



Riverwalk project review

Several government agencies typically become involved in the review and approval of Riverwalk projects before building permits are issued.

- City government reviews determine whether the plan conforms to Riverwalk design guidelines, the State of Wisconsin building code, the local building code, and the local zoning code. City staff also review the impact of the project on the public way.
- If the zoning code does not allow the proposed use of the property, the developer may appeal to the Board of Zoning Appeals.
- When a project involves water level improvements such as new Riverwalk segments or boat docks, other agencies become involved to assess the impact of the project on river navigation, access, and safety.
- The City Plan Commission must approve all projects.

Developers and property owners considering development on or adjacent to the Riverwalk should contact the Milwaukee Department of City Development (DCD) at (414) 286-5710 for early assistance.

The Milwaukee Development Center, located within DCD on the first floor at

809 N. Broadway, is the central intake point for the materials required for construction plan and City Plan Commission review. The Development Center will route plans to other City agencies that may be involved in the project, such as the Health Department (for projects involving food service) and the Department of Public Works (for projects including work in the public way). To make an appointment for plan submission, call the Development Center at (414) 286-8211. At the first prompt, press “5.” At the second prompt, press “5.”

Developers of water-level improvements also must secure permits from the Port of Milwaukee, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources, and US Army Corps of Engineers. Local building permits can be issued only after the developer has obtained these additional permits.