

ANALYSIS

This ordinance repeals those provisions of Title 29 – Mechanical Code – of the Los Angeles County Code that incorporated by reference portions of the 2022 California Mechanical Code and replaces them with provisions incorporating by reference portions of the 2025 California Mechanical Code, published by the California Building Standards Commission. Unless deleted or modified herein, the previously enacted provisions of Title 29 continue in effect.

State law requires that the County's Mechanical Code impose the same requirements as are contained in the building standards published in the most recent edition of the California Mechanical Code except for changes or modifications deemed reasonably necessary by the County because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions. The changes and modifications to the requirements contained in the building standards published in the 2025 California Mechanical Code that are contained in this ordinance are based upon express findings, contained in the ordinance, that such changes are reasonably necessary due to local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions. These changes and modifications are substantially equivalent to changes and modifications previously filed by the County of Los Angeles, which were in effect as of September 30, 2025.

This ordinance also makes certain modifications to the administrative provisions of Title 29.

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County Counsel

By 

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MFA:bc

Requested: 8/5/25
Revised: 10/8/25

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Title 29 – Mechanical Code – of the Los Angeles County Code by adopting and incorporating by reference portions of the 2025 California Mechanical Code with certain changes and modifications and making other revisions thereto.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Sections 119.1.2.0 through 119.1.14.0 of Chapter 1, Chapters 2 through 17, and Appendices B, C, and D, of this Title 29 of the Los Angeles County Code, which incorporated by reference and modified portions of the 2022 California Mechanical Code, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. Section 100 is hereby amended to read as follows:

100 ADOPTION AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

Except as hereinafter changed or modified, Sections 1.2.0 through 1.14.0 of Chapter 1, Division I, of that certain Mechanical Code known and designated as the ~~2022~~2025 California Mechanical Code, as published by the California Building Standards Commission, are adopted and incorporated by reference into this Title 29 of the Los Angeles County Code, as if fully set forth below, and shall be known as Sections 119.1.2.0 through 119.1.14.0, respectively, of Chapter 1 of Title 29 of the Los Angeles County Code.

Except as hereinafter changed or modified, Chapters 2 through 17, and Appendices B, C, and D, of that certain Mechanical Code known and designated as the ~~2022~~2025 California Mechanical Code, as published by the California Building

Standards Commission, are adopted and incorporated by reference into this Title 29 of the Los Angeles County Code as if fully set forth below, and shall be known as Chapters 2 through 17, and Appendices B, C, and D, of Title 29 of the Los Angeles County Code.

A copy of the ~~2022~~2025 California Mechanical Code shall be at all times maintained by the Chief Mechanical Inspector for use and examination by the public.

SECTION 3. Section 204.0 is hereby amended to read as follows:

204.0 – B –

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Building Code. The ~~building code that is adopted by this jurisdiction. [HCD1, HCD 2, OSHPD 1, 1R, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & SFM]~~ "Building Code" shall mean the ~~California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2~~most recent edition of Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code.

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SECTION 4. Section 207.0 is hereby amended to read as follows:

207.0 – E –

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Electrical Code. The ~~"Electrical Code" shall mean the National Electrical Code promulgated by the National Fire Protection Association, as adopted by this jurisdiction. [HCD 1 & HCD 2]~~ Whenever the term "Electrical Code" is used in this code, it shall mean the ~~California Electrical Code, Title 24, Part 3~~most recent edition of Title 27 of the Los Angeles County Code.

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SECTION 5. Section 218.0 is hereby amended to read as follows:

218.0 – P –

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Plumbing Code. The "Plumbing Code" shall mean the ~~Uniform Plumbing Code~~ (UPC) promulgated by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), as adopted by this jurisdiction. ~~[HCD 1 & HCD 2]~~ Whenever the term "Plumbing Code" is used in this code, it shall mean the California Plumbing Code, Title 24, Part 5 most recent edition of Title 28 of the Los Angeles County Code.

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SECTION 6. Section 302.2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

302.2 ALTERNATE MATERIALS AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIVALENCY AND MODIFICATIONS.

302.2.1 Alternate Materials and Methods of Construction.

Nothing in this eCode is intended to prevent the use of systems, methods, or devices of equivalent or superior quality, strength, fire resistance, effectiveness, durability, and safety over those prescribed by this eCode. Technical documentation shall be submitted to the Authority Having Jurisdiction to demonstrate equivalency. The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall have the authority to approve or disapprove the system, method, or device for the intended purpose on a case-by-case basis.

