MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Development Services Department



Building Safety

Policy AG.21

Requirement for Health Department Review

It has been the practice of the Development Services Department (DSD) to require approval from the Anchorage Health Department (AHD) before issuing a construction or renovation permit involving a food service establishment. This has been done to ensure a coordinated review/approval process between departments and to eliminate the potential for costly changes to installed work. DSD has also withheld Conditional Certificates of Occupancy (CCO's) when Anchorage Health Department has not provided approval.

Occasionally, permit applicants will need to start work on a project prior to receiving approval from AHD. Additionally, applicants may request early occupancy or partial occupancy which becomes difficult to coordinate approvals with multiple departments. Applicants regularly confuse the application for plan review with AHD with the application for health permit.

DSD will require proof of "Application for Plan Review" with AHD prior to issuance of any construction, alteration/renovation, or change of use building permit involving a food establishment (e.g. restaurant, café, diner, food kiosk, grocery store, marijuana or alcohol distributor, etc.). This proof of application will come in the form of a receipt of application with AHD with the AHD project number included. Where AHD determines no review is require, the applicant will provide a letter from AHD that no application was required.

DSD will no longer require AHD approval of health permit or AHD final inspection prior to CO or CCO. It is the applicant's responsibility to achieve all approvals from all departments required. Any corrections that are required by AHD prior to CO that alter construction documents shall be completed through a change order to the building permit at the owner's expense. Any changes required by AHD following CO that require building alterations shall be completed as a separate building permit at the owner's expense.

Greg Soule, Building Official May XX, 2025