



City of Seattle
Department of Planning & Development

2009 SBC Code Solution

Section 1107.6.2.1
Alterations to Type A Units in
Condominiums
Release Date: **February 25, 2011**
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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:

Is a pre-sold Type A unit in a condominium building allowed to be altered to a lesser accessibility standard prior to first occupancy?

Policy:

In a condominium building, a pre-sold Type A unit is permitted to be altered to Type B standards prior to first occupancy, provided:

- a. The condominium developer must submit a letter to DPD agreeing to re-convert any unit to Type A standards if the sale of the unit is not concluded.
- b. The prospective owner must submit a letter to DPD stating the desire to alter their Type A unit to Type B standards.
- c. Kitchen and bathroom cabinets and counters need not meet Type A unit standards.
- d. Platform lifts need not be installed, but structural support and adequate space must be provided to accommodate future installation.
- e. Elevators within a Type A unit need not be installed, but provisions for structural support and an adequately-sized shaft must be provided to accommodate future installation.
- f. The walls of kitchens and bathrooms are not allowed to be moved unless the alterations will result in a unit that would still meet the space requirements for a Type A unit (clear floor spaces, turnarounds, etc.). For the purposes of determining the space requirements, cabinets may intrude into the clear floor spaces.

For 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*



Construction Review & Inspection Quality
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