

CITY OF MARATHON

Memorandum



Meeting Date: October 8, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor Bartus and City Council Members

Through: Chuck Lindsey, City Manager

From: Douglas Lewis, Growth Management Director/Building Official

Subject: Growth Management Report
July and August, 2019

Code Compliance Department

The Code Department sent 6 notices for Hearing before the Special Magistrate scheduled on August 21, 2019. Prior to the meetings, a total of 4 cases were withdrawn after coming into compliance.

The Code Department sent 8 notices for Hearing before the Special Magistrate scheduled on September 18, 2019. Prior to the meetings, a total of 5 cases were withdrawn after coming into compliance.

The remaining cases went before the Special Magistrate and the rulings are as follows;

Respondents were found in non-compliance: 1
Respondents were present and admitted to the violation: 3
Continued to the next meeting by the Special Magistrate: 1

The next Code Hearing before the Special Magistrate is October 16, 2019 at 2:00 PM at Marathon City Hall Council chambers, 9805 Overseas Highway, Marathon FL. There are currently 8 cases noticed for this Hearing.

Staff Changes

The Code Department has been functioning with an administrative assistant and one code officer. Although short staffed, the department continues to work hard to provide service to the community while we continue to search for an appropriate candidate to fill the second code officer position.

The Code Department continues to work with the City Marina staff to resolve issues with abandoned/derelict vessels, vessels being wet stored in the managed anchorage area and other violations within the City Marina. They also continue to work with Public Works and the Utility Department to resolve violations involving the City right of way as well as any activities that may impact the functioning of the central waste water and storm drainage systems.

The Code Department continues to work with Building and Planning staff to monitor storm damaged properties that have been deemed unsafe and/or Pre-Firm structures that are being reviewed for substantial damage.

Temporary RV Inventory

Since Hurricane Irma, Code Staff has conducted quarterly surveys of RV's deemed to be inhabited by being connected to water, electric and sewer service. City Council had been extending the temporary trailer permits in 90 day increments. Those extensions have expired. The previous inventory completed in May revealed 25 RV's connected to utilities. The most recent survey has increased to 54 RV's connected to utilities.

We believe that the Council's generosity to help our storm affected residents is now being abused. Code proposes to send registered letters to call property owners that have RVs requiring them to contact staff to either state a hardship that requires the short term use of the RV or that it will be removed within 30 days of the notice.

We know that a few of these are people still rebuilding their homes after Irma. We also know that many of these are not home owners affected by the storm. The city should evaluate each originally permitted temporary trailer to see if progress is being made to get back into compliance. If progress is being made, a time frame can be established for compliance. All others should be given a time deadline to remove the units from the property.

<u>Code Cases:</u>	<u>July 2019</u>	<u>August 2019</u>
Cases opened:	27	15
Cases closed:	19	15
Total open cases:	271*	

(* Approximately 50% of these cases remain open due to fines/fees or have complied by applying for building permits and the permits remain active)

Total payments received in May and June: \$1,000.00.

Code Department staff responded to 69 complaints either by telephone, email, online or in person. A total of 42 new cases were opened. The remaining were either quickly resolved, unfounded, civil in nature, or subsequent complaints on an existing code case

Case Type	July	August
Abandoned boat	4	0
Building Code	5	8
Environmental	1	0
Nuisance	1	0
Multiple violations	1	0
Property Standards	5	3
RV	0	2
Unsafe	2	0
Vacation Rental	3	2
Zoning	1	0
Total	27	15

