

# Public Testimony Received

## 2021 Washington State Energy Code – EPCA Considerations

The table includes those submitting written public comments received as of 5 p.m. on 11/22/2023 and those presenting oral public comments at the hearings on November 21 and November 22, 2023

The final adopted rule can be found at:

- Commercial: <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/law/wsr/2024/03/24-03-085.htm>
- Residential: <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/law/wsr/2024/03/24-03-084.htm>

### Adoption Summary

**Residential Code.** The Council adopted the proposed amendments to the 2021 residential energy code with the following changes: •The change to the above-grade wall U-factor in Table R402.1.2 was not adopted. The value remains U-0.056. While this conflicts with the value in Table R402.1.3, the Council decided to retain the less restrictive requirement for the UA and Total Building Performance approaches in order to provide an option without a rigid insulation requirement. •The standard reference design for water heaters under the Total Building Performance alternative was changed to a heat pump water heater meeting the efficiency standards in Table C404.2. The Council decided that this would better match the EPCA requirements for the baseline efficiency level for the covered product which meets but does not exceed DOE’s standard. •Table R406.3 was updated to include the missing credit values in Option 5.8, the new HPSF2 efficiency ratings in Options 3.3, 3.5, 3.6 and 3.7. These were necessary non-substantive modifications to make the code easier to use without needing to go to a separate document to cross reference efficiency values. •There are also several editorial and typographical corrections within the adopted amendments.

**Commercial Code.** The Council adopted Option 2 of the proposed amendments to the 2021 commercial energy code with the following changes: •The equations under Section C401.3.3.1 and C401.3.3.2 were modified to better clarify how credits are applied and prorated based on the number of heating appliances installed and provide better flexibility for hybrid heating systems. •The requirements for electrification readiness were modified to clarify that the conduits required would be supplied for each fossil fuel appliance installed, and at a location where a future replacement heat pump may be installed. References to “utility” equipment were removed since some buildings may be served from private electrical services. The transformer vault sizing was also clarified. • In Section C403.1.4, Use of electric resistance and fossil fuel-fired HVAC heating equipment, Exceptions 4 and 7 were modified to restore the specification of electric resistance supplemental heating for air-to-air heat pumps and ground-source heat pumps. This helps to retain some of the energy efficiency gain under the adoption of the 2021 code. •Portions of the Option 2 language for service water heating equipment under Section C404.2 were added, again to retain some of the efficiency gains made under the adoption of the 2021 energy code. This includes sizing requirements under C404.2.1.1. •The equations for calculating credits for hybrid systems was added to C406.2 based on language in Option 2. This was needed to fully clarify how these systems are treated. The prorating flag column from Option 2 was also added to coordinate with the calculations for hybrid systems. •The heat pump water heating credit language was revised and the credit values updated to provide credits based on the understanding that the heat pump water heaters fully meets the primary heating load, regardless of the system capacity. •A credit option for high efficiency gas-fired water heaters was added based on the 2018 code language and consistent with Option 2. This absence was an oversight in Option 1 and the Council determined that a credit option for high efficiency gas-fired water heaters was appropriate. •Additional language was added to C501.1.1 for existing buildings to better match the intent of HB 1042 and how existing buildings are defined within that legislation. •There are also several editorial and typographical corrections within the adopted amendments.

## Itemized public comment response

Name	Public Comment Summary	Response
Ann Anderson	The 2021 IECC is a flawed code, as is the WA version, and the Council should look to the 2024 code and leave the 2018 code in place until its adoption. The U-factor and R-value in the 2021 code does not make sense. The amended code does not comply with EPCA.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. Further changes to the insulation requirements would need to be made via code change proposal for the 2024 adoption. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Tim Attebery, AGC</a>	We believe the energy credit system is preempted by EPCA. Interstate commerce concerns are also in conflict with the system.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Larry Andrews</a>	This is a ban on fossil fuels. I support everything Avista stated in their letter.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Jay Arnold</a>	<b>Modification</b> to More closely match the language of the bill by removing added sentence to C501.1.1 and adding a new section with the statutory language.	The Council adopted a version of the suggested language in the final version of the rule.
Martha Baskin, Sierra Club	Please pass option one, with amended language for the heat pump water heating credit, removal of supplemental gas	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the

