



## COMMENTS ON 12 DCMR

1. *Insert additional text at the end of Section 101.4.4.3 Scope to read as follows:*

“Water and drainage connections to such installations shall be made in accordance with the requirements of the *Plumbing Code* “and DC Water Standards, Specifications and Details”.

2. *Insert additional text at the end of Section 102.1 General to read as follows:*

“Systems shall also include the building service connections in both the public and private space”.

3. *Insert additional text at the end of Section 105.1.7.1(Raze Permits) Other Requirements as follows:*

“Prior to issuing a raze release, water and sewer service connections must be abandoned at the main and in accordance with DC Water Standards, Specifications and Details.”.

4. *Insert a new paragraph under Section 105.2 Work Exempted from Permit, subsection Plumbing to read as follows:*

“4. Repair and replacement of water and sewer mains and building services performed by DC Water”.

5. *Amend Section 105.2.3 Public Service Agencies to read as follows:*

“ A permit shall not be required under the *Construction Codes* for the installation alteration or repair of equipment “**and facilities**” used for the generation, transmission, distribution, metering, or treatment that is under the ownership or control of public service agencies subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission or DC Water.

6. *Amend section under Section 105.3.10.1 Exemptions under section 105.3.10 Design Professional in Responsible Charge to allow minor plumbing service connection plans to be prepared by a registered plumber as follows:*

“4. Preparation of drawings or details for the installation of water and sewer building connections to a single family residential structure may be prepared by a registered plumber.”

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7. *Amend Section 106.1.10.1 Public Sewer, Strike the third sentence and insert new to read as follows:*

“A Water and Sewer Availability Certificate (WSAC) issued by DC Water, shall be provided with the plumbing plans for every project entailing new water or sewer service connections or where the sewer or water demand has increased due to new fixture counts or mechanical demands. “

8. *Amend Section 106.1.10.2 Public Water Main by inserting additional text at the end of the section to read as follows:*

“A Water and Sewer Availability Certificate (WSAC) issued by DC Water, shall be provided with the plumbing plans for every project entailing new water or sewer service connections or where the sewer or water demand has increased due to new fixture counts or mechanical demands. “

9. *Strike Section 106.6.6 Covenants for Water or Sewer Utility Service and insert new section 106.6.6 to read as follows:*

**“Covenants for Water or Sewer Utility Service.** A covenant running with the land shall be required before a permit shall be issued to install water or sewer utility services to a lot from an adjacent lot or to extend such services to a lot or *premise* from a building, as approved pursuant to Section 301.3.1 of the *Plumbing Code*. The covenant shall ensure that joint utility use to each property will be maintained and that access to operate and repair the joint utility is provided to the jointly used service connections. Covenants to construct, own, operate and maintain the water and sewer service connections may be required in order to permit non-conforming utility service connections in public space.

10. *Strike Section 111.1 Connection of Service Utilities and insert new Section 111.1 to read as follows:*

111.1 Connection of Service Utilities. No person shall make connections from a utility source of energy, fuel, power or **water or sewerage** to any building other structure or other system that is regulated by the *Construction Codes* for which a permit is required, until the permit is issued by the code official.

## COMMENTS ON 12 DCMR SUBTITLE F PLUMBING CODE SUPPLEMENT

11. *Strike Section 715.1 of the International Plumbing Code and insert new section in the Plumbing Code in its place to read as follows:*

**715.1 Sewage Backflow.** In existing structures where plumbing fixtures have been installed on a floor with a finished floor elevation below the elevation of the manhole cover of the next

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upstream manhole in the public sewer; such fixtures shall be protected by a backwater valve installed in the building drain or horizontal branch serving such fixture. Plumbing fixtures installed on a floor with a finished floor elevation above the elevation of the manhole cover of the next upstream manhole in the public space shall not discharge through a backwater valve.

