



# ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

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## INSPECTION ROADMAP

Use this roadmap as a guide to the types of construction inspections that are typically required and when they need to be completed.

### PART 1

*\* OCFA publishes a variety of guidelines that intended to assist designers and developers. A guideline is available for subjects marked with an asterisk (\*). You may obtain any guideline directly from OCFA Planning & Development Services or from the OCFA website at [www.ocfa.org](http://www.ocfa.org).*

#### **I. Fire Master Plan/ Site work/Gates/OCFA plan review fee codes PR145, PR155 and PR180.\***

- 1. Emergency access road inspection** (Purpose: verify road locations, surface, widths, grade, turning radii and fire hydrant locations). When to be accomplished: Prior to combustible construction
- 2. Fire lane inspection** (Purpose: verify signs, curb markings). When to be accomplished: Prior to final use and occupancy approval.
- 3. Gate Inspection** (Purpose: verify location, width, override capability, function under power failure). When to be accomplished: Prior to final approval or placing the gate into service.

#### **II. Underground Fire Protection Service/OCFA plan review fee codes PR470, PR475, PR480.\***

- 1. Thrust block pre-pour inspection** (Purpose: verify excavation meets minimum dimensions of adopted standard). When to be accomplished: Prior to pouring thrust blocks.
- 2. Rough inspection and hydrostatic pressure test** (Purpose: verify, materials, size, location, depth, tightness and corrosion protection of the installation against approved plans and adopted standard). When to be accomplished: Prior to burying the installation.
- 3. Flush inspection** (Purpose: verify that foreign materials have been removed from the system). When to be accomplished: Prior to connection to automatic fire protection systems.
- 4. Final inspection** (Purpose: verify FDC orientation, configuration, paint, and identification signs, securing valves). When to be accomplished: Prior to final acceptance of underground.

#### **III. Automatic Fire Sprinkler System/OCFA plan review fee codes PR400-PR450.**

- 1. Overhead rough inspection and hydrostatic test** (Purpose: verify pipe material, size, layout, hanging and bracing methods, obstructions to water discharge, tightness of installation). When to be accomplished: Prior to cover by building materials.
- 2. Final Inspection** (Purpose: verify final head placement, sprinkler head design, obstructions, identification signs, bell, and available pressures on the system). When to be accomplished: prior to final approval and use or occupancy of the area protected.

- 3. Special Inspections (air tests, timed tests)** (Purpose: to meet requirements of adopted standards and verify integrity, design of the system meets the intent of the standard). When to be accomplished: Prior to final approval and use or occupancy of the area protected.

#### **IV. Fire Alarm System & Waterflow System/OCFA plan review fee codes PR500, PR510, PR520.\***

##### **Fire Alarm Systems**

- 1. Device Testing and inspection** (Purpose: verify devices specified on plans, wiring methods, device location, operation, and alarm panel functions). When to be accomplished: Prior to final use and occupancy or placing the system into service
- 2. Battery Test and inspection** (Purpose: verify battery calculations and battery integrity is sufficient to power the system for the time period specified by the adopted standard. This involves two separate inspection activities over a 24 hour period. When to be accomplished: Prior to final use and occupancy or placing the system into service.
- 3. Final alarm inspection** (Purpose: verify zone descriptors, floor diagrams, instructions and any previous deficiencies have been completed). When to be accomplished: Prior to final use and occupancy or placing the system into service. *Note: this inspection is often combined with the battery test inspection.*

##### **Water-flow Monitoring System**

- 4. Waterflow monitoring system inspection** (Purpose: verify zone descriptors, signal transmission to central station, device type, wiring methods, device function, and panel functions). When to be accomplished: Prior to final use and occupancy or placing the system into service. *Note: This inspection includes all aspects of the inspection necessary for final system approval.*

#### **V. Architectural/fire and life safety plan/OCFA plan review fee codes PR200-PR285. *Note: OCFA typically reviews and inspects only specific occupancy types based upon the potential fire and life safety hazards. These include places of assembly, factories, educational, institutional, mercantile, multi-family residential, and hazardous occupancies.***

- 1. Final Inspection** (Purpose: construction type and size of building against CBC provisions, verify egress features, fire separation walls, seating arrangements, building address, fire extinguishers, various signs, obtain documentation required for use permits, if any. When to be accomplished: Prior to any use and occupancy.

#### **VI. Hazardous materials/OCFA plan review fee code PR315.\***

- 1. Use storage area inspection** (Purpose: verify storage and use features within the building meet code requirements e.g. H occupancy, control areas, obtain documentation necessary for use permit issuance. When to be accomplished: Prior to any use and occupancy. *Note: OCFA must also approve move in of any hazardous materials prior to inspection.*
- 2. Warning sign inspection** (Purpose: verify hazard identification and warning signs meet UFC requirements and OCFA requirements). When to be accomplished: Prior to any use and occupancy.
- 3. Chemical Inventory inspection** (Purpose: verify on-site inventory against approved documents so that quantities meet specified UFC limits). When to be accomplished: Prior to any use and occupancy. *Note: OCFA must also approve move in of any hazardous materials prior to inspection.*

- 4. Process inspection** (Purpose: verify use and storage method and equipment is consistent with plans and UFC requirements, obtain documentation necessary for use permit issuance). When to be accomplished: Prior to any use and occupancy.

*Note: It is common for all of these inspections to be accomplished at the same time.*

**VII. High piled storage/OCFA plan review fee code PR330.\***

- 1. Equipment inspection** (Purpose: verify storage arrangement, commodity classification, automatic and manual fire protection systems and features are consistent with the plans and UFC requirements, obtain documentation necessary for use permit issuance). When to be accomplished: Prior to any use and occupancy.

**VIII. Battery System/OCFA plan review fee code PR375.\***

- 1. Equipment inspection** (Purpose: verify storage arrangement, spill control, ventilation, construction separation, smoke detection systems and features are consistent with the plans and UFC requirements, obtain documentation necessary for use permit issuance). When to be accomplished: Prior to any use and occupancy.

**IX. Refrigeration System/OCFA plan review fee code PR360.\***

- 1. Equipment inspection** (Purpose: verify refrigerant, quantity, spill control, ventilation, construction separation, detection systems and features are consistent with the plans and UFC requirements, obtain documentation necessary for use permit issuance). When to be accomplished: Prior to any use and occupancy.

**PART 2**

Examples of common building uses and typically required OCFA inspections:

<b>Facility Description/scope of work</b>	<b>Required OCFA Inspections (referencing Roman numerals listed in Part 1 above)**</b>
New Office Building (B use), 2 story with fire sprinklers	I, II, III, IV
New church (A-2.1 use), with fire sprinklers and alarm	I, II, III, IV, V
High rise office tenant alteration ( B use)	III, IV
Office tenant improvement (B use) with sprinkler alteration	III
New apartment building (R-1 use) with fire sprinklers and fire alarm	I, II, III, IV, V
New high pile storage in existing building	III (if alterations are required), VII
Tract of single family homes (R-3 use)	I, III (if fire sprinklers provided)
New Hazardous materials storage facility (F use)	I, II, III, IV, V, VI

*\*\* Fuel modification inspections may also be required if project is adjacent to vegetation covered land posing a potential threat.*