

STAFF REPORT REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2026

DEPARTMENT: Community Sustainability

TITLE:

Application for the Automated Permitting Systems Demonstration NOFO through the Department of Housing and Urban Development

SUMMARY:

Seeking approval to apply for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Automated Permitting Systems Demonstration Grant (PDR-2600-DC-0290). Key considerations include:

1. The grant is intended to support technological advancements that improve permitting efficiency and streamline review processes.
2. The funding opportunity does **not** seek to replace building officials or eliminate professional oversight responsibilities.
3. The grant requires **no local cost share or matching funds** from the City.
4. Applications are due **July 10, 2026**, with award announcements anticipated on **September 1, 2026**.
5. If awarded, the grant would provide an opportunity to evaluate and implement innovative permitting technologies designed to enhance operational efficiency, reduce processing times, and improve customer service.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Automated Permitting Systems Demonstration Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is intended to support jurisdictions that deploy automated building code permitting systems and partner with HUD to evaluate their applicability and effectiveness under real-world operating conditions.

The demonstration will evaluate the deployment of an automated permitting platform within a government permitting environment and assess its impact on permit processing timelines, workflow efficiency, staff roles, and applicant experience. The program is designed to generate empirical data regarding operational performance, implementation costs, governance requirements, and potential cost savings to inform broader adoption by state and local jurisdictions.

The proposed project aligns with the City's ongoing commitment to improving operational efficiency, enhancing customer service, and leveraging technology to support permitting functions while maintaining professional oversight by building officials and permitting staff.

If awarded, grant funds may be used for:

- Permitting automation software and related technology solutions.
- System implementation and integration services.
- Project management and staffing oversight.
- Data collection, documentation, and performance evaluation activities.
- The City anticipates partnering with a qualified permitting automation software provider and implementation consultant to support system deployment, data collection, performance evaluation, and reporting requirements associated with the HUD Automated Permitting Systems Demonstration Program.

MOTION:

Move to approve/disapprove submitting an application for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Automated Permitting Systems Demonstration Grant (PDR-2600-DC-0290)

ATTACHMENT(S):

Fiscal Impact Analysis – N/A

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Automated Permitting Systems Demonstration NOFO