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302.2.1.1 Testing.

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302.2.1.1.1 Tests.

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302.2.1.21.2 Requests by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

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302.2.1.2 Application. Application for the use of an alternate material or method of construction shall be submitted in writing to the Chief Mechanical Inspector together with a filing fee of \$317.26. When staff review exceeds two hours, an additional fee of \$158.63 per hour shall be charged for each hour, or fraction thereof, in excess of two hours.

302.2.2 Modifications. Whenever there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this Code, the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall have the authority to grant modifications on a case-by-case basis, upon application of the owner or the owner's authorized agent, provided that the Authority Having Jurisdiction shall first find that a special individual reason makes the strict letter of this Code impractical, and that the modification is in conformity with the spirit and purpose of this Code, and that such modification does not lessen any health, fire-protection, or other life-safety-related requirements. The details of any action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the files of the Authority Having Jurisdiction. The application for approval of a modification shall be in accordance with Section 302.2.1.2.

SECTION 7. Section 501.1 is hereby amended to read as follows:

501.1 Applicability. This eChapter includes requirements for environmental air ducts, product-conveying systems, and commercial hoods and kitchen ventilation. Part I addresses environmental air ducts and product-conveying systems. Part II addresses commercial hoods and kitchen ventilation. Ventilation systems installed to control occupational health hazards shall comply with the requirements of the County Health Officer as defined in Title 11 of the Los Angeles County Code.

SECTION 8. Section 510.1.6 is hereby amended to read as follows:

510.1.6 Bracing and Supports. Duct bracing and supports shall be of noncombustible material, securely attached to the structure, not less than the gauge required for grease-duct construction, and designed to carry gravity and lateral loads within the stress limitations of the bBuilding eCode. Bolts, screws, rivets, and other mechanical fasteners shall not penetrate duct walls.

SECTION 9. Section 603.7.1.1 is hereby amended to read as follows:

603.7.1.1 Rectangular Ducts. Supports for rectangular ducts shall be installed on two opposite sides of each duct and shall be welded, riveted, bolted, or metal screwed to each side of the duct at intervals specified.

SECTION 10. Section 1114.4 is hereby added to read as follows:

1114.4 Approvals Required. The method of discharge of systems containing other than group A1 refrigerants shall comply with the pertinent requirements of Title 32 (Fire Code) and Division 2 of Title 20 (Sanitary Sewer and Industrial Waste) of the Los Angeles County Code.

SECTION 11. The provisions of this ordinance contain various changes, modifications, and additions to the 2025 Edition of the California Mechanical Code. Some of these changes are administrative in nature in that they do not constitute changes or modifications to requirements contained in the building standards published in the California Mechanical Code.

Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code sections 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5, the Board of Supervisors hereby expressly finds that all of the changes and modifications to requirements contained in the building standards published in the California Building Standards Code contained in this ordinance are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions in the County of Los Angeles due to the potential for seismic activity in the region, topographical conditions that contribute to the spread of wild fires, and climatic conditions that impact air quality and increase the risk of wild fires. In addition, the Board of Supervisors expressly finds that the modifications herein are substantially equivalent to modifications that were previously filed by the County of Los Angeles and were in effect as of September 30, 2025. Without limiting the foregoing, the County makes additional findings herein:

TABLE

MECHANICAL CODE AMENDMENTS		
CODE SECTION	CONDITION	EXPLANATION
501.1	Climatic	Additional Health Department requirements are necessary due to local air quality concerns.
510.1.6	Geological	High geologic activities, such as seismic events, in the Southern California area necessitate this local amendment for bracing and support.
603.7.1.1	Geological	High geologic activities, such as seismic events, in the Southern California area necessitate this local amendment for bracing and support.
1114.4	Geological	High geologic activities, such as seismic events, in the Southern California area necessitate this local amendment to reduce damage and potential for toxic refrigerant release during a seismic event caused by shifting equipment and to minimize impacts to the sewer system in such an event.

SECTION 12. This ordinance shall become operative on January 1, 2026.

[TITLE29MECHCODE2025CSCC]