



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

MEMORANDUM

STAFF MEMORANDUM TO THE LOCAL BOARD OF BUILDING AND FIRE CODE APPEALS

HEARING DATE: November 18, 2020

TO: Chairman and Members
Fairfax County Board of Building and Fire Code Appeals

FROM: Richard Grace
Code Specialist III
Land Development Services

APPELLANT Freedom Plumbers Corporation
7631 Coppermine Drive
Manassas, Virginia 20109

SUBJECT PROPERTY: [REDACTED]

CODE REFERENCE: 2015 Virginia Residential Code (VRC) as modified by USBC Part I, Section 106.3, *Issuance of modifications*.

Staff Position

Staff of Fairfax County's Land Development Services respectfully requests that the Fairfax County Board of Building and Fire Code Appeals uphold the conditions set forth in the code modification approval dated October 9, 2020, File Reference 200930.0AD.

On January 8, 2020, Freedom Plumbers Corporation (the appellant) applied for a plumbing permit to install a cured-in-place piping system (CIPP) at the subject address. Because CIPP is not a recognized piping material in the 2015 VRC, the appellant applied for a code modification request on January 9, 2020 requesting to install the CIPP at the subject address. Having starting this code modification process three times previously ([REDACTED] (see Exhibit A)), the appellant was aware of the requirement for CIPP code modification and of the conditions set forth in an approval. After an acknowledgement of receipt of the appellants code modification request was sent on January 14, 2020, along with payment instructions, there was no further communications from the appellant. On August 7, 2020, the appellant applied for a code modification request to install CIPP at [REDACTED]. After an acknowledgement of receipt of the appellants code modification request was sent on August 10, 2020, along with payment instructions, there was no further communications from the appellant. On August 31, the Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance (DCC) was contacted to request an investigation of work being performed





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without permits for [REDACTED]. That investigation produced Corrective Work Orders for these two addresses, along with the other three addresses listed herein (see Exhibit B). Based on the actions of DCC, the appellant has begun the process to address these violations by applying for permits and code modifications once again. Currently [REDACTED] has not been re-addresses.

It is important to note that based on USBC 108.8 and 110.6, all previous permit applications or previous permit issuances for all addresses except for [REDACTED] were abandoned by the appellant due to inactivity for a period greater than six months, and therefore were voided or revoked.

This appeal is based on a defect that was found in the piping system after Building Division staff reviewed the pre-installation video camera survey. That defect was identified as a backgrade or insufficient slope in the piping system. The pre-installation video can be found [REDACTED]. The post-installation video can be found [REDACTED]. Both videos show backgrade or insufficient slope in the piping system. ASTM F1216, the standard for which this product must be installed to, and the National Association of Sewer Service Companies (NASSCO, referenced in ASTM F1216), both state that point repair excavation should be made to uncover and remove or repair discovered obstructions in a gravity pipe system prior to the installation of a lining system. Bullet point five of the code modification approval letter below and Section P3011.5, added to the 2018 Virginia Residential Code (see Exhibit C), both state that where defects exist, relining shall not be permitted. The appellant chose to reline this piping system in January, disregarding the permitting and code modification process they started, along with the codes and standards in which this process is governed, and relined this piping system with these defects. The problems this customer was having with their sanitary piping system cannot be corrected by the installation of a lining system alone. The defects in the piping system must first be corrected. Eventually, the customer's problems will return as debris continues to collect in those areas of the piping system subject to backgrade or insufficient slope. This is why we have building codes and standards, to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Virginia.





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October 9, 2020

Richard Salinas
Freedom Plumbers Corp
7631 Coppermine Drive
Manassas, Virginia 20109

Subject:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Code Reference: 2015 Virginia Residential Code

File Reference: 200930.0AD

Dear Mr. Salinas:

This is in response to your request for a modification of Virginia Residential Code Section P3002.1, *Piping within buildings*, P3002.2, *Building sewer*, and P3002.3, *Fittings* which require drain, waste, vent, and sewer pipe and fittings to comply with the materials and reference standards listed in Tables P3002.1(1), P3002.1(2), P3002.2 and P3002.3.

