

**NINE STEP PLANNER
BOARD OF COUNTY COUNCILORS WORK SESSIONS**

This form needs to be reviewed and approved by the board before a work session is scheduled.

REQUESTED BY: Marty Snell, Community Development Director & Jon Dunaway, Fire Marshal

1. **TOPIC:** Fire and Life Safety Inspection Program for Business Occupancies
2. **WORK SESSION:**
Marty Snell, Community Development Director
Jon Dunaway, Clark County Fire Marshal
3. **TIME FRAME:**
LENGTH OF TIME NEEDED: 60 minutes
DESIRED DATE: March 9, 2016
SCHEDULED DATE OF WORK SESSION: _____
4. **TIMING CONSIDERATIONS:** Representatives of the Clark County Fire Districts' Chiefs and Fire Commissioners presented concerns regarding the county's current level of inspections within businesses in unincorporated Clark County, which led to a fire insurance rating decrease. The same representatives wish to make progress this year on changes to the current inspection program.
5. **DESIRED RESULTS:** To inform and orient the County Council on the following:
 - (1) The current inspection program
 - (2) A proposed inspection program that was presented on December 12th, 2012, to the then County Commissioners and subsequent follow up work performed
 - (3) The budget impacts and alternatives to funding an enhanced program
 - (4) Impacts to the rating for Fire District #6
6. **IMPACTS (COMMUNITY/FINANCIAL/STAFF/OTHER):** A 2015 Washington State Survey and Ratings Bureau report for Clark County Fire District #6, which contains a large area of urban unincorporated Clark County, reduced their rating from a 3 to a 4. A main source of 'demerits' is with the Fire and Life Safety inspection program conducted by the Clark County Fire Marshal's Office. The Clark County Fire Districts' Chiefs and Fire Commissioners would like the county to enhance the current inspection program so that the next rating cycle results in fewer 'demerits' and perhaps an improvement in the overall rating. Any change to the current inspection program will take changes to the Clark County Code.
7. **POLICY IMPLICATIONS:** Rather than a subset, all known businesses in unincorporated Clark County will be inspected on regular and predictable cycle: either annually, every other year, or every third year. The proposed program takes a risk-based approach, based on the hazards present in the business.
8. **ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED:** A change to the current inspection program would be needed, along with staffing and budgetary increases. Any combination of fees, new or slightly increased, to more General Fund support would need to be considered.
9. **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** The Board will be asked to consider changes to the Clark County Code regarding enhancing the current inspection program and will also be asked to consider how to fund the necessary budget increase to staff such a change.

APPROVED FOR SCHEDULING:

Signature of requestor:



Martin L. Snell
Community Development Director

DATE: 1/19/16

