

Task Force on the Underground Economy in the Construction Industry

July 8, 2025



About MRSC



Research and Consulting Services for Washington Local Governments and State Agencies

- Free consultation (Ask MRSC)
- Guidance on hundreds of topics
- Webinars and workshops
- E-newsletters
- Sample documents
- Research tools



Types of Local Permits



Land Use

Engineering

Building

Steps in the Local Permit Process



Submittal

Intake

Review

Issuance

Inspect

Archive



Local Governments Must Verify Contractor Registration



“No city, town or county shall issue a construction building permit...without verification that such contractor is currently registered as required by law.”

Cities, towns, and counties must:

- Print the contractor registration number on the building permit
- Notify the applicant of contractor registration laws and the potential risk of using an unregistered contractor
- Withdraw a building permit obtained using falsified information

RCW 18.27.110 [18.27.110](#)



Construction Inspections

- **Pre-construction meetings**
- **Defined stages for required inspections**
- **Multiple professionals involved at different stages**
- **Frequent communication is key**
- **Certificate of occupancy is final step**



Questions

Leonard Bauer, FAICP

Planning Consultant
Municipal Research & Services Center (MRSC)

lbauer@mrsc.org

