

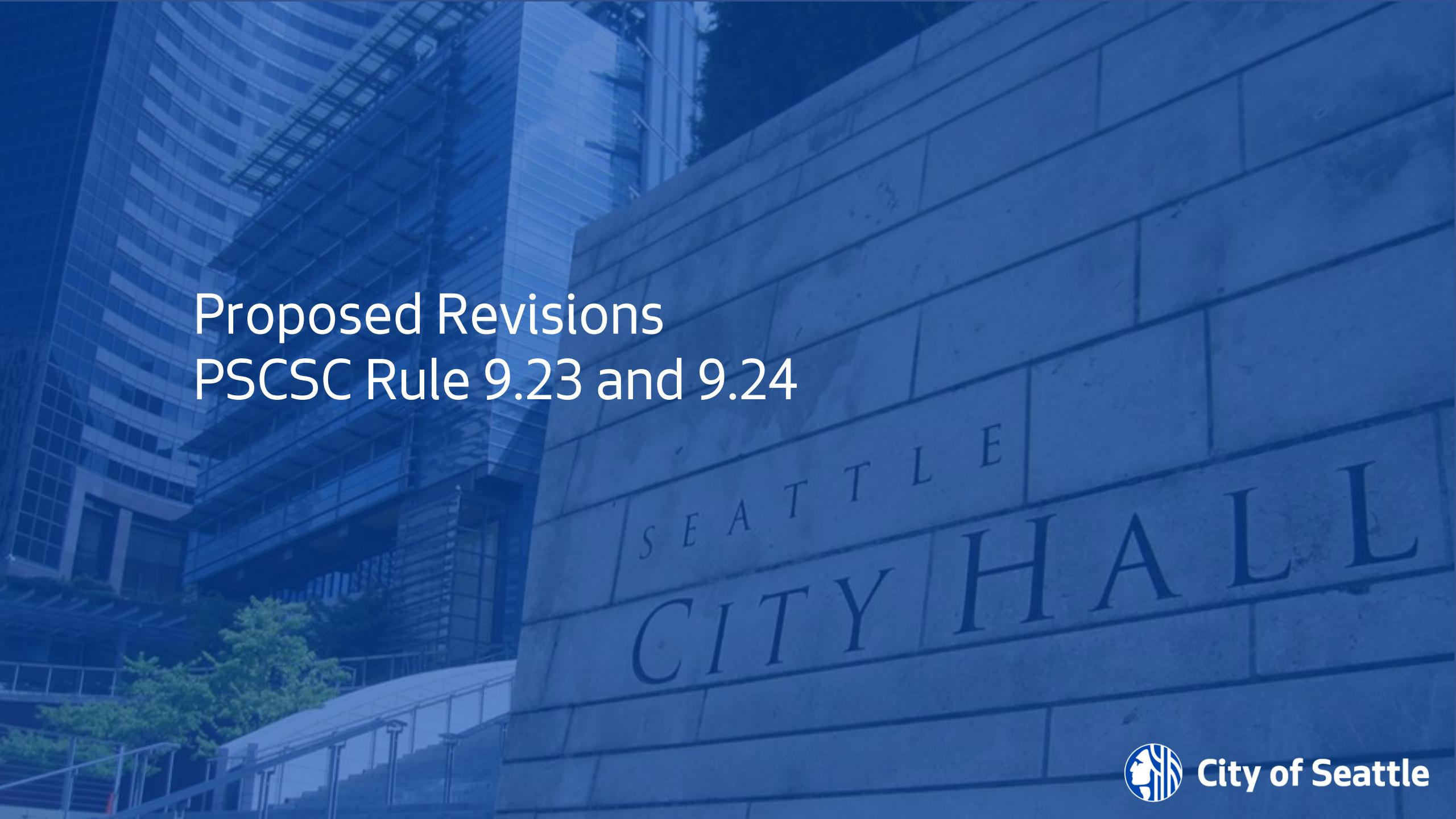
The background image shows the Seattle City Hall building, a modern structure with a curved glass facade and a large stone base. The words "SEATTLE CITY HALL" are engraved in large letters on the stone. A blue color tint is applied to the entire image.

Public Safety Civil Service Commission

January 14, 2026



City of Seattle

A photograph of the Seattle City Hall building, featuring its distinctive curved glass facade and the words "SEATTLE CITY HALL" engraved on the stone base. The image is overlaid with a blue tint and contains white text.

Proposed Revisions PSCSC Rule 9.23 and 9.24



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Rulemaking Process

- Circulated recommended revisions internally and with stakeholders
- Posted proposed revisions and invited public comment (SMC 3.02)
 - Website (December 18)
 - Email subscriber list (December 19)
 - Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce (December 22 and December 23)
- Received one written public comment (Former PSCSC Commissioner Joel Nark)
- Public comment at Jan. 14, 2026 PSCSC meeting
- For the Commission's consideration and possible vote

Background

- PSCSC conducts exams pursuant to **RCW 41.08 and 41.12** to ensure merit-based hiring and promotion
- PSCSC Rules of Practice and Procedure, Rule 9 establishes policies for administering exams
- Rules 9.23 and 9.24 direct the process by which employees may seek recourse on promotional exams
 - 9.23 Keyed Copy Inspection and Examination Protest and Review
 - 9.24 Correction of Clerical Errors
 - Taken from the Model Rules and adopted in 1978



Background (cont.)

- Rule 9.23 was last revised in late 2023
 - Added standard of review
 - Clarified protest/review processes
- Several exams have been administered under the revised Rule, some additional need to clarify protest and review process
- Since the inception of the PSCSC (1978) protests/reviews have been limited to exam content, and occasionally, administration issues
 - Examinees file protests before exam scoring
 - Rulings apply to all test takers/entire exam, do not benefit only the candidate who filed the protest
 - Commission has not rescored or regraded exams after scoring

Promotional Exam Scoring Process

- Assessors are chosen based on experience at or above the rank being tested
- Assessors receive extensive training on the consistent use of scoring criteria
- Each assessor independently scores candidate performance
- Assessors meet to discuss and finalize scores using established criteria
- All candidates are evaluated by the same group of assessors for each exercise

Proposed Revisions to 9.23 and 9.24

- Plainer language to more clearly describe process for protest/review/consideration of errors
- Rules reorganized more logically to remove redundancies
- Clearly state that exam scores may not be reviewed (changed) by the Commission (however, exam staff will continue to review/correct alleged score miscalculations)
- Proposed revisions are not a change from current practice, they better capture the consistent and historical application of the rule



Questions? Discussion



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