# Memorandum



DATE August 5, 2022

<sup>TO</sup> Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

## **SUBJECT Development Services Updates**

This memorandum is to provide you with an update on Development Services Department (DSD) activities and progress.

## **CUSTOMER INITIATIVES:**

On Saturday, July 23, 2022, a Pop-Up Permit event was held, allowing homeowners and small business contractors the opportunity to consult with staff and obtain applicable permits. There were 22 attendees and 8 permits issued. Staff is planning to broaden the scope of activities permitted for the next event to garner greater participation. In addition, staff will work with bilingual media stations to promote more community awareness. DSD intends to continue to offer its customers this service every third Saturday of each month.

## TECHNOLOGY:

The latest plan review software update will Go Live on Monday, August 8, 2022. The current version will go offline at close of business on Thursday, August 4, 2022, while the data conversion and software updates occur through the weekend. Applicants will have the option to apply for permits on Friday by submitting paper plans.

## HIRING AND RECRUITMENT:

DSD held a Hiring Event on July 26, 2022, with a goal to fill 51 vacant positions. There were 159 attendees seeking employment, 116 onsite interviews conducted, and 33 job offers extended.

## **NEW SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES, REMODELS/ADDITIONS PERMITTING**

The Residential Plan Review Team issued 157 new Single-Family Dwelling (SFD) permits for the month of July, an additional 10 permit applications from the month of June. The average approval time for permits in July 2022 was 33 days compared to 32 days from the previous month. The department has removed the pre-screening requirement for new single-family projects effective August 1, 2022, to improve permitting turnaround times. In addition, the department has implemented a new performance goal of 3 days for minor residential additions and other similar projects. This will facilitate the expeditious issuance of minor permits, while allowing staff to focus more of their time on complex projects.

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Should you have any questions, please contact Andrew Espinoza, Director/Chief Building Official, at (214) 542-1227 or <u>andres.espinoza@dallas.gov</u>.

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Majed A. Al-Ghafry, P.E. Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager Chris Caso, City Attorney Mark Swann, City Auditor Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge Kimberly Bizor Tolbert, Deputy City Manager Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager Directors and Assistant Directors