July and August 2019 Case Actions

Notice of Violation: 29

Citations: 6

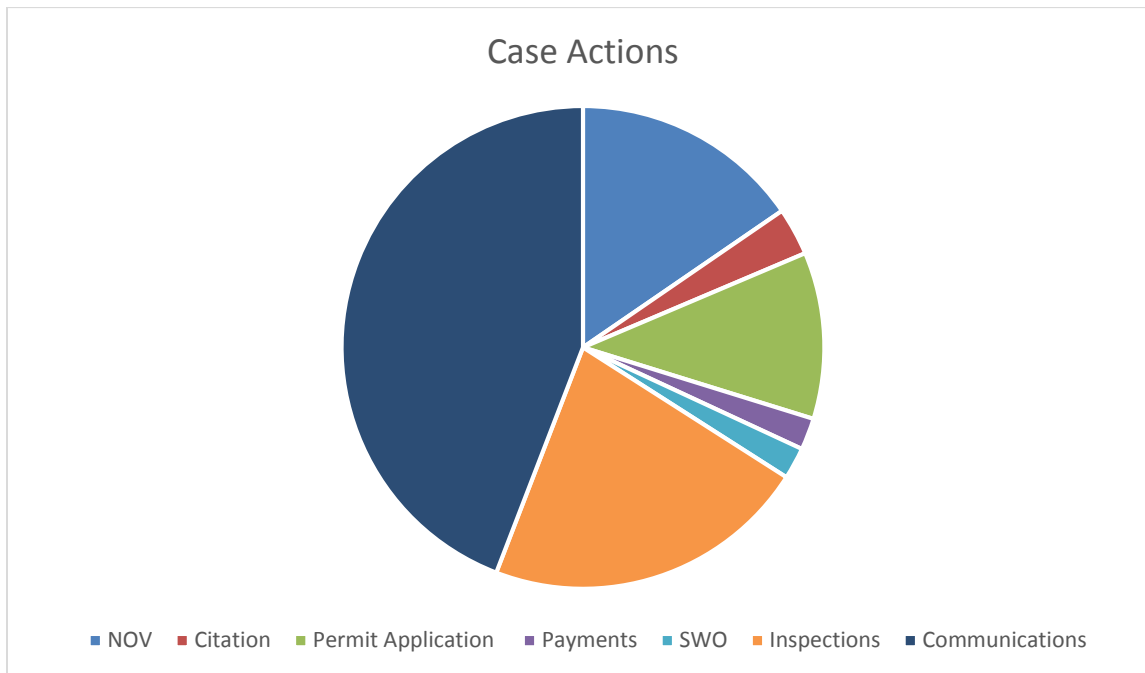
Building permit applications received on code cases: 21

