Development Services - Area of Operations









Includes: Building, Unsafe Buildings, Zoning, Planning, Code Enforcement

Area of Operations Development Services

	PRIOR YEAR	BUDGET	RECOMMENDED BUDGET		
	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Expenses					
Personnel Services	\$7,103,583	\$7,711,749	\$8,073,655	\$361,906	5%
Operating Expense	\$3,468,766	\$3,907,160	\$3,947,453	\$40,293	1%
Capital Outlay	\$11,000	\$701,000	\$4,502,000	\$3,801,000	542%
Transfers	\$291,335	\$259,560	\$137,760	(\$121,800)	(47%)
Budget Reserves	\$4,804,827	\$4,467,812	\$2,586,944	(\$1,880,868)	(42%)
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$15,679,511	\$17,047,281	\$19,247,812	\$2,200,531	13%
Revenues					
Licenses and Permits	\$5,704,541	\$6,103,794	\$8,397,316	\$2,293,522	38%
Charges for Services	\$1,057,985	\$1,860,796	\$1,550,753	(\$310,043)	(17%)
Fines and Forfeitures	\$136,000	\$321,200	\$340,500	\$19,300	6%
Miscellaneous	\$310,160	\$107,213	\$129,010	\$21,797	20%
Other Sources	\$6,047,607	\$6,522,008	\$6,286,818	(\$235,190)	(4%)
REVENUES TOTAL	\$13,256,293	\$14,915,011	\$16,704,397	\$1,789,386	12%
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$2,423,218)	(\$2,132,270)	(\$2,543,415)	_	-

Other Sources Revenue is Balance Forward Cash reserved for specific departments within Developmental Services Capital Outlay is associated with new Building space

Intergovernmental Revenue consists of State Grants and Revenue Sharing

Development Services by Department

	2022 - 23 Adopted Budget	2023 - 24 Adopted Budget	2024 - 25 Adopted Budget	2025 - 26 Budget
Building	\$8,739,750	\$9,736,256	\$11,062,808	\$13,319,143
Planning	\$1,325,979	\$2,676,954	\$3,326,096	\$3,272,488
Code Enforcement	\$1,191,037	\$1,534,289	\$1,552,269	\$1,953,479
Zoning Services	\$724,187	\$6	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$11,980,952	\$13,947,505	\$15,941,173	\$18,545,110

Personnel Expense by Area of Operations



Development Services - Area of Op - Personnel Expenditure...

	2021 - 22 Adopted Budget	2022 - 23 Adopted Budget	2023 - 24 Adopted Budget	2024 - 25 Adopted Budget	2025 - 26 Budget
Building	\$3,434,517	\$3,576,070	\$4,317,671	\$4,577,800	\$4,789,281
Planning	\$748,270	\$713,670	\$1,790,345	\$1,976,356	\$1,970,707
Code Enforcement	\$655,405	\$801,863	\$1,040,888	\$1,094,093	\$1,313,667
Zoning Services	\$455,976	\$574,335	\$5	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$5,294,168	\$5,665,938	\$7,148,909	\$7,648,249	\$8,073,655
Area of Operations - Deve	lopmental Services				
Job Title				Devel	opmental Services
Allocated FTE Count					
ACCOUNTING CLERK	III				2
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSI	ISTANT III				3
AGENDA COORDINATO	DR				1

AGENDA COORDINATOR	1
ASSISTANT OPERATIONS MANAGER	1
BUILDING OFFICIAL	1
CLERK II	1
CODE ENFORCEMENT MANAGER	1
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER	6
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (N)	2
CODE ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR	1
CUSTOMER CARE SPECIALIST	1
CUSTOMER SERVICE TECHNICIAN II	1
CUSTOMER SERVICE TECHNICIAN II	2
CUSTOMER SERVICE TECHNICIAN III	1
CUSTOMER SERVICES TECHNICIAN II	1
CUSTOMER SERVICES TECHNICIAN II	1
DEPUTY BUILDING OFFICIAL	1
DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR	0.1
DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS MANAGER	1
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR	1
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FACILITATOR	1
DUAL CERT INSP/PL EX- I	1
FIELD INVESTIGATOR	3
FIELD OPERATIONS MANAGER	1
FINANCE SPECIALIST	1
FINANCE SUPERVISOR	1
FLOODPLAIN MANAGER	1
INSPECTOR/PLANS EXAMINER	17

