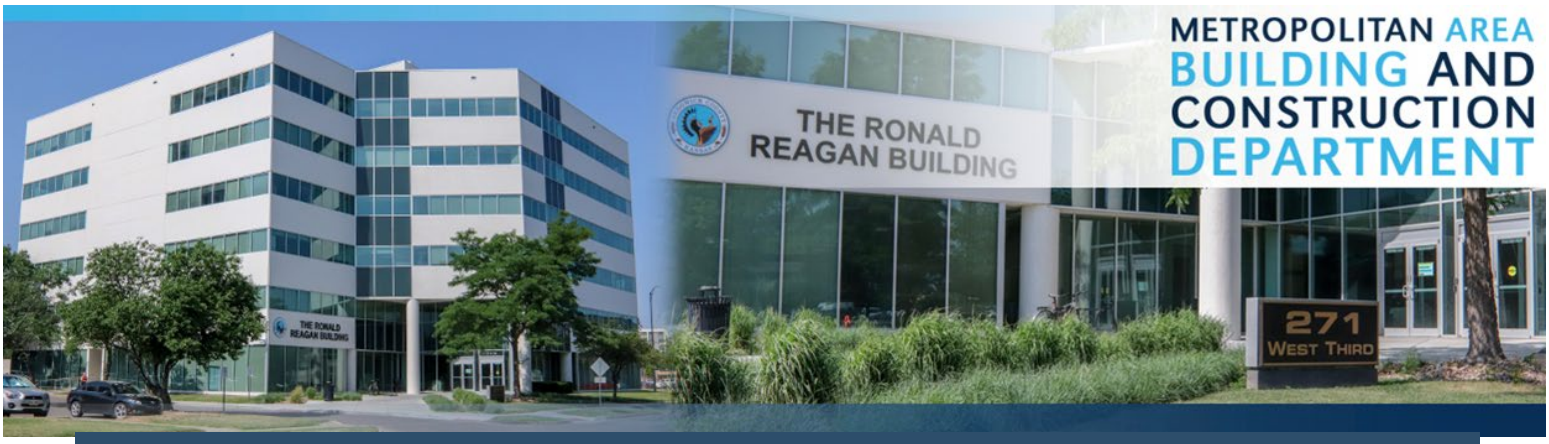


Construction Industry Newsletter

Issue 60—May, 2026 https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/mabcd/mabcd-newsletter/

Reminder from MABCD Administration:

Avoid delays in the approval of your roofing permit applications!

Kansas Attorney General Roofing Contractor Registration is due by June 30th.

To allow time for transmission and processing, it's strongly recommend that your application and supporting documents be emailed to **roofing@ag.ks.gov** as soon as possible. If your application is delayed or incomplete after **June 30th,** your registration status may change to "not in good standing" and MABCD cannot process your roofing permit.

You can find more details at the link below:

https://www.ag.ks.gov/divisions/civil/licensing-inspections/roofing-registration

May's Important Dates:

4th - Board of Code Standards & Appeals Meeting

7th - Mechanical Board Meeting

12th - Electrical Board Meeting

27th - Plumbing Board Meeting

In this issue……..

Administration

From the Assistant Director:

Since spring season began March 20, 2026 and ends June 20, 2026, we're more than halfway through Spring! The year started off with a bang for the building industry and appears to be on track for a very busy 2026. With this fast-paced environment, many challenges emerge for all involved and require review and resolution.

MABCD is seeing issues in both rural and urban development and construction. Two top emerging issues are addressing in subdivisions and water supply for rural subdivisions.

In Fall, 2025, the addressing issue was identified. MABCD has partnered with the building and development industry; jurisdictions of all sizes; utility providers and Sedgwick County GIS to reenergize the Addressing Committee. The Committee had existed previously, but had remained inactive for a number of years. One issue identified is that some subdivisions are now being configured in a way that does not allow for enough addresses (available numbers) to cover the layout and the movement from single family to multifamily lots in mid-development. Having multiple stakeholders at the planning table to look at the issues from multiple perspectives has provided invaluable feedback and direction to help resolve the issue. While not a perfect solution, it does provide a valuable example of how communication and the ability to see issues from different viewpoints can move a problem toward a solution. This one issue does a good example of illustrating the need to work together to determine the real and perceived stumbling blocks and to identify the options available to solve issues.

The second emerging issue is rural development and water supply. Concern is growing over the number of domestic water wells being drilled in unincorporated Sedgwick County and what future effects this may have on water supplies, especially in areas of the county where water is limited and poor quality, making it expensive to treat. Many topics are at play in this discussion. One such topic is the question of what size lots should be allowed outside and within an urban growth area. If you would like to be part of this discussion, please let us know by e-mailing mabcd@sedgwick.gov. As it is with addressing, perspectives from all interested parties is valuable. Your voice is needed to further the policies and regulations that will determine the future of development.

Tim Wagner

Electrical Division

2026 NEC – Article 210.8(F) – Outdoor Outlets

- The amperage threshold has been increased from 50 amps to 60 amps for single-phase branch circuits rated 150 volts or less to ground.

- **New Exception No. 3** permits a listed Class C SPGFCI protection for listed HVAC equipment. No expiration date was given.

    - If a class SPGFCI is provided, the disconnect serving the HVAC equipment is now required to be marked with a warning that Class C SPGFCI protection is provided for an HVAC unit.

