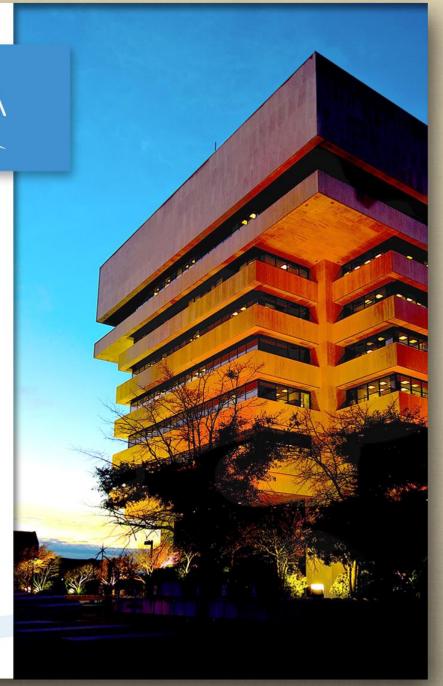
HAMPTON VA

City of Hampton
Code and Ordinance
Comparative Study

October 2021



Purpose

- Compare Hampton's major land development codes and ordinances with those of other peer jurisdictions in Hampton Roads
- Question: Are Hampton's codes and ordinances out of line with those of our peer jurisdictions?
- Study conducted by a well respected independent consultant – Kimley Horn

