

WHOLE HOUSE FAN

BESO Resilience Upgrade Measure

MEASURE INFORMATION

Credits: 2

Description:

A whole house fan helps cool your home naturally by pulling in cool outdoor air through open windows and exhausting hot indoor air through the attic, quickly lowering indoor temperatures. It's most effective if used when the outside temperature is cooler than your indoor temperature, such as in the early morning or evening. Whole house fans use significantly less energy than air conditioning, making them a cost-effective way to stay comfortable. They work best in homes with adequate attic ventilation and a moderate roof pitch, which allows hot air to escape efficiently. Whole house fans should be designed to provide air flow that is at least one half of the total volume of the home.

Installation Criteria:

Install a whole-house fan that draws cool outdoor air through open windows, exhausts the warmer air into the attic, and then expels warm indoor air through attic vents, improving air circulation and supporting passive cooling. *May require the installation of an electrical circuit and outlet.*

Required Verification Documentation:

- Permit + Approved Final Inspection – *Include “for BESO compliance” in the scope of work section of your building permit application.*
- Contractor Invoice
- Whole-house fan specification sheet

Equipment Options:

- **Direct mounted** (*top image*) fans are installed in the attic floor. Installation may require moving ceiling joists due to the fan's diameter.
- **Ducted** (*bottom image*) fans include a 6' long duct between a vent in the attic floor and a fan aimed at a gable or roof vent. The duct adds space between the fan and the home's interior, providing quieter operation than direct mount fans.



Benefits:



Improve
Comfort

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Permitting Resources:

- For information about the permit process, including permit types and requirements, visit the [City's permitting webpage](#). If you're new to the process or have questions, you can also [schedule an appointment with a permit specialist](#) for personalized guidance.

Additional Information

- Learn more about how to [cool your home with a Whole House Fan](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy.