



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

FOR RELEASE May 4, 2009

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Building Safety Where You Live, Work and Play

Bainbridge Island, WA, 05/04/09 – When you enter a house or other building, you probably aren't thinking about whether it is properly constructed and safe. Fortunately, your local building safety experts think about proper construction and fire prevention every day. To help raise awareness of the importance of building safety, Mayor Kordonowy has proclaimed May 3rd – 9th, 2009 as Building Safety Week for the City of Bainbridge Island.

Communities across the nation are using this week to promote the use and understanding of building safety and fire prevention codes to address critical issues of safety, energy efficiency and sustainability in the built environment. "When building safety and fire prevention experts inspect buildings during and after construction, we help to ensure that the places our residents live, learn, work and play are safe, efficient and livable," said Mark Hinkley, the city's Building Official. "The International Codes, the most widely adopted building safety, energy and fire prevention codes in the nation, help ensure everyday safety and include safeguards to protect the public in natural disasters such as snowstorms and earthquakes."

Building safety and fire prevention codes address all aspects of construction, including structural soundness, reliability of fire prevention and suppression systems, plumbing and mechanical systems, energy efficiency and sustainability. To ensure that buildings are safe requires the involvement of building safety and fire prevention officials, inspectors, architects, builders, engineers and others in the construction industry, as well as property owners. "Public safety is our number one concern," said Hinkley. "During Building Safety Week and all year long, building safety and fire prevention officials are here to help protect our residents and our community."

Building Safety Week, first observed in 1980, is sponsored by the International Code Council, of which the City of Bainbridge Island is an active member. Most U.S. cities, counties and states have adopted the building codes developed by the International Code Council.

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