Payments (administrative fees and citations): 4

Stop work orders: 4

Initial/re-inspections: 41

Communication in person, via telephone or email regarding open cases: 83

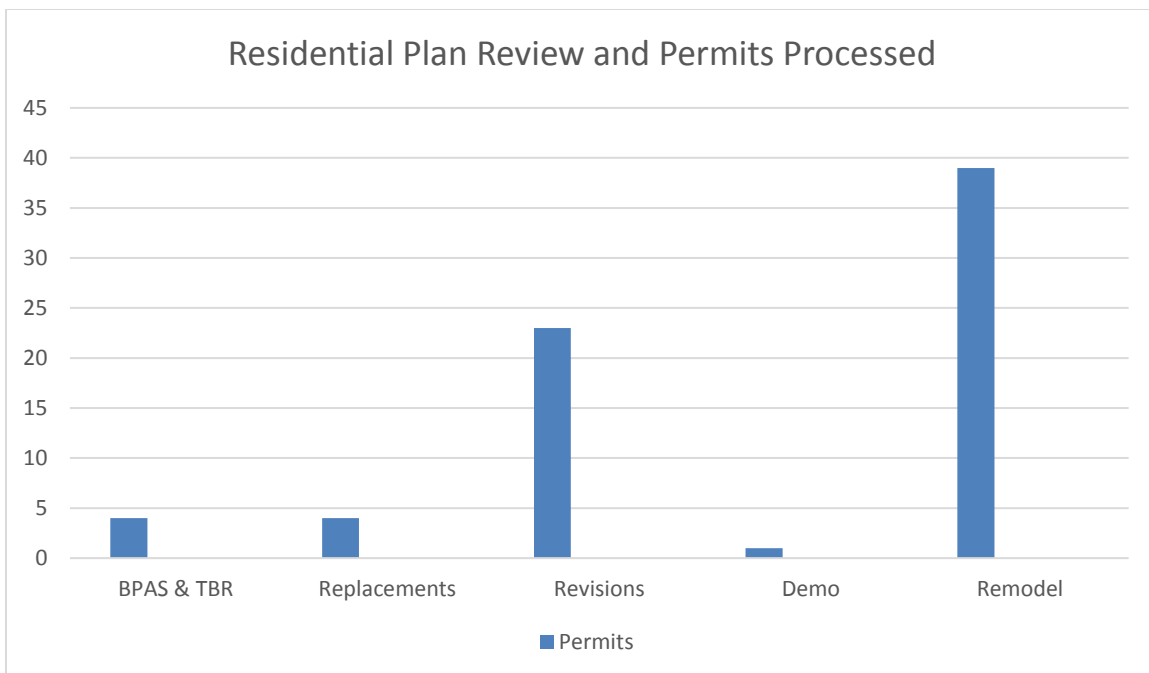
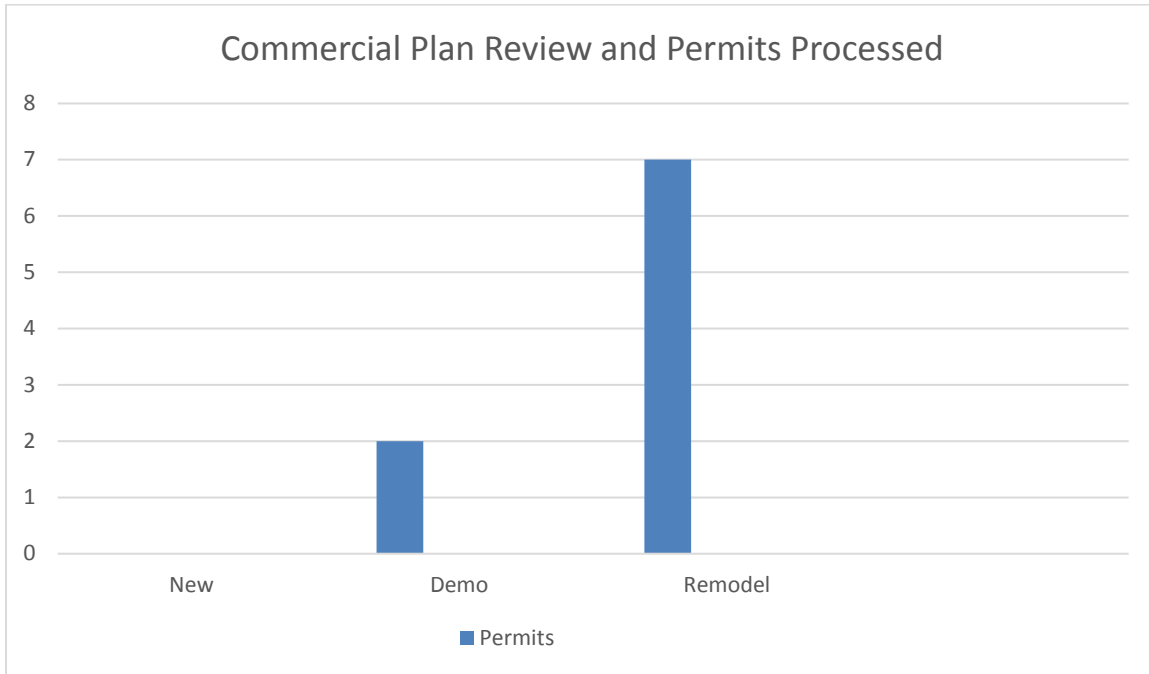


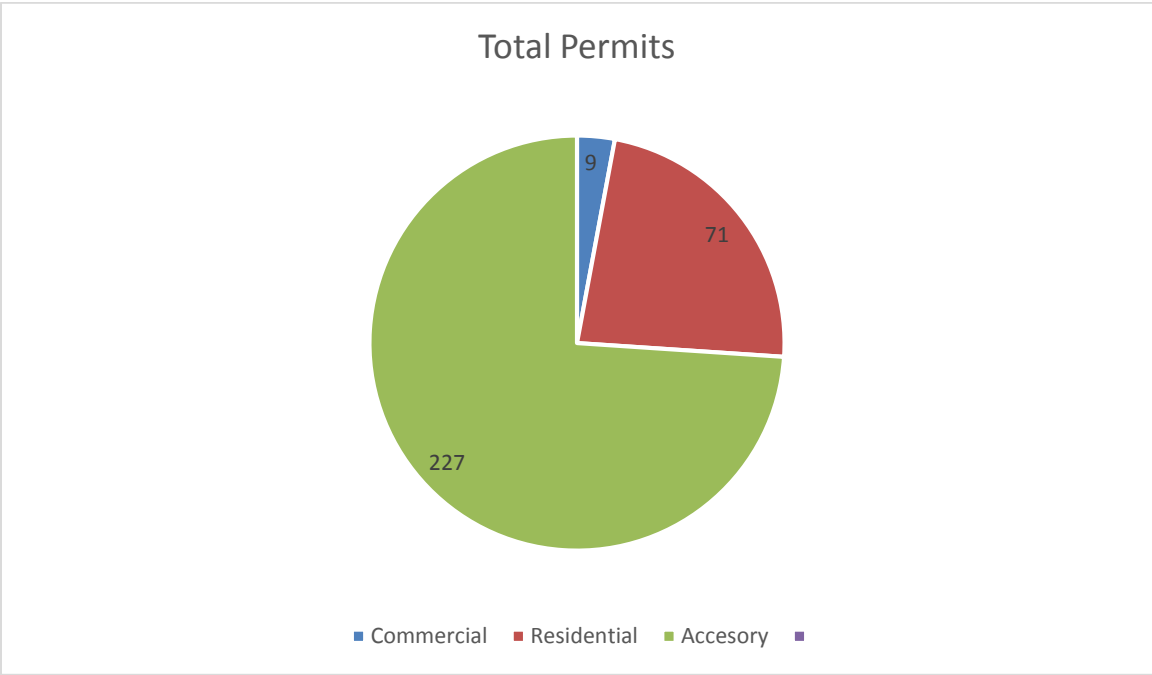
Building Department Report – July and August 2019