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	heating from air source heat pumps, and the clarification on the electric readiness language being made available both space and water heating. Reducing emissions from new buildings is crucial to protecting our climate and air quality and our health.	changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
Debbi Boyd	I urge you to skip this code cycle and adopt the 2024 IECC as soon as possible. This code is over complicated and eliminates choices by penalizing gas users. We have added way too much to the cost of housing. Home prices are already high with the cost of building permits and interest rates that we are pricing out home buyers in Washington State.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Tyler Burbidge</a> , RJ Development/ Trestlewood Construction	Consider the impacts on home buyers. Forego the 2021 code implementation and work towards the best possible 2024 code to comprehensively address the issues our state is facing.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
Jasmine Chiu, America Is All In Coalition	I hope the Council will adopt these amendments to the 2021 Washington State energy Code for both residential and commercial and adopt option one of the commercial CR102 with the RMI modifications.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The

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Ted Clifton	The 2021 code is going in the wrong direction on carbon and needs to be scrapped so we can focus on the 2024 code. R-60 insulation in the ceiling is not cost effective. They don't make R-20 insulation, so you'd need to use R-21 plus R-5, which moves the dew point towards the cavity insulation, causing the wall to fail. Heat recovery ventilators don't work in western Washington.	effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.  The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. Further changes to the insulation requirements would need to be made via code change proposal for the 2024 adoption. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Chris Covert-Bowlds</a> WA Physicians for Social Responsibility	Please pass these amendments with Option 1 with the RMI changes to protect our residents. Further delay in implementing codes will cause harm from methane and carbon dioxide buildup in the air from gas furnaces.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieve the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
Michael Currier, Sigma Drafting and Design	I agree with many of the points I've heard today and agree that we should skip this code cycle and move on to the adoption of the 2024 energy code at a future date. Mainly, this would give us, in the industry, especially on the design side, ample opportunity to become familiar with a completed energy code. Part of my job is to help my clients navigate the already confusing code options and credit choices that they see. So me, having a rock, solid understanding on all of the options available, is pretty critical to control major	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.

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	construction costs that will impact homeowners directly.	
David Danton	The payback for the current energy code is difficult for our customers to understand and see how they're truly getting a financial benefit. The proposals are very expensive and some of them are impossible to find. Our customers are already having difficulties finding the dollars to consider building a home today. This is just going to add another 20 to \$30,000 of expenses, and I think that really needs to be looked at before this before our new code is implemented.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA. The issues under consideration in this rule provide flexibility and additional pathways to meet the code.
<a href="#">Greg Davenport</a> Mitsubishi	Change the HSPF 1 to HSPF 2 in R406, and fix typo in section 3.6	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The residential adoption included the addition of the HSPF 2 values and several editorial corrections, including the one in Section 3.6 of Table R406.3.
<a href="#">Dennis Davis</a>	Taking away competition between gas and electric utilities will discourage cost savings, efficiency, safety, comfort and dependability.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The adopted rule does allow pathways for primary gas appliances. Modern heat pumps perform better than earlier models, especially in colder climates, and can provide both heating and cooling.
Brian DeHart	I appreciate the foresight to propose amendments to ensure new buildings in Washington are climate friendly and cost effective. I urge the Council to adopt the amendments and pass Option One of the commercial CR-102. Electrifying our buildings means safer communities, a shot at reducing climate change and a future of better, cheaper products, like ultra efficient heat pumps.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
Stuart Dreebeck, Olympia Master Builders	Continual increases in the cost of housing is making housing unaffordable to nearly everyone.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the

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	<p>The elimination of natural gas is very short sighted, and there is no way to make up for that kind of thermal loss in the electrical infrastructure that now exists. We should adopt the 2024 ICC Energy code.</p>	<p>Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.</p>
<p><a href="#">Kevin Duell</a> NW Natural</p>	<p>Builders and energy modelers have reported the additional energy credits are too high to be achieved. The cost of compliance far outweighs the minimal reduction in emissions. Failing to provide a pathway where the buildings can install EPCA-covered gas appliances would violate EPCA.</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. These changes include the commenter’s suggested editorial change to Equation 4-17. The other changes, including the five adopted from RMI’s suggestions, were not substantive, but provided greater clarity, corrected errors and supported the intent of requirements. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.</p>
<p><a href="#">Kristin Edmark</a></p>	<p>Maintain the energy code as adopted last year and do not adopt a change which allows increased emissions</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. The code meets all requirements for an exemption to preemption under EPCA. The changes also help ensure the efficiency of the previously adopted code is retained.</p>
<p><a href="#">Kris Finch</a> Whitman County Assoc. of Realtors</p>	<p>We recommend the SBCC forego the 2021 code update process and move forward to the 2024 updates with a renewed focus on the cost impact on housing.</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and</p>

