

Docket Item No.	Project Name	Brief Description of Suggested Amendment	Who Suggested Amendment	Staff Lead	Staff Recommendation
20.11	KCC 20.05	Authorize Fire & Life Safety Inspections for Short-Term Rentals	Fire Marshall	CDS – Planning & Fire Marshall	Staff recommends approval of the amendment as proposed.

The proposed amendment to KCC 20.05 would authorize Fire and Life Safety inspections for Short-Term Rentals. Short-term rentals are defined by RCW 64.37.010 as follows:

(9)(a) "Short-term rental" means a lodging use, that is not a hotel or motel or bed and breakfast, in which a dwelling unit, or portion thereof, that is offered or provided to a guest by a short-term rental operator for a fee for fewer than thirty consecutive nights.

(b) "Short-term rental" does not include any of the following:

(i) A dwelling unit that is occupied by the owner for at least six months during the calendar year and in which fewer than three rooms are rented at any time;

(ii) A dwelling unit, or portion thereof, that is used by the same person for thirty or more consecutive nights; or

(iii) A dwelling unit, or portion thereof, that is operated by an organization or government entity that is registered as a charitable organization with the secretary of state, state of Washington, or is classified by the federal internal revenue service as a public charity or a private foundation, and provides temporary housing to individuals who are being treated for trauma, injury, or disease, or their family members.

PC DRAFT – September 2020

20.05.010 Authority.

The Fire Marshal, or his/her designee, is authorized to inspect the following nonresidential occupancies in unincorporated Kittitas County;

1. Hospitals;
2. Nursing homes;
3. Assisted living facilities;
4. Medical Centers;
5. Schools;
6. Daycare facilities;
7. Any other recreational and/or educational centers, including but not limited to camps, riding arenas, etc.;
8. Retail stores;
9. Business offices;
10. Dining and entertainment establishments;
11. Industrial and manufacturing facilities;
12. Special events located in nonresidential occupancies;

13. Special events located in residential occupancies where a special event permit has been issued;
14. Repair garages and automotive maintenance garages;
15. Places of assembly;
16. Spray booth facilities; and
17. All other nonresidential occupancies which may pose a fire or life safety hazard to the public or employees, or as listed in the International Fire Code, as adopted in [Title 14](#).

The Fire Marshal, or his/her designee, is also authorized to inspect the following residential occupancies in unincorporated Kittitas County;

1. The common areas of apartments and condominiums;
2. Commercial Vacation rentals;
3. Lodges, hotels and motels;
4. Mobile home parks; and
- [5. Recreational Vehicle parks](#)
- [5-6. Short-term rentals as defined by RCW 64.37.010\(9\).](#)

Exceptions:

1. The Fire Marshal or Deputy Fire Marshal will not make entrance into the individual apartment or condominium units unless a specific request is made by the occupant or owner of the property. A landlord may not grant permission to enter a premise that has a tenant.
2. Single family residences and duplexes shall not be regulated under this code. ([Ord. 2010-005, 2010](#))