

Ordinance No. _____

An Ordinance adopting new permit fees for Building Code inspections in Section 8-14.4 of the Columbus Code; and for other purposes.

THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 8 of the Columbus Code is here by amended by striking paragraph (g) of Section 8-14.4 and replacing it with a new paragraph (g) to read as follows:

“(g) *Fees.*

- (1) *Prescribed fees.* A permit shall not be issued until the fees prescribed herein have been paid. Nor shall an amendment to a permit be released until the additional fee, if any, due to an increase in the estimated cost of the building, structure, electrical, plumbing, mechanical or gas systems, has been paid.
- (2) *Work commencing before permit issuance.* Any person who commences any work on a building, structure, electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system before obtaining the necessary permits shall be subject to a penalty of 100 percent of the usual permit fee in addition to the required permit fees.
- (3) *Accounting.* The building official shall keep a permanent and accurate accounting of all permit fees and other monies collected, the names of all persons upon whose account the same was paid, along with the date and amount thereof.
- (4) *Fee schedule.*
 - a. *Building.* For all buildings, structures, or alterations requiring a building permit, a fee shall be paid as required at the time such permit is issued, in accordance with the following schedule:
 1. The permit fee for new construction and substantial renovation of one- or two-family residential structures shall be \$0.35 per square feet of the structure. All areas under a roof shall be included in the total square feet of the structure. The minimum fee shall be \$250.00.
 2. The permit fee for new construction and substantial renovation of commercial structures shall be calculated per square foot and type of occupancy below:
 - Assembly and Educational Occupancies = \$0.65/square foot
 - Business and Mercantile Occupancies = \$0.50/square foot
 - Residential Occupancy = \$0.55/square foot
 - All other occupancies = \$0.40/square footAll areas under a roof shall be included in the total square feet of the structure. The minimum fee shall be \$250.00.
 3. For renovation projects under \$25,000. the permit fee shall be \$100.00.

4. For renovation projects over \$25,000.00, up to and including \$50,000, the permit fee shall be \$150.00.
 5. For renovation projects over \$50,000.00, up to and including \$75,000, the permit fee shall be \$250.00. Renovation projects over \$75,000.00 shall be deemed substantial renovation projects and fees will be calculated per paragraphs 1 and 2 above.
 6. A plan review fee, for commercial construction shall be one-fourth the permit fee to be submitted with permit application, \$75.00 minimum. Plan review fee is a separate fee from the permit fee and shall not be deducted from the permit fee.
 7. For the moving of any building or structure, other than a portable building, the fee shall be \$150.00.
 8. For the moving of any portable building the fee shall be \$150.00.
 9. For the demolition of any residential building or structure, the fee shall be \$75.00.
 10. For the issuance of any certificate of occupancy, the fee shall be \$60.00.
 11. Where any work or installation has been disapproved, the fee for a reinspection shall be as follows:
 - i. For first occurrence there will be no charge.
 - ii. For subsequent occurrences the fee shall be \$75.00.
 12. Where any building permit has been expired less than 24 months, the reactivation fee shall be \$75.00
 13. Where inspections are required after hours for approved shut downs, or other emergency needs, the fee shall be \$75.00, for the first hour, plus \$50.00 for each additional hour thereafter.
- b. *Gas.* For all gas systems requiring a permit, a fee shall be paid as required at the time such permit is issued, in accordance with the following schedule:
1. For the installation, repair, alteration or addition of gas piping, appliances or appurtenances, the fee shall be \$75.00 per meter.
 2. Where any work or installation has been disapproved, the fee for a reinspection shall be as follows:
 - i. For first occurrence there will be no charge.
 - ii. For subsequent occurrences the fee shall be \$75.00.
 3. Where inspections are required after hours for approved shut downs, or other emergency needs, the fee shall be \$75.00, for the first hour, plus \$50.00 for each additional hour thereafter.
- c. *Electrical.* For all electrical systems requiring a permit, a fee shall be paid as required at the time such permit is issued, in accordance with the following schedule:
1. For the installation, repair, alteration or addition of electrical work the fee shall be \$75.00 per meter.
 2. For temporary electrical service, the fee shall be \$75.00 per meter.
 3. For construction power permits the fee shall be \$75.00 per meter.
 4. Where any work or installation has been disapproved, the fee for a re-inspection shall be as follows:

- i. For first occurrence there will be no charge.
 - ii. For subsequent occurrences the fee shall be \$75.00.
 5. Where inspections are required after hours for approved shutdowns, or other emergency needs, the fee shall be \$75.00, for the first hour, plus \$50.00 for each additional hour thereafter.
 6. Construction power approval shall be issued for a period of no more than 180 days. If necessary for temporary work to remain for more than 180 days, request for such extension of temporary approval shall be made in writing by the person, firm or corporation holding the permit.
- d. *Plumbing.* For all plumbing work requiring a permit a fee shall be paid as required at the time such permit is issued, in accordance with the following schedule:
 1. For the installation, repair, alteration or addition to any plumbing system, fixture, or appliance the fee shall be \$75.00 per meter.
 2. Where any work or installation has been disapproved, the fee for a re-inspection shall be as follows:
 - i. For first occurrence there will be no charge.
 - ii. For subsequent occurrences the fee shall be \$75.00.
 3. Where inspections are required after hours for approved shut downs, or other emergency needs, the fee shall be \$75.00, for the first hour, plus \$50.00 for each additional hour thereafter.
- e. *Mechanical.* For all heating and air conditioning work requiring a permit, a fee shall be paid as required at the time such permit is issued, in accordance with the following schedule:
 1. For the installation, repair, alteration or addition of heating, ventilating, duct, air conditioning and refrigeration systems, the fee shall be \$75.00.
 2. Where any work or installation has been disapproved, the fee for a re-inspection shall be as follows:
 - i. For first occurrence there will be no charge.
 - ii. For subsequent occurrences the fee shall be \$75.00.
 3. Where inspections are required after hours for approved shut downs, or other emergency needs, the fee shall be \$75.00, for the first hour, plus \$50.00 for each additional hour thereafter
- f. *Building permit valuations.* If for substantial renovation projects, in the opinion of the building official, the valuation of building, alteration, structure, electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing systems appears to be underestimated on the application, permit shall be denied, unless the applicant can show detailed estimates to meet the approval of the building official. Permit valuations shall include total cost, such as electrical, gas, mechanical, plumbing equipment and other systems, including materials and labor.”

SECTION 2.

All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held on the 14th day of May, 2024; introduced a second time at a regular meeting held on the ___ day of _____, 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting	_____.
Councilor Begly	voting	_____.
Councilor Cogle	voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb	voting	_____.
Councilor Davis	voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett	voting	_____.
Councilor Hickey	voting	_____.
Councilor Huff	voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas	voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker	voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III Mayor