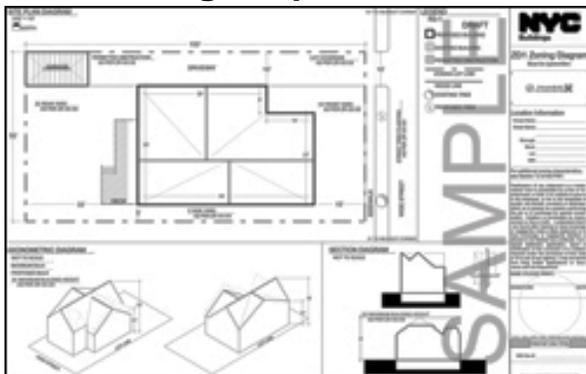


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BUILDINGS NEWS

What's New

New Zoning Requirements



To advance transparency, increase compliance with zoning regulations and formalize a public challenge process, beginning March 9, 2009, the Department will require that documents outlining [zoning attributes](#) of proposed new building and enlargement projects be submitted with new building and major alteration job permit applications.

Using the "[My Community](#)" feature on the Department's website, members of the public can search by community board to find all jobs filed in a community and the status of each. Once a job is approved, the public will have 30 calendar days to review and challenge the Department's approval. Individuals wishing to submit a challenge should use the [Zoning Challenge and Appeal](#) form or the [Construction Challenge and Appeal](#) form, depending on the reason for the challenge.

General Contractor Registration

Dedicated to Safety



As of February 17, 2009, [General Contractor registration](#) has been extended to a [3 year term](#), and the following fees now apply: \$240.00 to renew or \$290.00 for a late renewal. To avoid a late fee, renewal applications must be submitted 30 to 60 days before the expiration date indicated on the license card. Applicants must schedule an appointment with the Department's Licensing unit to renew their registration.

Construction Safety Week 2009

Dedicated to Safety



Monday, April 27, 2009 marks the start of the Department's 5th Annual Construction Safety Week. During the week, the Department will hold a series of free educational seminars and outreach events designed to increase public and worker awareness of safe construction practices. If you're interested in partnering with the Department to provide speakers, training sessions or any other materials for Construction Safety Week, please e-mail SafetyWeek2009@buildings.nyc.gov with contact information. Last year, Construction Safety Week attracted more than 1,200 participants throughout the tri-state region.

Revised B-SCAN Enhancement

Information You Need To Know



To ensure Buildings Department documents remain accessible, we are [enhancing](#) the Department's [B-SCAN](#) system to scan, capture and electronically store approved building plans. This B-SCAN enhancement will be launched by Spring 2009. *The Department is revising its B-SCAN*

enhancement to incorporate national CAD standards for discipline designators and title block identifier options.

Architect Fined for Failing to Inspect

Dedicated to Safety



Buildings Commissioner Robert LiMandri recently announced that the City has fined architect Robert Scarano for failing to inspect an excavation site at 170 North 5th Street in Williamsburg, Brooklyn that led to damage at 602 Driggs Avenue, a neighboring residential building. Mr. Scarano made two inspections over the course of 10 months though by law he should have conducted at least seven inspections during that time. The Department also found that Mr. Scarano knew the excavation work was not going according to the plans he drew up, yet he did not take action to notify the Department or correct the problems. "Architects and engineers play a vital role in construction safety. They are responsible for designing plans and performing inspections. When they fail to do their job, they can put

the lives of construction workers and New Yorkers in danger," said Commissioner LiMandri. "This sends a clear message that reckless behavior will not be tolerated." These violations are part of new DOB enforcement initiative which targets licensed professionals who flout the Building Code and Zoning Resolution and put the safety of the public and construction workers at risk. Under the program, which was launched a little over a year ago, more than 160 ECB violations have been issued to licensed professionals.

Required Documentation for Class C HMO Licenses

Information You Need To Know

Licensed Class C Hoisting Machine Operators seeking to maintain qualifications to operate in NYC must provide [documentation](#) that they have obtained certification from the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators ([NCCCO](#)). The [Licensing unit](#) is now accepting this documentation. Licensed operators who fail to submit this documentation will have their licenses lapse on October 1, 2009.

License Term and Fee Changes

Information You Need To Know

Starting January 1, 2009, all Master and Special Rigger, Master and Special Sign Hanger and Tower Crane Rigger licenses will be extended to [three-year terms](#). Effective February 17, 2009, individuals who fail to renew their Tower Crane Rigger licenses on time will now be charged a new late renewal fee of \$100.00.

Reminders

Buildings Bulletins

Information You Need To Know

Code and zoning interpretations and administrative and operational procedures are now being issued as [Buildings Bulletins](#) instead of Policy and Procedure Notices, Directives and Memos. Buildings Bulletins represent official Buildings Department policies and assist our customers and employees in following operational, technical and legal procedures. Buildings Bulletins can be found in the "[Reference Materials](#)" section of our website.

Proposed Rule Public Hearing

Information You Need To Know

On March 6, 2009, a public hearing on proposed rules [105-03](#) and [105-04](#) related to public challenge of Department decisions will be held at 3:00pm in the 3rd Floor Conference Room at Department headquarters, located at 280 Broadway in Manhattan.

Energy Code Requirements

Dedicated to Safety



In Spring 2009, the Department will begin auditing New Building and Alteration applications for compliance with the Energy Conservation Construction Code of New York State ([ECCCNYS](#)). Applications that do not meet or exceed these requirements will be issued objections and notices of revocation as appropriate. To learn more, please visit the [NYS Energy Code](#) section of the Department's website.

Did You Know?

Did you know that you can view tips on how to go green on our website? You can learn more about [conserving energy](#) and [water](#), [green building](#) and [PlaNYC](#).

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

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