**715.1.2 Exemptions.** Where the *Code Official* deems it appropriate for protection of multi-level single family dwellings in flood prone areas, an exemption may be granted to install backwater valves in the building drain servicing the entire premise and allow fixtures on a floor with a finished elevation above the adjacent manhole in public space to discharge thru the backwater valve.

**715.1.1 Prohibited Discharge thru a Backwater Valve.** For all new construction or alterations and repairs whose cost exceeds 50% of the value of the structure, plumbing fixtures whose flood rim elevation is below that of the adjacent public sewer shall not discharge through a backwater valve. Plumbing fixtures meeting these criteria shall discharge to a sump pump or ejector in conformance with the requirements of Section 712. Battery backup systems will be required on such systems.

## COMMENTS ON 12 DCMR SUBTITLE F PLUMBING CODE SUPPLEMENT

12. *Strike Section P3008 of the International Residential Code and insert new section in the Plumbing Code in its place to read as follows:*

**P3008.1 General.** In existing structures where plumbing fixtures have been installed on a floor with a finished floor elevation below the elevation of the manhole cover of the next upstream manhole in the public sewer; such fixtures shall be protected by a backwater valve installed in the building drain or horizontal branch serving such fixture. Plumbing fixtures installed on a floor with a finished floor elevation above the elevation of the manhole cover of the next upstream manhole in the public space shall not discharge through a backwater valve.

**P308.2 Exemptions.** Where the *code official* deems it appropriate for protection of Multi-level single family dwellings in flood prone areas an exemption may be granted to install backwater valves in the building drain servicing the entire premise and allow fixtures on a floor with a finished elevation above the adjacent manhole in public space to discharge thru the backwater valve.

**P308.3 Prohibited Discharge thru a Backwater Valve.** For all new construction or alterations and repairs whose cost exceeds 50% of the value of the structure, plumbing fixtures whose flood rim elevation is below that of the adjacent public sewer shall not discharge through a backwater valve. Plumbing fixtures meeting these criteria shall discharge to a sump pump or ejector in conformance with the requirements of section P3007.1 Battery backup systems will be required on such systems.

**P308.4 Construction.** Backwater valves shall have noncorrosive bearings, seats and self-aligning discs, and shall be constructed to ensure a positive mechanical seal. Valve Access covers shall be water tight.

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### COMMENTS ON 12DCMR SUBTITLE A BUILDING CODE SUPPLEMENT

#### CHAPTER 10 MEANS OF EGRESS

13. *Insert new section 1022.7 into the international building code to read as follows:*

**Section 1022.7 Overland flood protection at Below Grade Exterior Entrances.** All exterior below grade entrances shall be designed to provide protection against overland flooding. There shall be a minimum 12” rise from adjacent grade on all sides of a stairwell accessing a below grade entrance.

### COMMENTS ON 12DCMR SUBTITLE F PLUMBING CODE SUPPLEMENT

#### CHAPTER 11 STORM DRAINAGE

14. *Strike section 1113.1 of the international plumbing code in its entirety and insert new section 1113.1 in its place to read as follows:*

**1113.1 Building subdrains.** Building subdrains located below the public sewer level shall discharge into a sump or receiving tank, the contents of which shall be automatically lifted and discharged into the building drainage system. The discharge point shall be downstream of any backwater valves/devices and shall not generate a condition that could cause flooding at any of the building fixtures.

15. *Strike section 1104.1 of the international plumbing code in its entirety and insert new section 1104.1 in its place to read as follows:*

**1104.1 Combining storm with sanitary drainage.** The sanitary and storm drainage systems of a structure shall be entirely separate except where combined sewer systems are utilized. Where a combined sewer is utilized, the building storm drain shall be connected in the same horizontal plane through a single-wye fitting to the combined sewer not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) downstream from any soil stack. Where a backwater valve exists, the connections shall be downstream of the backwater valve. Where the connection is in public space and or the size of either line is in excess of 6” in diameter, the combination shall be made with a manhole in lieu of a single-wye.