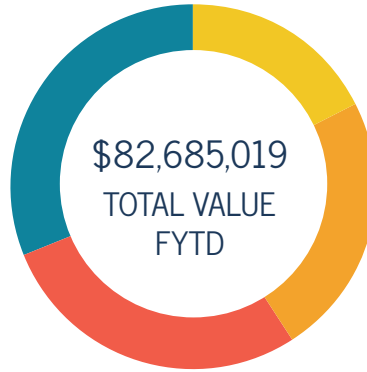




Insights

If you felt like the Columbia area was quieter in July than August, you weren't alone. When we run monthly report data, we are better able to quantify the ebb and flow of permitting activity, and when we compared August to July, we saw an uptick across the board. Though overall our number of permits was slightly higher in July, pre-development activities and reviews increased overall in August - which means you may see increases in construction activity near you as well!

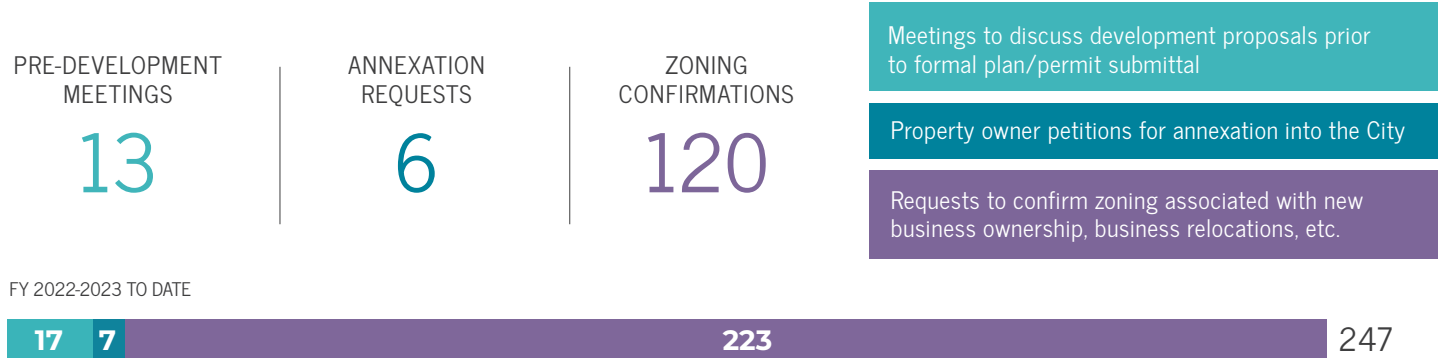


FY 2022-2023 TO DATE

- 56 SINGLE/TWO-FAMILY/TOWNHOME
\$14,474,072 DOLLAR VALUE
- 1 MULTI-FAMILY
\$19,491,221 DOLLAR VALUE
- 104 COMMERCIAL
\$23,149,253 DOLLAR VALUE
- 485 TRADES/OTHER
\$25,570,473 DOLLAR VALUE

