



Metro Codes

E—News For Professionals

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

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Metro Issues First "Green" Building Permit



Jimmy, Kerry and Jim McLean of J2K receive the first Green Building Permit from Codes and Building Safety Chief Plans Examiner Joey Hargis

An affordable single-family home in North Nashville will be the first one built under the Metropolitan Codes and Building Safety Department's new "Green Permit" program.

J2K Builders and Quirk Designs filed plans for a 920-square-foot home at 1223 Phillips Street, with construction scheduled to start in March.

"Building green is the thing to do," J2K co-owner and Metro Planning Commission chairman Jim McLean said. "It will cost a little more for us to build it, but the homeowner will save in the long run."

McLean said protecting our environment is really everyone's business. "Whether or not there is global warming is for someone else to decide,

but if we can save a tree, then that is what we will do. I think it is my responsibility as a builder to help the future," he said. Codes and Building Safety Director Terry Cobb said that sustainable design and construction is critical for the entire community.

"Green building is a common sense construction using environmentally friendly products. Sustainable and construction produces a better community and a better way of life for all of us," Cobb said.

Cobb explained the role of the Codes and Building Safety Department is simple:

When a builder applies for a permit under this program, the builder expresses their intent for the project to be completed utilizing either the US Green Building Council's LEED for Homes program or from Earthcraft Homes program. In order for a Green Occupancy permit to be issued, there has to be a third party (in this case either LEED or Earthcraft verification that the standards have been met.

"If the proof of certification is presented, the building will receive a "Green Certificate of Occupancy" thus establishing a permanent and public record of the certification, Cobb said.

Barbara Sloss Named Customer Service Supervisor



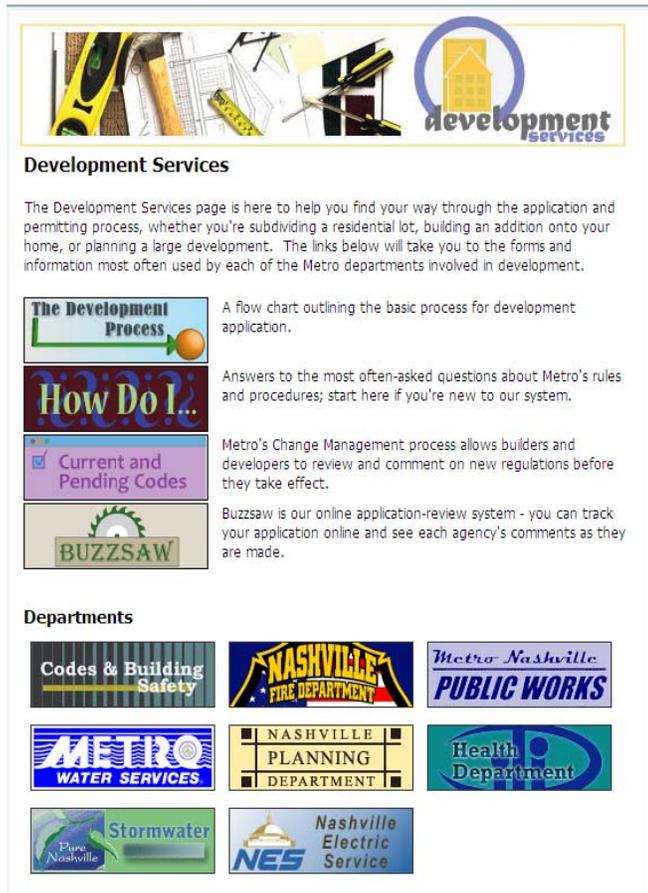
Barbara Sloss has been promoted to Customer Services Supervisor for Inspection Services, according to Director Terry Cobb.

"Barbara has been a valuable staff member in our department for more than nine years. Her hard work and pleasant disposition has been invaluable to us and we are please she is in a leadership position," Mr. Cobb said.

MAYOR ANNOUNCES ONLINE 'ONE STOP SHOP' FOR DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

Web site launched out of collaboration between Planning, Codes, other Metro departments

Mayor Karl Dean announced as part of his economic development initiatives the launch of a new Metro Web site which will make it easier for builders, developers, and homeowners to get construction permits and development-related information.



