



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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(323) 881-2401

DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

March 23, 2011

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: DARYL L. OSBY, FIRE CHIEF

REQUEST FOR A DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY PERTAINING TO RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION

Effective January 1, 2011, the 2010 California Residential Code, Title 24, Part 2.5 requires the installation of fire sprinklers in all new one and two unit dwellings and townhouses (R-3 Occupancies). Per the new code, residential fire sprinklers will be designed into the normal plumbing system within the structure and utilize the available domestic water supply.

The plan review and inspection of plumbing systems in residential structures has traditionally been handled by the Department of Public Works (DPW) and other City building officials within the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County (District). The District has no experience in plan review or inspecting residential plumbing systems.

The District has been working collaboratively with the DPW and the City's building officials to develop a solution and transfer the responsibility of residential fire sprinkler plan review and inspection to the DPW and building officials in order to avoid a duplication of work and provide for a more efficient process.

However, before any transfer of authority can occur, per the California Health and Safety Code (Section 13146), a delegation of authority must be granted by the governing body in order to delegate the responsibility of residential fire sprinkler plan review and inspection to the local building official. The District is currently developing a letter to respectfully request the delegation of authority be approved by your Board. In addition, the letter will also request your Board's approval for the District to enter into agreement with DWP and each City's governing body to assume the responsibility of residential fire sprinkler plan review and inspection.

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The District has developed a residential fire sprinkler transition plan and will facilitate training for the DPW and all city building officials within the District. It is anticipated that July 1, 2011, will be the final transition date if the delegation of authority is approved by your Board.

If you have any additional questions, please contact me at (323) 881-6180.

DLO:rd

c: William T Fujioka
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