Development Due Diligence Information

The following handout outlines the most common issues developers face when building in Phoenix. Due diligence is the first step in determining if your development project is feasible, and assuring the stages of your development occur in the proper sequence. The information contained in this handout includes, but is not limited to city, county, state and federal contacts that may have programs or services to assist you. As each project is different, so are the requirements. While every effort has been made to ensure this information is correct, the city of Phoenix does not guarantee this information is inclusive or current, and assumes no liability for problems that may arise from the use of this information. You are advised to obtain professional assistance if you have questions about developing a project in Phoenix. Phoenix City Hall is located at 200 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003.

Issue	Contact
Zoning	Planning and Development Department
Provide all case action including approved	Zoning Counter
zoning, stipulations, variances, use permits,	Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
confirm permitted uses and development	602-262-7131
standards, or legal non-conforming status.	http:/phoenix.gov/pdd/pz/index.html
Provide zoning verification letters and written	
interpretations of Phoenix Zoning Ordinance.	
Decide the use of alternative dust proof options.	
General Plan	Planning and Development Department
Review of General Plan issues regarding	Long Range Planning Section
proposed land uses and opportunities for	Phoenix City Hall, 3rd Floor
change of zoning.	602-262-6882
	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/pz/phxgp.html
Historic Preservation	Planning and Development Department
Certain areas of Phoenix are classified as	Historic Preservation Office
historic overlays, which have unique	Phoenix City Hall, 3rd Floor
development requirements. Historic approval is	602-261-8699
required before submitting plans to the city.	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/historic/index.html
Development Records	Planning and Development Department
Provide information on how to view or obtain	Records Counter
copies of site plans, subdivision plats, grading	Phoenix City Hall, 3rd Floor
and drainage and paving plans, drainage	602-262-7800
reports, and building plans.	
Addressing	Planning and Development Department
Provide correct street address of property.	Civil Permits/Water Services Counter
	Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
	602-534-9940
Site Development	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/development/sitecivil/site/address.html
Site Development	Planning and Development Department
Provide general information regarding site development requirements for site plans, design	Site Development Counter Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
review, landscaping, parking, right-of-way	602-495-0302
improvements and dedications. This includes	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/development/sitecivil/site/index.html
required grading and drainage plan and finished	http://pridenix.gov/pad/development/sitectvii/site/index.html
floor elevation.	
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Issue	Contact
Parking Requirements	Planning and Development Department
Parking review is required by the Phoenix	Site Development Counter
Zoning Ordinance - Section 702. This is to	Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
ensure that individual properties provide off-	602-495-0302
street parking (parking on private property) that	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/development/sitecivil/site/index.html
has adequate ingress/egress for the site (i.e.	
driveways), adequate number of parking	
spaces, and sufficient on-site maneuvering for	
each parking space for the particular land use.	
Single-Family Design Review	Planning and Development Department
New house construction, occurring on lots or	Design Review Administrator
parcels created after 7/1/1998 and less than 65'	Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
in width are required by the Zoning Ordinance,	602-534-2578
Section 507, to undergo a design review.	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/development/sitecivil/site/design.html
Change of Use	Planning and Development Department
Using an existing building for other than its	Commercial Building Services
original use may require a change of use on the	Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
Certificate of Occupancy as well as building	602-495-0302
modifications.	
Right-of-Way/Improvements and Dedications	Planning and Development Department
Examine the site to determine all necessary off-	Site Development Counter
site improvements (improvements within the	Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
public right-of-way). This may include, but is not	602-495-0302
limited to, replacing or installing new curb,	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/development/sitecivil/site/dedicate.html
gutter, sidewalks, driveway returns, sidewalk	
ramps and paving. Examine the site to	
determine if additional right-of-way or easement	
dedications are required and provide	
information on how to complete dedications.	
Street Lighting	Street Transportation Department
Installation of street lights is required as part of	Street Lighting
required offsite improvements by the Planning	Phoenix City Hall, 5th Floor
and Development Services Department.	602-262-7223
Developers also should be aware of the Street	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/topics/devstree.html
Light Policy, adopted by the City Council, which	
sets the broad policy framework and guidance	
for street lighting in the city.	
Land Division/Combination	Planning and Development Department
Obtain information on when a lot split or lot	Lot Division Coordinator
combination can be done in lieu of a plat and	Site Development Counter
the lot split/combo process information and	Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
fees.	602-261-8235
	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/development/sitecivil/site/landdiv.html
Abandonment	Planning and Development Department
An abandonment is a method whereby the city	Abandonment Coordinator
may dispose of a public street, highway, alley,	Site Development Counter
lane, parkway, avenue, road, sidewalk, utility	Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
easement or other public way that is no longer	602-256-3487
necessary for public use. Abandonments are	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/development/sitecivil/site/abandon.html
detailed in the Phoenix City Code, Chapter 31,	
Article V.	

