

Urban Form and Corporate Strategic Development

Quarterly Activity Report

FIRST QUARTER 2019



This land development process is aligned with and contributes to The New City Plan, which defines what we need to do to grow, adapt, and succeed in the next 30 years until 2050. To become a future city with new opportunities, The City Plan defines the spaces, places, and how we move around the City. The City Plan is guided by the following values:

• I want to **BELONG** and contribute

I want to LIVE in a place that feels like home

- I want opportunities to THRIVE
- I want to **PRESERVE** what matters most
- I want more **ACCESS** within my city
- I want to be able to CREATE and innovate

**Strategic plans**, such as Edmonton's Municipal Development Plan and City Plan, shape how the city will grow by guiding how land is used and new developments are built. Area Structure Plans and Neighbourhood Structure Plans establish the layout and function of neighbourhoods and identify where roads, shops, schools, homes, and parks will be.

**Rezoning** determines the type and scale of development permitted on a parcel of land. **Subdivisions** create new parcels, including condominium and strata parcels. **Servicing agreements** provide for the construction of necessary infrastructure such as water, roads, and power.

Approval of **development permits** determine the site use, building size, building location, and landscaping. Whereas **building permits**, mechanical and electrical permits, and inspections ensure that buildings comply with safety codes and energy regulations.

Licences are issued for business and transportation providers to make sure that requirements appropriate to the business, such as noise control, patron management and police information checks, are met.

This report is intended to highlight key activities throughout the land development process. It is not a comprehensive listing of all activities in the land development process or work completed by the Urban Form and Corporate Strategic Development Department.

## **ACTIVITY REPORT**

## **URBAN FORM & CORPORATE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Highlights of 2019 - Quarter 1

#### **Improved Online Trade Permits**

Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing and Gas permit customers will now have:

- a dashboard to manage permit projects, view the project status, schedule inspections, and action permits that require attention
- simpler and clearer permit application processes
- access to permit documents and statements
- a website that works on smartphones and tablets, making it easier to access permits and inspections
- subcontractor access to manage trade permits included in commercial building projects and pay re-inspection fees
- subcontractor access to view inspection results of house permits projects

#### **Garden Suite Regulation Improvements**

New zoning bylaw rules that came into effect on January 1, 2019, making the development of viable, well-designed and accessible garage and garden suites easier. Changes include:

- allowing garage and garden suites on properties of any size, including narrow lot properties
- providing opportunities for stationary tiny homes to be permitted as garden suites
- increasing design flexibility through adjustments to floor area regulations
- strengthening design quality requirements
- simplifying regulations to create a simpler application process for builders and neighbours
- making it easier to build accessible suites and creating incentives for landowners to build them
- allowing accessible units to be built without a parking space for the suite

#### Urban Form Business Transformation (UFBT)

UFBT is committed to working together with industry to implement meaningful changes that provide value and impact. Project updates are as follows:

- The Knowledge Library team is continuing to create a one-stop-shop for staff and customers to find the information that they need.
- The Safety Codes Inspections Efficiencies project reduces the number of non-mandatory inspections needed to be completed.
- The Subdivision Process Improvement team is working to increase the consistency and transparency of the Subdivision process.
- The Rezoning Redesign team is working to increase transparency and predictability in the Rezoning process.

## **ACTIVITY REPORT** SUMMARY

#### **Commentary from the Office of the Chief Economist**

#### Inflation in Metro Edmonton

Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), moved lower in the first guarter of 2019 (see Figure 1) as increases in energy-related prices slowed, reducing transportation and home heating costs.

Inflation is expected to pick up over the balance of 2019 to about 2%. Moderate inflation will help preserve the real value of incomes in Metro Edmonton and support consumer spending.

Upward pressure on housing costs, particularly rents, has eased considerably over the past 18 months and will keep inflation relatively stable into 2019.

#### 4.0% 3.5% 3.0% 2.5% 2.0% 1.5% 1.0% 0.5% 0.0% Q3 2014 Q1 2015 Q3 2015 97 2076 Q3 2076 01 2013 032017 97 2078 97 2078 Q3 2078 97 2079

Source: Statistics Canada, Table 18-10-0004-01, not seasonally adjusted



#### Housing Starts

Total housing starts within city limits saw a reduction in the first quarter of 2019 (see Figure 2) as single-family housing production saw a significant year-over-year decline.

The multi- family segment saw a year-over-year increase due to the apartment segment. However, as noted earlier, rental vacancy rates in Metro Edmonton remain elevated, undercutting the incentive for adding to the multi-family housing stock.

Looking ahead, larger new home inventory (particularly for single-family homes), along with a well-supplied existing housing market are expected to slow the pace of construction for the balance of 2019.

#### **Building Permits**

Construction intentions in the Metro Edmonton region saw a reduction in the first quarter of 2019 compared to both Q4 2018 and Q1 2018.

Residential and non-residential builders in Metro Edmonton took out permits valued at \$897 million in Q1 2019, representing a decline of 19.3% quarter-over-quarter and 34.3% year-over-year.

First guarter developments in construction intentions indicate that an already anticipated pullback in construction activity may be more pronounced which may be a further drag on economic growth prospects for 2019.

Figure 1 - Edmonton Metro Area's CPI Inflation

## ACTIVITY REPORT LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

A land development application (LDA) is required to do any of the following:

- subdivide land into two or more parcels (subdivision)
- create bare land condominium units (subdivision)
- convert existing buildings into condominiums (condominium conversion)
- create or amend an Area Structure Plan (ASP) or Neighbourhood Structure Plan (NSP)
- change the zoning of land (rezoning)
- close a portion of roadway (road closure), or
- change the regulations in an existing zone (text amendment)

Plans, rezonings, road closures and text amendments are executed by bylaw, which require approval by City Council. Subdivisions are approved by the Subdivision Authority.

