

Land Use Updates For Public Schools



The Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections, Department of Neighborhoods, and Seattle Department of Transportation are collaborating with Seattle Public Schools (the district) to help build new, modern school projects. The updates to the Land Use Code would better enable new school construction projects to support current educational needs such as flexible classroom design, gyms, and outdoor play areas.

Background

The City allows public schools in all zones. In commercial zones they need to meet the zone's development standards (i.e. building height, building floor area limits). In residential zones, public schools need to meet standards in the Land Use Code Chapter 23.51B, Public Schools in Residential Zones. These standards are out of date and do not accommodate the educational needs of public schools.

Departures from development standards may be permitted or required in accord with procedures and criteria established in the Land Use Code Chapter 23.79, Establishment of Development Standard Departure for Public Schools. The code updates would address the standards and departure process to better accommodate public school projects that support student learning while fitting into the neighborhoods.



**Seattle Department of
Construction & Inspections**

The Goal of this Code Update is to:



- Apply standards that better meet state education and school program requirements and maintain compatibility with surrounding neighborhoods
- Achieve better outcomes in the public school departure process by updating the process and reducing the extent and number of departures required to help build new school projects

Learn More and Get Involved

We are happy to meet with individuals or groups to discuss how our code updates can improve the school construction process while helping new and remodeled schools fit into the surrounding neighborhood. To schedule a meeting, please contact chanda.emery@seattle.gov.

We look forward to your comments or feedback about our proposed updates for school construction. Please send your suggestions to chanda.emery@seattle.gov.

Sign up on our listserv on our website to receive updates about our progress. To receive updates and to learn more about the potential changes, visit our [Public Schools Code Update](#) website.



Translated versions of this information are available on our [Public Schools Code Update](#) website

Versiones traducidas de esta información están disponibles en nuestro sitio web en [Actualización del Código de Escuelas Públicas](#).

Các phiên bản được dịch của thông tin này có trên trang web [Cập Nhật Về Quy Định cho Trường Công Lập](#) của chúng tôi.

我們的[公立學校法典更新](#)網站上亦提供了此資訊的翻譯版本。

