INSPECTION OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES AT TEMPORARY EVENTS

The policies in this BCM are intended for typical events that use temporary buildings and structures for a maximum of 180 days. Standards should be applied to ensure reasonable durability of supporting elements subjected to weather changes and seismic events. Fire Department, Regional Planning Department, Health Department and any other agencies that regulate the proposed construction, must approve the event and related structures prior to issuing permits.

All buildings and structures that require permits and are used in association with temporary events shall be inspected. Buildings and structures typically used at the events that require permits include the following:

1. All tents or canopies with a covered floor area larger than 120 square feet per Section 3103.11. The application for permit shall be accompanied by a dimensioned plot plan drawn to scale showing location on property, size, and floor plan of the tent. The use of the tent must also be clearly stated and any electrical, mechanical or plumbing installation shown, including portable devices. The structural safety of these structures will be determined through field inspection. If the inspector determines that the tent or canopy is potentially unsafe, structural calculations and plans and a complete plan check may be required. For tents that exceed 4500 square feet, structural calculations and plans and a complete plan check may be required prior to issuing a permit if the Office Manager determines this information is needed to assure the safety of the structure.

2. All platforms, grandstands or other structures intended to support live loads that are more than 30 inches above grade. Dimensioned plot plans showing location on property, size and use of the structure, and any accessory equipment to be installed on or under the structure must be submitted for review. Plan check is required, structural calculations may be required. An approved standard plan on file with Building and Safety may be submitted to satisfy this requirement.

3. All structures over 12 feet in height, such as speaker supports, require separate permits. Plans detailing the construction of these structures must be submitted for review. The need for structural plans and calculations and plan check will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Office Manager.

4. All temporary plumbing, electrical and mechanical installations associated with temporary events also require permits and inspections, whether they are installed in conjunction with temporary structures or not. These installations must be done in a safe manner in accordance with applicable codes.
A plot plan that identifies the location of temporary structures and the date and time of setup and removal of temporary structures shall be submitted with the application for permit(s).

Plan check and inspection fees shall be determined based on an estimate of the number of hours needed to plan check and inspect the event and associated structures, with a minimum of 2 hour of inspection time (4 hours minimum for off-hours inspections). The fees shall be collected under miscellaneous permits. Counter technicians shall determine that all necessary permits have been pulled and an inspection request filed with the inspector for the date of the event setup.

Supersedes BCM 6601 Article 1 dated 12-22-98