



# City of Marco Island

## Fire and Rescue Department Division of Fire Prevention

1280 San Marco Rd. Marco Island, FL 34145  
Phone: 239-394-5405 Fax: 239-393-0099

June 19, 2018

Dear Property Manager;

It has come to our attention, through filed complaints at the City, that Cable Companies such as Summit Broadband, Comcast and others, are performing low voltage cable replacement in commercial and multi-family structures throughout Marco Island. This work is being called "utility maintenance" and is being performed without a permit. This work, regardless how it's being labeled, is impacting code required fire rated wall and floor assemblies which are life safety separations that serve to limit fire and smoke travel during a fire.

There are at least 5 complexes that the Fire Department has issued Red Tag/Stop Work Orders where this work was either in process or completed. There may be others who have had this work done but were unaware of the Code requirements and potential danger associated with it and we recommend that you contact the Fire Departments Fire Prevention Bureau for an evaluation.

The corrective action for this issue is to not allow the Cable Company to arbitrarily perform the work without a permit. Due to the complex nature of the work and the potential of the fire rated assemblies being compromised we are asking the Condominium Association to employ the services of a Licensed General Contractor who can either secure a permit, or if you currently have a permit related to Hurricane Irma repairs, submit a revision to include the work.

For those Condominiums that have been issued a Red Tag/Stop Work Order, the resulting impact is that all subsequent remodel permits, that have not yet been picked up, cannot be released from the Building Department until a permit is secured to correct the issue.

We are sorry for the inconvenience but try as we may, after numerous meetings and phone calls with their Corporate Office, we could not get the offending service provider to work within the realm of reason.

Considering the above noted issue, please respect the life safety of your residents and those who visit when contemplating seemingly innocuous work such as low voltage, especially in older structures. Any compromise in the fire rated assemblies that is left unprotected means that smoke and/or fire can spread uninhibited through the building.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Ray Munyon  
Division Chief/Fire Marshal