Job Title	Developmental Services
LEAD ENVIROMENTAL PLANNER	1
LEAD PERMIT COORDINATOR	2
LEAD PLANS EXAMINER (N)	1
PERMIT COORDINATOR	12
PLANNER I	3
PLANNER II	3
PLANNING ADMINISTRATOR	1
PLANNING AND ZONING TECHNICIAN	3
WATER RESOURCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER	2
ZONING AND CUSTOMER CARE TECHNICIAN	2
ZONING COORDINATOR	1
ZONING INSPECTOR	2
ZONING MANAGER	1
ALLOCATED FTE COUNT	89.1

Building Department and Unsafe Buildings Program

Planning & Zoning

Code Enforcement

Landscape Enhancement

Impact Fee - Public Buildings

Check us Out

Developmental Services Area of Operation Website

Building Division & Unsafe Buildings Program

The Hernando County Building Department is to promote health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Hernando County through efficient and effective implementation of building codes and County regulations. Services include but not limited to permit issuance, inspections, contractor registrations, certificates of occupancy, fee schedules, and public service announcements.

Goals

Implement the new Invoice Cloud so customers can pay for their permits faster without additional wait time and new Permitting Software Program.

Building Division

	PRIOR YEAR	BUDGET	RECOMMENDED BUDGET		
	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Expenses					
Personnel Services	\$4,342,675	\$4,641,300	\$4,789,281	\$147,981	3%
Operating Expense	\$2,357,406	\$2,379,713	\$2,406,497	\$26,784	1%
Capital Outlay	\$11,000	\$701,000	\$4,502,000	\$3,801,000	542%
Transfers	\$180,634	\$205,360	\$80,360	(\$125,000)	(61%)
Budget Reserves	\$3,696,796	\$3,107,876	\$1,217,023	(\$1,890,853)	(61%)
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$10,588,511	\$11,035,249	\$12,995,161	\$1,959,912	18%
Revenues					
Licenses and Permits	\$5,127,903	\$5,392,756	\$7,359,147	\$1,966,391	36%
Charges for Services	\$196,150	\$452,618	\$557,989	\$105,371	23%
Fines and Forfeitures	\$2,000	\$1,800	\$3,500	\$1,700	94%
Miscellaneous	\$300,660	\$91,160	\$110,110	\$18,950	21%
Other Sources	\$4,961,798	\$5,096,915	\$4,964,415	(\$132,500)	(3%)
REVENUES TOTAL	\$10,588,511	\$11,035,249	\$12,995,161	\$1,959,912	18%

Operating Expense increased due to consultants working on policy and code updates. Capital Outlay increased for the master plan and expansion of the building department complex.

Our People - FTE Count

Building Division

Job Title	4611
Allocated FTE Count	
ACCOUNTING CLERK III	2
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT III	1
ASSISTANT OPERATIONS MANAGER	1
BUILDING OFFICIAL	1
CLERK II	1
CUSTOMER CARE SPECIALIST	1
CUSTOMER SERVICE TECHNICIAN II	1
CUSTOMER SERVICE TECHNICIAN II	2
DEPUTY BUILDING OFFICIAL	1
DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR	0.1
DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS MANAGER	1
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR	0.563
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FACILITATOR	0.563
DUAL CERT INSP/PL EX- I	1
FIELD INVESTIGATOR	3
FIELD OPERATIONS MANAGER	1
FINANCE SPECIALIST	1
FINANCE SUPERVISOR	1
FLOODPLAIN MANAGER	1
INSPECTOR/PLANS EXAMINER	17
LEAD PERMIT COORDINATOR	2
LEAD PLANS EXAMINER (N)	1
PERMIT COORDINATOR	12
ALLOCATED FTE COUNT	53.225

Unsafe Buildings

	PRIOR YEAR	BUDGET	RECOMMENDED BUDGET		
	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Expenses					
Operating Expense	\$119,346	\$104,238	\$113,250	\$9,012	9%
Budget Reserves	\$189,594	\$204,488	\$210,733	\$6,245	3%
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$308,940	\$308,726	\$323,983	\$15,257	5%
Revenues					
Charges for Services	\$117,280	\$105,068	\$120,325	\$15,257	15%
Other Sources	\$191,660	\$203,658	\$203,658	\$0	0%
REVENUES TOTAL	\$308,940	\$308,726	\$323,983	\$15,257	5%

Planning and Zoning

Mission

The mission of the Development Services Department, Planning, is to foster safe, sustainable and responsible growth while providing strong ethical leadership and responsiveness that ensures a thriving, well-connected community through the management of the County's Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations.