A single LDA can contain multiple elements, such as a plan amendment (includes ASP, NSP, and Plans), rezoning, each requiring its own bylaw or approval.

Bylaws resulting from LDAs are brought to Public Hearing for City Council's consideration. The number of bylaws brought to Public Hearing represents the completion of the City's work on a given LDA.

Text Amendment values include applicant initiated bylaws only, and exclude amendments requested by City Council.



#### 2 Bylaws Brought to Public Hearing



## ACTIVITY REPORT LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Processing LDAs involves the review of technical information by civic agencies and external organizations (such as utilities), as well as engagement with the public. As new applications vary significantly in completeness and complexity, completion time varies.

Average timelines for completing LDAs are calculated on an annual basis, based on the difference between the date the LDA is received for processing and the date it is brought to Public Hearing. There is insufficient data to accurately estimate timelines on a quarterly basis. Timelines reflect both processing time by the City and time spent by applicants updating, changing or pausing their application. When calculating the average processing time, the top and bottom 10% of results are omitted to provide a more accurate average. The average is in calendar days.



# ACTIVITY REPORT SUBDIVISION

The following are brief explanations for what is included in subdivision statistics:

**Major** - Includes applications that are in new or developing areas of the city where new infrastructure (such as roads, underground utilities, parks) have not yet been constructed.

**Minor** - Includes applications in greenfield and developed areas of the city, typically where infrastructure already exists. This includes applications such as boundary adjustments, title separations, and condominium applications.

Lot splits (Residential lot splits only) - Subdivision of an existing residential lot to create additional single detached, semi-detached, or row housing lots. These subdivisions typically occur in mature residential neighbourhoods. Single lots have a lot width greater than or equal to 10.4m, while Skinny Single lots have a lot width less than 10.4m.

**Conditionally Approved Applications** - Subdivisions that have been reviewed and conditionally approved by the Subdivision Authority with conditions attached. Conditions must be satisified or removed before the subdivision can be registered.

**Approved for Registration** - Plan of Survey has been reviewed, Conditions of Approval letter have been completed, and Subdivision Authority has granted consent to register the Plan of Survey.



#### **1** Subdivision Applications by Type

|            |   |     | 20  | 17  |     |     | 20  | 18  |     | 2019 |
|------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
|            |   | Q1  | Q2  | Q3  | Q4  | Q1  | Q2  | Q3  | Q4  | Q1   |
|            | Conditionally Approved Applications     | 20  | 26  | 18  | 15  | 28  | 17  | 8   | 16  | 25   |
| Major      | AVG. Days from Submission to Decision   | 225 | 260 | 249 | 150 | 247 | 174 | 233 | 142 | 223  |
| Major      | Approved for Registration               | 17  | 10  | 18  | 47  | 15  | 11  | 35  | 50  | 18   |
|            | AVG. Days of Approvals for Registration | 73  | 22  | 41  | 48  | 40  | 24  | 18  | 25  | 11   |
|            | Conditionally Approved Applications     | 31  | 22  | 14  | 16  | 26  | 29  | 24  | 17  | 22   |
| Minor      | AVG. Days from Submission to Decision   | 41  | 47  | 58  | 85  | 55  | 59  | 57  | 65  | 55   |
| WITTOT     | Approved for Registration               | 16  | 10  | 6   | 18  | 8   | 11  | 5   | 7   | 5    |
|            | AVG. Days of Approvals for Registration | 54  | 46  | 147 | 44  | 28  | 27  | 14  | 9   | 9    |
|            | Conditionally Approved Applications     | 71  | 100 | 79  | 87  | 69  | 79  | 90  | 65  | 46   |
| Lot Splite | AVG. Days from Submission to Decision   | 48  | 42  | 40  | 40  | 45  | 50  | 44  | 44  | 47   |
| Lot Splits | Approved for Registration               | 52  | 80  | 74  | 72  | 82  | 67  | 57  | 78  | 61   |
|            | AVG. Days of Approvals for Registration |     | 26  | 23  | 20  | 30  | 34  | 11  | 14  | 9    |

# ACTIVITY REPORT

## **SUBDIVISION**



#### 2 Lots Conditionally Approved and Lots Approved for Registration

|                       |                 |       |       | 2017  |       |       |       |       | 2018  |       |       | 20  | 19    |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-------|
|                       |                 | Q1    | Q2    | Q3    | Q4    | Total | Q1    | Q2    | Q3    | Q4    | Total | Q1  | Total |
|                       | Single          | 1,046 | 559   | 542   | 506   | 2,653 | 986   | 531   | 484   | 506   | 2,507 | 282 | 282   |
|                       | Skinny Singles  | 828   | 886   | 398   | 496   | 2,608 | 741   | 987   | 394   | 565   | 2,687 | 456 | 456   |
|                       | Semi Detached   | 558   | 488   | 374   | 372   | 1,792 | 807   | 570   | 210   | 252   | 1,839 | 106 | 106   |
| Lots<br>Conditionally | Row Housing     | 375   | 188   | 199   | 22    | 784   | 300   | 183   | 26    | 191   | 700   | 99  | 99    |
| Approved              | Multiple Family | 6     | 4     | 2     | 2     | 14    | 8     | 26    | 10    | 5     | 49    | 14  | 14    |
|                       | Commercial      | 7     | 13    | 7     | 6     | 33    | 9     | 7     | 3     | 9     | 28    | 7   | 7     |
|                       | Industrial      | 6     | 7     | 22    | 0     | 35    | 3     | 4     | 22    | 1     | 30    | 4   | 4     |
|                       | Total           | 2,826 | 2,145 | 1,544 | 1,404 | 7,919 | 2,854 | 2,308 | 1,149 | 1,529 | 7,840 | 968 | 968   |
|                       | Single          | 494   | 87    | 504   | 785   | 1,870 | 61    | 107   | 507   | 871   | 1,546 | 55  | 55    |
|                       | Skinny Singles  | 216   | 237   | 285   | 1,251 | 1,989 | 51    | 61    | 694   | 800   | 1,606 | 359 | 359   |
|                       | Semi Detached   | 282   | 296   | 143   | 362   | 1,083 | 102   | 30    | 474   | 465   | 1,071 | 106 | 106   |
| Lots Approved         | Row Housing     | 155   | 0     | 72    | 387   | 614   | 36    | 87    | 264   | 195   | 582   | 127 | 127   |
| for Registration      | Multiple Family | 2     | 3     | 10    | 20    | 35    | 5     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 23    | 2   | 2     |
|                       | Commercial      | 6     | 7     | 4     | 8     | 25    | 5     | 5     | 5     | 0     | 15    | 10  | 10    |
|                       | Industrial      | 4     | 0     | 0     | 2     | 6     | 0     | 0     | 1     | 3     | 4     | 2   | 2     |
|                       | Total           | 1,159 | 630   | 1,018 | 2,815 | 5,622 | 260   | 295   | 1,951 | 2,341 | 4,847 | 661 | 661   |

