



# Development Application Review Methodologies



## Review Methodologies

The City of Scottsdale maintains a business and resident friendly approach to new development and improvements to existing developments. In order to provide for flexibility in the review of Development Applications, and Applications for Permitting, the City of Scottsdale provides two methodologies from which an owner or agent may choose to have the City process the application. The methodologies are:

### **1. Enhanced Application Review Methodology**

Within the parameters of the Regulatory Bill-of-Rights of the Arizona Revised Statutes, the Enhanced Application Review method is intended to increase the likelihood that the applicant will obtain an earlier favorable written decision or recommendation upon completion of the city's reviews. To accomplish this objective, the Enhanced Application Review allows:

- the applicant and City staff to maintain open and frequent communication (written, electronic, telephone, meeting, etc.) during the application review;
- City staff and the applicant to collaboratively work together regarding an application; and
- City staff to make requests for additional information and the applicant to submit revisions to address code, ordinance, or policy deficiencies in an expeditious manner.

Generally, the on-going communication and the collaborative work environment will allow the review of an application to be expedited within the published Staff Review Time frames.

### **2. Standard Application Review Methodology:**

Under the Standard Application Review, the application is processed in accordance with the Regulatory Bill-of-Rights of the Arizona Revised Statutes. These provisions significantly minimize the applicant's ability to collaboratively work with City Staff to resolve application code, ordinance, or policy deficiencies during the review of an application. After the completion the city's review, a written approval or denial, recommendation of approval or denial, or a written request for additional information will be provided.

The City is not required to provide an applicant the opportunity to resolve application deficiencies, and staff is not permitted to discuss or request additional information that may otherwise resolve a deficiency during the time the City has the application. Since the applicant's ability to collaboratively work with Staff's to resolve deficiencies is limited, the total Staff Review Time and the likelihood of a written denial, or recommendation of denial is significantly increased.

In addition to the information above, please review the Development Application, and/or the Application for Permitting flow charts. These flow charts provide a step-by-step graphic representation of the application processes for the associated review methodologies.

Note:

1. Please see the Current Planning Services and Long Range Planning Services Substantive Policy Statements and Staff Review Timeframes for Development Applications, number III.

**Planning and Development Services**

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# Development Application

## Arizona Revised Statutes Notice



### **§9-834. Prohibited acts by municipalities and employees; enforcement; notice**

- A. A municipality shall not base a licensing decision in whole or in part on a licensing requirement or condition that is not specifically authorized by statute, rule, ordinance or code. A general grant of authority does not constitute a basis for imposing a licensing requirement or condition unless the authority specifically authorizes the requirement or condition.
- B. Unless specifically authorized, a municipality shall avoid duplication of other laws that do not enhance regulatory clarity and shall avoid dual permitting to the maximum extent practicable.
- C. This section does not prohibit municipal flexibility to issue licenses or adopt ordinances or codes.
- D. A municipality shall not request or initiate discussions with a person about waiving that person's rights.
- E. This section may be enforced in a private civil action and relief may be awarded against a municipality. The court may award reasonable attorney fees, damages and all fees associated with the license application to a party that prevails in an action against a municipality for a violation of this section.
- F. A municipal employee may not intentionally or knowingly violate this section. A violation of this section is cause for disciplinary action or dismissal pursuant to the municipality's adopted personnel policy.
- G. This section does not abrogate the immunity provided by section 12-820.01 or 12-820.02.

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