Metrics & Performance

Processing Output Metrics:

The Commercial Zoning Office manages the review, tracking, and issuance of commercial zoningspecific permit applications as well as commercial zoning & environmental reviews required for compliance with Hernando County Land Development Regulations. Additionally, Commercial Zoning staff assist with walk-in customers, phone calls and emails for department specific inquiries.

Projects & Tasks Completed 23-24

Processed the following number of applications from 10/01/2023 - 09/30/2024

Alcoholic Beverage	10	
Permits		
Chickee/Tiki Hut	1	
Permits		
Development Permits	4	
Mampa/ Mopa Permits	0	
Early Commercial Site	9	
Clear		
Mass Grade	0	
Firework/Sparkler	13	
Permits		
Tent Permits	7	
Excavation Permit	1	
Commercial Fence	20	
Temporary Signs	6	
Zoning Verification	61	
Letters		

Projects & Tasks Completed 24-25

Processed the following number of applications from 10/01/2024 - 06/11/2025

17
0
18
2
5
6

Firework/Sparkler	20
Permits	
Tent Permits	2
Excavation Permit	0
Commercial Fence	6
Temporary Signs	9
Zoning Verification	45
Letters	

Mission

The mission of Development Services, Zoning, is to regulate land use and development within a jurisdiction to create balanced communities, protect property, and meet the community's needs. This involves administering zoning codes, reviewing development plans, and ensuring compliance with regulations.

Economic Development

Zoning helps guide with land use decisions and influencing the type, location, and intensity of development. It provides a framework for municipalities to attract businesses, ensure adequate housing, protect the environment, and promote sustainable growth.

Projects & Tasks Completed 23-24

- Processed 3,097 Single Family Home Permits
- Processed 124 Mobile Home Permits
- Processed 2,793 Fence Permits
- Processed 362 Early Site Clear Permits
- Processed 425 Tree Permits
- Processed 198 Shed Permits 120' sq. ft.
- Processed 186 Marine Permits
- Processed 47 Chicken Coop Permits
- Processed 9 Miscellaneous Zoning Permits
- Processed 16 Vacation of Easement/Right of Way Permits
- Processed 10 Use of Easement Permits
- Processed 54 Variance Permits
- Processed 13,668 Assorted Building Permits

Projects & Tasks Completed 24-25

- Processed 2,510 Single Family Home Permits
- Processed 95 Mobile Home Permits
- Processed 1,011 Fence Permits
- Processed 334 Early Site Clear Permits
- Processed 266 Tree Permits
- Processed 134 Shed Permits up to120' sq. ft.
- Processed 140 Marine Permits
- Processed 37 Chicken Coop Permits
- Processed 9 Miscellaneous Permits
- Processed 19 Vacation of Easement/Right of Way Permits
- Processed 8 Use of Easement Permits
- Processed 61 Variance Permits
- Processed 11,047 Assorted Building Permits

Standard Hours:

Normal business hours are 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Mission

The mission of the Office of Floodplain Management is to protect lives, property, and the environment through proactive flood risk management, emergency preparedness, sustainable infrastructure development, and public education. We are committed to minimizing the impact of flooding by implementing innovative solutions, maintaining resilient drainage systems, and working collaboratively with communities and partners to enhance safety and resilience against flood-related hazards.

Metrics & Performance

The Office of Floodplain Management shall ensure timely and effective flood risk management through accurate hazard assessment, infrastructure maintenance, emergency response readiness, and community engagement. It is required to respond to flood events within defined timeframes, and coordinate recovery for citizens in a timely manner. The Office of Floodplain Management reviews and permits all homes in a special flood hazard area to ensure floodplain compliance as well as storm permitting after a major flooding event from a natural disaster.

Year	Flood Permits Reviewed	Storm
2024	*705 AS OF	HURRICANE MILTON AND
	06/13/25	HELENE
2023	*211	HURRICANE IDALIA
2022	317	HURRICANE IAN
2021	399	n/a

PERMITS REVIEWED ARE FOR ALL PERMIT APPLICATIONS LOCATED IN A SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA.

*Includes storm permits reviewed.

Projects & Tasks Completed (FY 2023-2024)

- Reviewed and issued 211 floodplain permits in compliance with applicable regulations.
- Completed and submitted the Annual Elevation Certificate Audit.
- Met with FEMA representatives to review and discuss local flood permitting procedures.
- Actively participated in Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) meetings, contributing to planning efforts and assisting with documentation for the LMS report.