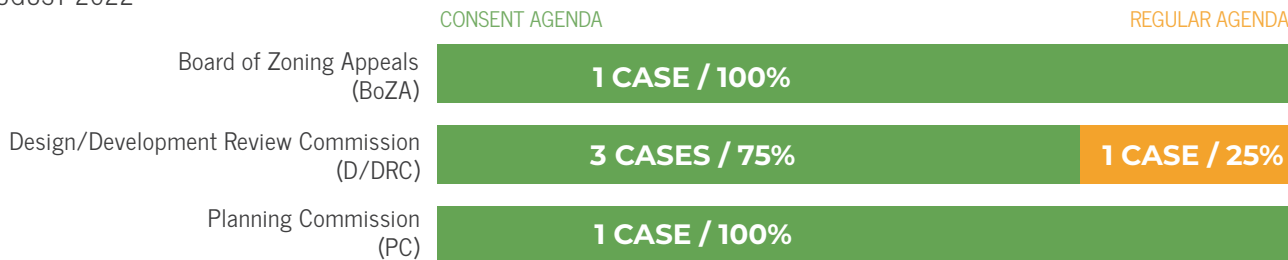
Getting Started

Helping Facilitate the Development Process in August



LAND USE BOARDS & COMMISSION REVIEWS

AUGUST 2022

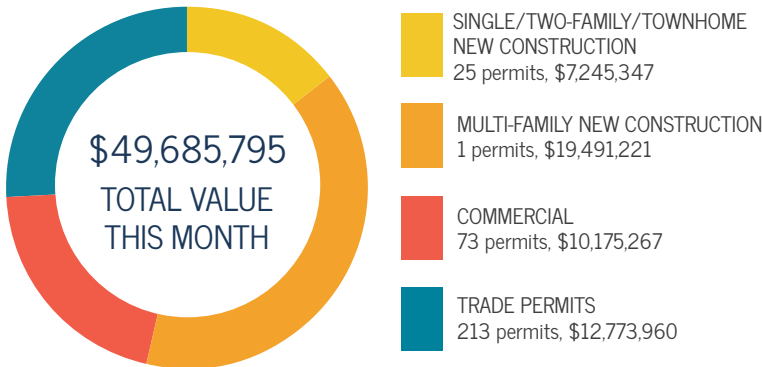


Under Construction

Permits Issued in August

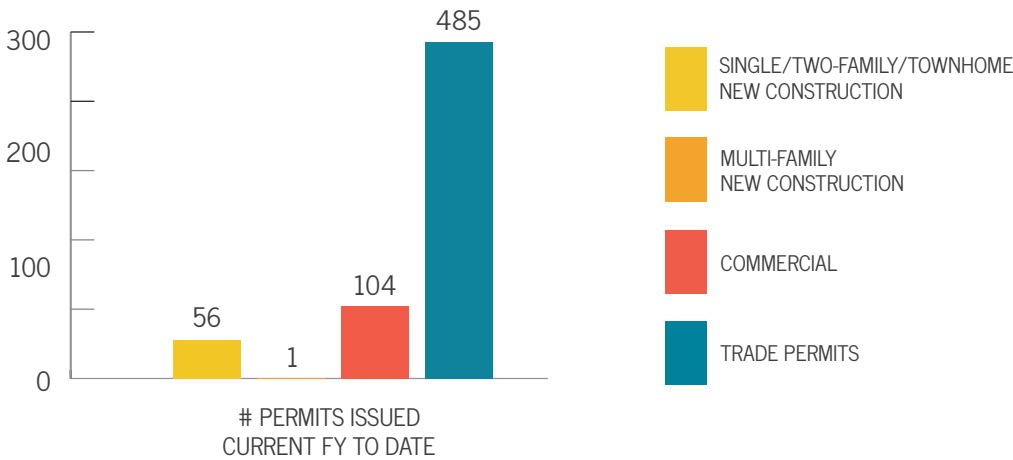
PERMIT VALUATION & NUMBER OF PERMITS

PERMITS ISSUED AUGUST 2022



Did you know?

The City will adopt the 2021 Code Edition in January 2023. Any request for permit submitted to the City after December 31, 2022 will have to follow the 2021 Building Code Editions. For reference, please see [this memo](#) from the South Carolina Building Codes Council.



DESIGN REVIEW

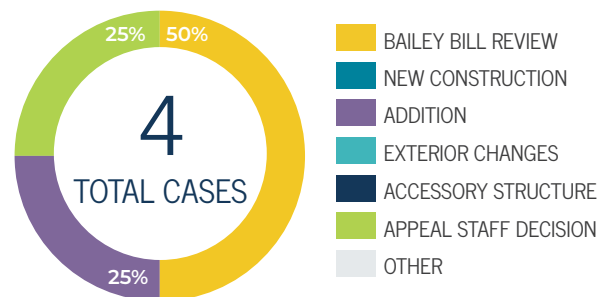
Design review is required for certain projects within the City's urban design and historic preservation zoning overlays. The vast majority of these reviews are completed at the staff level, however certain types of projects require D/DRC review.

All applications for the Bailey Bill tax abatement program must be reviewed by the D/DRC per ordinance; you can learn more about the Bailey Bill and other preservation incentives [here](#).



