Building plan review and the Minnesota State Building Code

Dli will review building projects in accordance with the 2020 Minnesota State Building Code as of March 31, 2020. Complete application packages received for plan review before March 31, 2020, will be reviewed and permitted based on the 2015 Minnesota State Building Code.

Projects submitted on March 31, 2020, and later, will be reviewed under the new 2020 Minnesota Building Code unless the design team has participated in a preliminary plan review/code consultation meeting before March 31. Building officials with delegation agreements for inspections will receive code edition notification on the letters they receive when plan review is approved.

Commercial building code changes for reroofing

Spring often means reroofing season. Changes related to reroofing in the 2020 Minnesota Building Code include:
- Reroofing and existing roof with slopes less than 1/4:12 must:
  - have a minimum slope of 1/8:12,
  - document technical infeasibility to providing required drainage,
  - provide structural calculations demonstrating ponding capacity to the level of the secondary emergency drainage system or point of overflow, and
  - Must install a secondary (emergency) drainage system in compliance with IBC Section 1502.
- IBC Section 1502 has a new table to accurately size scuppers. Secondary emergency drainage systems may need to be enlarged if scuppers are used and scuppers are currently undersized.
- The new energy code requires R-30 continuous roofing insulation where located completely above the roof deck.
- Insulation R-values may only be reduced from the current code requirement by approval of the building official, and then only with documentation that the required thickness would inhibit positive drainage.

Electrical safety at Minnesota carnivals and fairs

DLI Electrical Representatives Steven Dudley (scribed) and Wade Schlie attended the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs annual convention in Bloomington in January 2020.

During the convention staff met with carnival owners, inflatable operations, circuses, food vendors and fairboard members. They responded to questions and concerns from attendees and shared inspection and safety documentation.

Schlie and Dudley also presented about electrical licensing, safety and inspections. One presentation was for carnival owners and operators and the other for members of fair boards. DLI attends this event each year to promote electrical safety and share changes attendees may encounter for the next season.