Development Services

The Development Services page is here to help you find your way through the application and permitting process, whether you're subdividing a residential lot, building an addition onto your home, or planning a large development. The links below will take you to the forms and information most often used by each of the Metro departments involved in development.

- The Development Process**: A flow chart outlining the basic process for development application.
- How Do I...**: Answers to the most often-asked questions about Metro's rules and procedures; start here if you're new to our system.
- Current and Pending Codes**: Metro's Change Management process allows builders and developers to review and comment on new regulations before they take effect.
- BUZZSAW**: Buzzsaw is our online application-review system - you can track your application online and see each agency's comments as they are made.

Departments

- Codes & Building Safety
- NASHVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
- Metro Nashville PUBLIC WORKS
- METRO WATER SERVICES
- NASHVILLE PLANNING DEPARTMENT
- Health Department
- Stormwater
- Nashville Electric Service

The Development Services site at www.nashville.gov/ds makes the process faster and more convenient by bringing the necessary information together in one easily-navigated location. It was developed over the last six months with input from the development community and customers of Metro departments involved in the development process.

The site will also include continually updated information on proposed changes in codes, rules, and regulations, along with a way for developers and the public to comment on those changes as they are being considered.

"As a government, we need to do all that we can to make it easier for companies and individuals to navigate the process for building and developing in our city, and to be involved as that process is changed" Dean said.

"Over the last several years, Nashville has been moving towards a development and permit process that reflects the best practices of our time with documents submitted and reviewed online, and inspection reports completed in real time. This site brings all of those tools together, and I applaud the Metro departments that collaborated to make it possible."

The Web site has links and information from all Metro departments and affiliates involved in the developing and permitting process, including Planning, Codes, Fire, Health, Public Works, Water and Nashville Electric Service.

Rick Bernhardt, Executive Director of the Metro Planning Department, said, "It will make the permit process faster and easier for everyone – from large developers to individual homeowners."

Terry Cobb, Director of the Department of Codes and Building Safety, said: "It'll be a useful tool for homeowners and a powerful resource for businesses who are considering investment, development, relocation, expansion or construction in Nashville."

The Development Services site is the latest step in Metro's efforts to streamline the development process. Metro has also installed computer programs to allow customers to electronically submit plans online for proposed construction projects. A single set of plans can now be reviewed electronically and concurrently across departments, meaning all Metro departments can comment on the same set of construction plans within the same time frame.

The online plan review program, as well as the review process and comments, are completely transparent to the permit applicant. This allows greater interaction and communication between departments, minimizing potential inconsistencies or conflicts and saving customers time and money.

Belmont University was the first to file plans for a major project online with their new Pharmaceutical School.

"When completed, this Development Web portal connects all the departments, all the development and permit processes, and all the pieces into an online One Stop Shop for those needing information to efficiently navigate our regulatory processes. ."

--Director Terry Cobb

Mayor Accepts MECCC Contribution From Codes



Pictured from left to right is Mayor Karl Dean, Carla Langley, Codes MECCC program chair, Terry Cobb, Director of Codes & Building Safety and Cynthia Croom, Metro MECCC Chair.

Save The Date—Codes Announces Annual Golf Tournament October 17, 2009

The 13th Annual Metro Codes Charity Golf Tournament will be held on October 17, 2009 at the Ted Rhodes Golf Course.

Last year's tournament, through the support of 128 golfers and 99 sponsors, resulted in yet a new record \$28,000 being donated to three local charities through the Metro Employees Consolidated Charities Campaign (MECCC).

This year, all proceeds will again go to the MECCC for the benefit of local charities.

MAYOR ANNOUNCES COMPLETION OF GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY Nashville on par with national average, below Tennessee

Mayor Karl Dean announced today the completion of the first comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory in Nashville, which measured greenhouse gas emissions produced by residential, commercial, industrial and municipal activities in all of Davidson County.

Nashville Electric Service and the Mayor's Green Ribbon Committee commissioned Gresham Smith and Partners to work with the Metro Health Department to conduct the inventory. The Health Department collected emissions data using software from ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, a non profit organization that assists local governments with sustainability planning.

