Plan Review Services of Clark County Building Department will soon have more options and improved processes that will meet the changing demands of the construction industry. On July 12, stakeholders of Clark County gathered at the Building Department to discuss ideas for improving plan review services that are being considered for implementation later this year.

Ron Lynn, Director/Building and Fire Official, introduced the different program concepts being developed that will ensure faster and more effective plan reviews. Program development is currently underway and involves active participation by the construction industry through working committees. The program concepts are as follows:

**Plan Review Consultant Contract Service:** This program will create an approved list of qualified plan examination firms which may be selected by the department to outsource plan review, based upon current department resources and demand for services. There are no additional fees assessed to the permit applicant. Currently the Finance Department is creating the Request for Proposal, after which applicants may apply and will be reviewed and accepted by action of the County Commission. The estimated time for implementation is approximately 3 to 4 months.

**Customer Driven Consultant Services:** This program will create an approved list of qualified plan examination firms which may be selected by the customer to outsource plan review. Certain restrictions regarding occupancy and use may be placed on the program. Additional fees will be associated to this premium program and departmental audit requirements developed. This program is being developed by a working committee involving representatives of the Building Department, building industry, and County management. Estimated time for implementation is 3 to 4 months.

**Proposed Plan Review Programs:**
- **Permit Now (Self-Certification) Program.** The Permit Now program is a unique program in which an approved design professional may self-certify the construction plan documents and proceed with construction upon submittal of their documents to the Building Department. (continued page 3)

Fire Prevention Association of Nevada (FPAN) in partnership with the Southern Nevada ICC Chapter held a training for the CCBD Fire Inspectors and joined by the Resort Annual Inspectors from the Building Division. The training, held at the Building Department’s Presentation Room with schedules in June and July, provided updates to the FPAN Edition of Hand Portable Fire Extinguishers, FPAN Edition of the National Fire Alarm Code, and the FPAN Edition of Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems.

It was a well-attended seminar, participated mostly by Fire Inspectors, Fire Plans Checkers, and the Building Division’s Resort Annual Inspectors. Our inspectors can expect that there will be more training programs rolled out by the FPAN with one of our fire inspectors, Wayne Daily, elected as President of FPAN.

“*The safety of the people shall be the highest law.*”

By: Marcus Cicero

Installed in July 2013 for a 2-year term, Wayne Daily, the new President of the FPAN, will focus on building the membership of the association. FPAN now has 90 members coming from statewide organizations, agency members, industry reps, the public, and life-safety members. Wayne is also set to develop partnerships with more safety-coalition groups. Wayne has been in the public safety service for 23 years, with 7 of that with Clark County. Good luck in your term as President!
Another Well-Attended Pancake Breakfast

The annual Pancake Breakfast sponsored by CCBD Director Ron Lynn, Building and Fire Official, held last May was actually an early morning toast to all the staff of the Building Department and Fire Prevention Bureau for their commitment to their jobs and the new CCBD team.

A special thank you to Bob Weber, former Building Official of Clark County, for bringing in the sausage links; to Ellen Quiroz, Office Manager, and Carol Carter, Admin Secretary, for helping in all the preparation.

New Building Inspectors On Board

Earl Hamilton, Senior Building Inspector, worked with Building Inspections from 2007-2010. Then he had a stint with UMC as Supervisor for the Environmental Services for 2 years. We are happy to have Earl back with Building Division as one of our Senior Building Inspectors. Welcome back!

Victor Alvarez, Senior Building Inspector, worked with Building Inspections from 2008—2010. He is back with us after a stint in Quality Control in a Fire Safety Company. We are happy to have Victor back working with us again.

Spencer Kinney, Building Inspector I, worked in the construction industry here in the Las Vegas valley for thirty one years. Spencer has been in Building Inspection for fourteen years, with the last twelve working for the City of North Las Vegas as a Combination Building Inspector and Building Plans Examiner. We are happy to have Spencer back working with us.

John Boulter, Building Inspector I, was with CCBD from 2007-2010. After that, he worked with Harmony Homes as Superintendent. He is now back with the Building Inspections and assigned at the Building Department performing resident inspections. We welcome you back, John.

Congratulations on a New Promotion!

Newly promoted to Building Permit Specialist is Lori Petronsky who has worked as Office Assistant II in the Inspections Office Services Group under Ellen Quiroz.

Lori has been with the County for 4 years. Ask anybody in the department and they will tell you that this girl has a positive attitude and a very helpful all around worker. Truly deserving, Lori.

Opted for the "2 Rounds of Golf Everyday"

Glenn Soles, Plans Exam Specialist, retired effective August 1, 2013. Glenn has worked for the Clark County Building Department for 28 years starting as Building Inspector and moving to Plans Exam for the last 22 years.

