
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
DEVELOPMENT PROCESSING REVIEW COMMITTEE (DPRC)
Wednesday, August 6, 2025, 8:30 A.M.

CAN, 1st Floor Multipurpose Rooms 101
400 W. Civic Center Dr, Santa Ana, California 92701

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael Recupero - Chair – Recupero & Associates, Inc. (1st District)
Evan Carey – Vice-Chair - OCFA (5th District)
Rick Foster – Universe Properties, LLC (2nd District)
Nathan Searles – Womble Bond Dickinson (2nd District)
Joe Lambert – Construction Planning Services (3rd District)
Richard Vuong – Rancho Mission Viejo (4th District)
Jeff Okamoto – Huitt-Zollars, Inc. (5th District)

MEMBERS ABSENT

John O'Neill – International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Orange County (1st District)
Rick Fitch – Hunsaker & Associates (3rd District)

STAFF PRESENT

Justin Kirk – Deputy Director, Development Services
Hadi Tabatabaee – Building Official, Development Services
Judy Kim – Permitting Division Managers, Development Services
Marissa Leahy - Secretary

GUESTS

None

1. Introductions / Roll call
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - The meeting minutes for June 4, 2025 were moved for approval by Joe Lambert and seconded by Jeff Okamoto and unanimously approved.
3. LMS
 - Dashboard Info
 - Seeing higher numbers of permitting requests in June and July compared to last year.
 - Increase in inquiry emails due to centralizing an email-based inquiry process.
 - Inquiry emails are generally tasks that are not tied to billable activity. These are general questions that can be handled by any team member.

- Recent Blue Beam outage and higher permitting requests have created a slight delay in processing.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Judy Kim to provide a report on percentages of on-time responses.
4. OCFA 2025 Fire Code Update – Brian Slegers
- Brian Slegers could not attend. Evan Carey will be providing the update.
 - The same package of OCFA recommendations was given to every city in Orange County.
 - Cities can adopt of their own guidelines or use state guidelines.
 - OCFA is Still getting updates from the state.
 - Changes from the current code
 - Chapter 28 – Cleaning up conflicting language.
 - Chapter 49 – Deleted and moved under Chapter 6
 - Sprinkler requirements for remodels show the great variation between cities. Some cities are requiring more restrictive regulation than state code.
 - Current OCFA guidelines beyond state code:
 - C05 – Goal is to bring it in with alignment with state code. Not clear whether this goal will be met before implementation of the code.
 - The County is not changing their fire codes. Will not adopt ordinances not adopted by the state.
 - **ACTION ITEMS:**
 - Follow up with OCFA regarding grandfathering projects under the current fire code and a C05 update.
5. Business Items
- Richard Vuong – LMS Subcommittee is still working on closing out tickets. Updating the system and waiting to launch.
6. OC Development Services and Service Delivery Status – Justin Kirk
- **Staffing Update**
 - Adopted two additional positions. A senior permit tech to act as a plans examiner and a civil engineer. Recruitment process has started.
 - Three new consultants were brought on to help with General Communities.
 - Two permit tech positions were just unfrozen and the recruitment just closed the positions. Optimistically aiming for hiring in September.
7. Other Business
- Hadi Tabatabaee, Building Official will present the 2025 Building Code update at the next meeting. As of now, the goal is not to change the code.
8. Items of Interest to the Public: Members of the public may address the Committee regarding any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the DPRC; no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.
- None.
9. Adjournment
- The August 6, 2025 Development Review Processing Committee adjourned at 9:22 am

Development Processing Review Committee
Attendance Matrix
2025

Name / District	Jan 1	Feb 5	Mar 5	Apr 2	May 7	Jun 4	Jul 2	Aug 6	Sep 3	Oct 1	Nov 5	Dec 3
Mike Recupero District 1	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X				
John O'Neill District 1	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	-	N/A	-				
Rick Foster District 2	N/A	-	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X				
Nathan Searles District 2	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X				
Rick Fitch District 3	N/A	-	N/A	X	N/A	-	N/A	-				
Joe Lambert District 3	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X				
Richard Vuong District 4	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X				
Vacant District 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A				
Jeff Okamoto District 5	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X				
Evan Carey District 5	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	X				

Table Legend:

"X" =	In attendance
"_" =	Not in attendance