

Policy for Chapter 197 Safety Inspection Standards

WHEREAS, the City of Hagerstown regulates the inspection standards of Chapter 197 of the City Code; and

WHEREAS, it is a violation of City Code to allow occupancy of a rental unit without an inspection as required by Chapter 197; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hagerstown recognizes that for some properties or residents, there may be special circumstances that make it impracticable for the City to inspect all areas of a rental; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Hagerstown find it in the best interests of the citizens of the City to adopt a policy on safety inspection standards for rental units that are occupied;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Hagerstown as follows:

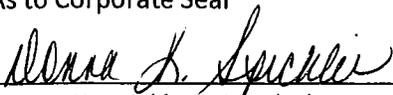
Policy on Chapter 197 Safety Inspection Standards:

The following Property Maintenance Code of the City of Hagerstown standards shall be applied during a Chapter 197 Safety Inspection:

1. Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms (Chapter 8 and Maryland Public Safety Code Carbon Monoxide Alarms)
2. GFCI Receptacles and Electrical Hazards (Sections 604 and 605)
3. Mechanical Appliances – Clearances and maintenance/functioning (Sections 602 and 603)
4. Emergency Cut-off switches (Section 603)
5. Water Heaters (Section 505)
6. Emergency escapes and means of egress (Sections 702 and 704)
7. Entry door locks (Subsection 304.15)
8. Handrails/guardrails (Sections 305.5 and 306)
9. Infestation (Section 308)
10. Clothes dryer exhausts – proper venting and material (Subsections 403.6, 403.6.1, and 403.6.2)
11. Unit habitability shall focus on ensuring that: all utilities are provided and properly connected; all required facilities (bathroom and kitchen) are operational; and proper room dimensions and accesses to areas are maintained and all areas are properly ventilated. (Property Maintenance Code of the City of Hagerstown Sections 102.2.1, 305.1, 403, 404, and 502)

This Policy shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

Witness and Attest
As to Corporate Seal



Donna K. Spickler, City Clerk

Mayor and Council of the
City of Hagerstown, Maryland



Robert E. Bruchey II, Mayor

Date of Passage: September 25, 2018