



Community Development Department  
450 Civic Center Plaza  
Richmond, CA 94804

03/12/2020

Mr. Drew Bohan  
Executive Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street MS-37  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5514

RE: Filing of local amendment of the California Building Standards Code City of Richmond Ordinance No. 06-20 N.S.

Dear Mr. Bohan,

The City of Richmond is pleased to apply for approval from the California Energy Commission (CEC) Richmond's adopted amendments to the 2019 Edition of the California Energy Code, Title 24, Part 6 Ordinance No. 06-20 N.S. (Attachment 3).

The ordinance was approved by the City Council on March 03, 2020 and if approved by the CEC, will become effective once we have received CEC approval. We would also like to thank you for reviewing our ordinance prior to the City Council hearing

The ordinance seeks to require electrification of new buildings by mandating the following:

1. New Residential Buildings will require an electric fuel source for space heating, water heating and clothes dryers. Natural gas can still be used for cooktops and fireplaces. Prewiring for future electric appliances is required where natural gas appliances are used.
2. Nonresidential buildings will require electricity as the fuel source for all appliances. There are a few exceptions for certain building types, such as life science buildings space heating, public agency owned and operated emergency operations centers, and cookware for nonresidential kitchens. If an exception is granted, natural gas appliance locations must be electrically prewired for future electric appliance installation. Lastly, all newly constructed nonresidential buildings must install a minimum amount of on-site solar production based on square footage.

The City will continue to enforce Title 24, Part 6, as well as the proposed ordinance. The proposed ordinance will protect the environment and will require buildings to consume no more energy than the State standards. Thus, there are no reasonably foreseeable adverse impacts, and no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. As the lead agency, the City has determined that this ordinance is exempt from CEQA per CEQA Guidelines section 15061 (b)(3).

In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 25402.1(h)2 and Section 10-106 of the Building Energy Efficiency Standards, this package of materials includes the City of Richmond's proposed local ordinance requiring more stringent energy requirements than those set by California's 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards Title 24, Part 6. Please find the following materials enclosed:

- **Att. 1:** This cover letter
- **Att. 2:** Staff report to the City Council, outlining the goals of the updated energy code
- **Att. 3:** Signed Ordinance No. 06-20 N.S. which adopts updates the City of Richmond's Building Ordinance, including requirements for energy reach standards beyond Title 24, Part 6 baseline for new single family and multifamily residential, and for new nonresidential construction. This provides clear requirements that buildings be designed to consume no more energy than permitted by Part 6. The ordinance also makes findings regarding local climatic, geological, topographical conditions.
- **Att. 4: Residential Cost Effectiveness Study** demonstrating the expected energy savings and the cost effectiveness of the ordinance in the City of Richmond (climate zone 3)
- **Att. 5: Nonresidential Cost Effectiveness Study** demonstrating the expected energy savings and the cost effectiveness of the ordinance in the City of Richmond (climate zone 3)
- **Att. 6:** Evidence of CEQA compliance through the attached Notice of Exemption.
- **Att. 7:** A letter from the Chief Building Official to the Executive Director of the CEC about the changes to local building energy efficiency standards.

If you have any questions, please contact me Chris Castanchoa, Chief Building Official, at 510-620-6764 or [chris\\_castanchoa@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:chris_castanchoa@ci.richmond.ca.us). Thank you again for your guidance, and for considering the City of Richmond's Ordinance No. 06-20 N.S. for approval. We look forward to working with you again in the future.

Sincerely,



Chris Castanchoa,  
Chief Building Official  
Community Development Department  
Building Division  
City of Richmond, California  
Tele: (510) 620-6764  
[chris\\_castanchoa@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:chris_castanchoa@ci.richmond.ca.us)