

## **Plumbing and Medical Gas Cost Methodology and Proposed Fees**

### **Background**

- Plumbing and Medical Gas Services fees have not been evaluated since 2016. In 2016, the method was simply to survey surrounding health departments and determine if fees needed to be in line or adjusted with the survey. A true cost methodology was not conducted.
- The year or so following COVID allowed for two things:
  1. The construction industry and work demand stabilized to represent a more normal business cycle.
  2. FCPH staffing was brought up to full strength with the addition of interim inspectors and the use of a contractor inspector was reduced.
- There is no "script" or spreadsheet that the state provides to perform cost methodology for plumbing and medical gas services like they do for pools, campgrounds, and body art, but very similar principles were applied.
- Our contract cities issue plumbing permits and follow our fee schedule. The cities retain 40% of their permit fees and FCPH is given 60% of the permit fee.

### **Cost Methodology**

- Program Costs:
  - Compiled all direct program and administrative staff wages and fringe, and anticipated costs.
  - Compiled all direct program costs and anticipated program costs.
  - Accounted for annual software licenses, some implementation costs, and maintenance costs of Accela.
- Revenue Sources:
  - Contractor Registration
  - Plan Review
  - Expedited Plan Review (new)
  - Permits
  - Reinspection Fees
  - Outside Business Hours Inspections
- Two Distinct Staff Functions:
  - Costs and revenue sources were divided into two functions or groups to account for and accurately recover costs.
    - Administrative – Administrative assistants, supervisor, division manager, and technology (Accela user licenses – including contract cities)
    - Inspectors – Plumbing inspectors, contractor, and technology (Accela user licenses and mobile app)

### **Proper Use of Proposed Fees**

- Create full sustainability and ensure growth of the plumbing and medical gas programs.
- The proposed plumbing permit fees will also increase revenue for our contract cities where permits are issued.



<b>ADMINISTRATIVE &amp; TECHNOLOGY EXPENSES</b>	
Wages, Fringe, Direct Staff Costs	\$ 407,214.05
Accela License for Polital Subdivsions (17)	\$ 44,509.06
Accela Enhancements	\$ 75,000.00
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE &amp; TECHNOLOGY EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (526,723.11)</b>
<b>PROJECTED REVENUE</b>	
Projected Contractor Registration	\$ 50,500.00
Projected Administrative and Technology Fee	\$ 539,730.00
<b>PROJECTED TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 590,230.00</b>
<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>\$ 63,506.89</b>

<b>INSPECTOR EXPENSES</b>	
Wages, Fringe, Direct Staff Costs	\$ 701,693.05
Plumbing Inspector Contractor	\$ 50,000.00
Miscellaneous Program Costs	\$ 6,000.00
<b>TOTAL INSPECTOR EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (757,693.05)</b>
<b>PROJECTED REVENUE</b>	
Projected Fixture Revenue	\$ 990,740.00
Projected Plan Review	\$ 32,000.00
Projected Expedited Plan Review	\$ 10,000.00
Projected Reinspection Fees	\$ 15,000.00
Projected Outside Business Hours Inspections	\$ 5,000.00
<b>PROJECTED REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,052,740.00</b>
<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>\$ 295,046.95</b>



FEE TYPE	CURRENT FEES	PROPOSED FEES
<b>Contractor Registration</b>		
Plumbing Contractor Registration	\$ 200.00	\$ 250.00
HVAC Contractor Registration	\$ 200.00	\$ 250.00
<b>Commercial Plan Review</b>		
Plumbing Plan Review Commercial Admin/Tech Fee	N/A	\$ 135.00
Plumbing Plan Review Commercial Expedited (3 business days)	N/A	\$ 1,000.00
Plan Review per hour (0.5 minimum with .25 intervals after)	N/A	\$ 80.00
1-5 Fixtures	\$ 50.00	N/A
6-20 Fixtures	\$ 75.00	N/A
21-40 Fixtures	\$ 130.00	N/A
41 or More Fixtures	\$ 200.00	N/A
<b>Residential Plan Review</b>		
Plumbing Plan Review Residential Admin/Tech Fee	N/A	\$ 135.00
Plumbing Plan Review Residential Expedited (3 business days)	N/A	\$ 1,000.00
Plan Review per hour (0.5 minimum with .25 intervals after)	N/A	\$ 80.00
<b>Medical Gas Plan Review</b>		
Medical Gas Plan Review Admin/Tech Fee	N/A	\$ 135.00
Medical Gas Plan Review Expedited (3 business days)	N/A	\$ 1,000.00
Plan Review per hour (0.5 minimum with .25 intervals after)	N/A	\$ 80.00
Base Plan Review Fee	\$ 290.00	N/A
1-20 Outlets/Fixtures (cost each)	\$ 7.00	N/A
21 and Up Outlet/Fixtures (cost each)	\$ 1.00	N/A
<b>Plumbing Permits</b>		
Commercial Plumbing Permit Admin/Tech Fee	\$ 60.00	\$ 135.00
Per Fixture Cost	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00
Residential Plumbing Permit Admin/Tech Fee	\$ 60.00	\$ 135.00
Per Fixture Cost	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00
Installation Without Permit	Double Fees	Double Fees
<b>Medical Gas Permits</b>		
Medical Gas Permit Admin/Tech Fee	N/A	\$ 135.00
Medical Gas Systems (each)	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00
Outlets/Fixtures	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00
Installation Without Permit	Double Fees	Double Fees
<b>Other Inspection Fees (Plumbing and Med Gas)</b>		
Outside Business Hours Inspection (3 days prior approval and payment up front)	\$ 500.00	\$ 750.00
Reinspection Fee	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00