

MAYOR KEVIN L. FAULCONER CITY OF SAN DIEGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, October 1, 2014

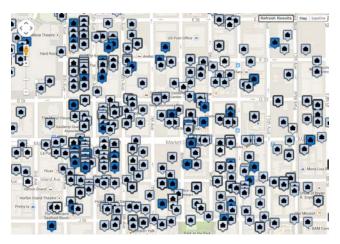
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NEWS RELEASE

Faulconer Announces Online Access to Permits, Contracts & Other Data

New Websites, Expanded Hours to Help Facilitate Innovation in San Diego



San Diego, CA – Ushering in a new era of opportunity and innovation for residents and workers at City Hall, Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer today announced that the City of San Diego's Development Services Department (DSD) and Purchasing & Contracting Department (P&C) will now provide online access to permitting and contracting data.

"My vision for this City is that local businesses, community organizations and residents do more innovative things with the City online," said Mayor Faulconer.

"We're changing how the City of San Diego does business. We're telling local residents, civic organizations and businesses that San Diego is online, open for business and opportunity starts here."

Using *Google Maps*, the City's new *OpenDSD* website uses a software system to manage and track the City's land development permit processing functions. The Project Tracking System (PTS) uses a web-based format to indicate DSD permit and code enforcement data, permit application information, project descriptions, project status, inspection outcomes, permit types needed, sign-offs from staff, expected fee amounts and staff contact information. In December, local businesses seeking San Diego permits will also be able use *OpenDSD* to pay and schedule inspections online. Overall, the new website will allow:

- community members to get a better understanding of past, present and future development activity in the community.
- community members to get involved earlier in the development process.
- community members to conduct research regarding neighborhood construction.

- community members to verify or get status updates on neighborhood code enforcement issues
- property owners and designers to get up-to-the-moment status updates on events transpiring in their project.
- property owners and designers to monitor inspection activity.
- property owners and designers to confirm development process timelines.
- property owners and designers to research whether or not the design professional/contractor has pulled appropriate permits.
- property owners and designers to validate permits when selling property.

In addition to OpenDSD's online services, DSD is extending business hours for plan check and permit issuance of single-family duplex, additions and remodels. Counters will now open by appointment for plan check services on Thursday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and one Saturday a month from 8 a.m to 12 p.m. The City will also expand these hours to a new Kearny Mesa site if there is enough demand. This will allow the City's builder-owners, who live and work on their own homes, to get permits without having to take time off work. This will also shorten lines and speed up processing times at DSD during the week.

During today's announcement, Mayor Faulconer also previewed the Purchasing & Contracting Department's (P&C) new *E-procurement* system that processes contracts for consultants, goods, services and public works electronically. The E-procurement system will allow marketplace suppliers, vendors and providers to log onto *PlanetBids*, a web-based purchasing system, view the City of San Diego's solicitations and invitations to bid and requests for proposals electronically. While the City will still continue to accept paper or hardcopy bids from local businesses, the new system will provide several benefits to vendors, suppliers and City departments, including:

- reduced costs and time related to preparing bids.
- additional time for vendors to prepare and submit bids.
- eliminate postal or overnight delivery costs.
- the ability to view and edit bid responses online up to the bid closing date and time.
- access to the history of all bid responses online.
- the ability to view bid openings and results online, which eliminates the need to be physically present to witness bid openings.