



City of Seattle
Edward B. Murray
Mayor

April 22, 2014

Honorable Tim Burgess
President
Seattle City Council
City Hall, 2nd Floor

Dear Council President Burgess:

I am pleased to transmit the attached proposed Council Bill that would amend the Land Use Code to focus the Living Building and Seattle Deep Green pilot program on the Living Building option, in response to Resolution 31400. This proposal continues to allow flexibility in applying standards to projects qualifying for the pilot program while helping to ensure that the design of participating projects fit within neighborhoods. Meanwhile, DPD, working with the technical advisory group, will continue to develop recommendations for a new Seattle Deep Green option.

The pilot program is intended to help us gain a better understanding of innovative “living” buildings that can reduce environmental impacts, test new technologies, and serve as a model for development throughout the city, the region and the country. The program was adopted by the City Council in December 2009, and amended in 2012, to facilitate the development of buildings that would either meet the Living Building Challenge or suitable alternative. The Living Building Challenge is a green building rating system that recognizes buildings meeting the highest level of environmental sustainability.

Seattle is already a leader in sustainable building practices, but we aspire to achieve even greener results. Please join me in supporting this legislation so that we can continue to encourage innovative living buildings in Seattle. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. Should you have questions, please contact Aly Pennucci in the Department of Planning and Development at 386-9132.

Sincerely,

Edward B. Murray
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Honorable Members of the Seattle City Council