



Village of Hanover Park Administration

Municipal Building
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hpiil.org

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Dear Property Owner,

As you prepare for your construction project, you will need to be aware of the affect that construction may have on an existing fire alarm system. Construction debris, dust, aerosols, and unintentional contact with fire detection appliances can cause deleterious effects on a fire alarm system. It is your responsibility to maintain a fully functional fire alarm system. Impairments of a fire alarm system occur when a system or portion thereof is taken out of service to facilitate construction or maintenance. The following information is provided to help you make decisions that will preserve the integrity of your system while your facility is under construction. You are also encouraged to consult with a licensed alarm contractor prior to beginning work.

2012 IFC, §901.7 – Where a required fire protection system is out of service, the fire department and the fire code official shall be notified immediately and, where required by the fire code official, the building shall either be evacuated or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all occupants left unprotected by the shutdown until the fire protection system has been returned to service.

2012 IFC, §901.7.4 – Preplanned impairments shall be authorized by the project coordinator. Before authorization is given, a designated individual shall be responsible for verifying that all of the following procedures have been implemented:

1. The extent and expected duration of the impairment have been determined.
2. The areas or buildings involved have been inspected and the increased risks determined.
3. Recommendations have been submitted to management or building owner/manager.
4. The fire department has been notified.
5. The insurance carrier, the alarm company, building owner/manager, and other authorities having jurisdiction have been notified.
6. The supervisors in the areas to be affected have been notified.
7. A tag impairment system has been implemented.
8. Necessary tools and materials have been assembled on the impairment site.

2012 IFC, §901.7.6 – When impaired equipment is restored to normal working order, the project coordinator shall verify that all of the following procedures have been implemented:

1. Necessary inspections and tests have been conducted to verify that affected systems are operational.
2. Supervisors have been advised that protection is restored.
3. The fire department has been advised that protection is restored.
4. The building owner/manager, insurance carrier, alarm company and other involved parties have been advised that protection is restored.
5. The impairment tag has been removed.

NFPA 72, §10.20.5 – Where required by the authority having jurisdiction, mitigating measures shall be implemented for the period that the system is impaired.

NFPA 72, §A.20.20.5 – The need for mitigating measures is typically determined on a case-by-case basis. The review process considers the building, occupancy type, nature and duration of impairment, building occupancy level during impairment period, active work being conducted on the fire alarm system during the impairment, condition of other fire protection systems and features (i.e., sprinklers, structural compartmentation, etc.), and hazards and assets at risk. Appropriate mitigating measures range from simple occupant notification to a full-time fire watch. Determining factors vary from testing-related impairments to high-value, high-hazard situations.

NFPA 72, §10.20.6 – The system owner or the owner’s designated representative and the authority having jurisdiction shall be notified when an impairment period ends.

Should you have any questions, please contact:

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