



City of Seattle  
**Department of Planning & Development**

## **2006 SRC Code Solution**

**R317.2.2**  
**Openings in roof sheathing within 4' of**  
**townhouse separation**  
Release Date: **April 10, 2009**

*The following interpretation, policy or code alternate is intended to provide guidance to staff for consistency of review and is subject to change without notice. Application of this interpretation, policy or code alternate to specific projects may vary.*

### **Code Issue:**

What kinds of openings are allowed in the roof of a townhouse within 4' of the unit separation walls when using the exceptions to the requirement for parapets?

### **Policy:**

Vent pipes may penetrate the roof sheathing of a townhouse within 4' of the townhouse's unit separation wall, but openings into the attic or rafter cavities other than a pipe which passes through would not be allowed in this location. Skylights, chimneys for solid-fuel burning appliances and chimneys for solid-fuel burning fireplaces must also be located more than 4' from the unit separation wall unless a parapet is provided.

If you have questions about whether this code solution applies to your project:

- *If you have submitted a permit application, contact the Building Code plan reviewer assigned to your application*
- *If you have not submitted an application, contact DPD Building Code Technical Support at 206-684-4630 or in person at the Applicant Services Center. Visit the Applicant Services Center website for more information about hours and location [http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Permits/Process\\_Overview/Location\\_Hours/default.asp](http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Permits/Process_Overview/Location_Hours/default.asp)*



## **Construction Review & Inspection Quality**

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