

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings from City Hall,

I'm pleased to report on CED's accomplishments and development activity in 2020, which, as everyone knows, was a year like no other.

Despite many challenges (such as moving our entire office workforce to home offices), we were able to advance key policy initiatives and handle an ongoing high volume of development-related applications, thanks in large part to electronic plan review software (ePlans), which we implemented in 2019.

The stars of this past year were our amazing staff, who showed incredible resiliency and adaptability to a

completely different working environment.

Thank you to the Mayor, City Council and City Manager for their leadership and support of the important work of our department.

I hope you enjoy this abbreviated annual report, which provides a summary of development activity volumes and key initiatives and accomplishments from last year.

Chad

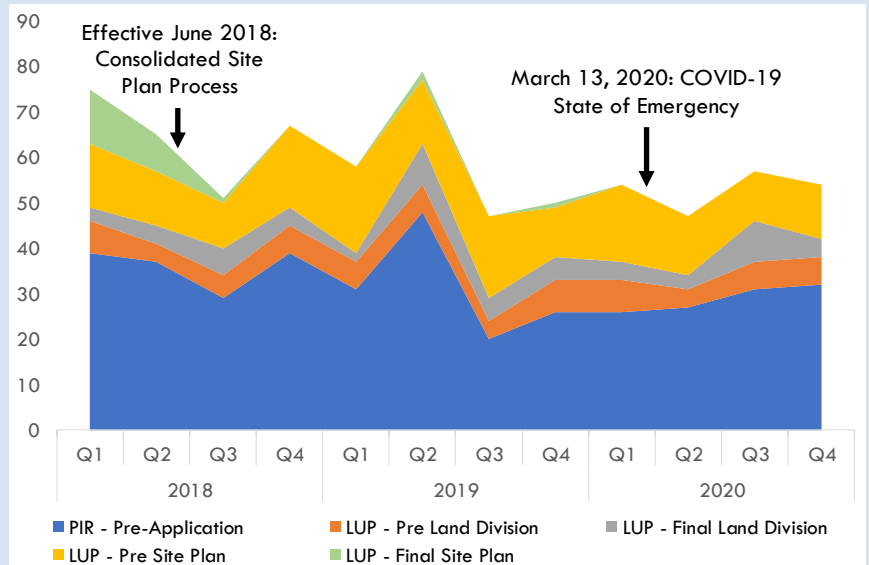
Chad Eiken, Director

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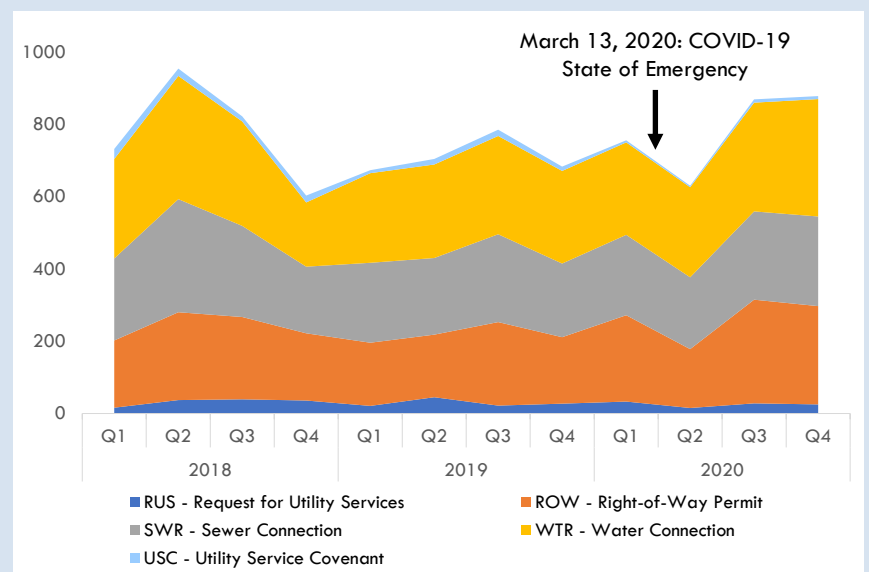


