

Live Remote Inspections

City of Cedar Hills Building Permit Holder,

Thank you for your support as we continue to adapt our services to the health and safety needs of our customers, employees and community.

As of March 27, 2020, we temporarily suspended inspections for occupied residential structures. These inspections present unique social distancing challenges. This suspension allows us time to evaluate service delivery and develop a modified work plan.

Beginning Thursday, April 2, 2020, we will, temporarily, begin performing inspections of occupied residential facilities, together with our customers, using *Live Remote Inspections* (video connections such as FaceTime/ Skype/ Teams, etc.).

We are hopeful that this option serves the needs of our customers during our regular inspection suspension period.

Given the prevalence of video-capable mobile devices we feel that this technology will provide a viable option to those holding a building permit and wanting to move forward with their project. To use this option please review the requirements found at the end of this communication.

The use of *Live Remote Inspections* will apply primarily to equipment replacements, such as water heaters and HVAC units, as well as residential interior remodels, additions and basement finishing. This change will not affect inspections of unoccupied structures or occupied commercial structures. Other City inspection services have not changed at this time, such as the public works department inspections and development services inspections.

Cedar Hills will also grant current building permit holders a time extension of 90 days for those who wish to delay their project.

If you have questions, please contact Cedar Hills building department (801) 785-9668 ext. 200 or to schedule an inspection directly with our Inspection service provider *Sunrise Engineering* (800) 560-6151.

It is our goal to continue providing as many of our services as possible. We appreciate your patience as we continue to evaluate our operations and keep Cedar Hills working.

BE ADVISED: This Live Remote Inspection option will be discontinued after the CORONAVIRUS emergency has ended.

Sincerely,

Jeff Maag
Building Official
City of Cedar Hills

Live Remote Inspections

Summary:

This document is a guide on how certain Live Remote Inspections (LR) can be performed safely and effectively. LR inspections utilize today's technology (a smart phone or another handheld device) to allow a permit holder to show and demonstrate Code compliance without requiring the inspector to be physically present at the project. Programs like Skype, Facetime, or similar live interaction video programs may be used as delegated by the local Inspection Service. Unlimited talk, text, and data will be required to avoid possible extra charges from cell phone carriers.

Use of LR inspections:

The use of LR inspections is voluntary. The Cedar Hills building department, or the assigned inspector can determine which permit holders are eligible to receive a LR inspection based upon many factors, including past performance. Past performance can be based on several items consisting of, but not limited to, the number of code violations in any inspection, excessive rough framing code violations for a 1-2 family dwelling, non-payment of fees, unrequested final inspections on past projects, etc.

Live remote documentation:

When an inspector visits the jobsite, he is not recording the inspection. A LR inspection would follow the same logic. An audit of the process from time to time sending out an inspector to visit the jobsite and watch the LR inspection take place may be requested.

Tools needed:

- Smart phone or another hand-held device
- Tape measure
- Level
- Flashlight

Inspection procedure:

- Request a Live Remote Inspection. This would include providing contact information (cell number, etc.) and schedule a time range.
- All LR inspections will start at the road looking at the jobsite (address) and proceed to the work area to visually see the permit document.
- Follow all the instructions from the inspector as they give detailed instructions. Instructions will direct your camera to specific areas for a visual observation. This can be time consuming and sometimes tedious, please be patient.
- When the inspection is complete, the inspector will approve or disapprove and provide information about code violations if observed.
- A LR inspection must have good signal strength. If the LR inspection cannot be accomplished, then the permit holder along with the inspector will schedule a traditional inspection as soon as possible.
- An inspector can end the LR inspection at any time due to bad communications or the permit holder not performing according to the inspector's instructions.
- LR inspections are not to be used in a fraudulent way. An example would be to perform the inspection at another jobsite and not the one for the requested permit.
- If the inspector is satisfied, an inspection report will be submitted noting that the inspection was completed by Live Remote in the comments.

The inspectors report will be submitted to the Cedar Hills office and a copy will be emailed to the permit holder. This process may take additional time, due to staffing schedules. Inspectors may provide verbal notice of violations as the inspection is being completed live.