



City of Bethlehem

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April 2, 2020

To: Property Owners, Selling Agents, Real Estate Agents and Buyers of Properties in the City of Bethlehem

From: The City of Bethlehem's Housing and Code Enforcement Bureaus

The recent rise of COVID-19 has put a temporary stop to all Housing Rental and Sale inspections in the City of Bethlehem. Separate Orders by both Governor Tom Wolf and Mayor Robert Donchez have put a halt to all residential inspections unless they are deemed an emergency.

At this time, the City Housing Bureau does not have the authority to provide sales or rental inspections. All properties that are being sold, transferred or rented that would require an inspection for a certificate of occupancy will have to proceed in an "as is" manner. "As is" refers to the entity accepting/purchasing the property in its current condition. This will allow for the property to be transferred or occupied in its current state. However, once the ban on inspections is lifted, the buyer, property owner, rental management company, etc. will then have 30 days to schedule the inspection of this property. Failure to do so would result in a violation of the City Ordinances and that person can be subject to penalties.

Since the ban is currently in place the City is not accepting appointments. When the ban is lifted, sales, rental and occupancy inspections can be scheduled by calling 610-865-7091.

Stay Safe!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Simonson", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Mike Simonson
Chief Building Inspector