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		enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
Jeff Giffin, Low Carbon Dist. Energy Assoc.	I want to applaud the 2021 energy code for addressing carbon emissions from the building sector head on, This is a welcome transition which will lead to a better outcome for the State of Washington and the planet. I feel that it's far more important to get this code passed now, and we can address these issues in the next code cycle.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above.
Jenifer Gilliland, Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections	We strongly prefer option one. We feel like there are several virtues, not the least of which is that it sticks most closely to the Council's original charge to the energy code Technical Advisory Group, which was to solve the problem created by the Ninth Circuit Court decision while leaving everything else in the code alone and intact. Now, there is one item in this option that you could argue is not strictly necessary for compliance with this court ruling, and that's the electrification readiness paragraph that was originally placed in option one to minimize the future cost of a switchover to heat pumps. We would support the Council either in keeping or removing the paragraph.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
<a href="#">Rex Habner</a> IBEW Local 77	Off-lining of natural gas in the way currently being considered is premature and could inadvertently harm the ability to reach climate goals. Sudden shocks on our strained electrical infrastructure could harm our progress.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. These changes allow a path for the continued use of natural gas. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency

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		improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Patrick Hanks</a> Washington Policy Center	The SBEIS is deficient. I ask the council to confer with counsel to investigate this matter and take necessary actions to comply with RCW 19.85.040.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The published SBEIS was adequate under RCW 19.85.040; there were no cost impacts under the proposed rule when compared to the previously adopted rule because it added more compliance paths to the energy code rather than additional regulation.
Jeff Hansell, Swift Water Custom Homes Swift Water Custom Homes	I'm a member of the Central Washington Home Builders Association. I request that we skip this code cycle for the adoption and reconsider this in 2024. The recent code changes have been very difficult for us to integrate into home building specifically in a high Alpine climate. It's causing us to do several things that are outside of our construction norm. The additional costs are a burden on the homeowners or the purchasers of our homes. Some of the most recent code changes have increased our cost by anywhere from 15 to \$25,000, and the current code change will add probably another 25 to \$30,000 in cost. The payback is very minor. We're not achieving the energy savings that we're investing in. Beyond that I think the supply chain issues we're experiencing have made it very difficult for us to find the materials that we need to use to implement some of these things. I would encourage you to skip adoption of this code cycle and consider it next year.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA. Additionally, there were no cost impacts under the proposed rule as compared to the previously adopted rule because it added more compliance paths to the energy code rather than additional regulation.
Bart Hansen, BIAW of Clark County	I would like to skip this code cycle and adopt the 2024 international energy code. This path is based on the affordable housing issues	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date



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	<p>that we are trying to work through here in Vancouver and Clark County. Keeping up with the need for new affordable housing can be made difficult and more expensive by adding more stringent energy measures. I'm a big fan of incentives. I'm not a big fan of mandates.</p>	<p>for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.</p>
<p>Pat Harris</p>	<p>I'm hoping that you will pass these amendments to protect the strong codes and ensure that new buildings in Washington are as climate friendly and cost effective as possible. I previously lived in a building gas—water heater, stove and gas furnace. Since I've moved into a house without gas, I have had less difficulty with my asthma, and I think that cleaning up things in our house environments in our larger buildings is important.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p><a href="#">Gary Heikkinen</a> Energy Consultant / NW Natural</p>	<p>Please disapprove the proposals as submitted that would impose additional credits based on site energy and direct that additional credits be recalculated based on source energy.</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The Council elected to retain the reference to site energy. Missing a code cycle entirely is unacceptable, and moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle.</p>
<p>Chris Hellstern, Shift Zero</p>	<p>I'm here to ask that you pass these amendments to protect strong codes and ensure that new buildings in Washington are as climate friendly and cost effective as possible. Specifically, we'd like you to pass option one of the commercial code with the modifications from RMI. I want to give you three brief, important reasons to pass these</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieve the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The</p>

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	<p>amendments. First, we need codes like this so Washington can meet its climate targets in an equitable way. Second, architects and the building industry need this continued environmental leadership from the State to help bring up the baseline for building owners who won't voluntarily meet the energy and decarbonization targets. Finally, the cost of an action or delay in action is too great. If we keep pushing off building responsibly now, it will cost all of us more in the future, because building retrofits are more expensive. And we know the human health and environmental impacts from not addressing emissions are much higher than project dollars.</p>	<p>effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p>Nancy Henderson</p>	<p>Please pass these amendments with Option 1 with the RMI changes. We believe this will provide a better legal position, providing flexibility while transitioning to clean and affordable electricity.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieve the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p>Andrea Hochleutner, Central WA Home Builders Assoc.</p>	<p>We care very much about the energy effectiveness of the homes we are building. However, these current regulations prevent us from building homes that actually meet the demands of our clients. People can't afford to build these homes. We would urge you to consider delaying these amendments until the next code cycle. This doesn't provide the necessary flexibility to create the homes we need</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. These changes provided another path for compliance with the code. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.</p>

