



# **Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee Meeting**

**Permitting Division**

May 6, 2025

# New Priorities Reflected in Permitting Process

- Development in UKC can be challenging and time consuming
  - Many complicated codes
  - Thousands of permit applications annually are first-come-first-served
- Recognized emergent and community infrastructure needs
  - Partnership with community leaders and elected officials
  - Provide a quicker path and resources to address the need



# Prioritization: Daycare & Affordable Housing Facilities

- King County Council priority permits as of Q1 2025

Wireless Communication

Emergency Requests

Aerospace

Fish Passage

School Permits

Disaster Repair

WSDOT Shoreline

Medical Hardship

Emergency Repair

Homeless Encampments

**Commercial Daycares**

**Affordable Housing**

- Added emergent need for child daycare and affordable housing stock
- Prioritization applies to:
  - Affordable Housing: 50% of units at 70% AMI or less
  - Daycares: Commercial child daycares
- Priority permits jump the line at every stage



# Daycare Facilities & Affordable Housing: Continuous Improvement

- Clarify Permitting's role as impartial reviewing agency
- Priority status does not reduce/exempt code compliance

## Guidance on how to be successful with this process:

- Start with a knowledgeable design team, with experience in KC codes and processes
- A quality permit application is critical to success
- Recognize the differences between developing a new facility versus converting from existing structures
- Account for true development costs, especially when funding constraints are involved
- Engage community early in the process
- Engage Permitting team early in the process



# Permitting Prioritization: Continued Support

- As community priorities shift, our goal is to be adaptable as an agency
- Opportunity to expand the knowledge base of design professionals and applicants
- This work is not possible without the skilled professionals at Permitting

