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BUILDINGS NEWS

What's New

Mayor Bloomberg Announces His Intent To Appoint Robert LiMandri New York City Buildings Commissioner



Commissioner-designate LiMandri with Mayor Bloomberg at Queens civic meeting, July 22, 2008.
Photo: Mayor's Photo Unit/Kristen Artz.

Mayor Bloomberg has announced his intent to appoint Robert LiMandri to serve as New York City's Buildings Commissioner. Commissioner-designate LiMandri has served as Acting Commissioner since April 2008 and has been a part of the Department of Buildings' senior management since 2002. To learn more, view the Mayor's Office [press release](#).

New Material Hoist Requirements Now in Effect

Dedicated to Safety

To protect workers and the public from the risk of material falling during hoisting operations, the Department is now requiring contractors to take certain safeguards during hoisting operations when using metal plates to bridge the gap between the hoist car door and the building floor. To learn more, view the Plates on Material Hoists [regulatory notice](#) (43 kb-pdf).

Smoking Prohibited on all Construction Sites

Dedicated to Safety

The [2008 Building Code](#), effective July 1, 2008, requires contractors to maintain safe conditions at building sites and provides that construction operations affecting fire prevention comply with the New York City Fire Code. (See Building Code sections [3301.1.2](#) and [3303.7](#).) As per section [1404.1](#) of the new Fire Code, effective July 1, 2008, smoking on any construction (including demolition) site is strictly prohibited. To learn more, view the [regulatory notice](#) (52 kb-pdf).

Scaffold and Shed Maintenance Logs Required

Dedicated to Safety

To ensure contractors are maintaining their supported scaffolds and sidewalk sheds, the Department requires these structures to be inspected daily with the results recorded in a maintenance log. This log must be readily available on-site at all times. In February, the Department launched its [SAFE Scaffold & Shed Initiative](#) to crackdown on unsafe, non-compliant supported scaffolds and sheds. To learn more about this new log requirement, view the New Scaffold and Sidewalk Shed Maintenance Log Requirement [fact sheet](#) (38 kb-pdf).

Site Safety Coordinator Certification Underway

Dedicated to Safety

As part of our ongoing effort to ensure construction sites are managed by professional and responsible individuals, the Department began certifying Site Safety Coordinators on June 2, 2008. Site Safety Coordinators are individuals who supervise construction or demolition operations at buildings 10 to 14 stories. To learn more, view the Site Safety Coordinator Certification [fact sheet](#) (31 kb-pdf) and [How-to Guide](#) (100 kb-pdf).

Code Compass: Materials Acceptance under the New Codes

Information You Need To Know



Under the [New NYC Construction Codes](#), materials are now categorized as either "Code-prescribed" or "alternative to the Code." Materials that are Code-prescribed may be used without Department evaluation

or approval because they conform to prescribed standards and are recognized as approved materials by the Department. Alternative materials are materials that are not Code-prescribed and require testing and evaluation criteria to be approved or developed by the Department. For more information, please view the Code Compass Accepted Construction Materials [fact sheet](#) (301 kb-pdf).

Reminder

Department Issuing New Filing Representative Cards

Information You Need To Know

The Buildings Department is registering and issuing new filing representative identification cards, replacing the existing expeditor cards. Filing representatives who fail to obtain their new identification card by December 31 will not be permitted to conduct business with the Department. Applicants mailing their renewal after June 30, 2008 must include a \$100 payment, or the application will be returned. To learn more about the new identification cards, please view the [service announcement](#) (29 kb-pdf).

Training & Workshops

Department Offers Limited Alteration Application Training

Dedicated to Safety



The Buildings Department is holding workshops for individuals who would like to learn more about the new [Limited Alteration Application](#) (LAA1) and the new [Ordinary Plumbing Work Report](#) (OP128). The workshops, to be held Wednesday, October 1 and Thursday, October 2, will review the filing procedures associated with these documents, as well as other service changes. Registration is required and seating is limited. View the [flyer](#) (137 kb-pdf) for more information.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the Department's Scaffold Safety Team has been proactively inspecting scaffolds Citywide for more than a year? Developed by the Scaffold Safety Task Force and launched in July 2007, this team checks that scaffolds are being used in a safe and compliant manner. Since 2006, the Department has partnered with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs and OSHA to increase the safety of workers using scaffolds. To learn more, read the [press release](#) and [progress report](#) (37 kb-pdf) on the Task Force.

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