

## Office of the Fire Marshal

## Dear Business Owner,

Beginning in January 2007, the Fire Prevention Bureau will implement a new inspection program for buildings designated as "B" Business and "M" Mercantile occupancies within the city. To help defray the cost of inspection services, the City will apply the standard building inspection fee of \$166.00 per hour of inspection time to cover fire inspections. The fee will be broken down into 15-minute increments, so that the fee can be adjusted downward for the many building that require less than one hour to inspect. The department has been conducting inspections for years, but a steady increase in demand for fire services over the years has caused the program to fall short of its goal to inspect all building on an annual basis.

Annual inspections are a critical component to ensuring safe environments for workers and visitors conducting business in Pasadena. The Fire Department takes a customer-centered approach by advising business owners of conditions that could lead to loss of property, injury and environmental damage and how to correct them. While most building owners and business operators can look forward to a "clean bill of health' on their facility, some will learn about deficiencies that will require correction.

No one looks forward to a correction notice, but taking action to assure compliance with safety standards will help prevent liability challenges, loss of property, and potential tragedy. As an added benefit, many insurance carriers will accept the City's inspection report as the proof of compliance they may require before coverage is provided.

For further information, please refer to the enclosed Fire Prevention Inspection Services brochure.