\* Lot splits are not included in lot counts

# ACTIVITY REPORT SERVICING AGREEMENTS

A Servicing Agreement is a legal contract between the developer or property owner and the City of Edmonton which must be met and agreed upon prior to the development proceeding.

Servicing Agreements provide for the construction of necessary infrastructure such as water, roads, and power. The agreement can be a requirement of a Subdivision or a Development Permit and often includes the review and approval of Engineering Drawings.

The Engineering Drawings include the design and construction of municipal improvements such as water mains, storm and sanitary sewers, roads, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, power, street lighting, landscaping and various other items that are necessary to service land being developed or redeveloped.

With every Servicing Agreement application received, there are a number of residential, multi-family, commercial and industrial lots that are proposed to be serviced. The number of applications approved indicates the volume of serviced lots that will be available in the near future.

This data is displayed on an annual basis due to the seasonality of the business.

| Ser                  | vicing Agre | ements |       |
|----------------------|-------------|--------|-------|
|                      | 2016        | 2017   | 2018  |
| Single Family Lots   | 3,236       | 4,635  | 4,721 |
| Projects Approved    | 74          | 114    | 129   |
| Industrial Lots      | 11          | 11     | 4     |
| Multiple Family Lots | 5           | 35     | 28    |
| Commercial Lots      | 5           | 8      | 13    |





#### ENGINEERING DRAWINGS

Engineering Drawings are circulated to various reviewing agencies to confirm that standards are met for their respective areas of expertise. Reviewing agencies include transportation planning, streetlights and signals, parks planning, drainage planning, and EPCOR.

**Projects Circulated** - Refers to the volume of projects that have been submitted by the applicant and have been circulated to the various reviewing agencies. Drawings have not yet been approved.

**Projects Approved** - Refers to the volume of projects that have gone through all necessary iterations between the applicant and reviewing agencies. Drawings have been approved by the City.

# **ACTIVITY REPORT ENGINEERING DRAWINGS**

Engineering Drawings are categorized as non-complex or complex. Non-complex drawings are identified as projects that contain elements that are standard on most drawing submissions, such as roadway cross sections and approved pipe materials. Typically, non-complex projects are the continuation of adjoining existing developments.

Complex projects are characterized as projects that contain elements that are not typical in most drawing submissions, such as stormwater management facilities, lift stations, arterial roadways or creek crossings. These projects may require additional input from specialists or experts.

The target of 100 days is a joint target between the City and applicants, in calendar days.

Projects over 300 days are removed from the analysis.



Complex projects, Approved Projects



Non-complex projects, Approved Projects

|                     |                                 |     | 20  | 17  |     |      | 20  | 18  |     | 2019 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|
|                     |                                 | Q1  | Q2  | Q3  | Q4  | Q1   | Q2  | Q3  | Q4  | Q1   |
|                     | Approved Projects               | 11  | 26  | 34  | 21  | 18   | 31  | 36  | 22  | 17   |
| Non-                | % Completed Within Target       | 36% | 72% | 50% | 71% | 50%  | 52% | 67% | 68% | 71%  |
| complex<br>projects | Average Days with the City      | 57  | 60  | 62  | 59  | 62   | 78  | 54  | 61  | 69   |
|                     | Average Days with the Applicant | 42  | 28  | 44  | 35  | 37   | 39  | 30  | 21  | 35   |
|                     | Approved Projects               | 2   | 6   | 10  | 4   | 3    | 5   | 10  | 4   | 1    |
| Complex             | % Completed Within Target       | 0%  | 20% | 50% | 25% | 100% | 20% | 20% | 25% | 0%   |
| projects            | Average Days with the City      | 100 | 61  | 87  | 39  | 40   | 71  | 73  | 94  | 91   |
|                     | Average Days with the Applicant | 64  | 44  | 72  | 75  | 13   | 59  | 61  | 78  | 72   |

## ACTIVITY REPORT COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

Development permits are written approvals from the City that the location, size, and use of a building complies with the Zoning Bylaw regulations. A development permit is required for new construction, some renovations, signs, new businesses, and changes to how a building is being used.

The amount of time taken to issue a development permit varies significantly, depending on the type of development permit and application complexity. Permits for minor changes can be issued in one day, while permits for new commercial buildings typically take several weeks. Applications for developments that are listed as a discretionary use in the Zoning Bylaw require notification to neighbouring property owners and typically take longer to complete.

Other factors that influence timelines include whether circulation to other civic agencies or assessments are required.

