

# MEMORANDUM

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS

**DATE:** May 7, 2020

**TO:** Top Management

**FROM:** Mark A. Washington, City Manager *MAW*

**SUBJECT:** **City Manager Administrative Order 2020 – 10: Resumption of Building Inspection Services in Support of Executive Order 2020-70**

We continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic in collaboration with our partner agencies including the State of Michigan, Kent County Health Department, Kent County and our neighboring cities.

On May 1, 2020, Governor Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-77 rescinding EO 2020-70 and extending the Stay at Home, Stay Safe order until May 28, 2020, with certain changes. EO 2020-77 classifies “workers in the construction industry, including workers in the building trades (plumbers, electricians, HVAC technicians, and similar workers)” as “workers who perform resumed activities,” effective at 12:01 AM on Thursday, May 7, 2020.

City Manager Administrative Order 2020-10 revises temporary service change #11 of City Manager Administrative Order 2020-09 in order to support resumed work in the construction industry, is effective immediately and extends through 11:59PM on May 28, 2020.

## **Temporary Service Changes**

It is for the reasons stated above that I am ordering temporary service changes that will remain in place until further notice.

Availability of in-person construction code inspections of commercial and unoccupied residential construction projects will continue for situations where a remote (e.g., video-enabled) inspection is not feasible.

- a. To ensure code compliance of resumed construction under EO 2020-70, availability of in-person construction code inspections of occupied residential units will resume on May 7, 2020 for situations where a remote (e.g., video-enabled) inspection is not feasible.

- b. Departmental management will maintain protocols and procedures to maximize remote inspections where feasible, to ensure the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) according to official guidelines, and to defer in-person inspections not immediately necessary for public health or safety when a person who resides in a residential unit has symptoms of COVID-19 or is otherwise ill.
  
- c. Interior inspections of occupied residential units for code enforcement, water services, sewer maintenance and lead remediation projects will remain suspended except in the case of an emergency health, safety or welfare concern and except for Building Inspections activities as provided for in accordance with EO 2020-70 sections 4, 6, 10(g) and 11.

**Essential City Services**

The EO 2020-70 establishes a series of governmental services as essential, and based on that order, Building Inspections is designated as essential continuing the local designation included in City Manager Executive Order 2020-09. These services will continue based on current operating and staff rotation plans, as may be amended to reflect conditions.

You are directed to implement these changes on the May 7, 2020, effective date.

Please work with your Deputy City Manager, Assistant City Manager or Managing Director to resolve any questions or concerns.

cc: Eric DeLong  
Doug Matthews  
Allison Farole