The inventory found that Nashville produces 23.9 tons of carbon dioxide or equivalent gases per capita, which is similar to estimates of the United States overall, and lower than Tennessee estimates of 24.9. The operations of Metro Government, including Metro Nashville Public Schools, accounted for only 5 percent of the total greenhouse gas emissions in Davidson County.

"This inventory was critical for providing us a baseline from which we can move forward and begin to implement changes in Metro and across the city to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions," said Dean. "I appreciate Decosta Jenkins, President and CEO of NES for making this inventory possible."

"My hope is for individuals and businesses across Davidson County to see what we're doing and implement similar practices. Together we can improve the quality of life for all of us and make our city, and our world, a better place in which to live."

--Mayor Karl Dean

Dean is a signatory to the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection agreement, which voluntarily commits Nashville to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012.

The Green Ribbon Committee will make its recommendations to the mayor next month, which are expected to include some proposals specific to improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"Metro Government will be making strong efforts to lead by example and reduce its own emissions," said Jenna Smith, Environmental and Sustainability Manager for the Mayor's Office and liaison to the Green Ribbon Committee. "At the same time, this data underscores the importance of overall community support as we work together toward a greener Nashville. The actions of every business and every resident have a meaningful impact on our emission levels."

The inventory was commissioned in November 2008 and took three months to complete. The complete report can be read online at www.nashville.gov.

Correction Notice: It was reported in a previous edition of this newsletter that Mr. Lon West was a member of the American Bar Association and the American Planning Association. That information was incorrect, he is not a member of either organization. He is a member of the Vice-Mayor's sign task Force and he is licensed to practice law in the State of Tennessee.

Codes Welcomes Not 1, But 2 New Plumbing Inspectors



Two new professionals have joined the Codes and Building Safety team as Andrea Hall and Ken Faircloth became Plumbing Inspectors, according to Terry Cobb, department director.

"We are very happy to have them both here. Their experience and professional demeanor will be major assets for us," Cobb said.

Hall joined the Codes and Building Safety staff in December of last year as a plumbing inspector. She is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University with a bachelor's degree. She is a licensed master plumber as well.

As a quality control manager for Northwest Plumbing, she was responsible for inspections of all installations including all stages of jobs from slab, rough-in to trim to final inspections as well as being responsible for reviewing plans and specifications for compliance with plumbing codes. In addition, she trained subcontractor crews and service technicians while managing the company's inventory of supplies.

Faircloth became a Codes and Building safety-plumbing inspector last fall.

A native of Nashville, he brings a variety of experience to the position.

In 2008, he served at the Vinson Group as a plumber where he worked in all phases of the company.

Prior to this, he worked for Jimmy Gleaves Plumbing as well as R & D Plumbing. His duties included plumbing installations well as supervision of both commercial and residential plumbing projects.



Codes Announces Upcoming Inspector Training Events

The Department of Codes & Building Safety will participate in a training session for its inspection staff on Thursday, February 26, 2008. The courses are Commercial and Residential Plan Review and Overview of the IRC.

All of the Codes inspection staff are certified in various occupational specialties. In order to maintain those certifications each staff member must participate in a continuing education program.

As a result of this continuing educational training, there will be no inspection services available on February 26th. Those having inspections that may be due during this week should schedule their inspections either the day before or the day after this training event.

**Department of
Codes & Building Safety**

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Mayor—Karl F. Dean

Director—Terrence Cobb

Office Hours: Mon-Fri / 7:30-4:00



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Pass the word about our newsletter! We would be honored if you would share our newsletter with your colleagues and co-workers. If anyone would like to sign up to receive it themselves, they just need to send us their email, and we will be happy to "Pass It On" to them.

Terry Cobb and **Wade Hill** welcome your feedback on our e-newsletter. Please send your comments to **Wade Hill**, at wade.hill@nashville.gov
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For information regarding accessibility, please contact Manley Biggers at (615) 862-6521 or fax (615) 862-6499. He can also be reached at manley.biggers@nashville.gov