

FAQ: Infrastructure Permit Process Changes

Why are these changes happening?

A: The Oregon State Legislature passed Senate Bill 974 last year, which requires local governments or special districts to complete final review of final engineering plans for residential development within 120 days of submission. The legislature's stated goal for this change is to speed up the permit review process for housing. As a local government, we now must make process changes to be compliant with state law.

Will this cost me more money?

A: We don't know yet – however, we don't anticipate substantial changes.

We are going through a fee restructuring exercise in the Spring 2026 to make sure the fees we charge are aligning with these changes.

Will these changes impact the turnaround time of my permit?

A: The intended effect of these changes is to improve the turnaround time of your permit. A critical part of achieving this goal will be City staff asking for more complete initial applications, which will decrease the amount of time staff spend reviewing permits.

How will these changes affect my experience with CityView/Online Permit Portal?

A: We will have guidance documents available to help walk you through the new process. We also will be holding an open house on Feb. 9 from 11:30 am to 1:30 p.m. virtually and at City Hall to help answer questions.

Will I need to submit additional materials?

Yes. In general, that will be reflected through a more thorough completeness check process.

For example: Starting in July, we will be asking you to submit a letter that has been signed by Franchise Utility providers that said they looked at the design.

Another change you may notice is our staff will be held to a strict standard to review plans that are designed to at least 90%. A detailed definition of exactly what we mean by 90% design will be communicated in the near future.

When do these changes go into effect?

We will begin rolling out these process changes as a soft launch in March. Think of this time as a test-run, where you will be submitting applications under these new rules and we will be



evaluating them under these new rules, but none of the rules will be officially enforceable. (One exception: During this trial run, we won't require Franchise Utility letters. Those will be required July 1).

The goal is to use this time to work out any internal kinks that may arise before changes officially going into effect July 1.

July 1 is when rule changes take effect and become enforceable.

Where can I access SB 974?

A: You can find more **information about the state bill here**.



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