



TOWN OF DOUGLAS

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Public Notice #5: 2020 Coronavirus Response

MESSAGE FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT REGARDING INSPECTIONS

Exterior inspections and inspections for new construction will be carried out as normal.

However, in light of the COVID-19 situation, to protect the inspectors and homeowners and to enable us to follow the guidelines for social distancing, we are requiring the following changes to be made to the inspection process.

If you require an **interior** building, electrical, plumbing or gas inspection, we are requesting that you send us a descriptive video or photographs showing the areas that require inspection. Please call the Building Department first. We will then determine whether you need to submit video or photographs. Please send the video or photographs by email to jbriggs@douglasma.org with a cover page stating Permit number, address, contractor, type of inspection etc. We will then send this to the inspectors to review.

Instructions for providing video inspection:

Please provide a descriptive video showing the areas that require inspection. Be vocal on the video as you are filming and please move slowly with your camera to be sure to capture all work. Please be as detailed as possible stating the address, the contractor's name, what type of inspection and film a copy of the permit card, where available. Talk slowly and clearly. Videos should be time-stamped.

You **cannot** proceed with work until the inspectors have reviewed the photographs/video and have replied back to you via email letting you know whether you have passed inspection or have any other issues to address.

Final inspections, except those for new construction, will be postponed to a later date at this time.

“780 CMR Massachusetts State Building Code:

R104.3 Notices and Orders. The building official shall issue all necessary notices or orders to ensure compliance with 780 CMR.

R104.4& 104.4 Inspections. The building official shall make all of the required inspections, or the building official shall have the authority to accept reports of inspection by approved agencies or individuals. Reports of such inspections shall be in writing and be certified by a responsible officer of such approved agency or by the responsible individual. The building official is authorized to engage such expert opinion as deemed necessary to report upon unusual technical issues that arise, subject to the approval of the appointing authority.”