

## METROPOLITAN AREA BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT

### FACT SHEET

1. MABCD represents a merging of two previous departments – the City of Wichita Office of Central Inspection and the Sedgwick County Code Department - into a consolidated unit. The discussion and planning process was initiated in 2011 and the merger officially started on January 1, 2013.
2. MABCD services jurisdictions that include all unincorporated county areas plus the City of Wichita and ten other municipalities within Sedgwick County.
3. There is currently a plan underway to house the Metropolitan Planning Department with the MABCD in the same building so that developers, builders, and homeowners can have a one-stop service center to facilitate all building projects within Sedgwick County. This building has been identified as the old federal building directly south of City Hall at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Water.
4. There are over 3000 building and trade contractors (plumbers, electricians, HVAC service people) operating within Sedgwick County. All are licensed and/or certified by MABCD who also insures that continuing education for these professionals is properly maintained.
5. Did you know that MABCD employs 6 plans examiners who work every day with local architects and engineers to review commercial building plans to insure that proper safety and code compliance exist for every building being constructed within Sedgwick County? This staff reviewed over 600 detailed plans last year.
6. Every year the MABCD processes over 30,000 permits to do various types of work within the county – everything from building multimillion dollar commercial buildings to replacing a water heater in a single residential unit.
7. In response to work permits given, MABCD inspection staff conducts over 68,000 site inspections per year to insure that consistency & safety codes are maintained.
8. Almost the entire budget of MABCD is supplemented by user fees paid by building and trade contractors who use MABCD's services. Thus, good partnership and efficiency between code staff and contractors can keep everyone's costs down.

9. With the consolidation of general contractor licensing & permit unification fees on September 1, 2014 – all major facets of construction licensing, permitting, plan review, advisory boards and code are now unified in Sedgwick County, the City of Wichita and 10 other smaller municipalities within the county.
10. MABCD plans to adopt all 2012 building and fire codes by the end of this year.
11. MABCD building and trade inspectors are now organized geographically throughout the county in quadrants. Each quadrant has an inspector from each trade and a combination inspector who will provide all inspections on most new home builds within the county. There are four “Chief” inspectors who supervise the work group and also provide inspections in the field:
  - a. Electrical Chief – Tom Kerschen
  - b. Plumbing Chief – Beau Means
  - c. Mechanical Chief – Stoney Nethercot
  - d. Building Chief – Richard Meier

Please do not hesitate to call Bud Lett or me with questions/concerns regarding the merger or operations of this department. We are here to provide a fair and equitable playing field for all contractors and work together to provide public safety for our citizens.

Tom Stolz

MABCD - Director