



## Permit Strategies Implemented by SDCI

State law allows use of strategies to help with permit review timeliness as an alternative to permit fee refunds if a permit review takes longer than the City's defined review time periods. State law lists ten strategies (Revised Code of Washington, RCW 36.70B.160(1)). Local jurisdictions that have implemented at least three of the strategies are not required under RCW 36.70B.080(1)(l)(ii) to provide fee refunds.

SDCI has implemented the following three strategies:

1. **Impose reasonable permit fees, and do not include an upfront application fee for costs related to an appeal.** (RCW 36.70B.160(1)(b))

The City charges permit fees that are intended to cover the costs of permit review and inspections in a manner consistent with state requirements. SDCI does not have a charge for appeal costs in its application fees.

2. **Have new positions budgeted that are contingent on increased permit revenue.** (RCW 36.70B.160(1)(e))

SDCI has budget authority authorized by the City Council that allows access to funding for added regular positions, term-limited positions, and temporary staff, to support permit and inspection services when demand significantly exceeds existing staff capacity.

3. **Maintaining and budgeting for on-call permitting assistance for when permit volumes or staffing levels change rapidly.** (RCW 36.70B.160(1)(d))

SDCI maintains budgeted funds that may be used for on-call permitting assistance when permit volumes or staffing levels change rapidly. This strategy is intended to use consultants for permit review and inspection services and is distinct from strategy 2 above, which is authority for additional SDCI staff.