- A **new Informational note** refers to UL 943C, Outline of Investigation for Special Purpose Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupters, for additional information regarding Class C SPGFCIs that are marked “HF” or “HF+”.

- The added note clarifies that Class C SPGFCIs marked HF and HF+ can be used in 210.8(F) applications.

Special-Purpose Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter (SPGFCI), Class C and Class D. *Courtesy of Littelfuse*

2024 (IMC) International Mechanical Code Section 504.4

IMC 504.4 Dryer Exhaust Installation

Dryer exhaust ducts for clothes dryers shall terminate on the outside of the building and shall be equipped with a backdraft damper. Screens shall not be installed at the duct termination. Ducts shall not be connected or installed with sheet metal screws or other fasters that will obstruct the exhaust flow. Clothes dryer ducts shall not be connected to a vent connector, vent, or chimney. Clothes dryer exhaust ducts shall not extend into or through ducts or plenums. Clothes dryer exhaust ducts shall be sealed in accordance with section 603.9.

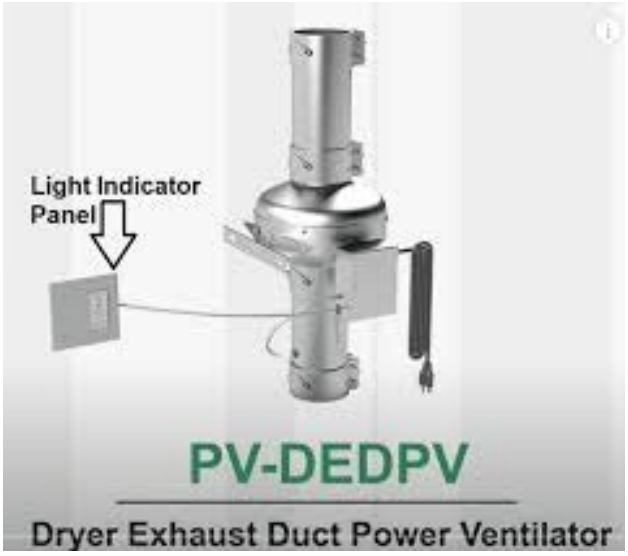
*Dryer exhaust ducts must connect directly to terminals that pass through the building envelope to the outdoor atmosphere. Clothes dryer exhaust must terminate outdoors because of the high levels of moisture, combustible lint and, for gas-fired dryers, combustion products in the exhaust. Attics and crawl spaces are not considered to be outdoors, and exhaust ducts cannot terminate in those spaces. Backdraft dampers must be installed in dryer exhaust ducts to avoid outside air infiltration during periods when the dryer is not operating and to prevent the entry of animals. These dampers should be designed and installed to provide an adequate seal when in a closed position to minimize air leakage (infiltration). Dryer duct exhaust flow must not be restricted by screens or fastening devices, such as sheet metal screws that protrude into the duct. Any type of screen would become completely blocked with fibers in a very short time. These restrictions and projections will promote the accumulation of combustible lint and debris in the exhaust duct, thereby creating a potential fire hazard and causing flow resistance. The code considers all types of cages, grids, bars and baskets that are installed to keep out animals to be screens and are prohibited by the code.

Mechanical Division - continued

IMC 504.5 Dryer Exhaust Duct Power Ventilators

Domestic dryer exhaust duct power ventilators shall be listed and labeled to UL 705 for use in dryer exhaust duct systems. The dryer exhaust duct power ventilator shall be listed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

* Older code editions did not recognize dryer exhaust duct power ventilators (DEDPV) as an option for clothes dryer installations. DEDPV are loosely referred to as "dryer booster fans" in the marketplace. Designer's choices for the exhaust duct used to be (1) limit duct length to 45 feet (10 668 mm); (2) follow the length limits in the clothes dryer manufacturer's installation instructions; or if neither of those choices work; (3) relocate dryer. A fourth option was to get the code official to approve the installation of a DEDPV as an alternative. Exhaust ducts that exceed the developed length allowed by the code are a potential fire hazard, create maintenance problems, increase drying times and cause the dryer to be inefficient and waste energy. Dryer exhaust systems are commonly installed improperly with excessive lengths, too many elbows and the wrong duct materials. Because of the high incidence of reported fires, the code strictly regulates the installation. DEDPV's are listed to a revised version of UL 705 that now contains test and construction requirements that are specific to these devices. The UL 705 standard contains requirements for construction, testing, and installation of DEDPV's and requires them to be equipped with features such as interlocks, limit controls, monitoring controls and enunciator devices to make certain that the dryer operators are aware of the operating status of the DEDPV.



Plans Review Division

MABCD requires sealed plans to be submitted for approval, along with a Commercial Building or Trade Permit (plumbing, mechanical or electrical) when any of the following are constructed ***in an existing commercial building***:

- A new **non-bearing wall** over 5 ft. 9 inches in height or a bearing wall is constructed.
- Any modifications to the existing structural components
- Any additions to the main drainage, vent, and water lines
- Any additions to the main and branch ductwork or hoods
- Any additional electrical circuits

Under the rules and regulations of the Kansas Board of Technical Professions, any Building or Trade Permits (plumbing, mechanical, and electrical) required by the jurisdiction for a commercial structure must include sealed plans submitted for review and approval. The plans must be sealed by the appropriate architect or engineer.

Please direct questions to Richard Chamberlin, Chief Plans Examiner, Richard.chamberlin@sedgwick.gov.