Projects & Tasks Completed (FY 2024-2025)

- Onboarded and implemented Forerunner, a program instrumental in improving damage assessments, inspections, elevation certificate tracking, documentation storage, and workflow management.
- Continued active participation in Local Mitigation Strategy meetings, providing support with documentation for the report.
- Served as a member of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Committee, attending all quarterly meetings.
- Participated in the TTU Program, attending all scheduled meetings.
- Attended and contributed to four community meetings focused on storm impacts and permitting processes.
- Represented the department at the Annual Hurricane Awareness Expo to support public education and preparedness.
- Reviewed and issued 705 flood-related permits (as of June 13, 2025), including permits related to storm damage.
- Completed and submitted the Annual Elevation Certificate Audit for the 2024–2025 fiscal year.
- Met with FEMA representatives on five occasions to review permitting practices following storm events. These reviews confirmed that the department remains compliant with FEMA standards.
- Developed and implemented a formal storm permitting process, which was reviewed and approved by Braydon Williams of FEMA.

- Hosted weekly permitting assistance classes at Development Services following Hurricanes Milton and Helene to support residents navigating storm recovery and substantial damage procedures.
- Completed the following field and permitting activities in response to storm events:
 - 600 Pre-inspections
 - 4,839 Damage Assessments
 - 5,639 Substantial Damage Field Reviews
 - 213 Courtesy Notices of Violation (for RVs)
 - 34 RV Permits Issued
 - 54 Demolition Permits Issued
 - 587 Storm Damage Permits Issued

Standard Hours:

Normal business hours are 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

	PRIOR YEAR BUDGET		RECOMMENDED BUDGET		
	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Expenses					
Personnel Services	\$1,707,259	\$1,976,356	\$1,970,707	(\$5,649)	0%
Operating Expense	\$480,148	\$977,432	\$804,096	(\$173,336)	(18%)
Transfers	\$68,578	\$34,600	\$34,600	\$0	0%
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$2,255,985	\$2,988,388	\$2,809,403	(\$178,985)	(6%)
Revenues					
Licenses and Permits	\$555,438	\$699,438	\$1,016,269	\$316,831	45%
Charges for Services	\$469,055	\$1,008,110	\$518,439	(\$489,671)	(49%)
Miscellaneous	\$1,400	\$2,800	\$5,600	\$2,800	100%
Other Sources	-	\$101,786	-	(\$101,786)	(100%)
REVENUES TOTAL	\$1,025,893	\$1,812,134	\$1,540,308	(\$271,826)	(15%)
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$1,230,092)	(\$1,176,254)	(\$1,269,095)	-	-

Operating costs were reduced by tech purchases occurring in FY25; hence, they were reduced in FY26. There was also a significant reduction in contracted services. Revenues increased associated with growth and increased charges for services.

Our People - FTE Count

Job Title	0011
Allocated FTE Count	
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT III	1
AGENDA COORDINATOR	1
CUSTOMER SERVICES TECHNICIAN II	1
CUSTOMER SERVICES TECHNICIAN II	1
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR	0.313
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FACILITATOR	0.313
LEAD ENVIROMENTAL PLANNER	1
PLANNER I	3
PLANNER II	3
PLANNING ADMINISTRATOR	1
PLANNING AND ZONING TECHNICIAN	3
ZONING AND CUSTOMER CARE TECHNICIAN	2
ZONING COORDINATOR	1
ZONING INSPECTOR	2
ZONING MANAGER	1
ALLOCATED FTE COUNT	21.625

Code Enforcement

Mission Statement

To ensure a safe, healthy, and desirable community by balancing the enforcement of codes and ordinances, while also considering the property rights of our residents.

What we do

We investigate a wide variety of potential Hernando County Code of Ordinance violations such as trash and debris, overgrown lots and improper watering. We utilize several different avenues to address code enforcement issues including: writing civil citations that are referred to a Special Magistrate, County Court intervention, and voluntary compliance. We seek voluntary compliance first, but, if necessary, will issue citations or take legal action.

Goals

The goal for our department is to increase compliance with code enforcement issues in the most efficient manner possible. Voluntary compliance by residents with our codes and ordinances is the fastest and most cost-effective method; therefore, it is prioritized.

Metrics & Performance

FY 22-23

Total # of Cases - 4,057 Proactive - 2,569 Reactive - 1,488 Total # of Inspections - 9,992

FY 23-24

Total # of Cases – 4,717 Proactive – 3,191 Reactive – 1,526 Total # of Inspections – 11,454

FY 24-25 - In progress

Total # of Cases — 1,790 Proactive - 825 Reactive - 965 Total # of Inspections — 4,175

Projects & Tasks Completed 24-25

In 2024 Hernando County Code Enforcement realized that they required a leadership change to ensure efficient operations, as a result a manager position was added with the new manager starting in January 2025. The new manager was tasked with identifying areas for improvement including operational efficiency.