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<a href="#">Ardel Jala</a>	Seattle supports Option 1 and the removal of the “electrification readiness” section.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. There were some changes to the electrification readiness section, but it was retained in the final code. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
Christina Janis	Skip the 2021 code and work towards the 2024 code cycle. Don’t keep overcomplicating the code and overburdening the local jurisdictions.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Ty Jennings,</a> Cascade Natural Gas	Given the expressed concerns, particularly those related to non-conformance with EPCA, the Administrative Procedures Act, and the Regulatory Fairness Act, the SBCC must take action to amend the code per public feedback and complete a small business economic impact statement.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The published SBEIS was adequate under RCW 19.85.040; there were no cost impacts under the proposed rule when compared to the previously adopted rule because it added more compliance paths to the energy code rather than additional regulation. It was felt to be important to move forward with the 2021 codes at this time to provide certainty for builders and designers and to increase energy efficiency and equity for building residents and the changes did provide an EPCA compliant path for gas within the codes.
<a href="#">Gregory Johnson</a> Avista	The amended codes suffer from the same legal infirmities as the underlying draft codes in violating the federal preemption rules. The credit values are too high to be achieved. The standard reference design includes a heat pump water	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the

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	heater. Delay the adoption until all questions are settled.	2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
Kevin Jones	The Vashon-Maury Community Council passed a motion, with overwhelming support, on December 20, 2021, calling on King County to pass building codes which required heat, pumps for space and water heating in new buildings. We care about making buildings more efficient and less climate polluting our forests; we depend on it given the wild fire escalation from longer and hotter summer weather. Our lives may also depend on it. Please pass these amendments.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the changes as noted above in the summary. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
<a href="#">Dan Kirschner</a> NW Gas Association	The process has lacked sound reasoning and analysis. A one-size-fits-all technology-reductive approach risks excluding affordable and effective technologies. Urge the Council to disregard RMI suggestions until reviewed by the TAG.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The Council determined that the other changes, including the five adopted from RMI's suggestions, provided greater clarity, corrected errors and supported the intent of requirements. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Jonny Kocher</a> , RMI	RMI supports Option 1 with the 7 amendments noted.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as the commenter proposed, but the final adopted code did include modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the

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<a href="#">Wendy Krakauer</a>	Please adopt these amendments to protect the work done to ensure new buildings are climate friendly and cost effective.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and several other modifications as noted in the summary above. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
Carolyn Logue, NW HPBA / WA ACCA	We oppose the amendments before you today. We should stick to the 2018 code and move forward with the 2024 code. HVAC contractors are saying these appliances don't exist. We need energy security and the ability to shelter in place during power outages.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
Rick Marshall	I strongly urge the Council to adopt the amendments under consideration, including Option 1 and the RMI amendments. The better builders and production folks know how to make this work. Energy efficiency means energy security. Heat pumps allow those on limited income to have AC.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieve the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
<a href="#">Karen McClennen</a>	I urge you to scrap the 2021 codes and move forward with adoption of the 2024 ICC codes	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more

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		stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
Jeanette McKague. Washington Realtors	Retain the definition of residential building from the 2018 code. Moving some buildings from the residential to the commercial code adds increased cost for buildings providing future affordable housing for our population. We ask that you either change the scope or forgo the 2021 changes and move forward with the 2024 codes with a focus on cost impacts to housing and the commercial market.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The change under the definition of “Residential” was not within the scope of this rulemaking and would need to be addressed through a code change proposal. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
Joshua Mergens, Balance Structural Engineering	I just wanted to echo many of the concerns that been raised by others in our industry. In particular, I believe we need to better address the vulnerability of rural homes during winter conditions that could leave them without electricity for extended periods of time and the necessity of alternative sources of heat for the safety of those occupants. I believe it makes sense to move forward to the 2024 Washington State energy code with these considerations in mind for potential revisions.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Todd Myers</a> , Washington Policy Center	It is clear the costs outweigh the benefits, with a negative impact on the housing crisis with no reduction on greenhouse gas emissions.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The proposed rule with the subsequent amendments adopted does not add regulation but increases the number of compliance paths. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more

