

May 19, 2005

Name  
Company Name  
Address 1  
Address 2, ZIP

Re: Changes in Accessibility Requirements for Multi-family Construction

Effective July 1, 2005, new state laws and regulations will make significant changes to building code requirements for accessibility in multifamily dwellings. The California Department of Housing and Community Development has crafted the definitive building code regulations, which are expected to be submitted shortly to the California Building Standards Commission for emergency approval. These new standards remove some previous exemptions for townhome construction. For your convenience, we have attached a summary of these proposed changes.

Applications for building permits (I.E. plan checks) submitted on or after July 1, 2005 must comply with these new accessibility requirements. Applications for building permits received prior to this date may obtain their building permit under previous standards provided their application period does not expire. Applications are normally valid for 180 days and may be extended for cause for another 180 days if no pertinent laws have changed. After July 1, 2005, requests for extension of time to obtain the building permit cannot be granted for those projects that no longer meet the new standards.

If you have any additional questions on the new standards and plan check requirements, please contact the Assistant Building Officer, Ben Yousefi at (310) 458-2201 extension 5025.

Yours truly,

Timothy P. McCormick, P.E. & C.B.O  
Building Officer

Enclosure: New Accessibility Standards for Multifamily Buildings Effective July 1,  
2005 information flyer