



Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee Meeting

Permitting Division

May 6, 2025

New Priorities Reflected in Permitting Process

- Development in UKC can be challenging and time consuming
 - Many complicated codes
 - Thousands of permit applications annually are first-come-first-served
- Recognized emergent and community infrastructure needs
 - Partnership with community leaders and elected officials
 - Provide a quicker path and resources to address the need



Prioritization: Daycare & Affordable Housing Facilities

- King County Council priority permits as of Q1 2025

Wireless Communication

Emergency Requests

Aerospace

Fish Passage

School Permits

Disaster Repair

WSDOT Shoreline

Medical Hardship

Emergency Repair

Homeless Encampments

Commercial Daycares

Affordable Housing

- Added emergent need for child daycare and affordable housing stock
- Prioritization applies to:
 - Affordable Housing: 50% of units at 70% AMI or less
 - Daycares: Commercial child daycares
- Priority permits jump the line at every stage



Daycare Facilities & Affordable Housing: Continuous Improvement

- Clarify Permitting's role as impartial reviewing agency
- Priority status does not reduce/exempt code compliance

Guidance on how to be successful with this process:

- Start with a knowledgeable design team, with experience in KC codes and processes
- A quality permit application is critical to success
- Recognize the differences between developing a new facility versus converting from existing structures
- Account for true development costs, especially when funding constraints are involved
- Engage community early in the process
- Engage Permitting team early in the process



Permitting Prioritization: Continued Support

- As community priorities shift, our goal is to be adaptable as an agency
- Opportunity to expand the knowledge base of design professionals and applicants
- This work is not possible without the skilled professionals at Permitting

