
Information About New Demolition Notification Requirements Available

[New rules](#) for demolition notification requirements go into effect on October 1. Under the [Demolition Notification Ordinance](#) adopted by the Austin City Council in October 2020, new demolition permits will require notice to adjacent residential structures. DSD recently [updated its website](#) with information about the upcoming rules and how to access required notification materials.

Choosing Correct Meetings for Plan Review Questions and Guidance

The [PDC Appointment Scheduler](#) enables customers to schedule appointments with Development Services Department (DSD) team members to ask general development questions, pay for permits, schedule inspections, and complete other business processes. If you already have an application in review, please follow up directly with the Plans Examiner(s) assigned to your case. You can find those names and contact information in your [Austin Build + Connect \(AB+C\) Portal](#) account. Following is additional guidance for selecting an appointment option.

- **Residential Plan Review:** Please limit appointments for “Technical Questions for Building Review,” “Land Development, Residential Zoning,” and “Application Questions” to inquiries and clarifications needed prior to submitting your application.
 - **Commercial Plan Review:** Commercial Plan Review customers have several consultation options, including [Preliminary Plan Reviews](#) for detailed support (scheduled and fees charged in one-hour blocks, available prior to submission only), [free appointments for 20-minute consultations](#) to ask quick technical questions prior to submission, and [meetings with Case Managers or Plan Reviewers](#) for projects with active permits (scheduled and fees charged in half-hour blocks).
 - **Development Process Team:** If you are a homeowner or small business owner and don’t know where to start, schedule time with the [Development Process Team](#) for guidance.
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Development of Proposed Contractor Registration Program Underway

In response to previous input from stakeholders, the Austin City Council approved creation of a Contractor Registration Program and directed staff to return in December 2021 with recommendations. In recent months, DSD has been researching potential approaches while also gathering input from stakeholders who could be affected. The team is now refining the potential scope of the program and developing guidelines for Council consideration. More information is available in materials [recently presented to the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals](#).

Intake and Service Center Positions Filled, Training in Progress

DSD has filled 12 new positions and promoted 16 employees into new positions within the Residential, Commercial and Land Use Review Intake and Service Center teams. We appreciate your patience throughout the ongoing training process. We expect to see application turnaround times begin to improve in the next few months as these team members become accustomed to their new roles. Watch future updates for more information about ongoing process improvements and new tools.

Updated Parkland Fees Become Effective October 1

New subdivisions or site plans for new developments must either set aside land for parkland use or pay fees, as determined by Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) staff. The City uses these fees to acquire parkland and associated amenities to serve the growing community. The parkland dedication fee schedule adopted by the Austin City Council for fiscal year (FY) 2022, which goes into effect October 1, reflects significantly higher land values. Under City Code, annual updates account for the changing value of parkland and park amenities, based on a “moving average” of parkland purchase costs over the past five years. As those costs change, associated fees may be updated until payment is complete. Fees paid by September 30, 2021, will be based on FY 2021

assessments. The new fee schedule is now available on [PARD's parkland dedication website](#).

Housing and Planning Department to Offer Affordable Housing Training

The City's Housing & Planning Department (HAP) is developing a new training program for small-scale developers who want to create more housing that is affordable for low- and middle-income households. HAP is seeking information from active and potential local developers to inform the program. Please fill out [the short survey](#) by September 17.

New Legal Documents for Fiscal Surety Now Available

Several legal documents associated with Fiscal Surety have been updated as fillable PDFs and are now [available on the DSD website](#).

The following documents are available:

- [Letters of Credit](#)
 - [Site Plan Bonds](#)
 - [Subdivision Bonds](#)
 - [Subdivision Construction Agreement](#)
 - [Assignment and Assumptions - Full-Escrow](#)
 - [Assignment and Assumptions - Partial](#)
 - [Amendment to Subdivision Construction Agreement](#)
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Thank you for your continued interest in Development Services topics.

City of Austin Development Services Department
