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Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 12:59 PM
To: DES SBCC <sbcc@des.wa.gov>
Subject: improvements to the WA building code

I support improvements to the Washington building code, especially enhancements that will contribute to managing the energy needed to build and maintain new construction. Any such enhancements must be mandated for any significant changes or improvements to existing infrastructure as well.

I applaud the burgeoning use of rainwater catchment “ponds” in large construction projects, but we are missing another important rainwater management tool: the use of “pervious” concrete or other permeable materials such as “grass-crete” for sidewalks and other low weight traffic.

Whether the weather continues in its usual precipitation levels, increases in frequency or intensity or decreases due to “climate change”, we stand to benefit. If precipitation continues as usual, our rainwater management will be eased by the amount that percolates directly where it lands; if the weather becomes drier, we still gain in that direct percolation will help our precious trees to maintain their beauty and utility, in the form of temperature control, air quality, and wind pressure moderation.

The addition of this simple change, which requires no additional management, no new technology (the product exists and has been extensively tested) and no additional material cost quickly contribute to reducing our energy demand in new buildings, as well as any mandated replacement pavement.

What’s not to like? The time is long past that we should have started using this simple fix. Implement it now.

Thank you for your efforts and your careful consideration of the contributions from the public.