July 2019

Permit Totals

Permit Intake	307
Permits Issued	399
Permits Picked Up	357





Total Inspections: 836

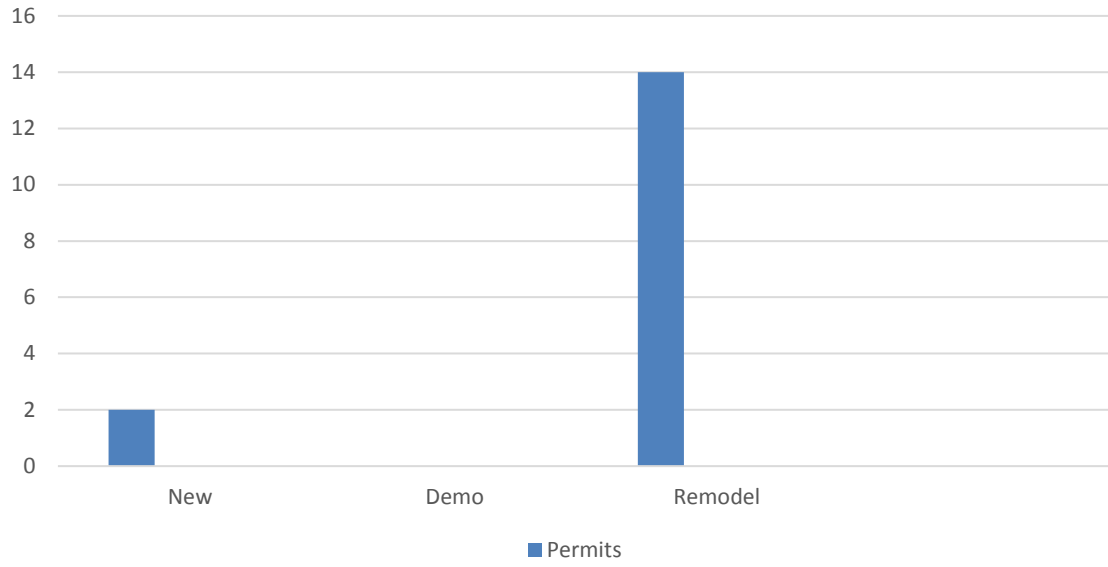
Total Revenue for Building for July: \$165,444.13