Issue	Contact
Grading and Drainage (G&D)	Planning and Development Department
Determine when a G&D is required, what is	Grading & Drainage Reviewer
required on a G&D plan, and retention	Site Development Counter, 2nd Floor
requirement.	602-495-0302
,	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/development/sitecivil/civil/grading.html
Water/Sewer	Planning and Development Department
Existing water and sewer size, type and	Civil Permits/Water Services Counter
location, & service fees. Water and Sewer	Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor
repayment information. Certain areas in	602-262-6551
Phoenix have unique water and sewer	http://phoenix.gov/waterservices/development/index.html
development issues that may affect your	
development. If you fall within these areas, a	
building permit may not be allowed. Backflow Prevention	Backflow Prevention Program
Backflow prevention assemblies are required on	Backflow Prevention
potable water lines serving irrigation systems,	438 West Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003
some domestic systems that are subject to	602-534-2140
potential cross connection, fire sprinkler	http://phoenix.gov/pdd/development/inspections/inspecttypes/backflow.html
systems, fire service standpipes, and private fire	
hydrants.	
Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permits	Water Services Department
Pursuant to the Clean Water Act, businesses	Environmental Services Division
within the City of Phoenix sanitary sewer service	Industrial Pretreatment Section
area and performing specific processes using	2474 S. 22 nd Avenue
water and/or generating wastewater may be	Phoenix, Arizona 85009
required to obtain a permit regardless of	602-262-1859
whether process wastewater is discharged into	http://phoenix.gov/waterservices/development/index.html
the sewer.	Motor Comison Donortmont
Manhole Entry & Temporary Wastewater Discharge Permits	Water Services Department Environmental Services Division
A permit is required for opening a City of	Commercial Inspection Section
Phoenix sanitary sewer manhole and/or	2474 S. 22 nd Avenue
discharging water or wastewater into the City of	Phoenix, Arizona 85009
Phoenix sanitary sewer on a temporary or basis.	602-495-5926
Examples are swimming pool discharges,	http://phoenix.gov/waterservices/development/index.html
discharging purge water from groundwater well	
sample collection, discharging chiller water for	
repair purposes, discharging test water from	
constructed distribution mains, etc.	
Wastewater Pretreatment Systems &	Water Services Department
Devices Review	Environmental Services Division
Review of construction plans for businesses and	Commercial Inspection Section - Plans Review Phoenix City Hall, Second floor
facilities discharging process wastewater into the sanitary sewer is required. Wastewater	602-495-0278 or 602-495-5926
pretreatment devices (such as interceptors for	http://phoenix.gov/waterservices/development/index.html
grease, oil, & sand) are required for laundries,	- The state of the second of t
food service establishments, vehicle repair	
shops, carwashes, dental offices, facilities	
performing photographic processing, facilities	
performing wet x-ray, etc.	
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Issue	Contact
Stormwater Management Plans Management of stormwater on any property and the elimination of pollutants is required. Industrial and commercial facilities, including agricultural operations, are required to submit a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP).	Water Services Department Environmental Services Division Stormwater Management Group 2474 S. 22 nd Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85009 602-256-3190 http://phoenix.gov/waterservices/development/index.html
Floodplain Certain areas within Phoenix may fall within a floodplain where special restrictions and requirements apply. The City's Street Transportation Department provides assistance with determining floodplain locations.	Street Transportation Department Floodplain Phoenix City Hall, 5th Floor 602-262-4960 http://phoenix.gov/streets/floodplain/index.html
Solid Waste Minimum design standards for garbage and recycling.	Public Works Department Design Review Team 602-534-9766 pwd_pdf_garbage_standards.pdf
Impact Fees Development Impact Fees are charged at the time permits are issued to all development in certain high-growth areas of the city. The fees are determined by calculating the infrastructure costs associated with new development. Developers should contact the city for estimates regarding specific projects. Fire Plan Review Fire code information, plan review and consultation.	Planning and Development Department General Impact Fee Inquiries 602-495-7026 Planning and Development Department Specific Project and Fee Calculations 602-495-5455 http://phoenix.gov/pdd/devfees/impactfees/index.html Planning and Development Department Fire Counter Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor 602-495-0481
Hazardous Materials Permits For buildings or equipment that store or use hazardous materials.	Fire Department Fire Counter Phoenix City Hall, 2nd Floor 602-256-3434 http://phoenix.gov/fire/prevention/specialhazards/index.html
City Archaeologist Assess development projects for potential impact to archaeological sites. Coordinate the development of treatment plans if impacts are identified.	Parks Department – City Archaeologist Pueblo Grande Museum 4619 E. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034 602-495-0901 http://phoenix.gov/recreation/arts/museums/pueblo/archaeology/index.html

