



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

When will it be safe to return to my property?

Please visit [HERE](#) for more information.

How will I know if my house was destroyed?

At this time the Building Department has not been given access into the area to start our evaluation process. Please click [HERE](#) for information from other sources.

What do I need to rebuild my house?

Please click [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) for more information.

Do I need clean up permits?

A demolition permit will be required. This permit will memorialize permitted structures on your parcel for future reference. Click [HERE](#) for an application.

When a home is rebuilt, must it be built in compliance with current building codes?

Yes, the buildings must be constructed according to current codes in effect at the time the permit is submitted for the reconstruction. Click [HERE](#) for design criteria.

Must fire clearing and access width requirements be met for all rebuilds per the review of the Fire District having jurisdiction?

Yes, the fire clearing and access widths must comply with the codes in effect at the time the permit is submitted for reconstruction.

After permit application submittal, how long will it take to issue the permit?

Building and Planning will be working with all regulatory agencies on expediting permits for properties involved in this fire.

What happens to my open Building permit?

Open permits on structures lost in the fire will be closed. Permits with an unused inspection fee balance will have that balance refunded to the owner in accordance with BOS fee resolution [HERE](#).

How is the County determining the amount of square footage that was on my property?

When determining square footage, County staff will refer to building permit history records and the Damage Assessment Team information. However, the County may consider the square footages in other formal documents, such as insurance papers or old building plans on a case-by-case basis.

How do I get a copy of the original building plans?

Building Departments are only required to keep copies of your plans for 180 days after the final inspection is approved. In some cases we may have limited plans available. You may request a plans research on your property using our parcel research request form [HERE](#)

Can a house be rebuilt on a fire-damaged foundation?

Applicants who wish to use the existing foundation systems must have a “suitability analysis” of the existing foundation performed by a registered civil or structural engineer. Please see policy on “fire damage structure foundations” [HERE](#)

How long do I have to rebuild my permanent residence?

There is no timeline on when you have to rebuild. However, once issued, building permits are valid for two years.

What clearing is allowed by the County for fire prevention purposes around existing buildings?

The County recommends 100 feet of clearing around existing dwelling units. The cleared area should be landscaped with fire resistant plants. For more information visit [HERE](#)

Can I use a generator for my temporary electrical power source?

Yes,

ALERT: Generator exhaust is toxic. Always put generators outside well away from doors, windows, and vents. Never use a generator inside homes, garages, crawlspaces, sheds, or similar areas. Carbon monoxide (CO) is deadly, can build up quickly, and linger for hours. Click [HERE](#) for more information.