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City of Los Angeles



Karen Bass, Mayor

LOS ANGELES HOUSING DEPARTMENT 1910 Sunset Blvd, Ste 300 Los Angeles, CA 90026 Tel: 213.808.8808

housing.lacity.org

September 26, 2024

Dear Development Community Partners,

The Accessible Housing Program (AcHP) team of the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) is issuing a clarification of the LAHD's Affordable Housing Managed Pipeline NOFA, Exhibit 8 - ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM (EAP) requirements set forth in the VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT (VCA) between the City and the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

This letter is providing direction for compliance with the EAP and VCA in the following mandatory requirement which states:

EAP Requirement #2 - Table 1C. Required Enhanced Accessibility Features for Developments Subject to Substantial Alterations Only

2. Ensure visible alarms are installed along with the audible fire alarm system throughout the development, including in all units, consistent with 2010 ADA Standards 215 and 702

VCA Appendix 5 Requirement #2 - Required Enhanced Accessibility Features for Developments Subject to Substantial Alterations Only

2. Ensure visible alarms are installed along with the audible fire alarm system throughout the development, including in all units, consistent with 2010 ADA Standards 215 and 702.

Clarification of Requirement #2 from Table 1C of Exhibit 8 EAP

Visible alarms shall be installed in all rooms throughout the development and units per 2010 ADA, and the deeming notice exception #11. The units shall have visible alarms in all rooms including bathrooms. The doorbell visible signal shall utilize a different color than those used for the fire, smoke and carbon monoxide detector alarms.

Advisory 215.1 General. Unlike audible alarms, visible alarms must be located within the space they serve so that the signal is visible. Facility alarm systems (other than fire alarm systems) such as those used for tornado warnings and other emergencies are not required to comply with the technical criteria for alarms in Section 702. Every effort should be made to ensure that such alarms can be differentiated in their signal from fire alarms systems and that people who need to be notified of emergencies are adequately safeguarded. Consult local fire departments and prepare evacuation plans taking into consideration the needs of every building occupant, including people with disabilities.

EAP Requirement #2 - Table 1C

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809.5.4 & 11B-809.5.4 Prohibited use. Visible alarm appliances used to indicate residential dwelling unit smoke detection, carbon monoxide detection, or building fire alarm activation shall not be used for any other purpose within the residential dwelling unit.

The alarms used for the doorbell as required by 809.5.5 & 11B 809.5.5 shall utilize a different color visual light that those required by 809.5.1, 11B-809.5.1 & 809.5.2, 11B-809.5.2

Compliance with Requirement #2 from Table 1C of Exhibit 8 EAP

The Development team shall include all of the following information on the specification sheets of the plans submitted for permit clearance and approval by the Los Angeles Department of Building & Safety (LADBS), Public Works and AcHP:

- Plans that clearly identify the visual alarm locations and the color to be used for the fire alarms and smoke carbon detectors and different color for the doorbells;
- Plans that Include the spec sheets for the visual alarms; and
- Elevations on plans showing details for compliance.

Prior to AcHP Pre-TCO inspections, the Development team shall provide a CASp report confirming compliance with Requirement #2 Table 1C. The report shall include the colors used for the alarms and doorbell.

Sincerely,

Keane

Tricia Keane

Executive Officer and AcHP Settlement Coordinator

Los Angeles Housing Department