Development Safety Tips and Information



Safety Tips and Information

- All construction, renovation, and demolition sites are required to have a Fire Safety Plan (FSP).
- The owner, developer or contractor is responsible for developing a Fire Safety Plan and adhering to the applicable provisions of the National Fire Code Alberta 2023 Edition .
- Large combustible construction projects carry a greater risk due to their size, which increases the potential heat release rate output, significantly affecting adjacent properties within close proximity.
- All construction and demolition sites are required to have a strongly constructed fence, boarding or barricade not less than 1.8m high erected around the perimeter. It is good practice to use clamps to secure the fence panels.
- Adjacent Property Protection (APP) is a requirement under the National Fire Code 2023 Alberta Edition to limit the risk of fire spread from the construction site to surrounding exposures, which include existing buildings, wildland interface areas, and other features.
- Additional measures building owners and/or contractors could use to provide some
 of the required protection include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Ensure adequate water supply for firefighting operations is provided as soon as combustible construction materials arrive on the site
 - Application of an acceptable intumescent or flame-retardant coating in accordance with the manufacturer's directions and the criteria utilized in any performance tests
 - Install an acceptable temporary flame/heat-resistant membrane affixed to the exterior sheathing of exposed walls prior to closure and cladding in accordance with the manufacturer's directions and the criteria utilized in any performance tests
 - Complete all fire separations, including installation of fire-rated doors, as each floor is completed,
 - Cover exposed combustible materials as soon as possible
 - Provide temporary sprinkler piping with open sprinkler heads that is connected to the standpipe installed on each floor
 - Temporarily fence and secure a building site
 - o Provide on-site security personnel tasked with regular fire watch duties
 - Install security lights around the construction area
 - Designate certain outdoor areas for smoking

- Limit the amount of combustible and flammable materials stored on site
- Ensure that combustible and flammable materials are properly separated when stored on site
- Ensure that daily clean up and disposal of combustible waste are in secured non-combustible containers
- Provide a fire watch at the beginning of every break period on site in addition to a comprehensive site inspection at the end of each day
- o Install temporary electronic intrusion and thermal detection systems
- Plan and coordinate non-sequential construction in new residential subdivisions. These methods are only some of the possible solutions to mitigate fire spread.

Some may only be required for a specific duration when on site conditions or activities create increased vulnerability.

- For additional information regarding the <u>guidelines</u> for the Protection of Adjacent Property During Construction, visit <u>Edmonton.ca/ConstructionFireSafety</u>.
- EFRS advises the public to report any suspicious activity at construction sites to 911 immediately. Early reporting is critical to prevent potential fire risks.
- The public can confidentially report tips on crime and also submit items such as video to Crime Stoppers.

Reporting Infill Construction Concerns

- The City encourages residents to visit <u>edmonton.ca/Infill</u>, where they can learn how to report construction complaints.
- Residents are encouraged to work out construction concerns directly with the builder, whose contact information is required to be displayed on a sign posted on the infill development site. When an issue can not be resolved with the builder, we encourage residents to use the <u>311 app</u> on a mobile device, submit a ticket at <u>edmonton.ca/311</u>, or call 311.
- Not all complaints are managed by the City. Residents with concerns about worksite safety are encouraged to report them to Alberta Occupational Health and Safety online at alberta.ca/file-complaint-online.
- Residents concerned about immediate worksite danger are encouraged to call 780-415-8690.

Reporting Suspicious Activity

- We are asking the community to report all suspicious activity to the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) or to your local police agency. Examples of suspicious activity or behaviour:
 - Vehicles driving slowly and aimlessly around construction sites late at night.
 - o Individuals sitting in a vehicle for extended periods of time.

- Individuals abruptly leaving the area upon being approached by security or contractors.
- Unknown individuals entering houses that are under construction.
- o Unknown individuals carrying a fuel container (e.g., jerrycan).
- o Individuals seemingly nervous and looking over their shoulders.
- Anything else out of the ordinary.
- If you observe any of these behaviours, take a note of:
 - Date and time
 - Location
 - Description of the individuals
 - Description of the vehicle
 - Licence plate number
 - o Direction of travel for the vehicle
- When you report, you will be asked to provide date, time, location and description of the activity, as well as your name and contact information for follow-up.
- If there is a life-threatening situation, or a crime in progress, call 9-1-1 immediately.
- If it is something that you want to report as suspicious, call the Edmonton Police Service non-emergency line at 780-423-4567 (or #377 from your mobile phone). For any reports outside the City of Edmonton, call your local police agency. You can also submit information anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or online. Visit Crime Stoppers Association of Edmonton and Northern Alberta for more information.