The single most common cause of delay in processing development permits is incomplete or insufficient information, which may result in reviews of the permit prior to the approval.



|                           |           |     | 2017 |     |       |     |     | 2018 |     |       | 2   | 019   |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|-------|
|                           | Q1        | Q2  | Q3   | Q4  | Total | Q1  | Q2  | Q3   | Q4  | Total | Q1  | Total |
| Applications Submitted    | 64        | 86  | 64   | 39  | 253   | 70  | 71  | 50   | 64  | 255   | 79  | 79    |
| Permits Issued            | 49        | 59  | 76   | 48  | 232   | 44  | 62  | 57   | 51  | 214   | 62  | 62    |
| Median Work Days to Issue | 58        | 58  | 63   | 65  | 62    | 67  | 47  | 66   | 61  | 61    | 53  | 53    |
| 2 Other Major Developme   | nt Permit | S   |      |     |       |     |     |      |     |       |     |       |
| Applications Submitted    | 352       | 421 | 404  | 306 | 1,483 | 351 | 464 | 433  | 315 | 1,563 | 293 | 293   |
| Permits Issued            | 320       | 308 | 378  | 281 | 1,287 | 297 | 321 | 359  | 309 | 1,286 | 238 | 238   |
| Median Work Days to Issue | 10        | 12  | 16   | 18  | 14    | 16  | 17  | 22   | 16  | 18    | 15  | 15    |

## ACTIVITY REPORT COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER BUILDING PERMITS

Safety code permits, such as building, mechanical and electrical, confirm that buildings comply with safety codes and energy regulations. Commercial, industrial, and other permits includes various types of non-residential permits: permits for new buildings (including apartments), additions, exterior or interior alterations, parking lots, and change of use.



| <b>Q4</b> 1 60 | Total | Q1            | Tota             |
|----------------|-------|---------------|------------------|
| 1 60           |       |               | 1014             |
| 00             | 322   | 76            | 76               |
| 7 49           | 296   | 65            | 65               |
| 8 68           | 52    | 48            | 48               |
| 7              | 49    | 49 <b>296</b> | 49 <b>296</b> 65 |

\*As of 2019 Q1, building permits new construction only includes permits that are categorized as 'New'

\*\*Other additional building permits includes additions, exterior and interior alterations, excavations, footing and foundation, and structural frames

# ACTIVITY REPORT RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY DEVELOPMENT PERMITS



|                           |    |    | 2017 |    |       |    |    | 2018 |    |       | 20 | )19   |
|---------------------------|----|----|------|----|-------|----|----|------|----|-------|----|-------|
|                           | Q1 | Q2 | Q3   | Q4 | Total | Q1 | Q2 | Q3   | Q4 | Total | Q1 | Total |
| Applications Submitted    | 42 | 45 | 60   | 50 | 186   | 51 | 62 | 56   | 61 | 226   | 45 | 45    |
| Permits Issued            | 38 | 39 | 39   | 49 | 165   | 44 | 48 | 42   | 51 | 185   | 45 | 45    |
| Median Work Days to Issue | 21 | 28 | 11   | 9  | 14    | 15 | 12 | 25   | 20 | 16    | 14 | 14    |

#### 1.1 New Multi-Family Development Permits (Projects up to 4 dwellings)

| Permits Issued  | 32  | 28  | 32   | 44   | 136 | 34  | 33   | 29  | 41  | 137 | 37  | 37  |
|---|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Median Work Days to Issue                             | 7   | 12  | 7    | 5    | 7   | 8   | 10   | 9   | 15  | 10  | 9   | 9   |
| % Permits issued within 55 bus. days (Target = 75%) * | 79% | 77% | 100% | 100% | 90% | 90% | 100% | 88% | 94% | 94% | 91% | 91% |

\* Note: These numbers exclude projects within mature neighbourhood overlay. A Multi-Family residential development includes row housing and apartment dwellings.

## **ACTIVITY REPORT**

### **RESIDENTIAL SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE DEVELOPMENT PERMITS**

When Class A applications are complete and are not contained within a mature neighbourhood overlay, the target time to issue permits is 6 business days. The target timelines for issuing Class B (discretionary development not within a Mature Neighbourhood Overlay) and Complex (Mature Neighbourhood Overlay) permits are longer. Incomplete permit applications, those requiring bylaw exceptions, or those put on hold by the applicant are likely to take additional time

Performance Targets for semi-detached house development permits: Class A - 75% permits issued within 6 business days; Class B - 75% permits issued within 15 business days;

Complex - 75% permits issued within 55 business days.

The actual results include times for complete and incomplete applications.



New Duplex/Semi-Detached House Development Permit

Applications Submitted Permits Issued

| 1 New Duplex/Semi-Detached House De        | velopme | nt Permi | t    |     |       |     |      |      |     |       |      |       |
|--|---------|----------|------|-----|-------|-----|------|------|-----|-------|------|-------|
|  |         |          | 2017 |     |       |     |      | 2018 |     |       | 20   | 019   |
|  | Q1      | Q2       | Q3   | Q4  | Total | Q1  | Q2   | Q3   | Q4  | Total | Q1   | Total |
| Applications Submitted                     | 137     | 186      | 203  | 137 | 658   | 240 | 148  | 114  | 73  | 575   | 111  | 111   |
| Permits Issued                             | 137     | 145      | 197  | 148 | 627   | 199 | 143  | 110  | 78  | 530   | 94   | 94    |
| 2.1 Semi-Detached House - Class A          |         |          |      |     |       |     |      |      |     |       |      |       |
| Permits Issued                             | 111     | 117      | 160  | 110 | 498   | 169 | 104  | 92   | 53  | 418   | 74   | 74    |
| Median work days to issue                  | 3       | 3        | 3    | 3   | 3     | 4   | 5    | 5    | 4   | 5     | 4    | 4     |
| % of Permits issued within 6 business days | 91%     | 93%      | 88%  | 90% | 90%   | 72% | 64%  | 60%  | 84% | 69%   | 76%  | 76%   |
| 2.2 Semi-Detached House - Class B          | 2       |          |      |     |       |     |      |      |     |       |      |       |
| Permits Issued                             | 4       | 7        | 4    | 6   | 21    | 6   | 13   | 2    | 4   | 25    | 4    | 4     |
| ledian work days to issue                  | 7       | 3        | 3    | 8   | 3     | 23  | 4    | 40   | 8   | 5     | 6    | 6     |
| % Permits issued within 15 business days   | 80%     | 86%      | 100% | 67% | 81%   | 50% | 100% | 0%   | 75% | 75%   | 100% | 100%  |
| 2.3 Semi-Detached House - Complex          |         |          |      |     |       |     |      |      |     |       |      |       |
| Permits Issued                             | 21      | 21       | 34   | 30  | 106   | 21  | 23   | 16   | 19  | 79    | 14   | 14    |
| Median work days to issue                  | 38      | 37       | 35   | 48  | 37    | 41  | 38   | 58   | 64  | 47    | 32   | 32    |
| % Permits issued with 55 business days     | 60%     | 81%      | 78%  | 66% | 72%   | 70% | 72%  | 50%  | 33% | 57%   | 80%  | 80%   |

