



BROCHURE # 9

FUNDING & PERMITTING FEES

Background

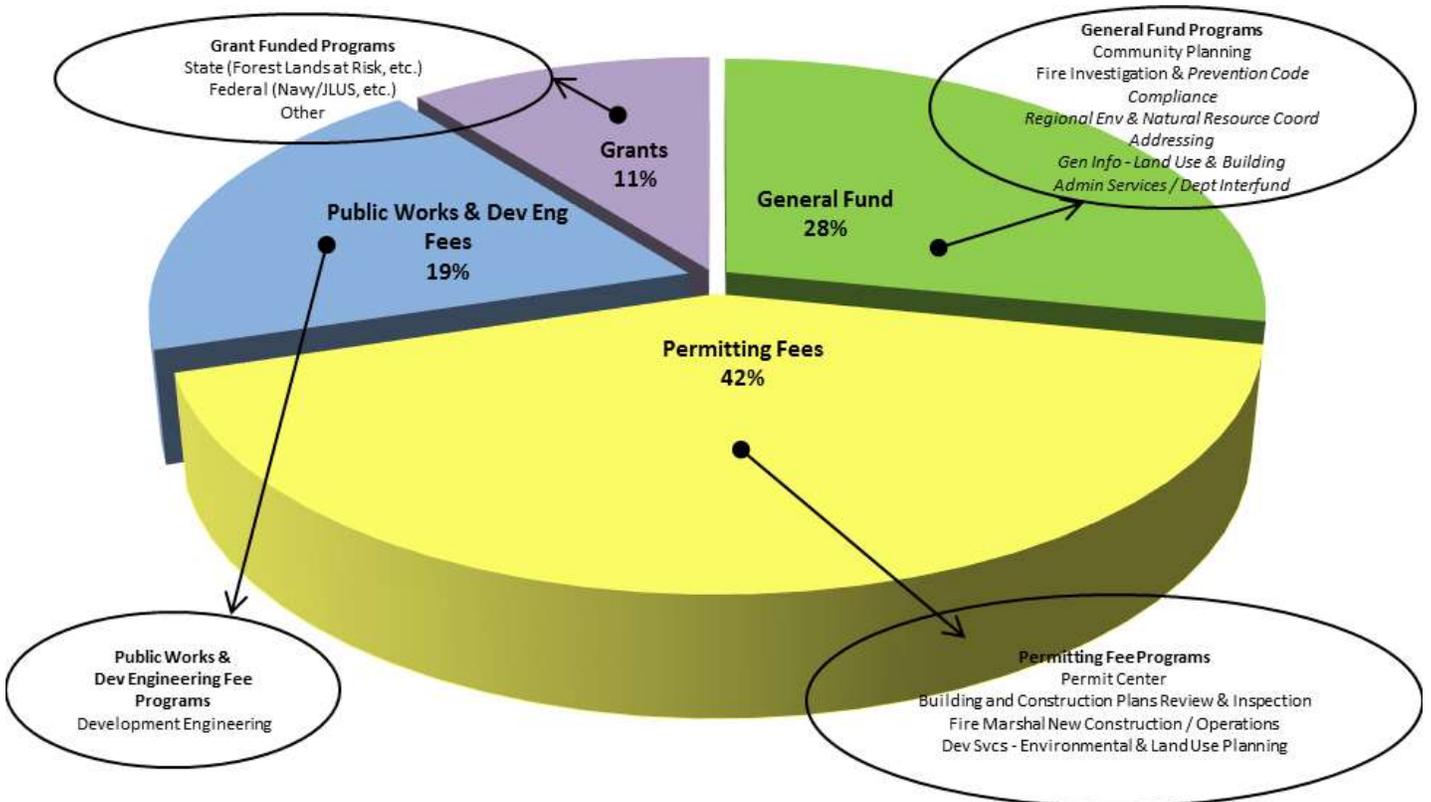
In 2008, the Department of Community Development (DCD), formerly part of the general fund, became a special revenue fund. Beginning January 1, 2008 fees became the primary funding source for processing permits in accordance with the Community Development [Fee Policies](#). In summary, permitting fees collected are restricted to funding permit services and conversely, those services are dependent on the fees collected.

How is DCD funded?

DCD has four main funding sources, all of which are restricted to specific functions and/or services. For example, permitting fees are restricted to fee based services such as building and development services, while grant funding is restricted to a specific scope of work and deliverables as mandated by the granting agency.

How are permitting fees established?

DCD fees and fee policies are established by resolution and include a public hearing process. The [DCD Fee Schedule](#) establishes residential, commercial, fire code construction, mechanical and plumbing permits, as well as land use and development fees. Land use and development fees are based on an hourly rate to review/process applications, while the residential and commercial construction permits are determined by the building value or value of the improvement. DCD fees and fee policies are established or modified by resolution and occurs during the scheduled Kitsap County annual and/or quarterly supplemental budget process.



Why do I have to pay for a building permit?

- 1. Improves Safety:** Your permit allows the code official to reduce potential hazards of unsafe construction to provide for public health, safety and welfare. By following code guidelines, your completed project will meet safety standards that will help protect your family, friends, and future owners. Code certified inspections complement the contractor’s experience and act as a system of checks and balances resulting in a safer project.
- 2. Protects Property Value:** Your home or business is an investment. If your construction project does not comply with the codes adopted by your community, the value of your investment could be reduced.
- 3. Saves Money:** Property insurers may not cover work or damages caused by work done without permits and inspections. Insurance rates in your area are based on an established inspection program.
- 4. Makes Selling Property Easier:** When property is sold through a multiple listing association, the owner is required to disclose any improvements or repairs made and if permits and inspections were obtained. Many financial institutions will not finance a purchase without proof of a final inspection. If you decide to sell a home or building that has had
- 5. It’s the Law:** A building permit is required by law and is intended to protect life and property.

Where do my permitting fees go?

Building permit fees cover the cost of intake, plan review and inspections (reference [DCD Fee](#)

[Policies](#), Policy 9). In addition, DCD collects impact fees for parks, roads and school, as well as a state surcharge fee. Land use permit fees cover the cost of reviewing and processing pre-applications, engineering, environmental and land use applications (reference [DCD Fee Policies](#), Policy 2).

Are the permitting fees reasonable?

DCD conducts extensive analysis and seeks other jurisdictional comparisons when setting fees. Fees are regionally competitive while allowing for timely, high-quality service delivery by staff.



DCD Customer Survey

We always appreciate customer feedback. Please take a minute to provide comments on your experience by completing the [DCD Customer Survey](#)

