Self-certification expanding to landscape plans, engineering work

Allows licensed professional to certify that plans follow state, local regulations

Some plans prepared by licensed landscape architects, and licensed engineers in geology, traffic plans, water and sewer service, as well as drainage and grade, may now eligible for certification of compliance of local codes by the licensee.

By certifying compliance with the codes, the licensee is taking responsibility that the project's plans conform with state and local laws.

Self-certification saves plan check time and money. Plans are spot-checked by the City of San Diego and a flat fee is charged which is lower than the full plan-check fee.

Eligible projects are those exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. Exemptions are listed in Article 19, Categorical Exemptions, available on-line through the State of California's web site at http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines/art19.html

To qualify for self-certification, the designer must be licensed by the State of California in that speciality (landscaping or civil...
Ammunition, ordnance safety highlighted in Tierrasanta

Information on possible leftover military ordnance is available for contractors doing excavation and other work in the Tierrasanta and Murphy Canyon communities. The contractor fact sheet, produced by the Army Corps of Engineers, has been created to help assist builders in meeting OSHA Hazard Communication Standards.

Contractor packets can be obtained at the San Diego Planning and Development Review Department.

Copies of all materials can be obtained through the US Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District (213) 452-3990 or the Public Affairs Office, US Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville, (256) 895-1692.

### Fees
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$200 for six or more.

Plan check and permit fees for single-family homes would also be reduced. This reduction comes after the mid-1999 decision to allow architects to self-certify master plan compliance on tract homes.

With the new reductions, fees for most single-family tract homes will have declined by nearly 15 percent.

The development review side of Planning and Development Review is an enterprise fund, with all services being provided by fees charged to customers.

Increases in fees for plan check and inspection on commercial, industrial and multifamily projects were approved.

In addition, a plan check fee was approved for all backflow devices. The plan check fee, $50, must be paid at the time of plan submittal for all projects with backflow devices.

For more information, call (619) 446-5000.

### Seminar Registration

**Traffic Control Training Class**

- Cost: $42 per person.
- For information, call (619) 446-5284

**Location:**

City of San Diego Water Department Training Center
5510 Kiowa Drive.

**Please select a date**

- October 18
- November 15

**Please complete the following information**

- Name
- Company
- Address
- City, State, ZIP Code
- Daytime telephone number

**Amount enclosed**

Please make check payable to:

- City Treasurer

and mail to:

- Traffic Control Class
- City of San Diego
- Planning and Dev. Review
- Land Development Review
- Traffic Control Section
- 1222 First Ave., MS-502
- San Diego, CA 92101

**Special Inspection For Designers, Nov. 4, 2000**

- Cost: $95 per person.
- For information, call (858) 492-5070

**Location:**

City of San Diego Environmental Services Department Auditorium
9601 Ridgehaven Ct.

**Please complete the following information**

- Name
- Company
- Address
- City, State, ZIP Code
- Daytime telephone number

**Amount enclosed**

Please make check payable to:

- City Treasurer

and mail to:

- Special Inspection Class
- City of San Diego
- Planning and Dev. Review
- Inspection Services
- 9601 Ridgehaven Ct., Suite 220
- MS-11028
- San Diego, CA 92123
Village
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The village concept is designed to enhance the strength of the city’s neighborhoods, commercial centers, institutions and employment centers.

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- Flexibility to make changes:
- Greater influence over the quality and outcome of a project: Landscape architects can make a significant impact during the development and review of the project.
- Lower fee: Charge of $150 includes
- Waste water (sewer): Adding a manhole on existing line of 15 inches or less: single-family homes needing lateral to existing main; no grading in an existing sewer easement.
- Drainage and grade: Construction cost (bond estimate) less than $100,000; no grading in flood plane or resource protection areas; no drainage diversion from grading; except for sidewalk underdrains, no Encroachment Removal Agreement.
- Requirements for participation include: The engineer must certify that they are the engineer of record, observe the construction and complete an as-built plan set for the city. Liability insurance is also required.
- A form must be completed to self-certify and submitted at the time of payment. An appointment must be made to meet with staff for self-certification; call (619) 446-5295 to schedule.
- For more information, contact the sub-division section at (619) 446-5295.

Certify
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The standard fee is based on the size of the project and can range to $350 for the initial plan check and approval; any subsequent recheck due to plan and project changes is charged extra.

Landsaping plans and installation are required on all projects, excluding single-family homes outside of subdivisions. The code sections — part of the city’s Land Development Code — set measures for planting that improve the building’s aesthetics, help save energy, help save water and protect from fire danger.

Among the advantages of self-certification:
- Faster permit processing: If the project qualifies for over-the-counter processing, plans avoid submittal.
- Direct access to senior staff: Senior-level staff members are available to resolve code issues.
- Flexibility to make changes: Within the parameters of the code, landscape architects can make minor revisions to plantings and the irrigation system.
- Greater influence over the quality and outcome of a project: Landscape architects can make a significant impact during the development and review of the project.
- Lower fee: Charge of $150 includes
- intake, processing and one inspection. Additional fees may be required for more than one plan change or preliminary inspection.
- The standard fee is based on the size of the project and can range to $350 for the initial plan check and approval; any subsequent recheck due to plan and project changes is charged extra.
- Landscape architects requesting to self-certify plans must be approved prior to the submittal of a project
- For more information on landscape plan self-certification, contact landscape plan check at (619) 446-5317.

Engineering Work
Projects eligible for self certification include:
- Geology: Projects in geologic hazard zones 51, 52 or 55 as shown on the city’s Geologic Hazard Maps; projects with 10-foot or less cut or fill vertical slopes with a slope gradient of 1.5:1 or less; fill less than 10 feet deep; no structures in the public right-of-way or easements; no tiebacks within public right-of-way or easements.
- Traffic plan review: streets with less than 5,000 average daily trips (traffic control permit still required); project needs no traffic control; projects outside of business districts needing only covered pedestrian walkway.
- Water: If there is an existing water main in the street, four or fewer residential/commercial units with two or fewer fire hydrants.
- Waste water (sewer): Adding a manhole on existing line of 15 inches or less: single-family homes needing lateral to existing main; no grading in an existing sewer easement.

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Land Development Code:
The Video

Find out about the city’s new Land Development Code from the experts. This 30-minute program gives a brief overview of the new code, its history and how to use it. With Kelly Broughton and Linda Johnson from the City of San Diego, and land use attorney Rebecca Michael.

Only $10. To order, call (619) 446-5100.

City of San Diego Planning and Development Review