Note: 2.1 and 2.2 does not inclued Mature Neighbourhood overlay

## **ACTIVITY REPORT**

## **RESIDENTIAL SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE AND ROWHOUSING BUILDING PERMITS**





|  |           |            | 2017        |            |          |     |     | 2018 |     |       | 20  | 019  |
|--|-----------|------------|-------------|------------|----------|-----|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|------|
|  | Q1        | Q2         | Q3          | Q4         | Total    | Q1  | Q2  | Q3   | Q4  | Total | Q1  | Tota |
| Applications Submitted                     | 223       | 236        | 402         | 361        | 966      | 385 | 269 | 208  | 161 | 993   | 164 | 164  |
| Permits Issued                             | 151       | 228        | 232         | 273        | 884      | 231 | 272 | 214  | 159 | 876   | 126 | 126  |
| Semi-Detached Building                     | g Permits | - projects | s up to 2 d | welling un | its      |     |     |      |     |       |     |      |
| Applications Submitted                     | 166       | 184        | 317         | 258        | 715      | 291 | 178 | 133  | 78  | 670   | 91  | 91   |
| Permits Issued                             | 107       | 170        | 190         | 185        | 652      | 173 | 189 | 132  | 96  | 590   | 64  | 64   |
| % Permit issued within<br>25 business days | 55%       | 40%        | 58%         | 46%        | 50%      | 48% | 53% | 51%  | 63% | 53%   | 50% | 50%  |
| 5 Rowhousing Building P                    | ermits -  | orojects w | ith 3 or m  | ore dwelli | ng units |     |     |      |     |       |     |      |
| Applications Submitted                     | 57        | 52         | 85          | 103        | 251      | 94  | 91  | 75   | 77  | 317   | 58  | 58   |
| Permits Issued                             | 44        | 58         | 42          | 88         | 232      | 58  | 83  | 82   | 62  | 285   | 49  | 49   |
| Median work days to issue                  | 53        | 35         | 25          | 43         | 34       | 30  | 25  | 27   | 26  | 28    | 24  | 24   |

## ACTIVITY REPORT SINGLE DETACHED HOUSE PERMITS

Two permits are required for the construction of a Single Detached House; Development and Building Permits

Beginning in 2018, the methodology for performance measures was revised for single detached houses to provide more predictability by measuring time within UFCSD control. The City is now measuring and reporting time from receipt of a complete application, including fees paid, to the time a decision is made. Decisions can be threefold: approved, refused, or more information required. Circulation to other City departments, notification period, and where required, community consultation are not included in these timelines.

Applications submitted includes applications that meet the requirements to start the review process. These applications still may not have all the necessary information to approve or refuse an application.