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		stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
Sarah Neibert, Affinity Homes	In strong opposition to the proposed amendments. There are simply too many credits needed for compliance, which increases home prices. I urge the Council to skip the 2021 energy code and remain with the 2018 and start working on the adoption of the 2024 IECC, minimizing state amendments. I don't believe our power grid will support getting rid of natural gas. We also need to teach the inspectors what they're looking for, provide classes for them and the builders.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Benjamin Nussdorf</a> National Propane Gas Association	The proposals do not comply with EPCA. They still severely restrict access to gas equipment by creating financial barriers.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA. While construction cost is considered in the rulemaking, the changes due to EPCA concerns are not made on this basis alone.
Mike Nykreim. Newport West LLC	If we move to an all electric system, we will lose energy security across her state. Last week the 40 miles an hour wind knocked out power to 2,000 PSE customers in an urban neighborhood of Bellevue for 12 h. Some 18 years ago in the Kirkland area the wind hit 50-60 mph and PSE lost power to well over a quarter of a million customers for a week. Had it not been for natural gas as a backup	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. Only a portion of the building population will be affected by new

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	<p>system for people's energy security, there would have been no heat, no cooking, and very little habitability of homes across Greater Puget Sound. We must maintain our natural gas infrastructure until we have 100% energy security equal to what we have now with natural gas.</p>	<p>construction built under this code. While the use of heat pumps has increased greatly over the last decade, it will continue to only gradually impact the grid as it also brings greater efficiency.</p>
<p><a href="#">Erik Olnon</a> MacDonald-Miller</p>	<p>The MacDonald-Miller Facility Solutions engineering team prefers Option 1 but recommends edits to minimize confusion.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1. Several of the commenter's suggested changes were adopted, but not all of them. These mostly included the editorial amendments to the commercial code. Some of the other adopted changes had similar effects to some of the commenter's suggested changes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p>Lisa Parshley</p>	<p>I'm an Olympia City Council member. I'm also the chair of the Thurston Climate Mitigation planning and steering committee. Our city—like Seattle, Shoreline, Tacoma and Bellingham—have already implemented clean codes with similar provisions around heat pumps as the 2021 state energy codes. Delay on code implementation will also delay consistent policy around the State. And that's a difficulty for builders and developers and residents. We need to have a consistent statewide code. We are relying on the SBCC's work to support our own climate action. Our community members are overwhelmingly telling us they want this work done. They need us to take climate seriously. Olympia, Tumwater and Thurston County all have declared a climate emergency.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and several other modifications as noted in the summary above. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p>Scott Peterson, NW Gas Association</p>	<p>We oppose these changes to the energy code that serve as a de facto ban on natural gas in new</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the</p>



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	<p>construction, both commercial and residential. So we're asking the Council to oppose these new rules that further restrict even more than the previous energy code that was adopted over this year. In our survey, 65% of Washingtonians want energy choice. They want the ability to have natural gas in their homes, and with all due respect this unelected Council is not speaking for the people of Washington. The ban, although it doesn't mention stoves, is a de facto ban on all gas in homes. So this means no gas fireplaces, no gas stoves in new construction. People prefer gas for cooking. The Council does have a statutory obligation around efficiency in homes and its own research shows they're on track to meet that efficiency obligation in 2030 without changing these codes. The gas industry continues to improve its system. Not only is it a huge system that delivers energy into Washington that works in power outages, but they're required by law to decarbonize, which they're on track to meeting, and they're showing how they do it.</p>	<p>Adoption Summary, above. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA. There is no restriction on the use of gas stoves in this final rule, the 2021 energy codes, or the 2021 mechanical code.</p>
<p>Kathleen Petrie, King County</p>	<p>King County is requesting the approval of the proposed changes to the Washington 2021 State residential energy code and approval of option one of the commercial energy code. We believe these changes best reflect the intent of the strong energy code adopted last year by the Council, supporting the transition to healthy space and water, heating while keeping in alignment with the requirements of EPCA. Moving toward building electrification will better support</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the and the changes outlined above in the summary. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>

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	<p>front line communities who traditionally have greater exposure to pollution, and who will bear the highest burden of costs for maintaining stranded assets. Electric heat pumps have an important role in mitigating the impacts of an increase in extreme heat events and wildfires, and they reduce utility bills.</p>	
<p>Dylan Plumer, Sierra Club</p>	<p>I urge you to pass the amendments in front of you, to protect the strong codes and ensure that new buildings in Washington are as climate, friendly and cost effective as possible. Please take this opportunity to protect these common sense codes, to reduce emissions, build climate resilience, and ensure that Washington continues to lead the way in a transition to clean and renewable electricity.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p>Claire Richards, WA. Physicians for Social Responsibility</p>	<p>I urge the Council to adopt the amendments under consideration, including Option 1 for the commercial code. Some claim these amendments reduce energy choice by making it difficult to building a gas home, but we could not find an all-electric home in Spokane. There was a gas leak in the home we ended up purchasing, and it was cost prohibitive to electrify. It makes more sense to start with a heat pump. Also, during the wild fires, gas had to be turned off. It takes much longer to turn the gas back on than electricity.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p>Robinson Joelle</p>	<p>I am up here in Whatcom County. Two years ago my parents' home was flooded. My family experienced the very severe impacts of the climate crisis. It was very emotionally traumatizing and financially</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications</p>

