

# WHY DO YOU NEED A PERMIT EXPEDITER?

A PERMIT EXPEDITER SERIES BY PERMIT ADVISORS



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# Why Do You Need a Permit Expediter?

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From the outside perspective, the idea of permit expediting may appear to be complicated. The United States alone is made up of dozens of states, which consist of hundreds of cities and jurisdictions, all with their own set guidelines. The idea of knowing the ins and outs of each one to properly expedite a permit can be daunting to a new Expediter.

Luckily, with a diligent mind and the willingness to learn, it is possible that anyone can become a competent Permit Expediter able to obtain permits smoothly and efficiently. A large part of the permitting process is the information you seek individually before each project, but the purpose of this collection is to be a guide to come back to whenever a problem arises.

After reading this series, you should have the fundamentals ready to begin your permitting process confidently and with excitement for the finished product.

Before we delve into the specific guidelines to follow when becoming a permit expeditor, it is important to go over what exactly is a Permit Expediter and why do I need one?



# What Is a Permit Expediter?

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A Permit Expediter is a middleman between a construction project manager and the city where they are hoping their project can be built. A company, developer, architect, or other third party may hire an expeditor to handle the entire permit process for them. This expeditor makes sure that the process of getting your permit approved is one that is smooth, efficient, and without too many headaches. Permit Expeditors jump into the action straight away, from the very beginning of your project they take over and handle all the task items that you are too busy to deal with. They communicate with the cities, find solutions to complications that arise, and handle all the submittals and reviews for you. With the help of a Permit Expediter, you can sit back and focus on the crucial aspects regarding your project.

## Common Duties of a Permit Expediter:

- **Due Diligence**
- **Records Research**
- **Project Pre-Submittal**
- **Assess Conditions of Approval**
- **Site Visits**
- **Quality Control**
- **Project Submittal**
- **Post Permit Revisions**
- **Negotiation**
- **Status Reporting**



# Why Should I Hire a Permit Expediter?

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Often, on a construction project, a project manager might prefer not to budget for a Permit Expediter. They assume that the process of obtaining a permit in the United States is simple and a task they can figure out relatively easily with the help of their local jurisdiction.

Halfway through the permitting process, they quickly realize this is not the case. Obtaining approvals on permits can be a long and tedious journey. Various jurisdictions have different rules and if you are not familiar with them, it can set you back months.

## 1. Access to the Jurisdiction

Permit Expeditors work closely with multiple cities daily. It is their job to know every detail and requirement of a jurisdiction. By working on various projects consistently with a certain city, it is common for Permit Expeditors to begin to form friendships with city officials and managers. These relationships prove to be a useful tool when permitting a project. If a conflict emerges and the Permit Expediter needs to quickly find a solution, one of the best resources are the city managers with who you have worked with before. In most cases, they are happy to work with you to solve the issue, and sometimes all it takes is someone within the jurisdiction to lend a hand to move things along.



## 2. Knowledge of Requirements

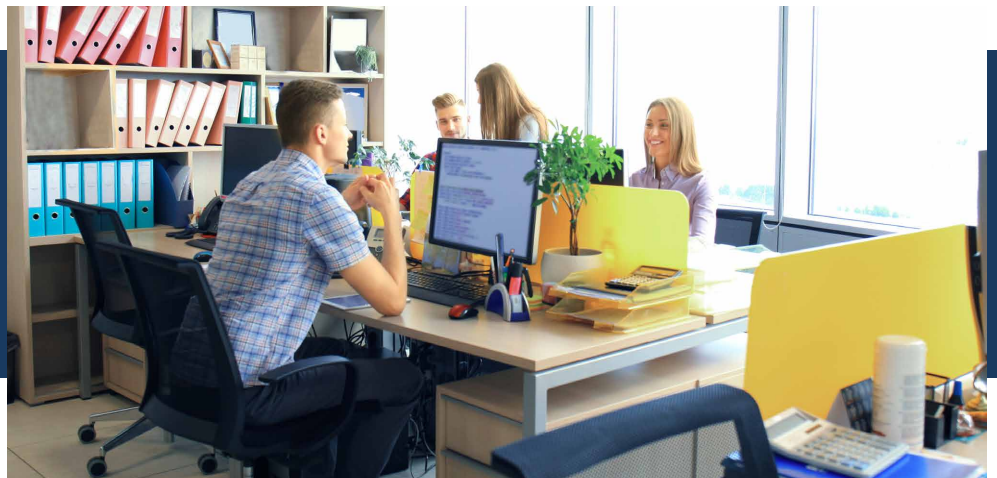
Permit Expeditors also bring extensive knowledge of tiny details that escape everyday project managers. Each city district has different rules that you need to follow to achieve approval on your permit submittal. Some may ask that you submit with a certain list of requirements, while others may have a completely dissimilar set of prerequisites. In worst-case scenarios, one mistake can set you back months in getting your permit approved, which is catastrophic if you are planning on meeting your scheduled construction start date. Having a Permit Expediter who knows all the specifics there is about submitting a permit to a particular city can be a lifesaver. They can provide a comprehensive Due Diligence prior to the permit process starting that breaks down everything you need to know to prepare yourself. Using this information, an Expediter can strategize for the best plan of action to getting an approval. An experienced Permit Expediter should have a clear track to approval from the very beginning. Of course, complications can always arise, but with the right Expediter, the complications should not even be a blip on your radar.

## 3. Freedom to Focus on Your Own Work

With a Permit Expediter doing all the heavy work, you can sit back and focus on the tasks that matter most to you: getting your project to construction. Obtaining permits is just one small step in the pre-construction phase of a development and being able to trust that step with an experienced Expediter is a huge weight lifted from your shoulders. A good Permit Expediter provides clear communication so that you are consistently aware of the status of your permit and if there is anything you should be concerned about. There should never be a point in your permitting process where you are uncertain about the state of your permit. Communication is key when it comes to dealing with a Permit Expediter.

## 4. Save Money

The idea of hiring an extra person to save you money sounds ridiculous, but for the case of Permit Expediting, it is true. Tiny mistakes in the submittal step can result in months of added time to your permitting process. Revisions and re-submittals cost extra as well as the added expenses due to your project pushing back its start date. With the quality check an Expediter provides, they guarantee that your first submittal has zero mistakes. This is a vital step, because as stated, delays cost your project time and money which is devastating when the project is a large development or roll-out. The money saved avoiding delays and extra costs usually balances out the cost of hiring a Permit Expediter and saves you more money in the long run.







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## ABOUT US:

Permit Advisors was founded over a decade ago by Roy Hasson and has grown to be one of the leading providers in FULL-SERVICE permit expediting and entitlement services in the United States. We understand that building permits can be one of the most tedious and nerve-wracking parts of any construction project. We are here to take that stress off our client's hands and to manage every aspect of the process.

From detailed research and due diligence to quality control on all plans and documents to ensure your submittal package is 100% ready for review, we provide the best solutions to any issue that may arise during the plan-check process. The relationships that we have developed in thousands of municipalities help us succeed where other firms may experience delays.