



Washington State Building Code Council

Improving the built environment by promoting health, safety and welfare

1500 Jefferson Street SE • P.O. Box 41449 • Olympia, Washington 98504
(360) 407-9277 • e-mail sbcc@des.wa.gov • www.sbcc.wa.gov

STATE BUILDING CODE OPINION NO. 19-05

CODE: 2015 International Building Code
SECTION: 427 Electrical Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

QUESTION: Section 427.3 indicates that the electrical room is required to be designed to accommodate the electrical equipment and distribution required to serve a minimum of 20 percent of the total parking spaces with 208/240 V 40-amp electrical vehicle parking infrastructure. Is it the intent of this section to only provide the required space (floor and wall area) within the electrical room to allow for future expansion so that 20 percent of the total number of parking spaces could eventually be provided with electric vehicle charging?

ANSWER: **This requirement addresses the volume (floor area and height) required.**

QUESTION: Section 427.4 essentially requires one of two options to be met.

Option 1 (427.4, #1) requires 5 percent of the parking spaces to be provided with functioning electric vehicle charging stations. This, of course, requires the installation of the infrastructure necessary to make that happen.

Option 2 (427.4, #2) only requires (a) additional electrical service capacity, (b) space for future meters, (c) space for additional panels (or actual additional panel capacity), and (d) raceways (that terminate at parking spaces designated for future electric vehicle charging) for the future installation of 5 percent of the parking spaces.

Since Option 2 is a reduction of the requirements of Option 1 and since the code only provides minimum requirements, is it the intent that Option 2 provide the actual minimum requirements and no electric vehicle charging stations are actually required to be installed?

ANSWER: Option 1 requires the installation of EV Charging Stations. Option 2 does not require the installation of EV Charging Stations but does require the infrastructure for EV Charging Stations beyond the minimum number of stalls required by Section 427.2.

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: City of Bellevue