

# Rodent & Insect Control in Buildings Scheduled for Demolition or Renovation

Presented to  
Environmental Health Commission  
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# The Problem

- Rats and insects infest many vacant buildings
- Infestations occur in many occupied structures
- Rats and insects flee structures undergoing demolition or renovation to neighboring properties

# Current Regulations

- Dallas Building Code
  - If the building official determines that a structure is infested with rodents or insects, he shall require the structure to be treated to eliminate the infestation before issuing the permit. (Section 4005.1, Chapter 40)
  - The above replaced subchapter 65 of the previous code that required certification, “that structure is free of insects and rodents or that the structure has been treated in the preceding 30 days to eliminate insect and rodent infestation”.

# Recommended Changes

- Use similar language from old Subchapter 65, Section 27-14.1, for all residential, commercial or industrial structures scheduled for, or ordered to be, demolished completely, or extensively renovated.
- Require certification from a person licensed under the Texas Structural Pest Control Act, that:
  - The structure is free of insects and rodents; or
  - the structure has been treated within the preceding 30 days to eliminate insect and rodent infestation
  - For ordered demolitions the city may obtain the certification as part of the expense of demolition constituting a lien against the real property.

# Other Cities Rules

- New York City-Requires letter from Health Department certifying that a licensed exterminator has treated building for rodent control
- Kansas City, MO-Requires proof that rat-abating of any building at least ten days before the demolition may be required
- Portland, Oregon-Upon receipt of an application, Bureau of Development shall report to Bureau of Health. No permit shall be issued until the Bureau of Health certifies that the building is free of rodents or has been treated or baited.

# Cost to the Industry

- Structures, 2000 to 3000 square feet-\$150-250.
- Commercial buildings,- inspection and baiting, “several hundred dollars”, dependent on size and situation. Pest control companies were hesitant to give estimates on larger buildings