

## **CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION**

Ordinance amending the Bellevue City Code to incorporate the Uniform Housing Code, with conformance and consistency amendments, as chapter 23.22 in the Bellevue City Code; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This Ordinance will incorporate the 1997 Edition of the Uniform Housing Code, with conformance and consistency amendments, as a new chapter 23.22 in Title 23 – Construction Codes of the Bellevue City Code (BCC). This Code has not been updated or published since the 1997 Edition. If this Ordinance is adopted, the City will no longer adopt this Code by reference.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6535

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

The purpose of the Uniform Housing Code (the Code) is to provide minimum standards to safeguard life, health, property, and public welfare by regulating and controlling the use and occupancy, and maintenance of all residential buildings and structures within the City.

The City has been adopting the Code by reference in its regular updates to the Building Code (BCC 23.10.010.D) for many years. Originally published by the International Council of Building Officials, the latest edition of the Code is the 1997 Edition. Subsequent to this 1997 edition, there have been no updates or publications of the Code.

This Ordinance will incorporate the Code as a new chapter 23.22 in BCC Title 23 Construction Codes. The Ordinance also includes conformance and consistency amendments in order to bring the regulations up to date and to ensure that they will work well with the structure of other City Codes. These amendments include eliminating redundant and conflicting provisions and modifying certain terminology and definitions. However, the overall intent and substance of the Code remain the same in this new chapter 23.22 BCC.

This proposed Ordinance is part of a package of proposed ordinances to update the Building Code and Fire Code. If adopted, the effective date of the Fire Code amendments is October 29; and the effective date of the Building Code amendments is February 1, 2021. This Ordinance is on the same timeline as the Building Code Ordinances. The Building Code Ordinances also include removing the adoption of this Code by reference in BCC 23.10.010.D. Council considered this package in Study Session on September 21. After discussion, Council directed staff to prepare this Ordinance for adoption.

## **POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**

### **Policy Impact**

The proposed Ordinance will incorporate a Code that has not been updated or published since its 1997 Edition as a new chapter in the BCC, with conformance and consistency amendments, which will result in clearer City Code and more efficient and predictable administration of the Code.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no fiscal impact resulting from this Ordinance.

## **OPTIONS**

1. Adopt the Ordinance amending the Bellevue City Code to incorporate the Uniform Housing Code, with conformance and consistency amendments, as chapter 23.22 in the Bellevue City Code; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

## **ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS**

- A. Strike-draft of Uniform Housing Code, chapter 23.22 BCC  
Proposed Ordinance No. 6535

## **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

N/A