Federal, State, County

Any approvals or permits by the city shall not constitute authorization, approval or acceptance that the developer has complied with all federal, state or county rules, regulations and requirements. The developer is responsible for obtaining and shall comply with all federal, state and county approvals, authorizations and permits, including but not limited to the following:

Issue	Contact
Clean Water Act (Section 404)	Corps of Engineers
Permits are required under this law for activities that	Clean Water Act
disturb the ground within a desert wash, river bed,	LA District, Phoenix Office, Regulatory Branch
floodplain, drainage way, or other waterway (Waters	3636 N. Central Avenue, #900
of the U.S.).	Phoenix, AZ 85012
,	602-640-5385, x223

Issue	Contact
Air Quality Permits: Dust, Industrial, and Small	Maricopa County Air Quality Department
Operations	1001 N. Central Avenue
An air quality permit may be necessary for any	Phoenix, AZ 85005
operation that generates dust, or emits chemical	602-506-5102
pollutants.	http://www.maricopa.gov/aq
The Maricopa County Air Quality Department	
(MCAQD) provides information on the air quality	
permitting process on their homepage. The	
department's Business Resource Center provides	
technical and compliance support to new and	
existing businesses with fewer than 100 employees.	
The staff can also help large businesses find the	
correct contacts within the department.	
Asbestos Information	Maricopa County, Air Quality Department
Buildings which may have been constructed with	501 N. 44th Street, Suite #200
asbestos material often found in floor tiles and	Phoenix, AZ 85008
insulation need to verify requirements for special	602-506-6010
removal and permit processes.	www.maricopa.gov/aq/divisions/compliance/air/asbestos_neshap
Underground Tanks	AZ Department of Environmental Quality
Property and buildings where underground storage	1110 W. Washington Street
tanks exist or did exist need to be investigated for	Phoenix, AZ 85007
potential environmental contamination. Tanks were	602-771-4255
used for many purposes over the years, most	http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/waste/ust/index.html
commonly for gas and oil storage.	ADEO
Environmental Compliance Permits	ADEQ
A compliance permit may be necessary for air,	Ombudsman
water, hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. The	1110 W. Washington Street 602-771-4881
Arizona Dept. of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)	
maintains a Web site with charts, organized by industry, to see the ADEQ permits that are or may	http://azdeq.gov/function/permits/doineed.html
be required for your facility. If a specific industry is	
not represented, please contact the ADEQ	
Ombudsman for assistance.	
Ombuusman idi assistance.	