Dan Jackson, Sr. Building Inspector, retired effective August 2, 2013. Dan worked for the County for 8 years and decided to enjoy life in Idaho in pursuit of large fish!
The program requires the design professional to successfully complete a formal training presentation and meet designated professional qualifications. The project scopes shall be limited to designated occupancies, size and use, with departmental audit requirements developed. This program is being developed by a working committee involving representatives of the Building Department, building industry and county management. Estimated time for implementation is 7 to 9 months.

Revisions by Inspector (RBI) Program. Minor revisions currently required to be submitted to plans review staff will be allowed to be reviewed and collected by the field inspector under this new program. The revisions will be required to be of minimum scope which do not affect the current footprint of the project nor affect exterior design. Limitations regarding life safety systems, Type I construction, square footage increases, and added plumbing fixtures are also in effect. Fees are expected to remain the same as currently assessed revision reviews. This program is being developed by a working committee involving representatives of the building department and building industry. Estimated time for implementation is 2 to 3 months.

Field Permitting or Plan Review by Inspector: This program will allow minor commercial and residential projects to receive their plan review in the field by an assigned inspector rather than in the office by plan examination staff. The projects will be limited in scope and size. No change in plan review fees are expected. This program is being developed by a working committee involving representatives of the Building Department and building industry. Estimated time for implementation is 5 to 6 months.

Each of the programs as noted are under development and comments from customers, contractors and other interested parties are welcome. You may contact Greg Franklin, Assistant Director, at 455-8040 to obtain the current schedule of development committee meetings and agendas. Also please note that the programs currently impact only the building plan review processes, and do not affect the requirements for other land use development, to include planning, zoning, public works and fire department plan review.

The BFP News and Views is a bi-monthly publication of the Clark County Building and Fire Prevention. For comments/contributions, send to:
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Good Work Never Goes Unnoticed

Hard work may often go unnoticed and brave to those who, regardless, continue to diligently do their job. However, when accolades are due, it goes to the well-deserving. One of our employees who is truly appreciated in what he does is Mike Hynes, Assistant Manager for Plans Exam, who received a commendation from SBA Communications Corporation for ensuring that the customer’s problem is resolved allowing customer to “meet deadlines for [their] acquisition” of a telecommunications tower.

Mike was “proactive and did extensive research of multiple inspection reports to discover the problem” of unissued Certificate of Completion. Mike “responded to multiple phone calls/emails to answer questions with regards (sic) to tower compliance.” Mike’s professionalism was well-mentioned as well as his knowledge and “quick response far beyond what [they] have experienced with other jurisdictions.” Job well done, Mike. Clark County is indeed proud of you.

Little things such as answering phone calls, responding to e-mails, or giving callbacks are big things to our customers. Put these together and they take a domino effect of customer satisfaction and complicated problems working their way through to resolution.

When staff goes the extra mile, knowledge and commitment to the job often go a long way too. Tracy Fernelius, our Commercial Combination Inspector, demonstrated good knowledge of the technical side of inspection. Tracy was commended by Victoria’s Event Productions for solving the problem of toxic odors discharged by the neighboring office. Tracy analyzed how the odors were being emitted by the neighbor and discovered their error in the use of the hooded filter. Tracy informed the neighbor of how it should be done; thus, solving the problems of the two companies. The President of Victoria’s Event Productions was very appreciative and took time to write Clark County for Tracy’s commendable efforts to help solve their problem.

When it comes to customer service, supervisors are better challenged as they become the model in responding to customer problems. Zach Gharibian, Supervising Building Inspector for the South East Area, was highly commended by a desperate homeowner who had problems with her water heater and did not find a solution elsewhere but from the Clark County Building Inspections. Again, a customer is happy with Zach “taking [her] calls immediately and responding knowledgeably, competently and favorably, finally resolving ALL the disruption caused by...the other plumbers.” That is one happy and satisfied customer who cites Zach’s “commitment to helping [her] will never be forgotten.” Ms. Carole LaRocca has been a resident for over 20 years and says that Zach has proven that there are good guys out there watching out for the citizens. Zach, you speak well for the County.
The Committee for the Mission/Vision Review comprised of Building Division and Fire Prevention Staff held their first meeting on June 19. The committee members who volunteered their time and ingenuity are: from Fire Prevention — Dan Bushkin and Chris Garnier. The Building Division volunteers are Zach Gharibian, Dave Durkee, Lori Petronsky, and Bonnie Matthews. The Committee’s recommendation was distributed to the department for comments and possible discussion. Once finalised, it will be sent to Ron Lynn, CCBD Director for final approval.

Committee’s Recommendation

“Provide timely, progressive and effective plan review, permitting, inspection and public education to ensure safe development, usage, occupancy and fire prevention of structures for the citizens and visitors of Clark County and provide for efficient emergency planning and response.”