1 Development Permits

|                              |  |      |      | 2017 |      |       |       |       | 2018 |     |       | 20  | 019  |
|------------------------------|--|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|-----|-------|-----|------|
|                              |  | Q1   | Q2   | Q3   | Q4   | Total | Q1    | Q2    | Q3   | Q4  | Total | Q1  | Tota |
|                              | Applications Submitted (Intake)  | 97   | 96   | 110  | 87   | 390   | 82    | 101   | 111  | 90  | 384   | 100 | 100  |
| Application<br>Intake        | % of Applications reviewed* within 2 business days                     | 100% | 99%  | 100% | 100% | 100%  | 100%  | 96%   | 99%  | 99% | 98%   | 99% | 99%  |
| intake                       | 95% of applications reviewed within (business days)                    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 1     | 0     | 2     | 0    | 0   | 0     | 0   | 0    |
|                              | Applications Submitted (Intake)  | 89   | 104  | 110  | 87   | 390   | 82    | 102   | 110  | 92  | 386   | 100 | 100  |
| Development<br>Review        | % of Applications reviewed* within 2 business days                     | 100% | 100% | 96%  | 95%  | 98%   | 68%   | 92%   | 71%  | 78% | 78%   | 73% | 73%  |
| iteview.                     | 95% of applications reviewed within (business days)                    | 1    | 1    | 2    | 2    | 2     | 6     | 3     | 7    | 6   | 6     | 6   | 6    |
| 1.2 Non-Ex                   | pedited Development Permits  |      |      |      |      |       |       |       |      |     |       |     |      |
|                              | Applications Submitted   | 762  | 891  | 813  | 679  | 3,145 | 1,019 | 1,004 | 611  | 555 | 3,189 | 608 | 608  |
| Intake                       | % of apps. reviewed within 2 bus. days                                 | 86%  | 86%  | 92%  | 86%  | 88%   | 76%   | 64%   | 77%  | 97% | 76%   | 98% | 98%  |
|                              | 95% of apps. reviewed within (bus. days)                               | 5    | 5    | 3    | 5    | 5     | 6     | 4     | 4    | 2   | 4     | 2   | 2    |
| Development                  | Applications Submitted   | 656  | 820  | 640  | 583  | 2,699 | 836   | 848   | 504  | 459 | 2,646 | 501 | 501  |
| Review                       | % of apps. reviewed within targets (15 days in summer, 20 in winter)   | 97%  | 99%  | 100% | 90%  | 97%   | 94%   | 96%   | 95%  | 92% | 95%   | 96% | 96%  |
| Greenfield                   | 95% of apps. reviewed within (bus. days)                               | 15   | 16   | 14   | 18   | 16    | 16    | 17    | 19   | 17  | 17    | 15  | 15   |
|                              | Applications Submitted   | 131  | 147  | 183  | 79   | 540   | 163   | 174   | 156  | 97  | 580   | 122 | 122  |
| Development<br>Review Infill | % of apps. reviewed within target (20 days in summer, 30 in winter)*** | 43%  | 59%  | 34%  | 45%  | 45%   | 34%   | 56%   | 68%  | 51% | 53%   | 90% | 90%  |
| Neview IIIIII                | 95% of applications reviewed within (business days )                   | 59   | 61   | 67   | 44   | 63    | 48    | 50    | 44   | 41  | 47    | 22  | 22   |
| 2 Building                   | g Permits  |      |      |      |      |       |       |       |      |     |       |     |      |
|                              | Applications Submitted**   | 605  | 872  | 973  | 743  | 3,193 | 920   | 1,233 | 775  | 619 | 3,547 | 752 | 752  |
| Examination<br>Review        | % apps. reviewed within target (15 days in winter, 20 in summer)       | 75%  | 98%  | 98%  | 93%  | 93%   | 97%   | 98%   | 98%  | 90% | 97%   | 89% | 89%  |
| I/CAIGM                      | 95% of applications reviewed within (business days)                    | 39   | 15   | 12   | 17   | 20    | 12    | 13    | 15   | 20  | 15    | 26  | 26   |

\* If an application qualifies for an expedited review, the development permit can be issued by intake team.

\*\* Applications submitted includes applications that meets requirements to start review process. These applications still may not have all necessary information for the decision.

\*\*\* The previous quarters' numbers have been revised due to inaccuracies in calculation methodology.

# ACTIVITY REPORT MINOR RESIDENTIAL PERMITS

In 2018, Home Improvement Permits were launched for minor residential projects such as detached garages, decks, and interior and exterior alterations. This new permit includes development and building permits; multiple projects can be issued under one permit. Home Improvement Permits replaces separate development, building, and other combined permits that were previously used for minor residential projects.

Simple residential permits, such as uncovered decks and minor accessory structures can be issued in one day at the Service Center. Permits may take longer to issue if they are for discretionary development, require a variance, are located within a neighbourhood overlay, or the initial application submission is incomplete.

A permit is considered issued after all required documents have been received, all associated fees paid, and the plans review completed. After a permit is issued and construction is complete, at least one safety code inspection will be conducted.



#### **1 Minor Residential Permit**

|                      |                           |       |       | 2017  |     |       |       |       | 2018 |     |       | 20 | 019   |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-------|------|-----|-------|----|-------|
|                      |                           | Q1    | Q2    | Q3    | Q4  | Total | Q1    | Q2    | Q3   | Q4  | Total | Q1 | Total |
| Development Permit   | Applications Submitted    | 399   | 594   | 634   | 397 | 2,022 | 407   | 599   | 492  | 215 | 1,710 | 49 | 49    |
| Development Permit   | Median work days to issue | 7     | 10    | 6     | 6   | 7     | 4     | 10    | 14   | 12  | 10    | 15 | 15    |
| Accessory Bldg &     | Applications Submitted    | 453   | 1,067 | 1,034 | 476 | 3,027 | 439   | 1,034 | 459  | 41  | 1,971 |    |       |
| Uncovered Deck Combo | Median work days to issue | 20    | 10    | 12    | 12  | 13    | 29    | 9     | 0    | 3   | 10    |    |       |
| Building Permit**    | Applications Submitted    | 1,075 | 1,310 | 1,337 | 932 | 4,646 | 1,106 | 1,278 | 934  | 362 | 3,673 |    |       |
| Building Permit      | Median work days to issue | 4     | 1     | 7     | 2   | 4     | 1     | 0     | 7    | 4   | 3     |    |       |

| 2 Home Improvement Permit                       |     |       |       |       |       |
|---|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Applications Submitted                          | 699 | 1,292 | 1,991 | 1,613 | 1,613 |
| Number of Projects                              | 854 | 1,475 | 2,329 | 1,815 | 1,815 |
| Median work days to issue ( DP and BP combined) | 16  | 12    | 14    | 13    | 13    |

\* In order to compare historical data, the chart represents the number of projects rather than the number of permits.

\*\* Updated numbers include data for interior alterations

# ACTIVITY REPORT SAFETY CODE INSPECTIONS

New construction or alterations to a structure must comply with the Alberta Safety Codes Act. Safety Codes Permits include Building, HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning), Plumbing, Gas, and Electrical permits. Each permit requires at least one inspection after the work has been completed. Permits for new buildings require multiple inspections throughout the construction process.

Development Services completes over 40,000 safety code inspections per quarter. This figure is comprised of completed inspections for Building, Plumbing, Gas, HVAC and Electrical disciplines. Other completed inspections compiled quarterly include Lot Grading, Landscaping, Development Site Inspections and Sidewalk Cafes. These numbers vary greatly thoughout the year, as they are impacted by seasonal conditions.



\* "Others" include Sidewalk cafe, landscaping and development site inspections.

