

# Window Cleaning Safety Features TAG

## Meeting Notes

**Date:** Monday, June 3, 2024

**Meeting Location:** Hybrid – Washington Room/WebEx

### Call to order:

Greg Metz

### Attendance:

TAG Members present: Greg Metz (DLI), Michael LaSage (professional window cleaner), Arne Grant (engineer/professional window cleaners), Bob Spafford (professional window cleaners), Kevin Ingbretson (professional window cleaners), Larry Farris (commercial design), David Kegler (commercial contractors), , Scott Anderson (large municipalities), Rob Balsavich (DLI/MNOSHA), Shelonda Marie-Alves (CCAC), Dan McConnell (CCAC)

TAG Members absent: Dan Grinsteinner (municipal code enforcement), Peter Haag (MN AIA)

Guests attending: Amanda Spuckler (DLI), Jeff Lebowski (DLI), Don Sivigny (DLI), Kate Perushek (DLI), Sarah Anderson, Britt McAdamis (DLI), Krystle Conley (DLI)

1. Call to order
2. Reviewed revised draft code language for window cleaning safety features. Discussion of specific draft sections and code change proposals is detailed below.

#### Section 3114.1.1 Windows with glazing sixty feet or higher at sloped roofs and section 3114.1.2 windows with glazing above 38 feet. Window cleaning methods and limitations.

The TAG reviewed revised code language that requires the installation of window cleaning anchors or permanently installed powered platforms in buildings that have sloped roofs and the glazing is 60 feet or higher and buildings that have flat roofs where the glazing is located 38 feet above the associated work surface. Buildings with sloped roofs and have glazing that is located less than 60 feet above the associated work surface are permitted to use manually propelled mobile scaffolds and mobile elevating work platforms for window cleaning. TAG members discussed the height limitations for different types of equipment used for window cleaning and the costs associated with the use of different equipment and methods of window cleaning. Some TAG members disagreed with not permitting the use of manually propelled mobile scaffolds and mobile elevating work platforms to clean glazing that is 60 feet above a work surface and located below a flat roof due to the inconsistency of application, arguing that if windows can be safely cleaned from the ground to a height of

60 feet with mobile elevating work platforms when there is a sloped roof, that the same could be true with a flat roof. Professional window cleaning TAG members opined that the preferred method of window cleaning for buildings four stories and taller is by suspension from the roof, but they acknowledge the challenges with buildings having a sloped roof and were willing to concede ground cleaning applications for sloped roof conditions up to 60 feet. The TAG consensus is to accept the requirements for window cleaning anchors and permanently installed powered platforms based on glazing height and roof slope.

3114.2 Window cleaning methods using extension devices, direct hand washing, and portable ladders.

The TAG consensus is to delete this section and subsections in their entirety because requirements for these methods of window cleaning are addressed by OSHA requirements and are difficult for building officials to enforce.

3114.1.2 Existing buildings.

TAG members discussed clarifying when an alteration to a building is required to include safe window cleaning features. The TAG consensus is to modify item 2 to require existing buildings to comply with the requirements for window cleaning safety features when alterations expose the primary structural frame of the roof.

3114.3 Manually propelled mobile scaffolds and mobile elevating work platforms.

The TAG consensus is to delete subsections 3114.3.1 through 3114.3.3.3. Section 3114.3.1 is deleted because it is repetitive of the content in section 3114.3. Sections 3114.3.2 and 3114.3.3 are deleted because of enforcement concerns.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 9:58 AM

**Prepared by:** Greg Metz