

Ordinance amending Chapter 14 of Corpus Christi Code to create a fee waiver for residential building permits to construct an accessibility ramp and to reduce permit fees for moving structures.

WHEREAS, the Committee for Persons with Disabilities passed a resolution in support of a waiver for accessibility ramp building permit fees for private residential homes of a person with disabilities on January 9, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Building Code Board of Appeals recommend approval of the ordinance.

Now therefore, be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Corpus Christi, Texas:

SECTION 1. That Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances, Chapter 14 “Development Services,” Article XIII “Development Service Fees,” Section 14-1307 “Reduced Fees” is amended by adding the following language that is underlined (**added**) and deleting the language that is stricken (**deleted**) as delineated below:

Sec. 14-1307. - Reduced fees.

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(c) No fee shall be required for a residential building permit for the construction of an accessibility ramp constructed upon a property where a disabled person resides. An affidavit of residency and medical need shall be provided upon permit application.

SECTION 2. That Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances, Chapter 14 “Development Services” Article XIII “Development Service Fees,” Section 14-1313 “Technical Construction Codes Fee Schedules” is amended by adding the following language that is underlined (**added**) and deleting the language that is stricken (**deleted**) as delineated below:

Sec. 14-1313. – Technical Construction Codes Fee Schedules.

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FEES FOR MOVING STRUCTURES - BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL	AMOUNT OF FEE
House moving permit	\$467.00 <u>\$120.00</u>
Traffic engineering moving route sheet	\$61.00
Relocation survey	\$110.25
Survey Fee (14-306(d))	\$140.00
Mobile home/HUD-code manufactured housing installation permit	\$106.50

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SECTION 3. Publication shall be made in the official publication of the City of Corpus Christi as required by City Charter of the City of Corpus Christi.

SECTION 4. A violation of this ordinance, or requirements implemented under this ordinance, constitutes an offense punishable as provided in Section 14-207 or Section 1-6 of the Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances.

SECTION 5. Severability. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Ordinance, since the same would not have been acted by the City without the incorporation into this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section.

SECTION 5. Effective date. This ordinance takes effect on upon publication.

DRAFT

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the first time and passed to its second reading on this the _____ day of _____, 2019, by the following vote:

Joe McComb _____
Roland Barrera _____
Rudy Garza _____
Paulette M. Guajardo _____
Gil Hernandez _____

Michael Hunter _____
Ben Molina _____
Everett Roy _____
Greg Smith _____

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the second time and passed finally on this the _____ day of _____ 2019, by the following vote:

Joe McComb _____
Roland Barrera _____
Rudy Garza _____
Paulette M. Guajardo _____
Gil Hernandez _____

Michael Hunter _____
Ben Molina _____
Everett Roy _____
Greg Smith _____

PASSED AND APPROVED on this the _____ day of _____, 2019.

ATTEST:

Rebecca Huerta

Joe McComb

THE CORPUS CHRISTI COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
Resolution in Support of a Waiver for Accessibility Ramp Building Permit Fees
for Private Residential Homes of a Person with Disabilities

WHEREAS, the Corpus Christi Committee for Persons with Disabilities supports the oversight of properly constructed structures through the use of building permits. Accessibility ramps are commonly built without proper building permits and in conflict with the requirements set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It is believed that this resolution will promote the use of building permits and the proper construction of accessibility ramps and thereby increase the safety of our community of persons with disabilities.

WHEREAS, funds collected from accessibility ramp building permits contribute to the city's budget, an insignificant amount is collected on an annual basis. During a period from August 2017 to August 2018 the total of \$1081.75 was collected, authorizing the construction of 10 ramps, specifically for private residential homes.

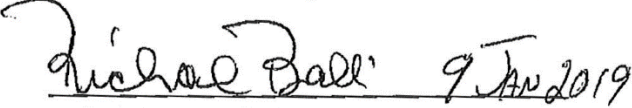
WHEREAS, the design of an accessibility ramp is considerate of many different variables, individual ramps are rather unique. An average accessibility ramp for a residential home requires approximately \$700 in material costs. As of the writing of this resolution, the minimum building permit fee for an accessibility ramp is \$100 and a significant factor in project costs. Given its significance, it is likely that these permit fees discourage citizens from complying with the proper permitting process. Thereby increasing the likelihood of improperly constructed ramps, which expose our citizens with disabilities to a potentially unsafe situation. It is recommended that citizens seeking a building permit for the construction of an ADA accessible ramp, at a private residence of a person with disabilities, be allowed a waiver for the applicable ramp building permit fee.

WHEREAS, organizations such as the Area Agency on Aging of the Coastal Bend and St. Mark's Episcopal Church employ established programs that provide ADA compliant accessibility ramps for citizens of Corpus Christi. These ramps are installed at a citizen's private residential homes, free of charge. These two organizations offer exemplary programs that appreciably increase the quality of life for members of our city's community of persons with disabilities. It is recommended that non-profit agencies, that fund the construction of ADA accessibility ramps at the private residence of a person with disabilities, be allowed a waiver for the applicable ramp building permit fee.

WHEREAS, the safety of our citizens is of the utmost importance, correct construction of accessibility ramps shall be made a priority. It is recommended that prior to the issuance of any accessibility ramp building permit, the permit petitioners and home owners are briefed on the applicable ADA laws and local building best practices by the office of Development Services.

THEREFORE, the Corpus Christi Committee for Persons with Disabilities supports the waiver of building permit fees for the construction of accessibility ramps installed in private residential homes for a period of two years. This committee supports the granting of this waiver to private citizens and non-profit organizations, building an accessibility ramp at a private residence in Corpus Christi. Thus, encouraging the construction of safe accessibility ramps and furthering the diversity of our community through increased accessibility for person with disabilities.

HEREBY, voted and favored by the Committee for Persons with Disabilities and forwarded to the City Council for adoption.

 9 Jan 2019

Richard Balli, Chairperson
Committee for Persons with Disabilities
City of Corpus Christi Texas