

Operational Metrics

A set of general operational data points and measures are captured by department managers during regular business and included in the quarterly reporting package. The report is separated by functional areas. While additional work is required to consolidate or create new data points and develop success indicators for both service delivery and progress on Council’s Strategic Plan to bring a more contextually relevant picture forward, this section offers a brief summary of analysis of operational performance in key focus areas.

Planning and Development Services

Council has invested significantly in the department with the addition of two new full time building official roles for 2026 (1x permanent and 1x one-year temporary). This investment has had an immediate return in terms of increasing department output and reducing permit timelines.

The tables below illustrate some of the improvements in output from the building team.

Building	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
	2026/2025				
Building Permits Received	42/50	/57	/41	/38	/186
Building Permits Issued	35/23	/24	/23	/22	/92
Dwelling Unit Applications Received	18/83	/15	/55	/48	/153
Dwelling Units Permitted	14/9	/18	/60	/5	/92
Construction Value of Permits Issued	\$9,467,558 /\$7,883,340	/14,597,519	/34,818,635	/3,545,131	/60,844,625
Note: Building Permits for this reporting do not include plumbing permits, solid fuel burning appliances, and demolition permits. Dwelling units created refers to permits issued, not construction completed.					

Insights

- Q1 results indicate a ~50% increase in permit output compared to Q1 2025. This increase in permit issuance has also enabled ~50% more housing units being permitted.

Planning	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Development Variance Permit Applications (Minor)	5/1	/9	/3	/10	/23
Development Variance Permit Applications (Major)	2/1	/2	/1	/2	/6
Form and Character Development Permit Applications	3/1	/6	/4	/2	/13

Hazard Lands Development Permit Applications	17/15	/12	/9	/9	/45
Bylaw Amendment Applications	1/0	/1	/0	/1	/2
Watercourse Protection Development Permit Applications	2/0	/1	/1	/2	/4
Subdivision Applications	4/6	/5	/5	/3	/19

Insights

- Q1 for the planning team has been busy, with an increase in most application types when compared with Q1 of 2025.

Application Type	Applications Waiting for Review	Application Date of File Next up for Review
Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Multi-Family	20	January 8, 2026
Residential - Detached Dwellings, Additional Dwellings	7	March 25, 2026
Residential - Alterations, Decks, Sheds, Garages, etc.	5	March 27, 2026
Demolition	1	April 14, 2026
Plumbing	1	March 27, 2026
Table source from April 20, 2026: https://www.fernie.ca/EN/main/city/departments-services/planning-development-services/permit-timelines.html		

Insights

- Notably, the time for Application Date of File Next Up for Review has dropped dramatically since the end of 2025, with ~120 days being reported on the website in early January, to less than ~30 days being noted at the time of this reporting.