STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION 17-16

CODE: 2015 International Building Code

SECTION: 304 Group B // 2902.1/2902.3 Toilet facilities

QUESTION 1: Is it appropriate to classify an unattended self-service car wash facility with drive-in bays for an individual to wash their own vehicle as a Group B occupancy? If no, is there a more appropriate classification?

ANSWER: Yes, “carwash” is a specific category listed under Section 304 Business Group B.

QUESTION 2: Is a an unattended self-service car wash facility with drive-in bays for an individual to wash their own vehicle considered an occupied building that is required to be provided with public toilet facilities?

ANSWER: No. Section 2902.1 provides plumbing fixtures “based on the actual use of the building.” Uses not shown on Table 2902.1 “shall be considered individually by the code official.” A self-service car wash with no employees and no occupant load for the purpose of means of egress facilities is not covered on Table 2902.1 Minimum Number of Required Plumbing Fixtures.

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: City of Bellingham