

Curb, Dustin (DES)

From: DES SBCC
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 3:29 PM
To: Curb, Dustin (DES)
Cc: Bumbalov, Stoyan (DES)
Subject: FW: Support for the AWC Proposed Amendments for the Wildland-Urban Interface

From: Rod Fleck <rodf@forkswashington.org>
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 1:24 PM
To: DES SBCC <sbcc@des.wa.gov>
Subject: Support for the AWC Proposed Amendments for the Wildland-Urban Interface

External Email

Good afternoon,

I would like to lend support to the request from the Association of Washington Cities for amendments to the Washington Wildland-Urban Interface Code.

I have reviewed the DNR maps for our city and its urban growth area. While I understand the processes DNR utilized to create these maps, I question some of the nuances as they relate to the code provisions for the WWUIC could raise the already high, \$325-350/sq ft construction costs for new construction. I have had several discussions about the means of addressing the want to reduce fire risk in relationship to communities such as ours.

The AWC proposed exemptions make sense and should be adopted. Repair to existing buildings where there is no increase of square footage should not trigger a complete rebuild. This is extremely expensive and limit the ability to effectuate the needed repairs. The defensible space requirement also should be amended. As written, it presumes that there is no fire risk. Communities have already stretched thin resources making this part of the code unrealistic. The proposed modification offered by AWC addresses this problem in a realistic and practical manner.

Thank you for the Council's time and consideration of the AWC proposals.

Sincerely,

Rod

William R. Fleck
City Attorney/Planner
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