attach data. **Enforcement** costs include governmental review of plans, field inspection, and other action required for enforcement. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Cost to building owner/tenants over the life of the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)