# ACTIVITY REPORT MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL PERMITS



|                                       | 2017  |       |                |       |                  |                | 2018  |       |                |                  |                |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|----------------|-------|------------------|----------------|-------|-------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-------|
|                                       | Q1    | Q2    | Q3             | Q4    | Total            | Q1             | Q2    | Q3    | Q4             | Total            | Q1             | Total |
| Applications Submitted                | 895   | 953   | 903            | 1,062 | 3,813            | 1,090          | 959   | 866   | 792            | 3,707            | 841            | 841   |
| Permits Issued                        | 733   | 815   | 747            | 712   | 3,007            | 887            | 755   | 658   | 801            | 3,101            | 796            | 796   |
| Applications Submitted                | 3,675 | 2,829 | 3,112          | 4,676 | 14,292           | 4,155          | 3,599 | 3,405 | 4,097          | 15,256           | 4,128          | 4,128 |
| Applications Submitted Permits Issued | 3,675 | 2,829 | 3,112<br>3,011 | 4,676 | 14,292<br>13,302 | 4,155<br>3,481 | 3,599 | 3,405 | 4,097<br>3,826 | 15,256<br>13,103 | 4,128<br>3,990 | 4,128 |
|                                       | 0,407 | 2,701 | 0,011          | 4,100 | 10,002           | 0,401          | 2,100 | 0,000 | 0,020          | 10,100           | 0,000          | 0,000 |
| 5 Electrical Permits                  |       |       |                |       |                  |                |       |       |                |                  |                |       |
| Applications Submitted                | 5,522 | 7,433 | 7,577          | 6,092 | 26,624           | 5,985          | 8,012 | 8,066 | 5,574          | 27,637           | 4,550          | 4,550 |
| Permits Issued                        | 5,349 | 7,169 | 7,252          | 5,825 | 25,595           | 5,600          | 7,481 | 7,619 | 5,383          | 26,083           | 3,988          | 3,988 |

# ACTIVITY REPORT COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATES

Compliance certificate is a formal response from the City of Edmonton that states that any development on a property, based on a Real Property Report from an Alberta Land Surveyor, meets all regulations of the Zoning Bylaw and/or has been issued any required Development Permits. Compliance certificates also include zoning confirmations and re-stamps.

The City has two levels of compliance service - regular and express. There are significantly higher volumes for regular service requests and response times can vary.

Performance Targets: Express Service - 95% issued within 3 business days;

Regular Service - 95% issued within 10 business days.



| 1 Compliance Certificate - Total*    |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                                      | 2017  |       |       |       |        |       |       | 2019  |       |       |       |       |
|                                      | Q1    | Q2    | Q3    | Q4    | Total  | Q1    | Q2    | Q3    | Q4    | Total | Q1    | Total |
| Applications Submitted               | 2,123 | 2,812 | 2,745 | 2,587 | 10,267 | 1,916 | 2,575 | 2,616 | 2,024 | 9,131 | 1,552 | 1,552 |
| Certificates Issued                  | 1,861 | 2,694 | 2,740 | 2,646 | 9,941  | 1,694 | 2,454 | 2,592 | 2,043 | 8,783 | 1,392 | 1,392 |
| Express Certificates                 |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Certificates Issued                  | 309   | 543   | 612   | 508   | 1,972  | 299   | 509   | 544   | 420   | 1,772 | 253   | 253   |
| ledian work days to issue            | 2     | 2     | 1     | 2     | 1      | 1     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| 6 Certificates issued with 3 days    | 94%   | 91%   | 93%   | 91%   | 92%    | 92%   | 97%   | 94%   | 96%   | 95%   | 95%   | 95%   |
| Regular Certificates                 |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Certificates Issued                  | 1,551 | 2,151 | 2,128 | 2,138 | 7,968  | 1,395 | 1,945 | 2,048 | 1,623 | 7,011 | 1,139 | 1,139 |
| ledian work days to issue            | 7     | 8     | 6     | 7     | 7      | 6     | 7     | 8     | 5     | 7     | 5     | 5     |
| % Certificates issued within 10 days | 96%   | 93%   | 96%   | 97%   | 95%    | 95%   | 96%   | 95%   | 96%   | 96%   | 95%   | 95%   |

\* Including Zoning Confirmations and Re-Stamps

# ACTIVITY REPORT LICENSING

Urban Form and Corporate Strategic Development manages the issuance of all City of Edmonton business and vehicle for hire licences.

There are more than 30,000 active businesses operating within the City of Edmonton. For complete applications with fees paid on time, a new business licence can usually be issued within a few days. If the application requires referral from Fire Rescue Services, it can take up to 11 business days. Existing businesses must renew their business licence annually.

The Vehicle For Hire program ensures the safe and orderly provision of Vehicle for Hire services in the City through driver licensing, driver screening, vehicle inspections, and enforcement activities. Taxi, limousine, and shuttle businesses, vehicles, and drivers all require a licence to comply with the Vehicle For Hire Bylaw.





