

Our Seattle Municipal Tower 4th floor service desk



About Us

The Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) is responsible for the regulatory and compliance functions related to building and land use activities in Seattle. We are responsible for developing and administering 21 policies and codes that cover public safety, environmental protection, land use, construction, and housing. We have an annual budget of \$117.7 million and 482 employees. You can find us online at www.seattle.gov/SDCI.



Staff
482



Director
Nathan Torgelson



Budget
\$117,667,383

Building Permit Intake

8,477

Intake

\$3.0B

Value

Building Permit Issuance

8,132

Issuance

\$2.3B

Value

Master Use Permit

298

Accepted

328

Issuance

We issued permits for 6,551 new housing units in 2024.

Director's Message

Nathan Torgelson

Our commitment to Mayor Harrell's One Seattle vision is to serve all our customers, regardless of how you access our department. SDCI staff are now back in the office at least three days a week, and the SDCI information desk on the 4th floor of the Seattle Municipal Tower is a great resource to provide you with customer service. We encourage you to continue to use our Virtual Applicant Service Center to live-chat or talk with an SDCI staffer from the convenience of your office or home. Given Seattle's continued housing crisis and Mayor Harrell's focus on housing production, we continue to make the permitting process more efficient and assist tenants, landlords, and housing providers.

In 2025 we look forward to adopting legislation which streamlines the design review process, encourages more accessory dwelling units, prepares us for light rail construction, and updates landlord tenant regulations.

Please let us know how we can serve you even better in 2025.





Mayor's Message

Bruce A. Harrell

This year, we delivered historic investments in affordable housing, cut red tape to make building housing easier and cheaper, and presented a plan—and a vision—for a city where housing is abundant and affordable, communities are more livable, and families can thrive.

Our commitment to revitalizing downtown Seattle has brought life and vibrancy back to our city center, creating opportunities for residents, small businesses, workers, and visitors. The opening of the new Overlook Walk demonstrates the dynamic, inviting, and people-focused city we are building and the promise of our reimagined Waterfront. As we look ahead to the 2026 FIFA World Cup, we're excited to welcome the world to Seattle, creating an interactive and exciting fan experience at Seattle Center and beyond.

In 2024, the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) has been essential in building a safe, thriving city. Our efforts to ensure building safety, quickly address vacant properties, increase housing production, and support small businesses have been critical to our progress.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to creating a safe, equitable, and thriving city for all. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to these successes as we work together to build **One Seattle**.



Code Compliance

Complaints we responded to by type.

Construction	Landuse	Landlord/Tenant	Tree
1,558	2,904	2,999	357
Housing	Shoreline	Tenant Assistance	Noise
1,758	73	762	890
Weeds	Vacant Buildings	Other	15,724 Total
2,861	665	897	



Inspection Numbers

Type	In-Person	Virtual
Boiler	7,178	-
Building	44,071	384
Conveyance	10,289	-
Electrical	82,047	2,595
Mechanical	39,995	15
Noise	1,355	-
Signs	1,170	20
Site	37,051	755
Total	223,156	3,769