



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT POLICY

POLICY NAME:	Ladders for inspection access		
DIVISION/SECTION:	Building Safety	CONTACT:	Ron Boose
POLICY TYPE:	Internal and External	EMERGENCY?	

PURPOSE: To clarify and provide consistency among inspectors regarding use of ladders for access to equipment or areas requiring inspection.

POLICY: The building code requires that the permit holder “provide access to and means for inspections of such work that are required by the code.” Therefore a suitable ladder must be provided, by the permit holder, when necessary to access the work to be inspected. The provided ladder must meet OSHA requirements for design, construction, maintenance, and suitability for the intended purpose. A step ladder shall provide access without use of the top two steps. An extension ladder shall extend at least 3 feet above the upper landing when set up at the proper 4:1 angle, or be secured at the top. Extension ladders providing access to areas more than approximately 12 feet above grade should be secured at the top. Inspectors will set up step ladders and extension ladders for access below 12 feet. All other ladders for access shall be set up and secured by the permit holder.

Inspectors shall exercise their best judgment in assessing the suitability and set up of all ladders. If there is good reason to question the safety of the ladder or its set up, the inspection shall be resulted as not ready and a re-inspection will need to be scheduled by the permit holder when an appropriate ladder is provided. A re-inspection fee may be assessed.

DIRECTOR APPROVAL:



Ernie Duarte

Date 10/24/11

CFT use only		EMT Review Date:	
EMT Approval Date:		Posting Date:	10/26/11
DSD Policy Number:	2011-04 (IE) Ladders	Effective Date:	