

Resolution Authorizing the City-County Inspections Department
to Charge the Durham Housing Authority for Permits in the Same Manner as
Charged for Other Profit and Non-Profit Entities

WHEREAS, the City Council has directed that to the extent practicable, the City-County Inspections Department recover its costs, as approved in the annual budget, through a schedule of fees for inspections-related services;

WHEREAS, the Department has established a uniform schedule of fees for various permits, and those fees are charged to both profit and nonprofit entities involved in the construction, renovation, and repair of buildings;

WHEREAS, in November, 1989, the City Council through resolution directed that the Durham Housing Authority not be required to pay applicable fees for permits issued by the Inspections Department;

WHEREAS, a review of comparable surrounding jurisdictions, as well as a review of Durham's "Peer Cities", indicates that all other jurisdictions charge their local Housing Authorities for all permits issued for construction/renovation/repair projects;

WHEREAS, the ongoing recession has resulted in a slow-down of building activity, and loss of permit revenue, and, as a result, the City-County Inspections Department has been required to reduce its staff by 10 positions (a 22% reduction) over the past two years;

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the decrease in construction, the loss of inspectors is anticipated to negatively impact the Department's ability to perform inspections in a timely and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to reconsider and to rescind the City's policy of allowing the Durham Housing Authority to receive, at no charge, building, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical permits, plan reviews, and field inspections;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Durham City Council directs the City Administration to charge permit fees to the Durham Housing Authority and its agents and contractors in the same manner as they are charged to other profit and nonprofit entities.

All resolutions in conflict with this resolution, and in particular Resolution #7343, are hereby rescinded.