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	<p>expensive. I just urge you, as a climate solutions staff person, to pass the energy amendments for the residential and commercial, especially commercial option one with the recommended changes from RMI. Reducing emissions from new buildings is crucial to protecting our climate and our air quality and our health. Electric heat pumps are a double win. Not only do they reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings, but they provide both heating and cooling, which is only growing more important as our region sees more and more wildfire smoke and heat waves.</p>	<p>that achieve the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p>Sarah Robinson, Earth Ministry</p>	<p>Scientists, leaders and civil society are calling for all hands on deck for the climate crisis. In Washington, our state already suffers with more drought, floods, glacier melt, wildfire, heat waves and other hazards that hurt our most vulnerable most acutely. To avoid the worst and restore the means for our communities to both adapt and thrive, reducing emissions from new buildings is crucial to protect our climate and air quality and our health. Improving buildings, both homes and businesses will further integrate climate and health goals into our region. Please adopt these amendments, especially option one for commercial which will maintain the intent of the strong energy code passed last year by the Council. If we neglect to adapt to our changing climate, already overburdened and underserved community members will pay the price.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieve the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p><a href="#">Angela Rozmyn</a> Natural and Built Environments</p>	<p>Suggest adding the definition for existing building for Section</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the</p>

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	C501.1.1. as stated in the legislation.	adoption of additional language from HB 1043 into Section C501.1.1.
Tod Sakai	I'm asking you to delay the adoption due to inflation and the cost of housing. I am for the environment, I just asking you to delay so that we can look at all these methods as to how we need to make houses more affordable.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
William Sampson	Gas produces harmful chemicals and contributes to negative indoor air quality. I think most people who have gas appliances don't open the windows [during operation]. Gas also contributes to global warming, which means more people need heating and cooling systems as we have more extreme weather events. People really haven't discussed the increased medical bills due to the negative impacts associated with gas. I urge you to pass the amendments.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
Keith Sanderson	I am a student at UW, and I'm here today in support of the adoption of these amendments to the 2021 state energy code. One thing that is implicit in my education is that you have to be proactive in building a future that you want to live and thrive and have good health in the future. Outlooks based on climate change research really worries me that I will not even have a chance at a future with good health and a successful life. Heat pumps offer a great option for balancing the reduction of fossil fuels with cost effective cooling without any extra auxiliary	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.

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	<p>appliances. This will help in communities that are inequitably impacted by warmer summers. Passing the proposed amendment provides legal safeguards, and is a large step towards human health and reducing pollution in homes and communities.</p>	
<p>Ruth Sawyer, Washington State Sierra Club</p>	<p>Please pass the amendments to protect strong codes and ensure that new buildings in this State are as climate friendly and cost effective as possible. We need to move forward and protect our climate.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the changes summarized above in the summary. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p>Shaun Scott</p>	<p>Compared the elimination of gas as a fuel source to the phase out of gas cars. It is clear the 2021 code is not ready to be effectively enacted. It is short-sighted and dismissive of the well-being of the state's residents to eliminate natural gas heating on the eastern side of the state.</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.</p>
<p>Mark Shepherd, Rob Rice Homes</p>	<p>I was hoping that we could wait until the 2024 cycle of codes before we update. We're already so far into this one and there's already so many issues going on with it. No one really knows how to adapt it into the field.</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.</p>

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<a href="#">Jessie Simmons</a> Olympia Master Builders	Do not adopt the 2021 energy codes, but adopt the 2024 IECC instead.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Jon Simpson</a> JWS Design	Energy code compliance mandates exceed any possible return on investment.	Certain areas of the state already have code provisions that require efficiencies as high as, or higher, than the codes adopted by the Council here. The experience there shows that builders and designers can and do design, build, and sell buildings with energy efficiencies and greenhouse gas reductions such as those required by this code. To the extent the comment is remarking on the cost-effectiveness of a given appliance for particular consumers, the energy efficiencies and greenhouse gas reductions effected by these code provisions help ensure the Council meets its statutory mandates.
Deepa Sivarajan, Climate Solutions	I'm here to testify in support of the amendments to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, and specifically in support of option one of the commercial CR-102 with the recommended changes that RMI made in their comments. I've also shared a written comment that is signed by numerous organizations and businesses across the state in support of the amendments. I also want to urge the Council to pass these amendments on schedule, instead of instituting any further delay. Many local governments are relying on the SBCC's work to support their own climate action.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
<a href="#">Andrea Smith</a> , BIAW	Forego the 2021 energy code, keeping the 2018 energy code in	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial

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	<p>effect until the next cycle. The code changes still favor electric heat pumps at the expense of gas appliances. Support the mods suggested by Cascade Natural Gas, including excluding the change to the above grade wall U-factor. Add credit to the air leakage and ventilation options for achieving 3 ACH.</p>	<p>energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The Council did not adopt all of the suggested changes in Cascade Natural Gas’s letter, but did adopt some of them. See the changes to Sections C406.1.2, C503.4.6 and some of the changes with Table R406.3. The change to the above-grade wall U-factor in Table R402.1.2 was not adopted. The value remains U-0.056. While this creates a fundamental conflict with the value in Table R402.1.3, the Council decided to retain the less restrictive requirement for the UA and Total Building Performance approaches. The changes to the code meet requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA. The Council declined to add another credit option to Table R406.3 because this variance would be a substantially different from the proposed rule and require additional public comment prior to adoption.</p>
<p>Sarah Sutton, Environment and Culture Partners</p>	<p>ECP supports these amendments to the strongest climate friendly building codes in the nation. These amendments maintain the efficiency standards of the original code, while allowing flexibility for achieving those efficiencies and incentivizing all electric approaches. This approach makes good climate action accessible to all institutions, including the often overlooked commercial building sector of cultural institutions. The State Building Codes Council should adopt the proposed amendments, so that Washington State can have codes that provide critical guidance and accessible compliance pathways and support for these charitable</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieve the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>

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	educational community minded institutions trying to take positive climate steps.	
Kurt Swanson, UA Local 32	I speak in opposition to these proposed code changes and ask that the SBCC not implement these code changes. Our members have built significant portions of the natural gas system in Washington State. They do not agree with these proposed restrictions on natural gas, and they believe that this level of interference and energy choice is an overreach by the State Building Code Council. Adopting these changes will place additional cost burdens on energy consumers in our state and they serve as a de facto ban on natural gas.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. The proposed rule with the subsequent amendments adopted does not add regulation but increases the number of compliance paths to ensure all EPCA covered products are addressed. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
Joseph Szwaja Sierra Club	Please pass option one of the commercial CR102. It provides legal safeguards, provides flexibility for builders while still meeting the vital climate goals of our code.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
Steve Tapio, New Tradition Homes	I speak to you on behalf of all home builders, both small and large. The energy code, as proposed is flawed. This code does not create a simple or streamlined pathway for compliance. There is no fuel choice. despite some weasel wording. Let's not fool ourselves thinking that we are complying with EPCA. This code essentially removes consumer choice. What about during electrical power outages? Are homeowners to simply freeze? Natural gas provides such energy security.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA. The changes in the additional energy credit requirements were felt to be necessary to retain the efficiency gains



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	<p>The majority of the thousands of energy star certified homes that we have built in the past had natural gas space and water heating. In fact, it was more challenging to qualify using heat pumps. The revisions to the energy equalization credits in Table 406.2, and the energy credits in Table 406.3 need to be recalculated. They are not accurate. Forego this 2021 code and go straight to the 2024 code.</p>	<p>from the previously adopted code. The credit amounts were calculated by two third party entities that both came out with the same amounts.</p>
<p><a href="#">Nancy Thelen</a> Thelen Construction</p>	<p>There are clearly issues with the codes. Don't take away options. Forego 2021 changes and adopt 2024 changes.</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.</p>
<p>Kelly Thomas, Spokane City Council Sustainability Initiatives</p>	<p>We are committed to building codes that support decarbonization, but consider these extreme temperatures, such as heat pumps designed for cold climates. Our poorest and most vulnerable neighborhoods are in heat islands. Heat pumps would provide air conditioning for these underserved populations. Spokane relies on the state code to move forward our climate initiatives, so we support approval without further delay.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 several other as noted in the summary above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p><a href="#">Robert Torbin, Ted Williams</a> Omega Flex / Natural Gas Direct</p>	<p>In opposition to the current changes, with respect to the negative impacts and outcomes of adoption, with a focus on the electrification of residential buildings. Choices should be based on best available</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The proposed rule with the subsequent amendments adopted does not add regulation but increases the number of compliance paths to ensure all EPCA-covered</p>