Principal City Departments

- Community Development
- Public Works
- City Attorney's Office

Development Services Center: PY2021

• Permits issued: 5,766

Commercial plan reviews: 1,207

Residential plan reviews: 2,229

Site plan reviews: 120

Subdivision reviews: 138

Zoning reviews: 3,148

RECENT PROJECTS

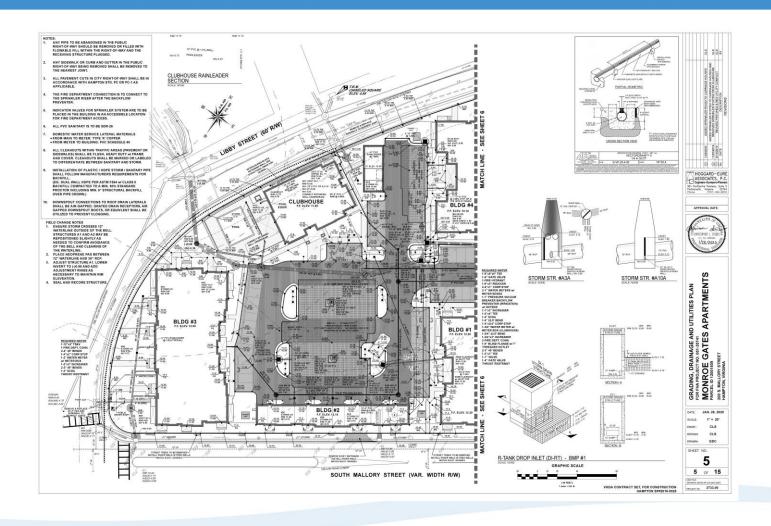








Monroe Gates Apartments

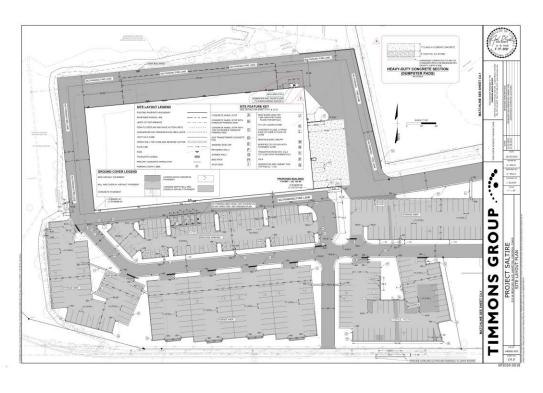


MONROE GATES APARTMENTS





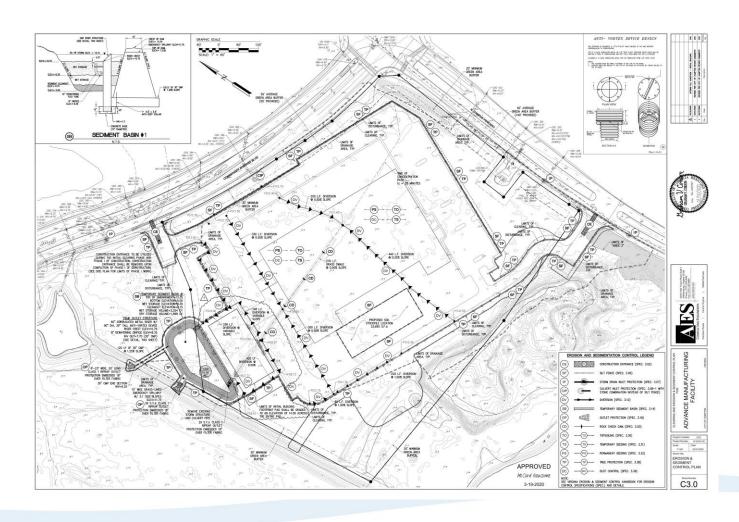
Amazon Logistics Center







Huntington Ingalls Advanced Manufacturing Facility

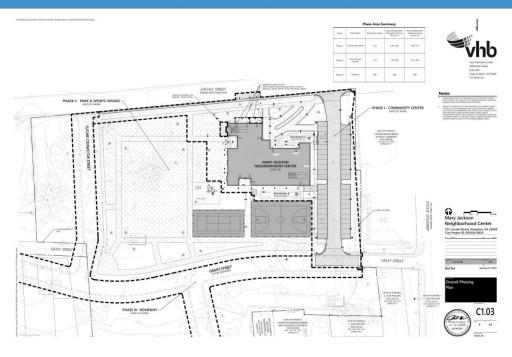


Huntington Ingalls Advanced Manufacturing Facility





Mary Jackson Neighborhood Center



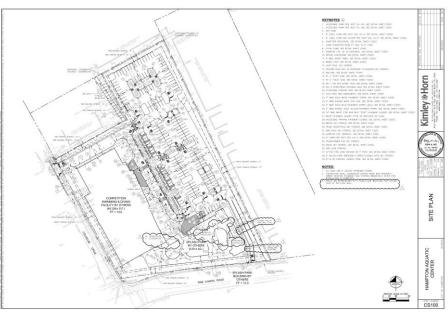








Hampton Virginia Aquaplex









Kimley Horn Introduction

- Robyn Niss, P.E. Manager of this task for Kimley Horn – 15 years experience
- National consulting firm specializing in land development, transportation, utility design and environmental permitting
- 29 Full-time land development professionals in Hampton Roads
- Hundreds of projects across Hampton Roads jurisdictions.

Peer Jurisdictions

- Newport News
- Norfolk
- Portsmouth
- Virginia Beach
- Chesapeake
- James City County



Codes & Ordinances Reviewed

- Site plan regulations
- Land disturbing regulations
- Stormwater regulations
- Subdivision regulations
- Single lot development
- Redevelopment
- Chesapeake Bay Act regulations

Kimley Horn Recommendations:

- Determine the best way to provide early, binding information via the pre-submittal process. Consider codifying this process
- Consider developing a procedure for minor site plans to streamline the process for smaller development projects.
- Consider the ability to allow "conditional approval."

Kimley Horn Recommendations:

- Continue on-going efforts to update and modify zoning ordinance provisions which support Hampton's development objectives
- Review requirements for Water Quality
 Impact Assessments as Hampton's current requirements are the most stringent.
- Review the subdivision ordinance in an effort to streamline and potentially ease some restrictions.

Kimley Horn Recommendations:

- Create a list of items that can be changed and notated on the as-built drawings rather than requiring full review of each change.
- Hampton is more stringent than most Hampton Roads jurisdictions related to development in a floodplain but K-H does not recommend changes to these regulations.

 "...Hampton is generally equally or more permissive than the other jurisdictions reviewed."

 "The lack of clarity regarding what is required for submittal on smaller sites leads to frustration."

 "...Hampton's site plan review process is generally easier to navigate than many of the peer jurisdictions due to the experience and helpfulness of the DSC staff."

 The City's reluctance to offer a conditional approval to allow early land disturbance can slow down the process for large developments."

 "While all cities offer a single point of processing for site plan review and permitting, the Hampton team stands out for their effectiveness."

Summary

- Overall, Hampton's major land development codes and ordinances are generally competitive with peer jurisdictions.
- There are selected codes and ordinances that could be improved to make the land development processes more efficient.
- Hampton's staff is generally well respected.

Additional Staff Recommendations

- Enhance or replace existing permitting software system – more robust customer interface plus integration with Public Works
- Explore designated times when the DSC is closed to walk-up traffic
- Work space improvements to reflect Covid realities as well as enhance overall staff and customer experience

Additional Staff Recommendations

- Explore expedited plan review for a fee
- Explore development of resources & processes to better assist small/first time businesses
- Fund a similar study to focus on the building permit and inspection process.

Next Steps:

- Action items will be undertaken by a interdepartmental team:
 - Community Development
 - Public Works
 - City Attorney's Office
- Develop a prioritized workplan and schedule to implement key recommendations
- Kimley Horn will continue to provide technical support and input