Your request is to install a cured-in-place-pipe (CIPP) lateral lining inversion method system for the rehabilitation of an existing building sewer and/or building drain. This is a process in which a resin material is field fabricated, then injected into an existing sewer or drain pipe which forms a shell on the interior perimeter of the existing pipe. This process will reduce the inside diameter of a pipe by approximately ½-inch. The materials and the installation process follow strict requirements outlined in specific testing and practice standards such as ASTM D790, D695, F1216 and F1743. You believe that this process for relining existing building sewers and building drains is an equivalent method to providing piping system materials listed in the above referenced tables.

After due consideration, your request is approved, contingent on the following conditions:

- The existing building sewer and/or building drain (the piping) to be relined shall be limited to gravity drainage piping, 4 inches in diameter and larger.
- The piping shall be descaled and cleaned prior to the relining installation in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions and applicable ASTM standard(s).
- A recorded video camera survey shall be conducted following the descale and cleaning process. Water shall be thoroughly flushed through the system prior to the video. This video survey shall include verification of the project address, approximate depth of the piping, notations of cleanout and fitting locations, and length of pipe notations at intervals not to exceed 25 feet.

Land Development Services
12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 659
Fairfax, Virginia 22035-5503
Phone 703-324-1780 • TTY 711 • FAX 703-653-6678
www.fairfaxcounty.gov





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- The pre-installation video camera survey shall be submitted to the Building Division, along with the manufacturer's installation instructions, for review to determine the applicability of relining the piping prior to permit issuance. Videos may be uploaded at www.fairfaxcounty.gov. Search "sewer video submission form."
- Should the review of the piping reveal incorrectly installed piping systems or defects, relining shall not be permitted. Defects include, but are not limited to, backgrade or insufficient slope, excessive pipe wall deterioration, separation caused by inadequate support, or openings in the piping system caused by tree root invasion or other intrusions.
- The relining material shall be manufactured in compliance with applicable reference standards and certified as required by Virginia Residential Code Section P2609.
- The relining installation shall be performed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions and all applicable reference standards.
- Material data recordation shall be provided to the Building Division prior to receiving a final inspection. Material data recordation shall be as prescribed by the relining material manufacturer and shall include at a minimum, the location of the project, the relining material type, the amount of product installed and the conditions of the installation. Material data recordation may be uploaded at www.fairfaxcounty.gov. Search "sewer video submission form."
- A post-installation recorded video camera survey shall be conducted after the relining installation is complete and the piping has been flushed and flow tested with water. This video survey shall include verification of the project address.
- The post-installation video camera survey shall be submitted to the Building Division for review of possible defects. Identified defects shall be repaired in accordance with the Virginia Residential Code requirements prior to a final inspection.
- A written certification, signed by the permit holder, shall be provided to the Building Division indicating that the relining materials have been installed in accordance with the Virginia Residential Code, the manufacturer's installation instructions and the applicable reference standards. Written certification may be uploaded at www.fairfaxcounty.gov. Search "sewer video submission form."

You have the right to appeal this decision to the Board of Building Code Appeals within 30 days from the date you receive this letter. You may arrange an appeal or obtain information on the appeals process by visiting the county website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/landdevelopment/code-interpretations-modifications-and-appeals or by contacting the secretary to the board, Carla Guerra-Moran, at 703-324-1780, TTY 711 or carla.guerra-moran@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Please have a copy of this letter available for inspectors at the job site.





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This response is project specific and applies to the subject address only. Should you have any questions or need more information on this matter, please contact Richard Grace at 703-324-1687, TTY 711 or at richard.grace@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Brian F. Foley, P.E.
Building Official

cc: Dan Willham, Deputy Building Official, Building Code Research and Development
James Canter, Chief, Inspections, Building Division
Richard Grace, Code Specialist III, Building Code Research and Development
Manuel Felipe, Code Compliance Investigator, Department of Code Compliance

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