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A Glimpse Into 2007



Customer service is a top priority at the Department of Buildings. From providing our customers with plain language documents to utilizing cutting-edge technology, we're always looking for new ways to improve our services.

This year a number of initiatives will be implemented to ensure the safe and lawful use of all of New York City's 950,000 buildings. Keep a look out for the following:

New Enforcement Campaign - Combating Illegal Advertising Signs

The Buildings Department is beginning 2007 with the launch of a new enforcement campaign designed to combat illegal advertising signs posted on sidewalk sheds. As part of the pilot program, the Buildings Department will cover advertising signs that are found to be illegal. For more information on this campaign, read the [press release](#). Visit the [Signs](#) section of our website for more information on [Advertising Signs on Sheds, Scaffolds and Construction Fences](#).

Letter of Completion - Top Ten Tips for Obtaining Approval

The Buildings Department will issue an information card that provides the top ten tips to obtain approval for a Letter of Completion. The cards will be available in all five boroughs in the Pre-filing and Certificate of Occupancy units.

Homeowners Night - Expanding to All Five Borough

Beginning January 17, 2007, all five borough offices will open their doors every Tuesday evening from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. exclusively to homeowners. During this time, staff will be available to provide homeowners with one-on-one assistance and answer any other questions they may have.

Utilizing Technology for Transparency and Access: B-SCAN (Electronic Document Management)

In the Spring of 2007, the Department will begin the launch of B-SCAN, an electronic document management initiative that will allow the scanning and capturing of job filing application images for immediate online retrieval. This new application will interface with the [Buildings Information System](#) (BIS), providing automatic document recognition, allowing online viewing of all required documents. Keep a look out for more information about this exciting project.

Letters of No Objection (LNO) - Standardized Process for Filing Applications

In late Spring, the LNO filing process will be standardized in all five boroughs to make it easier to do business with us. To simplify the process, each borough will have one application that will be accepted in all five boroughs. This will allow our staff to objectively review the application and determine whether an LNO should be issued.

- Continuous Upgrades to eFiling

Building on the success of [eFiling](#) for electrical applications and the Department's commitment to make it easier for the public to file applications, eFiling will be expanded to the 80,000 job applications the Department receives annually. Launching in late 2007, this system will provide Buildings customers with a guided, simple way to create and manage job applications through their eFiling account. By using the most up-to-date information from [BIS](#) combined with real time application error-checking, customers will be alerted to any potential issues with applications online before setting foot in a Buildings Borough Office, saving valuable time and allowing for faster application processing.

This is just a glimpse what you can expect in 2007. Keep reading Buildings News for information on what's happening at Buildings and how it may affect you.

To help us serve you better, please [send us your comments and suggestions](#).

Reminders

Upcoming Job Fair for Licensed Architects & Engineers

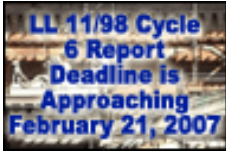


You are invited to attend our first [job fair in 2007 for Registered Architects and Professional Engineers](#) on: Thursday, January 11, 2007 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. 280 Broadway, 6th floor New York, NY 10007.

Upcoming Deadlines



[Appeals and protests to the FEMA proposed Flood Insurance Rate Maps.](#)
Deadline - February 2, 2007. Check our website for more information and [instructions to submit an appeal or protest](#) to [FEMA's preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps \(FIRMs\) and Flood Insurance Study \(FIS\)](#) through the NYC Department of Buildings.



The [Local Law 11/98 Facade Inspection](#) deadline is February 21, 2007. Facade repairs must be completed and the LL 11/98 Facade Report must be submitted to the Department of Buildings. Don't wait until the deadline to file. File today!

Upcoming Holiday

The Department of Buildings will be closed on Monday, January 15, 2007 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Visit us online for a complete listing of the Department's [holiday schedule](#) and the [Cranes & Derricks weekend inspection schedule](#).

Visit our [Homepage](#) for more information on any of these announcements.

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