



Municipality of Anchorage



Policy L.01

Elevator Permitting and Inspection Jurisdiction

Clarifying Elevator Permitting and Inspection Procedures Outside the Anchorage Bowl

The normal jurisdiction for permitting, review of plans, and inspection of elevators by the Municipality's Building Safety Division is within Service Area 30. The State of Alaska has recently requested that the Municipality take responsibility for inspection of all elevators within the political boundaries of Anchorage. An agreement has been signed by both parties to that extent, dated August 18, 1999, which authorizes the Building Safety Division to require permits and fees and submittal of plans for review and approval of all elevators within Anchorage and to inspect and recertify all elevators within Anchorage. This means that the State has extended the Municipality of Anchorage's jurisdiction regarding elevators and associated systems to include Girdwood, Eagle River, Birchwood, Chugiak, Eklutna, and areas otherwise unincorporated that fall within the Municipality of Anchorage's boundaries.

This Agreement covers the requirements of the latest adopted ANSI A17.1, the Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators, previously adopted versions and amendments, and updates thereto, as contained in the Municipality of Anchorage's Amendments to the adopted codes. This Standard covers the requirements for, but is not necessarily limited to elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, service lifts, moving walks, wheelchair lifts, and stairway chair lifts. In addition, the agreement covers the structural framework and framing associated with hoistways and support systems, elevator machine room, and elevator mechanical penthouses. These items will also require permitting and an associated design review by Building Safety and Fire Plan Review to assure compliance with the appropriate issue of the Building, Fire, Mechanical, Plumbing, and the Electrical Codes, as well as the requirements of ANSI A17.1. Associated inspections relative to the other discipline work will be required.

It is important to note that structural framing supporting an elevator or similar system must be capable of carrying gravity and lateral loads or shall be capable of transferring such loads to other framing within the building. Assurances that the elevator support framing is complete and secure is a requirement of the design engineer. Assurances that any lateral forces are adequately and properly transferred to the rest of the building or structure is the responsibility of the design engineer. When design is incorporated in a building within the Anchorage Building Safety jurisdiction, the framing supporting and transferring any forces to the balance of the building shall be analyzed for their affects on the building and necessary design submitted this Division for Plan Review and approval. Lateral forces and gravity loading imposed on the rest of the building shall be accounted for.

Inspection and approval of elevators, whether commercial or residential within the Municipality of Anchorage Boundaries is performed under the auspices of the State of Alaska.

Ron Thompson, Building Official
Date: April 17, 2006
(Ref: 02-01)