

From: Randall King <rking@kitsapbuilds.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 2:32 PM

To: DES SBCC <sbcc@des.wa.gov>

Subject: International Building Code; Section 429 – Electric vehicle charging infrastructure

IBC TAG removed the exception: *“Meeting the requirements will alter the local utility infrastructure design on the utility side of the meter and will increase the utility side cost to the homeowner or the developer by more than \$1,000 per dwelling unit.”*

Kitsap Building Association would like to see that exception added back to the code before official adoption by the SBCC. The state is in a housing affordability and homelessness crisis with not just a shortage of more than 225,000 single-family homes but also 157,000 rental units available for extremely low-income renters. According to the National Low-Income Housing Coalition, 68% of extremely low-income renter households are severely cost burdened by housing costs (which include monthly utility payments). Even 19% of middle-income earners are cost burdened. While it’s important to meet statutory mandates and prepare the state for the electric vehicle movement, we need to balance this need with unforeseen added costs to renters. KBA members that develop multi-family apartments have stated that utility upgrades can cost upwards of \$20,000. If paid for by the developer, cost is passed on in the form of larger rent premiums, while if paid by the utility, it’s passed on in the form of higher monthly utility bills. Any amount of relief would be appreciated by both developers and renters in this state.

Best regards,
Randall

Randall M. King
Executive Officer
Kitsap Building Association
5251 Auto Center Way
Bremerton, Washington 98312
360.479.4210 direct
www.kitsapbuilds.com

