

Lepore, Theresa (DPS)

From: Mason, Brigitte on behalf of DPSinfo (DPS)
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2015 10:15 AM
To: Lepore, Theresa (DPS)
Subject: FW: EO562

FYI

From: Maryann Conway [mailto:maryann.conway@state.ma.us]
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2015 10:15 AM
To: DPSinfo (DPS)
Subject: EO562

I am building a home in Hudson, MA. I would like to have a pneumatic vacuum elevator installed for the primary purpose of accommodating the needs of my wheelchair bound mother and my terminally ill niece. I have been informed that pneumatic elevators are not permitted in Massachusetts because it does not comply with an outdated elevator code, the AMSE A17.1 version 2004, which the department follows. Apparently, the pneumatic elevator complies under a newer code, AMSE A17.1 version 2007.

It came as a surprise when I was informed that the DPS is adhering to an 11 year old code that prohibits Massachusetts residents from benefiting from the new designs and technological advances that have taken place in the elevator industry over the past decade. Given the time gap between the introduction of A17.1 version 2004 code and A17.1 version 2007, I would think the DPS would have made more progress in complying with the 2007 code. Unfortunately, the DPS' delay in adopting A17.1 version 2007 prohibits my ability to have the same options residents of other states have in the use of a pneumatic elevator.

My preference for a pneumatic elevator rather than other types of elevators is that it requires less square footage, has low maintenance and electrical costs, and it is compatible with the aesthetics of the home I'm building. Most importantly, from what I have been told, it is considered as safe if not safer than other elevators.

It is my hope that the DPS will soon comply with the 2007 code and in the interim will provide some flexibility for the installation of residential pneumatic elevators over the next few months. Such an effort would benefit not only my family but many others in my situation.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Best Regards,

Maryann Conway