COMMON D/DRC REQUESTS

CASES HEARD IN AUGUST



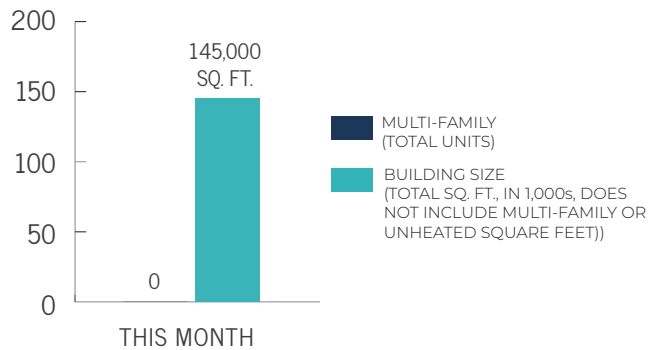
Under Construction

Land Development Reviews

Approval for Major Subdivisions and Major Site Plans is granted at the Planning Commission level, whereas Minor Subdivisions and Minor Site Plans are reviewed solely by staff for compliance with the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). **Major Subdivisions** are subdivisions of lots where platting, construction, opening, or extension of at least one of the following occurs: new streets, improvement of existing streets, water or sewer facilities, storm drainage facilities, and other utilities. **Major Site Plans** propose at least one of the following: nonresidential development of 100,000 square feet or greater, multi-family development of more than 25 units, or the development of new principal uses and structures on a lot.

MAJOR SITE PLANS

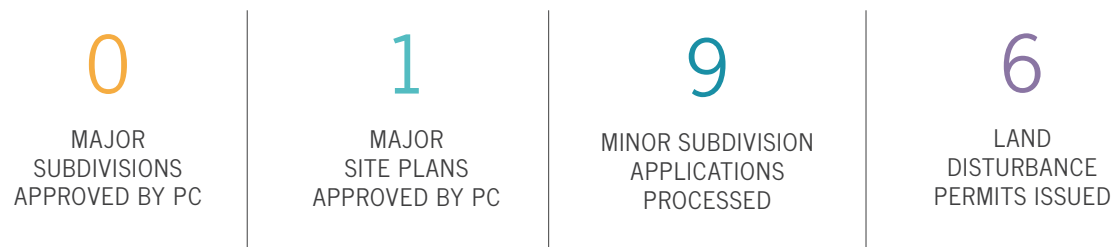
APPROVED BY PC



Are you a design professional?

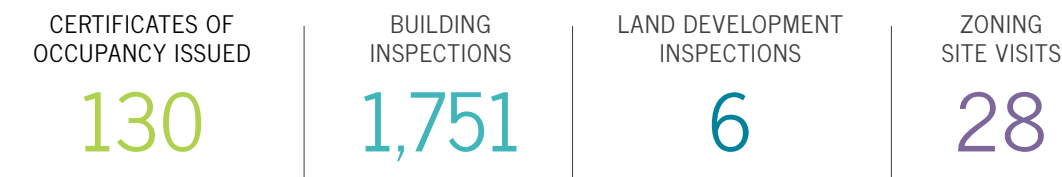
If you are and you haven't signed up for our [online permitting portal](#) yet, now might be a great time to register and familiarize yourself with it. In the near future, we'll be rolling out electronic plan review, or e-review, which will provide applicants with the ability to receive consolidated markups from all reviewers on commercial building plans. E-review will only be accessible through the portal.

BY THE NUMBERS - AUGUST 2022



Ensuring Compliance

Inspection & Enforcement Activities in August



Permitting by the Numbers

Dive into the Details

Permit Type	#
Certificate of Design Approval	22
Commercial Building	74
Commercial Building Trade - Electrical	41
Commercial Building Trade - Gas	8
Commercial Building Trade - Mechanical	22
Commercial Building Trade - Plumbing	31
Construction Trailer	1
Commercial Roofing	3
Demolition (Commercial)	2
Demolition (Residential)	2
Fire Extinguishing System	1
Fire Alarm System	12
Fire Sprinkler System	9
Land Disturbance	6
Residential Building	113
Residential Building Trade - Electrical	39
Residential Building Trade - Gas	14
Residential Building Trade - Mechanical	30
Residential Building Trade - Plumbing	28
Residential Roofing	47
Sign	17
Swimming Pool	8
Urban Forestry	2
Zoning Permit *	10
Zoning Temporary	1
Zoning Wireless Communication Facility	3
Total Permits	546