|                                  | 2017  |       |       |        |        |       | 2018  |       |       |        |       |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
|                                  | Q1    | Q2    | Q3    | Q4     | Total  | Q1    | Q2    | Q3    | Q4    | Total  | Q1    | Total |
| New Licences Issued              | 1,782 | 2,211 | 1,677 | 1,495  | 7,165  | 1,608 | 1,541 | 1,575 | 1,467 | 6,191  | 1,422 | 1,422 |
| Licences Renewed                 | 7,390 | 6,545 | 5,552 | 10,025 | 29,512 | 7,729 | 6,280 | 5,059 | 8,300 | 27,368 | 8,151 | 8,151 |
| Total Licences Issued & Renewed  | 9,172 | 8,756 | 7,229 | 11,520 | 36,677 | 9,337 | 7,821 | 6,634 | 9,767 | 33,559 | 9,573 | 9,573 |
| 1.1 New Licences (without refer  | rral) |       |       |        |        |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |
| ssued without referral           | 1,308 | 1,823 | 1,266 | 1,082  | 5,479  | 1,192 | 1,181 | 1,171 | 1,073 | 4,617  | 1,088 | 1,088 |
| 1.2 New Licences (require refer  | ral)  |       |       |        |        |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |
| Licences issued                  | 442   | 388   | 411   | 413    | 1,654  | 416   | 360   | 404   | 394   | 1,574  | 334   | 334   |
| % issued within 11 business days | 43%   | 43%   | 48%   | 42%    | 44%    | 38%   | 46%   | 45%   | 45%   | 43%    | 48%   | 48%   |
| 2 Vehicle for Hire               |       |       |       |        |        |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |
| Dispatch Licences Issued         | 10    | 72    | 14    | 11     | 101    | 6     | 76    | 6     | 4     | 89     | 8     | 8     |
| Driver Licences Issued           | 1,478 | 301   | 237   | 392    | 2,408  | 331   | 363   | 340   | 428   | 1,462  | 382   | 382   |
| Vehicle Licences Issued          | 20    | 1,550 | 39    | 20     | 1,600  | 91    | 1,475 | 15    | 13    | 1,571  | 12    | 12    |

# ACTIVITY REPORT CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Edmonton Service Centre assists approximately 30,000 customers each quarter. Each customer may have more than one interaction per visit. The target is to have at least 80% of interactions with wait time less than 15 minutes before being served. Service Level is defined as the percentage of interactions with wait time under 15 minutes. For payments, the target wait time is 4 minutes.

Edmonton Service Centre employees are responsible for resolving any 311 phone call inquiries related to Development Services business offerings that 311 agents can not address. A CRM (Customer Relationship Management) ticket is issued for each inquiry.



Service Level Service Count Service Level Target **1 In-person Service Interactions** 2017 Q1 2017 Q2 2017 Q3 2017 Q4 2018 Q1 2018 Q2 2018 Q3 2018 Q4 2019 Q1 In-person Service Interactions 16,997 29,567 26,754 23,006 15,096 20,310 18,577 15,292 13,741 n/a In-person Service Interactions (Payments) 23.755 22.691 15.097 25.389 28.626 25,025 22.506 29.044 n/a n/a n/a n/a 9.759 12,507 12,479 10.006 9,517 In-person Service Interactions (Queue Assignment) **Total In-person Service Interactions** 16,997 53,322 49,445 38,103 50,244 61,443 56,081 47,804 52,302 77% 82% 82% Interactions with wait time under 15 mins 86% 88% 81% 76% 79% 81% Interactions with wait time under 4 mins (payments) n/a 70% 59% 65% 66% 65% 74% 72% 73% 74% 69% 69% 65% 60% n/a n/a Interactions with wait time under 4 mins (Queue Assignment) n/a n/a **Total In-Person Service Interactions within Target Time** 86% 79% 75% 74% 73% 73% 72% 71% 69% **2 CRM Tickets** Number of Tickets Resolved On Time (2 business days) 7.993 11,599 9.754 8,578 7.562 6.945 6,767 6,618 5,788 86% 76% 85% 80% 68% 59% 71% Tickets Resolved 80% 61%

#### **QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

#### **FINANCIALS**

The Development Services Branch implemented a cost recovery business model in 2010 to achieve long-term financial sustainability and enhanced, accountable service levels for revenue generating planning services. The full cost recovery model ensures that revenue collected for the processing of applications is directly and indirectly attributed to the delivery of those services. This includes corporate support costs as well as providing for investment in service improvement initiatives.

The Development Services Reserve Fund was established to balance revenue and expenditure streams over the long term. The target reserve balance is equal to 75 per cent of annual operating expenditures.

The full cost recovery model and reserve fund ensure that services are responsive to client needs in the short and long term. The Branch reached full cost recovery by the end of 2012. Transfers to other City branches that provide support for Development Services business offerings represent over 30 per cent of operating expenditures.

Reserve Minimum Balance

Development Services Revenue YTD - 2019 Q1





# ACTIVITY REPORT EXPLANATIONS

#### **General Explanations**

This report is intended to highlight key activities throughout the land development process. It is not a comprehensive listing of all activities in the land development process or work completed by the Urban Form and Corporate Strategic Development Department.

The number of submitted applications may be greater than the number of issued permits because applications that are cancelled or denied are not included.

Unless otherwise stated, Days to Issue is calculated as the number of business days between the date on which the application was submitted and the date on which the permit was issued. This does not include timelines for completing inspections. Median business days to issue is calculated based on the permits that were issued in each quarter. Processing timelines are not included for applications where reliable data is not available or where application complexity varies too significantly to provide a valuable summary measure.

#### Permits

A development permit is a written approval from the City confirming that the location, size, and use of a structure complies with the Zoning Bylaw regulations. A development permit is required for new construction, some renovations, signs, new businesses, and changes to how a building is being used.

Safety code permits, such as building, mechanical and electrical, confirm that buildings comply with safety codes and energy regulations.

Commercial, industrial, and other permits includes various types of non-residential permits: permits for new buildings (including apartments), additions, exterior or interior alterations, parking lots, and change of use as examples.

Minor residential includes decks, exterior or interior alterations, demolitions, fences, and swimming pools as examples.

#### **Financials**

The reported revenues and expenditures are actual amounts, based on end of quarter results. Permit fees from other internal City of Edmonton projects are included as revenue.

The reported reserve balance is the cumulative balance at the end of the quarter. It is adjusted based on the difference between the quarterly revenue and operating expenditures, as well as any capital spending. The reserve balance shows capital and operating amounts.

Corporate Wide Support allocations will be monitored on an ongoing basis, and adjusted if necessary. City Planning includes technical support for plans reviews by Transportation and Parks, and includes the Land Development Applications, Subdivision, and Servicing Agreements.

Service Enhancements include both operating and capital expenses.