

Director's Office, 350 Winter St. NE, Room 200, Salem, Oregon 97301-3878

For immediate release:
April 6, 2007

For more information:
Joan Stevens-Schwenger,
503-373-1313

Corvallis to offer electronic permitting

City joins state's one-stop Web service for construction contractors

(Salem) — Obtaining construction permits in the Corvallis area just got easier — and a lot more convenient.

Beginning today, Corvallis joins 13 other Oregon building departments in offering one-stop shopping for over-the-counter mechanical and electrical permits at www.BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov. The site allows contractors to apply and pay for multiple permits from multiple building departments through one convenient Web site at any time of the day or night, on workdays, weekends, and holidays.

“Corvallis is very excited to implement the online permitting portal,” said Dan Carlson, Corvallis Development Services manager. “The easy-to-use portal is also accessed locally through the www.CorvallisPermits.com Web site and blends well into current technology initiatives in Corvallis.”

Corvallis recently implemented electronic field inspection devices and is beginning to offer instant e-mailed correction notices to applicants.

“Our expectation is this will expedite the permit process, enhance customer service, and encourage sustainable business practices, all while giving contractors the ability to obtain permits online anytime 24/7,” Carlson said.

Josie Sykes of Mike's Heating and Air in Corvallis said the new online system will enhance the City of Corvallis' already customer service friendly services.

“The new online system will be quick and easy and will expedite the permitting process for everyone involved,” Sykes said. “We look forward to being able to accomplish more with the time that will be saved, which in the long term means savings for the customer, the actual beneficiary.”

The Web site, www.BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov, is hosted by the state Department of Consumer and Business Services' Building Codes Division. Building departments in the Portland-metro area, Medford, Cannon Beach, Lane County, Springfield, and Eugene offer permitting services through the site.

The e-permitting program is part of Gov. Kulongoski's regulatory streamlining initiative. House Bill 2405, introduced at the request of the governor during this legislative session, would expand the existing program to create the nation's first comprehensive statewide e-building program that would allow contractors to conduct more building department activities, such as receiving plan approval and scheduling inspections, online, morning, noon, and night, with any city or county in the state.

###

The Building Codes Division, part of the Department of Consumer and Business Services, provides building code development, administration, inspection, plan review, licensing, and permit services to the construction industry to help ensure the safe and effective construction of structures in Oregon.

The Department of Consumer and Business Services, Oregon's largest regulatory agency, administers state laws and rules, and protects consumers and workers in the areas of workers' compensation, occupational safety and health, financial services, insurance, building codes, and targeted contracting opportunities for small business. For more information, visit www.dcbs.oregon.gov.