

Vickers, Anna

From: Vickers, Anna
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Scott Aspenlieder; Craig Dalton
Cc: Cromwell, Nicole; Mattox, Lora; Friday, Wyeth; Berns Brenda
Subject: RE: Planning Application Fees Update
Attachments: Proposed FY 25 26 Planning and Engineering Fees.pdf

Good Morning Scott and Craig,

I have attached an updated proposed fee schedule. There was a typo that was caught for TIS/TAS Master Site Plan fees and engineering adjusted plan review fees.

Regarding the transition to a new submittal system, CityView, our current schedule is March 2025. If you or your team has any issues with the Citizen Access platform, please do not hesitate to contact Damon Combs (combsd@billingsmt.gov) or Jeffry Sprock (sprockj@billingsmt.gov) in our IT Department. When reaching out to them, please include Brenda on the email. We will continue doing our best to navigate the platform's IT issues.

Hope you both have a wonderful Friday.

Kind regards,



BILLINGS - YELLOWSTONE COUNTY



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From: Scott Aspenlieder <scott@performance-ec.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 4:44 PM
To: Vickers, Anna <VickersA@billingsmt.gov>

Cc: Cromwell, Nicole <CromwellN@billingsmt.gov>; Mattox, Lora <MattoxL@billingsmt.gov>; Friday, Wyeth <FridayW@billingsmt.gov>; Craig Dalton <craig@performance-ec.com>; Berns Brenda <bernsb@billingsmt.gov>
Subject: [REVIEW] RE: Planning Application Fees Update

Thanks I appreciate the perspective and update. I was not aware that PW was the large portion of the review increase. That's a whole different discussion then.

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From: Vickers, Anna <VickersA@billingsmt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 4:11 PM
To: Scott Aspenlieder <scott@performance-ec.com>
Cc: Cromwell, Nicole <CromwellN@billingsmt.gov>; Mattox, Lora <MattoxL@billingsmt.gov>; Friday, Wyeth <FridayW@billingsmt.gov>; Craig Dalton <craig@performance-ec.com>; Berns Brenda <bernsb@billingsmt.gov>
Subject: RE: Planning Application Fees Update

Hi Scott,

Thank you for your comment. As you may or may not be aware a large majority of the increase of the fees is coming from the public works review portion of fees. Public Works has increased their fees by 30% for FY25 and 10% for FY26. Planning has proposed a 5% increase in fees for both years associated with cost-of-living increase, software rate changes, and materials cost.

We are aware that Citizen Access is not functioning as it should. Behind the scenes, Planning and Building are actively working on transitioning to a new service called CityView. CityView should alleviate the pain points of Citizen Access and be significantly more user friendly for staff and public users. I've reached out for a timeline associated with this transition and will share this when it's available.

Thanks,



Anna Vickers
Planning Division Manager
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From: Scott Aspenlieder <scott@performance-ec.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 2:28 PM
To: Berns Brenda <bernsb@billingsmt.gov>
Cc: Vickers, Anna <VickersA@billingsmt.gov>; Cromwell, Nicole <CromwellN@billingsmt.gov>; Mattox, Lora <MattoxL@billingsmt.gov>; Friday, Wyeth <FridayW@billingsmt.gov>; Craig Dalton <craig@performance-ec.com>
Subject: [REVIEW] RE: Planning Application Fees Update

Planning Team

I understand that over time it is inevitable that we see some fee increases to keep up with providing services. My objection in this case is that if we're seeing increase we should be seeing an improvement in delivery and the Citizen's Access portal has been/continues to be a complete failure and obstacle for efficient delivery of services. Every time we submit a project we're crossing our fingers that it goes through and goes to the correct place but we never truly know without calling to verify. In most cases we have to call Planning to get some kind of workaround code because the system won't recognize the information we plug in. It's been confusing and cumbersome from the beginning and has never been improved to work for the applicant side. Additionally, the system is not set up to allow for our clients to pay the fees. Instead, it requires the consultant (who enters the data because no client could ever navigate it correctly) to pay the fee and then collect from the applicant.

The City of Gillette had an electronic submission system that was incredibly easy to use and navigate, even from a distance. If COB had a system like that I would have no objection to an increase in application fees but this feels like we're only paying more to pay more without seeing any improvement in efficiency to the applicants in the system.

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From: Berns Brenda <bernsb@billingsmt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 10:31 AM

To: landsurvey@sandersonstewart.com; Scott Aspenlieder <scott@performance-ec.com>; Kolten L. Knatterud <Kolten.L.Knatterud@imegcorp.com>; nstar0102@gmail.com; Marshall Phil <marshallphil74@gmail.com>; Clay Schwartz <pinpointland surveys@gmail.com>; sbloomenrader@aol.com; mcochran@dowl.com; kstout@rlsurvey.com; arrowcreek@3rivers.net; canderson@wwcengineering.com; jason.levanen@arrowsgi.com; senatormcgee@gmail.com; jrspring@m-m.net; aessex@essexsurveying.com; RANDALL KEHL <rqk1642@msn.com>; zessex@essexsurveying.com; Dax Simek <dsimek@seaeng.com>; Craig Dalton <craig@performance-ec.com>; craig@cblandsurveyors.com; zhassler@mammothsurvey.com; cory@studio4architects.com; tkasperick@gmail.com; Tamara Frank <tamara@performance-ec.com>; greid@wwcengineering.com; scotts@eecmt.com; travis@bluewaterdesignmt.com; 'Darryl Magnuson' <darryl.magnuson@kljeng.com>; Forrest Mandeville <Forrest@forrestmandevilleconsulting.com>; eschmidt@highplainsarchitects.com; neil@secondnature.consulting; Melissa Gentry <bsgrealtor@gmail.com>; blombardozzi@ae.design; Kinslee Todd <kinslee@performance-ec.com>; debra.huffordnee@collierseng.com; Greg Jones <gjones@wwcengineering.com>; Kelsey L. Murray <Kelsey.L.Murray@imegcorp.com>; tajmukadam@gmail.com; jeff.reineking@ecs-gps.com; preston@beartoothholding.com; Craig Larsen <Craig@legacydesigngroup.net>; Tracey Daniels <Tracey@grahameng.com>; jacobplatt@rocketmail.com
Cc: Vickers, Anna <VickersA@billingsmt.gov>; Berns Brenda <bernsb@billingsmt.gov>; Husman, Karen <husmank@billingsmt.gov>; Johnson, Tate <JohnsonT@billingsmt.gov>; Kelly, Hunter <KellyH@billingsmt.gov>; Green, Dave <greenD@billingsmt.gov>; Cromwell, Nicole <CromwellN@billingsmt.gov>; Mattox, Lora <MattoxL@billingsmt.gov>; Monat, Elyse <monate@billingsmt.gov>; Friday, Wyeth <FridayW@billingsmt.gov>
Subject: Planning Application Fees Update

Greetings,

The Planning Division in coordination with Public Works is proposing revised/increased FY 25 & 26 Planning Application Fees.

Proposed fees are available for review on the *Planning Division website*: <https://www.billingsmt.gov/3195/Public-Outreach-and-Comment-Fees>

or the *Billings Planning & Community Services Department Facebook page*: <https://www.facebook.com/BillingsCityCountyPlanning/>

The increase is being proposed to cover the cost of operations, maintenance, and personnel to provide services to the community.

Please submit public comment or questions to Anna Vickers, Planning Division Manager email; vickersa@billingsmt.gov by **June 27, 2024**.

Thank you for your comments!

Brenda



Brenda Berns
Planning Clerk
bernsb@billingsmt.gov

