

Memorandum



Date: July 11, 2016

Agenda Item No. 2(B)4
July 19, 2016

To: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carlos A. Gimenez", is written over the printed name of the Mayor.

Subject: Report on the Expediting of Property Assessment Clean Energy Program Related Building Permits – Directive 160764

This memorandum is in response to Resolution No. R-324-16, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) on April 19, 2016, which directed the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to present recommendations on how to expedite Property Assessment Clean Energy (PACE) Program related building permits.

Projects that qualify for assistance under the PACE Program are described as those that improve a property's energy efficiency or create renewable energy, as well as resistance to wind damage. Currently, permits for a majority of improvements that qualify under the PACE Program can be sought through either the e-permitting system available on the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources' website or under permit categories that were developed to minimize plan review time and result in prompt permit issuance for all permit applicants.

For example, the following PACE Program related projects can immediately obtain permits by completing the necessary forms and paying the required fees through the e-permitting system:

- Replacement of residential roofing systems;
- Installation of storm panels;
- Replacement of cooling and heating systems;
- Replacement of lighting fixtures; and
- Replacement of pool heaters.

Other PACE Program related projects that are not processed through e-permitting because they require plan review are distributed electronically and reviewed concurrently by the required review agencies. In most cases, the review time for these improvements is typically one (1) to five (5) business days. The PACE Program related projects that fall under this category include the following:

- Installation of generators;
- Rooftop or ground mounted photovoltaic systems;
- Solar Water heaters; and
- Accordion shutters.

The Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources will be proposing amendments to Administrative Order 4-120, which defines projects that qualify for expedited permitting, to include PACE Program projects. If approved by the Board, other PACE Program projects that may require a longer review time due to their complexity or unusual nature will be processed by the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources under the expedited plan review program to ensure expedient review and permit issuance.

Among the changes that will be implemented is the modification of the application contact form. Permit applicants are provided, at the time of filing a permit application, a contact form, that allows them to indicate if the project qualifies for any currently established expedite programs (green buildings, government projects, affordable housing, building of economic importance, and job creation). The PACE Program projects will be added to this selection on the contact form.

Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners
Page 2

Additionally, the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources will work with PACE providers to provide information on the available options for expediting permit issuance including e-permitting and the PACE Program permit expedite program. The department's website will be enhanced to promote the program and provide expedite criteria.

Per Ordinance 14-65, this memorandum will be placed on the next available Board of County Commissioners meeting agenda.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Juliana H. Salas, P.E., Building Official, at (786) 315-2334 or via email at jhs1@miamidade.gov.

c: Abigail Price-Williams, County Attorney
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
Lourdes Gomez, Deputy Director, Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
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