



Development Services

Building Safety and Inspection

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Virtual Plumbing and Mechanical Inspections

Policy and Procedure No: **G-20-01**

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Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide clarification for inspection services related to mechanical and plumbing inspections during COVID-19.

Building Inspections Policy:

Due to the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) public health emergency the Building Division has made temporary changes to continue conducting field inspections. At this time, we are only offering virtual inspections for Residential Mechanical and Plumbing permits.

The contractor or homeowner responsible for the work will need to be able to show all work performed. This may include climbing ladders, crawling, opening panels and moving conductors as necessary, walking on uneven surfaces, using tape measures and other required tools, etc. Using interactive technology (FaceTime or Google Duo) a building inspector will participate in a live session with the contractor / homeowner to perform the inspection(s) remotely using a mobile device. Our goal is to allow construction to progress while maintaining a safe environment for all involved through social separation. The City of Elk Grove Building Division will do our best in completing inspections between the hours of 7:30 am – 4:00 p.m.

In order to participate in a remote inspection, you will need the following:

- Reliable internet connection
- Fully charged iPad, iPhone, Tablet or Android device with webcam capability

- If you are using an iPad or iPhone, you will simply accept a FaceTime call
- If you are using Google Duo (available for iOS and android devices) to complete your inspection, you will need to download the Google Duo application and create a valid User ID and phone number or e-mail address used to create the account

Virtual interactive inspection process:

- Once the inspection is scheduled a City of Elk Grove Building Inspector will contact the applicant of the permit the morning of the inspection to coordinate a 1-hour timeline for the virtual inspection.
- Each inspection will begin at the street view to verify the location by showing the structure and property address.
- To ensure consistency please start the inspection from the front entry, walking the inspection in a clockwise direction horizontally on each floor, starting at the bottom floor if there are multiple levels, while following the direction of the inspector.
- The inspector will inform you if any corrections were found during the inspection and provide a verbal correction notice; or if there were no corrections identified, a verbal approval to let you know you passed the inspection.
- Once the inspection is completed and the call ends the inspector will enter the final results into the permitting system.