Upcoming Projects of Interest to Citizens:

Beginning January 2025 Code Enforcement management evaluated all processes for efficiency. As a result of the evaluation leadership has determined that the Quasi-Judicial enforcement method utilized when violators are cited is extremely slow, manpower intensive and therefore expensive. After review it was determined that early compliance was the most efficient and least costly method to resolve code issues. At the request of Code Enforcement on June 24, 2025 the Board of County Commissioners approved a new compliance program that incentivizes voluntary compliance through waived or reduced fines. If compliance is not gained fines are proposed to rise to five hundred dollars (\$500) per violation from one hundred dollars (\$100). Revenue from the higher fine amount for non-compliance will offset the reductions offered to compliant offenders. Cases that gain early compliance will require significantly less staff time and eliminate salaries paid for the county attorney when cases go to court. Compliance will also eliminate payments Hernando County has to make to the Special Master (Quasi-Judicial official who hears code cases) to hear code cases.

Projects & Tasks Completed 25-26

- Revise, add, and update Standard operating procedures
- Add a second Special Magistrate

Mandates

Hernando County Code Enforcement is required to follow all mandates listed in Florida State Statute 162 regarding the manner and method in which code enforcement is carried out.

Upcoming needs

Hernando County Code Enforcement is in need of a more efficient records management system as well as supporting hardware and software to implement same. Hernando County is currently contracted with Tyler Technology to upgrade our records management system with a roll out date in early 2026. Hardware and software support for Tyler implementation is in the fiscal year 2026 budget.

Standard Hours: 40 hours per week open to the public

M-F Lobby - 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. M-F Call Center – 7:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. Officers work varying shift hours based on need. Generally, Code officers are M-F 7am-3:30 pm Watering officers work various shifts including nights and weekends.

Code Enforcement

	PRIOR YEAR BUDGET		RECOMMENDED BUDGET		
	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Expenses					
Personnel Services	\$1,053,644	\$1,094,093	\$1,313,667	\$219,574	20%
Operating Expense	\$486,986	\$439,480	\$617,013	\$177,533	40%
Transfers	\$42,122	\$19,600	\$22,800	\$3,200	16%
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$1,582,752	\$1,553,173	\$1,953,480	\$400,307	26%
Revenues					
Licenses and Permits	\$21,200	\$11,600	\$21,900	\$10,300	89%
Charges for Services	\$275,500	\$295,000	\$354,000	\$59,000	20%
Fines and Forfeitures	\$94,000	\$279,400	\$297,000	\$17,600	6%
Miscellaneous	\$5,100	\$10,253	\$10,300	\$47	0%
Other Sources	-	\$904	_	(\$904)	(100%)
REVENUES TOTAL	\$395,800	\$597,157	\$683,200	\$86,043	14%
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$1,186,952)	(\$956,016)	(\$1,270,280)	_	_

Personnel Services increased due to additional FTEs being added.

Operating increased due to increasing needs for new FTEs, such as Fleet expenses, along with contractor cases involving trash and debris and mowing.

Transfers increased slightly to align with transfers to the self insurance fund.

Revenues increased due to increased enforcement.

Our People - FTE Count

Code Enforcement	
Job Title	0011
Allocated FTE Count	
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT III	1
CODE ENFORCEMENT MANAGER	1
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER	6
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (N)	2
CODE ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR	1
CUSTOMER SERVICE TECHNICIAN III	1
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR	0.125
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FACILITATOR	0.125
WATER RESOURCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER	2
ALLOCATED FTE COUNT	14.25

Landscape Enhancement

The Landscape Enhancement department tracks activity associated with right of way maintenance & repair.

Landscape Enhancement

	PRIOR YEAR BUDGET		RECOMMENDED BUDGET			
	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)	
Expenses						
Operating Expense	\$5,831	\$5,797	\$5,797	\$0	0%	
Budget Reserves	\$433,663	\$457,288	\$457,288	\$0	0%	
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$439,494	\$463,085	\$463,085	\$0	0%	
Revenues						
Fines and Forfeitures	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	0%	
Miscellaneous	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0%	
Other Sources	\$396,494	\$420,085	\$420,085	\$0	0%	
REVENUES TOTAL	\$439,494	\$463,085	\$463,085	\$0	0%	

The Landscape Enhancement department tracks activity associated with right of way maintenance & repair.