



STREAMLINE SACRAMENTO 2025: KEY IMPACTS AND SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS

Shortened Approval Timelines

- **Meet/Exceed Plan Review Timelines & Avoidance of Comments After Cycle 1**
 - 98.5% of reviews completed on time or early, surpassing 90% target.
 - Additional Arborists trained as plan reviewers and the Department of Utilities is adding on-call plan reviewers to avoid delays.
- **Accelerated Process for Obtaining New Addresses and Demolition Permits**
 - Address updates now occur every 2 weeks instead of once a month.
 - Automated routing and approval process instituted for demolition/wrecking applications.
- **Parcel Map Waivers**
 - Saves up to 3 months of processing time and associated costs for 1-4 lot subdivisions.

Increased Ease of Opening & Expanding Businesses

- **Small Business Liaison Program**
 - Provides personalized guidance for restaurants and other small businesses navigating permitting, with 2 liaisons, an educational webpage and checklists, and quarterly training sessions.
- **Temporary Certificate of Occupancy & Safe to Stock**
 - Allows early occupancy and staff training before final sign-off, reducing operational delays for restaurants and other businesses.
- **Self-Certification Program & Instant Building Permit Issuance**
 - Implemented an accelerated building plan approval process for restaurant tenant improvements (AB 671). The City is evaluating the feasibility of similar self-certification approaches for other minor tenant improvement projects, including B (office), M (retail), and S (warehouse) occupancies.
 - Expanding instant building permit process to allow homeowners (previously contractors only) to receive permits for minor projects like water heaters, HVAC, and solar installations, thereby eliminating wait times.



Reduced Cost of Development

- **Alternate Water Systems Ordinance Removal**
 - Reduces financial burden on hotels and commercial projects by rescinding graywater piping requirements.
- **Waiving Fee for ADU Optional Zoning Review & Shelf Ready ADU Plan Modifications**
 - Starting July 1, 2026, waiving \$117 fee to encourage participation in optional ADU Zoning review to verify compliance with the Planning and Development Code and prevent costly redesigns.
 - In 2023, the City developed free Shelf Ready ADU Plans. In December 2025, these plans were updated to provide additional flexibility, reduce construction costs, and support more efficient project delivery.
- **Bond Opportunities for Land Development (BOLD) Program**
 - Provides flexible financing for infrastructure improvements and impact fees.

Simplified Processes and Enhanced Customer Service

- **Expanded Public Counter Hours Pilot**
 - In-person services now available 5 days a week, thereby improving accessibility for customers preferring in-person service while maintaining 24/7 online portal access.
- **AI-Powered Tools & Virtual Inspections**
 - Entered into contract with Ichi, an AI Co-Pilot for Building Code Compliance that assists in implementation and training of building plan review and building inspections.
 - SacGPT, the City's AI-powered chatbot assistant with a search summarization feature launched publicly in December 2025 allowing customers to find information more quickly.
 - Virtual inspections for minor permits allow customers to select an inspection time and eliminates travel time for inspectors, increasing the number of inspections that can be performed each day.
- **Building Inspection Efficiency Measures**
 - Launched an internal web-based dashboard to track inspections and make schedule or inspector adjustments in real time.
 - Inspection results entered in real time from the field instead of from the office the next day, saving up to 24 hours in the approval timeline.

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