



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

HPAC Work Group Recommendation Template

Last Update: June 21, 2023

Work Group

- Availability of land
- Land development permit applications
- Codes and design
- Workforce shortages
- Financing

Recommendation

The following timelines shall apply to franchise utilities in housing projects exceeding 10 housing units:

Electrical: A Final Electrical Design shall be provided to an applicant within 60 days of receipt of civil engineering design.

Natural Gas: A Final Natural Gas Design shall be provided to an applicant within 45 days of receipt of Final Electrical Design and civil engineering design.

Communications: A Final Communications Design shall be provided to an applicant 45 days of receipt of Final Electrical Design and civil engineering design.

Note: This recommendation generally applies to joint trench franchise utility installations.

Related Work Plan Topics

12. Provide some oversight to utility companies to ensure they are working quickly with development to provide power and designs. It isn't uncommon to request a design from a power company and not hear for months from them.

Adoption of Recommendation

Consensus at group meeting

Co-chairs Guidance: Standards for Analysis

1. Clearly describe the housing production issue that the recommended action(s) will address.

A source of major delay (and therefore an increase cost) in many development projects often occurs when franchise utility designs slow the permitting process. This recommendation sets limits to assure housing projects are expedited.

2. Provide an overview of the housing production issue, including quantitative/qualitative context if available.

While we are still waiting for a summary from PUC, our understanding is that there are no binding statewide deliverable requirements for franchise utilities.

3. To assess the issue and potential action(s), include subject matter experts representing all sides of the issue in work group meetings, including major government, industry, and stakeholder associations.

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4. Provide an overview of the expected outcome of the recommended action(s), including quantitative/qualitative context if available.

Our expectation is that in some cases this could reduce the permitting period by 6-9 months depending on the project, location and entity providing services.

5. Estimate of the time frame (*immediate, short, medium, long-term*), feasibility (*low, medium, high*), and cost (*low, medium, high*) for implementation of the recommended action(s).

**Time frame Short
Feasibility: High
Cost: Lost.**

6. Provide a general overview of implementation, the who and how for the recommended action(s).

Likely this would be implemented by amending existing franchise agreements as a result of statutory changes from this recommendation.

7. Outline the data and information needed for reporting to track the impact and implementation of the recommended action(s).

Likely cities would require developers to provide documentation of the length of time which design work is issued by the individual franchise utility. 1

8. Identify any major externalities, unknowns, tradeoffs, or potential unintended consequences.

The greatest hurdle will likely be when housing is “booming,” design departments will struggle to satisfy these timeline requirements.

Please include any relevant reports, data analyses, presentations, or other documents that would be informative and useful for the full HPAC as the recommendation is discussed and considered.