

2008-Or-____
AN ORDINANCE
of the
CITY OF
MINNEAPOLIS

By Samuels

Amending Title 12, Chapter 244 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Housing: Maintenance Code.

The City Council of The City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

Section 1. That Section 244.410 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

244.410. Light and ventilation. Habitable rooms shall be provided with natural light by means of windows or skylights with a glazed area of not less than eight (8) per cent of the floor area of such rooms with a minimum of eight (8) square feet. All bathrooms, water closet compartments, and similar rooms shall be provided with natural ventilation by means of openable exterior openings with an area of not less than one-twentieth (1/20) of the floor area of such rooms with a minimum of one and one-half (1 1/2) square feet.

Not less than one-half (1/2) of the required window or skylight area shall be openable to provide natural ventilation.

In lieu of openable windows for natural ventilation, a mechanical ventilation system may be provided. Such system shall be capable of providing two (2) air changes per hour in all habitable rooms. One-fifth (1/5) of the air supply shall be taken from the outside. In bathrooms, water closet compartments, and similar rooms, a mechanical ventilation system connected directly to the outside, capable of providing five (5) air changes per hour, shall be provided unless minimum natural ventilation is provided.

Windows shall not be required in kitchens of dwelling units when such kitchen has an opening of at least twenty (20) square feet into an adjoining habitable room and when such kitchen is provided with an approved mechanical ventilation system. In addition, the window area of the adjoining habitable room referred to above shall be of sufficient size so as to provide for the light and ventilation requirements of the kitchen area as well as for said adjoining habitable room.

For the purpose of determining light and ventilation requirements, any room may be considered as a portion of an adjoining room when one-half (1/2) of the area of the common wall is open and unobstructed and provides an opening of not less than one-

tenth (1/10) of the floor area of the interior room or twenty-five (25) square feet, whichever is greater.

Required windows shall open directly onto a street or public alley or a yard or court located on the same lot as the building. Such street, alley, court or yard shall be open and unobstructed for a distance equal to or greater than the required yard space of the dwelling.

Exception: Required windows may open into a roofed porch where the porch:

- (1) Abuts a street, yard or court; and
- (2) Has a ceiling height of not less than seven (7) feet; and
- (3) Has the longer side at least sixty-five (65) per cent open and unobstructed.

Every sleeping room ~~not in a Type I or II building,~~ located below the fourth floor shall have at least one window or exterior door approved for emergency exit or rescue. ~~Where windows are provided they shall have a sill height not more than forty-eight (48) inches above the floor.~~

~~A window with a total glazed area of not less than five (5) square feet with a minimum clear opening dimension not less than twenty (20) inches shall be deemed to meet the requirements of this section provided sill heights are not over forty-eight (48) inches above the floor. New window installations or replacements shall be in compliance with the state building code.~~

An emergency escape and rescue window installed prior to April 11, 1983 shall provide a minimum total glazed area of not less than five (5) square feet. In addition, a window opening (measured with the window open) providing a clear opening not less than twenty (20) inches in width and twenty-four (24) inches in height shall be deemed to meet the requirements of this section provided sill heights are not over forty-eight (48) inches above the floor. Windows installed on or after April 12, 1983 and any new window installations or replacements shall be in compliance with the state building code. Enforcement of this section shall be in compliance with Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division Policy INS-04 (2007) or the most recently-issued revision of that policy.