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	technology in terms of energy efficiency , cost-effectiveness and lowest practical emissions.	products are addressed. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.
<a href="#">Eric Vander Mey</a>	Provided modifications for both commercial options: 1) Remove redundant language in C401.3.1 Item 2. 2) Correct section references in C401.3.4. 3) Remove reference to “utility” equipment in C401.3.6 Item 4 (Option 1) / 403.1.4 Item 1.4. (Option 2). 4) Correlate exception 7 of C403.4.6 with exception 1 of C403.5.	The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. These changes include those noted in the commenter’s written public comments.
Seth Vidana, City of Bellingham	Bellingham has passed climate friendly building codes similar to the amendments that the Code Council is looking at, and we urge you to accept these amendments. Having a consistent codes around the State will be helpful for our builders. And having these amendments passed will help us reach our State climate targets.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 several other as noted in the summary above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
<a href="#">Peter Vierthaler</a>	Please implement this code ASAP	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 several other as noted in the summary above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
<a href="#">Connie Voget</a>	In favor of amendments protecting strong, climate friendly codes. Adopt Option 1 with the changes recommended by RMI.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The

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		effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
Richard Voget	Please adopt the proposed code with the modifications submitted by RMI. Our Legislature passed the Climate Commitment Act, which requires a 95% reduction in emissions by 2050, and that will be achievable if we continue to expand and not reduce fossil fuel infrastructure and install gas appliances. These amendments maintain intent of last year's code to transition toward clean and affordable electric space and water heating and allowing builders flexibility to choose appliances. You have also provided a legal safeguard that addresses on certain cases about Federal law.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
<a href="#">Mark Vossler</a> WA Physicians for Social Responsibility	Please ensure there is no further delay on adopting these life saving measures. Further delay in implementing clean codes will perpetuate the harm from heat, trapping, methane and carbon dioxide that gas furnaces dump into our air. Low income communities and communities of color are exposed to far worse pollution indoors and out than white, wealthy communities. Access to cooling is also a health and equity issue. Electric heat pumps increase climate resiliency by providing lifesaving cooling and air filtration as heat waves and wild wildfires intensify in our region.	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.
Dan Welch, Bundle Design Studio	Buildings are still the fastest growing sources of carbon emissions and efforts to accelerate a transition to a highly efficient heat pumps is crucial to prevent further climate catastrophe and to create resilient buildings with cooling benefits during increasingly hot	The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to

Name	Public Comment Summary	Response
	<p>summers. We urge the Code Council to adopt the proposed amendments to the 2021 Washington State energy code for both residential and commercial. Please pass the commercial CR102 language with the changes from RMI.</p>	<p>both the commercial and residential codes. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.</p>
<p>Angela White</p>	<p>The code is too complicated. Housing has gotten massively expensive. We need to skip this code cycle and move on to do something better. We just need to put people in our communities first.</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.</p>
<p>Judson Willis, Home Building Energy Efficiency Academy</p>	<p>One of the biggest issues builders are having is not being able to sell inventory because of the high mortgage rates, the volatility of the market and client affordability issues. Taking advantage of green appraisal processes that show value for building a more energy efficient, higher performance home as an incentive from the seller. That's all great when it's combined with the 2024 energy code using a performance base instead of prescriptive. I wish we could look at the 2024 adoption code a little quicker.</p>	<p>The Council moved forward with adoption of the changes to the 2021 residential and commercial energy codes, with the changes noted in the Adoption Summary, above. The effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024. Moving forward with the 2021 codes at this time provides certainty for builders and designers, increases energy efficiency, and enhances equity for building residents. In addition, skipping the 2021 code cycle would make energy efficiency improvements required by state law to be more stringent in the next cycle. The code meets requirements for an exemption from preemption under EPCA.</p>
<p><a href="#">Rachel Koller</a>, Naghmana Sherazi, Jonny Kocher, Deepa Sivarajan, Dylan Plummer, James Moschella, Shannon Wright, Michael Laurie, Ally Stoneham, Emily Moore, Greta</p>	<p>Urge adoption of the proposed amendments. The amendments before Council will ensure that new buildings in Washington are as climate friendly and cost effective as possible.</p>	<p>The Council adopted the changes in both the residential and commercial codes. The commercial code adoption included the adoption of Option 1 and the majority of the changes suggested by RMI. While Amendments 6 and 7 were not adopted as proposed by RMI, the final adopted code includes modifications that achieved the same outcomes. A few other minor editorial amendments were also made to both the commercial and residential codes. The</p>

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Tjeltveit, Thomas Kraemer, Ali Leo, Court Olson, Terrance Jorgensen, Phil Ritter, Gretchen Garth, Don Steinke, Nora Nickum, Jonathan Heller, Grace Stahre, Dan Welch, Albert Rooks, Sue Kane, Pam Clough, Catheryn Chudy, Sara Sutton, Annie Phillips, Lauren McCloy		effective date for the 2021 code remains March 15, 2024.