August 2019

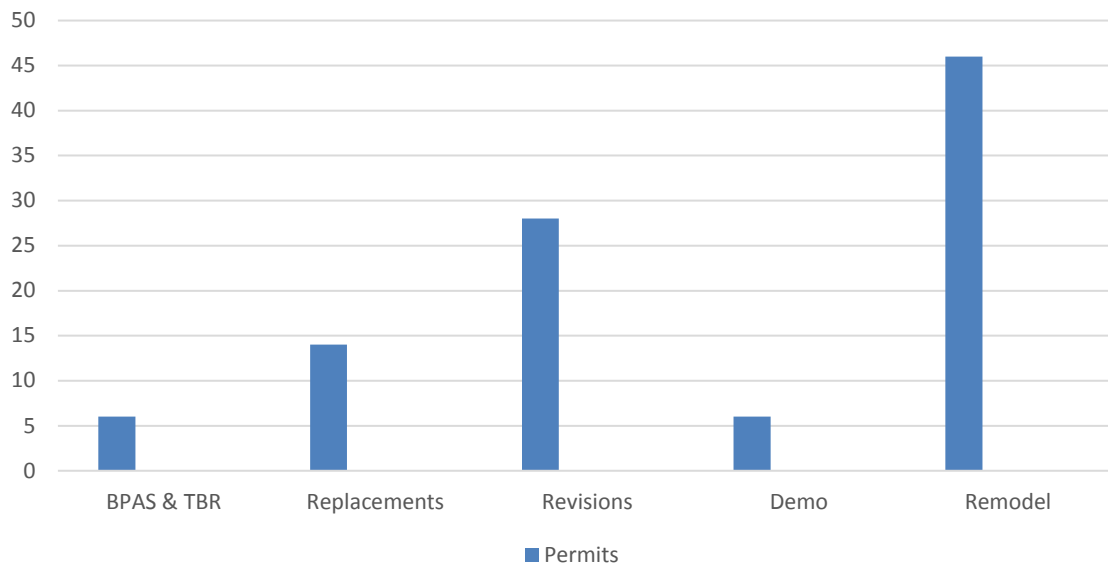
Permit Totals

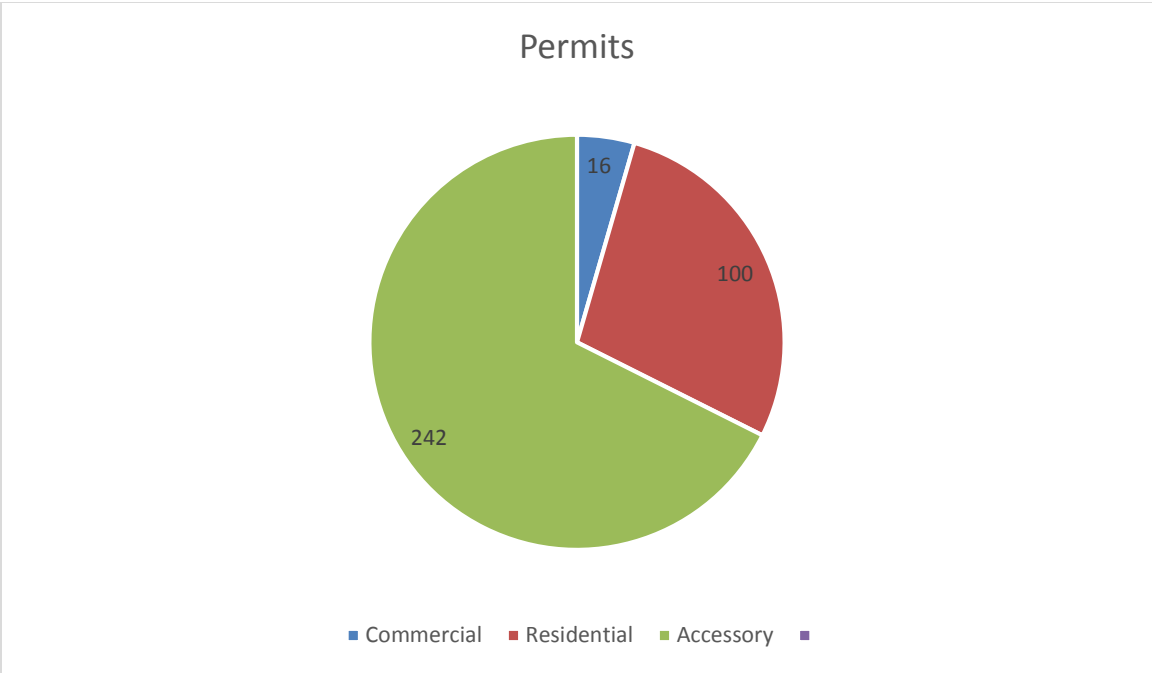
Permit Intake	358
Permits Issued	582
Permits Picked Up	611

Commercial Plan Review and Permits Processed



Residential Plan Review and Permits Processed





Total Inspections: 986

Total Building Revenue for August, 2019: \$242,848.87

Total YTD Revenue: \$2,197,559.98