



CITY OF MEDINA

501 EVERGREEN POINT ROAD | PO BOX 144 | MEDINA WA 98039-0144
TELEPHONE 425-233-6400 | www.medina-wa.gov

Date: June 10, 2024
To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
Via: Stephen R. Burns, City Manager
From: Steven R. Wilcox, Development Services Department Director
Subject: Development Services Department Monthly Report

Permit Activity and Financial

Please see the permits issued and permits received reports provided. Building permit applications have continued to be slow, but still exceed this time last year.

Basic differences between 2023 permit activity and 2024 year to date are in the type and volume of work. In 2023 we had more additions and alterations issued than the same time this year. 2024 year to date new construction is more than double in volume and valuation over the same time in 2023. Much of the 2024 permit volume and valuation is based on an unusually busy third quarter of 2023 where permits were accepted and then issued in 2024.

Permit valuation continues to be ahead of 2023 by a significant amount.

The actual condition of the Development Services Fund will be better known once the June 2024 financial information becomes available in early July.

Tree Canopy Study and City Trees

In 2015 Medina contracted with The Watershed Company in Kirkland to produce a city-wide tree canopy study. This study was a part of the Tree Management Code amendments at that time. After 10-years the time is now appropriate for a comparison.

In the 2025 DS Fund budget request I will ask Council for money to produce a new tree canopy study which parallels the approach of the 2015 edition. The Watershed Co. has been purchased twice since 2015, but staff who produced the study for Medina still work there. Details pending, I would anticipate having the same people re-produce the study.

I will additionally be asking Council under the 2025 budget to approve funds necessary to perform a complete inventory and health assessment of all city owned trees. This would include trees within the public right of way and public property such as parks.

With a tree canopy study which compares directly with the 2015 study, and knowing about the location, health and type of trees the City controls, we will have the information necessary to better manage our urban forest.