Development Review Accomplishments

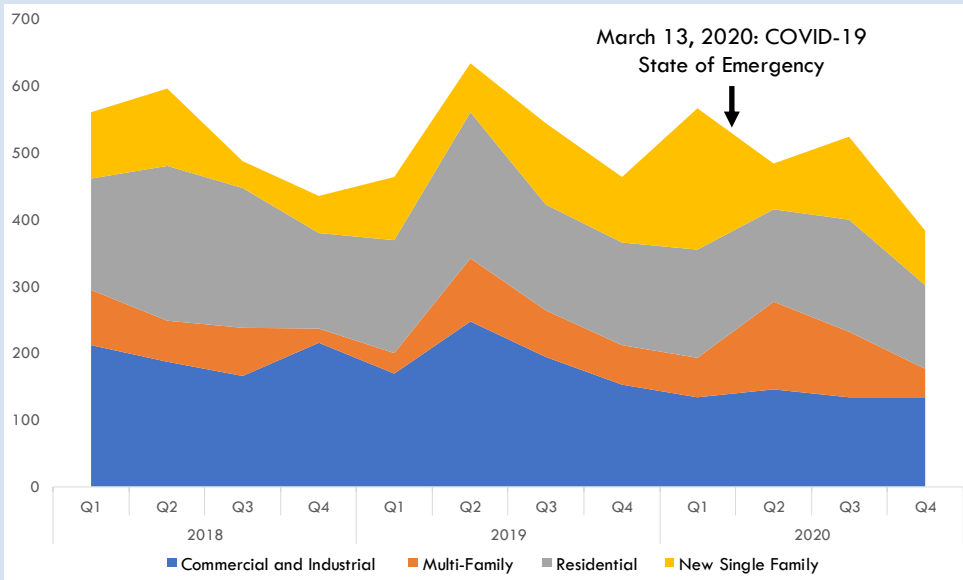
Land Use Applications Received by Quarter



Engineering Applications Received by Quarter



Building Construction Applications Received by Quarter



Long-range Planning & Economic Development Accomplishments

COVID Business Assistance—Street Eats

CED staff helped to create the Street Eats Program, which through special permitting helped restaurants add outdoor seating in on-street parking spaces and on sidewalks, along with an online tool for customers. Also, more than \$1.0 million in business assistance grants from the federal government (CDBG) were distributed to small businesses impacted by COVID.

Parking Services

Parking occupancy decreased dramatically during the pandemic as many office workers began working from home and, to support struggling businesses, the City suspended fees for on-street parking for several months. Parking officers were partially furloughed but were brought in on weekends to assist the public at the Farmers Market. As demand for parking increased last fall, parking officers returned to the field and the Parking Kitty App was launched allowing users to park, pay and be on their way.

Fourth Plain Commons

With leadership from CED, the City and the Vancouver Housing Authority designed and secured funding for development of The Fourth Plain Commons project, which will provide affordable housing above a community center and food entrepreneur incubator kitchen in the heart of the Fourth Plain International District.

Housing/CDBG Program

CED staff worked with the community to contract over \$10 million for the development of housing, provision of rental assistance, public services and shelter beds. Also through the use of Affordable Housing Funds, 172 units were rented with 131 of these households coming from the streets.

The Heights District Plan Adoption

City Council adopted The Heights District Plan after a lengthy public engagement process, opening the door for redevelopment of a former commercial shopping mall into a transformative and vibrant neighborhood center with residences, restaurants and public spaces in central Vancouver.

Block 10 in Downtown Sold for Redevelopment

Long undeveloped, the last of the city-owned Lucky Brewery Blocks was sold to Holland Partner Group for development of a six-story office and residential tower, and construction has already started. This key project is yet another indication that the revitalization of downtown continues.