

Statement of Issued Building Permits and Application Intake for Second Quarter of 2009 (April 2009 to June 2009)

While the overall construction value of issued building permits for the first two quarters of the year is approximately 60 percent lower than that for the same period last year, the City is seeing an increase in the number of enquiries related to development and building permit applications. At the same time it should be noted that the overall construction value of issued building permits for the second quarter of the year increased by approximately 8 percent when compared to the first quarter of this year.

With the exception of construction aimed at mercantile and industrial occupancies, there is a decrease in value of construction for issued building permits when compared to the same period last year. The value of construction for residential type construction is approximately 60 percent lower than it was for the same period last year. The value of construction for issued building permits related to mercantile construction is about the same as it was for the same period last year, however the year to date value for industrial construction has increased from approximately \$7.5 million in 2008 to \$14.3 million in 2009.

Generally speaking the total value of construction for issued residential building permits (homes and apartments) over the second quarter of the year was about the same as that of the first quarter. However, the number of building permits issued for new one family homes including homes with secondary suites more than doubled in the second quarter of this year when compared to the first quarter.

With respect to development and building permit applications, the first quarter of 2009 saw an overall decrease for all permit types over the same period in 2008. This trend continued into the second quarter, with some recent significant increases in Development and Building permit applications.

The number of enquiries continues to be substantially greater than that of 2008. Enquiries are focused on small residential (Home Renovation Tax Credit, Laneway Housing, changes to regulations regarding basements) and changes to small businesses.

Our data continues to appear to indicate that there is a change in the type of construction activity - more renovation rather than the construction of new buildings.

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