

County of El Paso Building Inspection Program

Representative Marquez proposed and successfully passed during the 81st Texas Legislature HB 2833 allowing counties to require building code standards, inspections and notices for certain residential construction in the unincorporated portions of the county by enacting Subchapter F, Chapter 233, Texas Local Government Code.

On September 17, 2012 Commissioners Court adopted an Order to implement the Residential Inspection registration program pursuant to Local Gov. Code 233 subchapter F, effective January 1, 2013.

Who is responsible for completing and submitting the appropriate paperwork?

- A builder/ contractor or owner of the property is required to provide notice of a construction project prior to beginning the project on a Commencement of Residential Construction form available at 800 E. Overland St, Suite 407, or at www.epcounty.com/publicworks/.

Who is affected by this order?

- All new single family homes or duplexes,
- Additions to single family dwellings or duplexes if the addition will increase the square footage or value by more than 50%.

What Building Code is being used?

- International Residential Code and amendments as adopted by the City of El Paso.
- If any other municipality has adopted any other Code, then that code will be used.

At what stage should the inspections be conducted?

- The foundation stage, before the placement of concrete;
- The framing and mechanical systems stage, before covering with drywall or other interior wall covering
- At the completion of the project or construction of the residence.

Is the county going to provide these inspections?

No, the inspections will be done by a third party inspector such as:

- Engineer licensed in the State of Texas.
- Architect licensed in the State of Texas.
- TREC inspector.
- Plumbing or building inspector.
- Individual who is certified as IRC code inspector.

What happens if the builder/contractor doesn't comply with this Commissioners Court Order?

It can result in any of the following actions:

- Refer builder/contractor to State agency for enforcement action.
- County may seek injunctive action.
- Maybe charged with a Class C misdemeanor.

For additional information contact:
Public Works Department
(915) 546-2015