



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

100 North Fifth Ave. P.O. Box 8647
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-8647
www.a2gov.org

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Wendy Rampson

Interim Planning & Development Services Manager

wrampson@a2gov.org

734.794.6000 x 42606

CITY OF ANN ARBOR PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CHANGES

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Nov. 13, 2009 — The City of Ann Arbor construction code fund (managed by the planning and development services unit) has experienced a significant reduction in revenue over the past year, due to the rippling effect the economy is having in our region. Funding for construction code activities is limited to the revenue generated by these activities, and the city is required to adjust expenses when significant revenue reductions are experienced. A significant reassessment of services has come as a result.

Since staffing costs in the construction code fund account for over 75 percent of all expenses in this fund, staff and service/scheduling changes will go into effect Monday, Nov. 16. Staffing will be reduced by three positions. Construction inspection staff will now operate with two building inspectors, one electrical inspector, one plumbing/mechanical inspector and one mechanical inspector. Housing inspections will continue to operate with six inspectors. Clerical support for the entire unit will be reduced to four positions.

To further reduce expenses, the following service changes will go into effect on Monday, Nov. 16:

NEW Hours of Operation

Construction Services and Rental Housing will shift to “winter” hours at 2000 S. Industrial beginning Monday, Nov. 16:

- Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays: open from 9 a.m. to noon; closed for lunch from noon to 1 p.m.; reopen from 1 to 4 p.m.
- Thursdays: the office is open for business from 1 to 4 p.m. only. The cash register will close at 4 p.m.
- Tuesdays remain as the over-the-counter permit days, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Planning, Zoning, Historic Preservation and Appeals continue to be located on the sixth floor of City Hall (100 N. Fifth Avenue). “Winter” hours are as follows:

- Open daily from 8 a.m. to noon; closed for lunch from noon to 1 p.m. and reopen from 1 to 5 p.m. The cash register will close at 4 p.m.
- To meet with a planner or historic district staff member, an appointment is needed. Please call 734.794.6265.

(more)



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

100 North Fifth Ave. P.O. Box 8647
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-8647
www.a2gov.org

City Planning and Development Services Unit Changes — page 2

Construction Inspections

Construction inspections take place Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Because of the reduced staffing, please plan ahead to schedule your inspections. Construction inspectors are available to meet by appointment between 7:30 to 8 a.m. and by walk-in or appointment between 3 to 4 p.m. daily. Call 734.794.6269 for an appointment.

There are several options for scheduling construction inspections:

- Through the Integrated Voice Response (IVR) telephone scheduling up to 10 days in advance: call 734.794.6267, then select Option 2.
- Over the Internet at www.a2gov.org/trakit. Inspection results can also be viewed online at on this Web page.
- Through the office during regular business hours: call 734.794.6267.

Rental Housing Inspections

Rental housing inspections take place Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rental housing inspectors are available to meet by appointment between 7:30 to 9 a.m. daily. Call 734.794.6264 for an appointment.

Web site

The planning and development services unit Web site is being updated to provide information to apply for permits, understand city regulations, find the Planning Commission schedule and more.

The City of Ann Arbor is committed to maintaining a high level of service even through these reductions. Patience will be appreciated as the new processes are implemented. Web visitors may subscribe to receive mail updates pertaining to the city's planning and development services unit by going to www.a2gov.org, clicking on the red envelope at the top right of the screen and following the sign-up instructions.

Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and was named the No. 1 Healthiest Hometown in the U.S. by AARP The Magazine in 2008. Other notable recognitions include: No. 27 of the top 100 U.S. cities to live in by CNN/Money Magazine in 2008, as well as the fourth smartest city in the U.S. by Forbes Magazine. The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters, fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve.

#####