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## Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department

### **Attention Contractors:**

There are several important changes that we all need to be aware of with the adoption of the 2018 International Residential Code (IRC) regarding the Mechanical chapters.

**Chapter 13 (IRC): Section M1305.1.1 – Access to Furnaces within Compartments.** The appliance access and clearance requirements for furnaces in compartments have been removed from the code in favor of other code provisions and the manufacturer's instructions.

**Chapter 13 (IRC): Section M1305.1.3.2 – Pit Locations.** The requirements for appliance installation in pits has been expanded to provide more detail and to be similar to language found in other ICC codes. The minimum bottom clearance has been reduced from 6 inches to three inches. .

**Chapter 15 (IRC): Section M1502.3.1 – Exhaust Termination Outlet and Passageway Size.** The passageway of dryer exhaust duct terminals shall be undiminished in size and shall provide an open area of not less than 12.5 square inches.

**Chapter 15 (IRC): Section M1503.6. – Makeup Air Required.** Makeup air for domestic cooking exhaust systems is no longer required if all fuel-burning appliances in the dwelling unit have a direct vent or mechanical draft vent system.

**Chapter 19 (IRC): Section M1901. – Ranges and Ovens.** The provisions for reduced clearances above cooking surfaces have been clarified. The listing requirement for microwave ovens has been added to section M1901.

**Chapter 21 (IRC): Section M2101.9 – Hanger Spacing for PEX Tubing.** Support requirements for PEX tubing 1 ¼ inches and greater in diameter have been added to table M2101.9.

**Chapter 21 (IRC): Section M2101.10 – Pressure Test for Hydronic Piping.** Compressed air testing of PEX hydronic piping is now allowed when testing is in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions.

**Chapter 24 (IRC): Section G2406.2 – Prohibited Locations for Appliances.** A gas-fired clothes dryer is now allowed in a bathroom or toilet room where a permanent opening communicates with other permitted spaces.

**\*This is not a complete list of all the changes, but a list of highlights that will affect the HVAC industry.\***