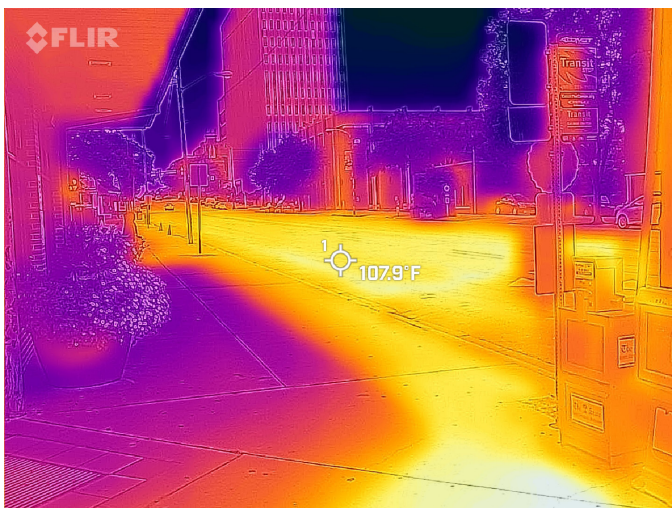
Permits Issued For	This Month	Same Month Last Year	FY to Date	Last FY to Date
Residential Building New One Family/Townhouse	21	50	49	139
Residential Building Two Family	4	0	7	1
Residential Building Renovation	87	93	174	191
Commercial Building	74	32	105	59
Swimming Pools	8	5	18	15
Demolition	4	2	7	5
Zoning Permits	10	10	20	34
Total Value of Buildings	\$60,336,167.88	\$40,266,593.40	\$108,461,704.43	\$78,789,360.25
Total Building Inspections Made	1,751	1,232	3,234	2,501
Total Fees Collected (Includes Business License)	\$349,625.76	\$175,704.35	\$637,076.18	\$384,801.66
Plan Reviews	100	91	206	224
Fees Collected Plan Review	\$3,393.50	\$2,822.00	\$7,699.50	\$7,542.50

* Zoning Permits are combined with Building Permits in the permitting software. The Zoning Permit count is for Zoning Only Permits (fences, temporary signs, Wireless Communication Facilities, etc.)

Volunteers Collect Data for Urban Heat Island Mapping

The Columbia Tree & Appearance Commission, with aid and support from a number of local partners, successfully applied for grant funding to conduct urban heat island mapping in the urban and urbanizing areas of the Midlands. On August 6th and 7th, citizen-scientist volunteers collected data that will help scientists create a map of urban heat impacts across 190 square miles of urban and urbanizing Columbia, West Columbia, Cayce, and Richland County.

What's next? Project partners will be compiling the data into a report, which we expect will be released this Fall on [the project webpage](#). Ready to learn more right away? Check out [Heat.gov](#), a new site recently launched by NIHHS, which includes heat forecasts, climate outlooks, extreme heat predictions, and heat health information, as well as information about the ongoing Heat Watch campaign (which our local program is a part of).



Infrared image of downtown taken at COMET Central (1225 Laurel) shows the disparity between shaded spaces and pavement; temperatures are highest as the image approaches light yellow.

PARK(ing) Day is Friday, September 16th

PARK(ing) Day is an annual open-source global event where citizens, artists, and activists collaborate to temporarily transform metered parking spaces into “PARK(ing)” spaces: temporary public places. This one-day event will be held downtown on Friday, September 16th, with spaces open from 10am - 4pm - so make plans to join in the fun! Learn more at columbiacompass.org/parklets.

Pedestrian & Bicyclist Counts

Do you love to people watch? Are you interested in how people move throughout the City? Are you concerned for the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, you should consider volunteering for the City's semi-annual Pedestrian & Bicyclist Counts! By counting pedestrians and bicyclists, volunteers help to ensure that all of the City's residents count: transit riders, pedestrians, and bicyclists are often not accounted for in traffic studies - the same traffic studies used to make important decisions about our City's landscape. This year's counts are scheduled for Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday mornings, September 10-24. [Sign up here](#).

Want to dig into the data? You can check out a report analyzing data collected through 2021 [here](#).