



County of San Diego – Planning & Development Services

Permitting System Help Guides

TOPIC: **Accela Citizen Access** (How to submit a Pre-Application Meeting request)

Accela Citizen Access (ACA) is the online tool that allows the public to check the status of permits, conduct research, and perform other tasks online such as apply for permits; pay fees or schedule inspections.

NOTE TO APPLICANTS: **Please have the following forms completed prior to submittal of the online application. If any required forms are not submitted or missing, your application may be denied or voided and an additional application submittal may be required.**

Cover Sheet: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/pds/zoning/formfields/PDS-PLN-ESUB_Initial_Consult_Meeting.pdf

Plot Plan – see requirements here: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/docs/pds090.pdf>

PDS-126: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/zoning/formfields/PDS-PLN-126.pdf>

PDS-330: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/zoning/formfields/PDS-PLN-330.pdf>

THE STEP-BY-STEP SUBMITTAL GUIDE BEGINS ON PAGE 2



Directions:

Step 1: To submit an application for a Pre-Application Meeting, you may either **register for an account** or **proceed directly** to the application by selecting **Apply for a Record** in the PDS section.

Please note: If you would like to utilize the Trust Account online deposit service, an Accela Citizen Access (ACA) user account is needed.

<https://publicservices.sandiegocounty.gov/CitizenAccess/Welcome.aspx?TabName=HOME&TabList=HOME%7C0%7CLUFG-APCD%7C1%7CLUFG-AWM%7C2%7CLUFG-DEH%7C3%7CLUFG-DPW%7C4%7CLUFG-PDS%7C5%7CCurrentTabIndex%7C0>

Home APCD AWM DEH DPW PDS

Advanced Search ▼

Welcome to the County of San Diego's online Citizen Access Portal

This system will enable residents of San Diego County to:

1. Research public information.
2. Submit an application (some departments require registration and login to submit an application).
3. View and track the status of your application.
4. Make secure online payments.

Some services will require you to register for an account.

What would you like to do today?

To get started, select one of the services listed below:

Home
Advanced Search

General Information
Lookup Property Information

APCD
Get Air Quality Service (Permit Applications, Gas Station Tests, Breakdown Notifications, Asbestos Notification and Air Quality Grants)
Search APCD Records
Schedule an Inspection

AWM
Search Applications

DEH
Create an Application
Search Applications

DPW
Apply for Record: (Recycling Permits, Stormwater Complaints, Roads Service Request)
Search Records

PDS
Apply for a Record
Search Records

Login

User Name or E-mail:

Password:

Login »

☐ Remember me on this computer
[I've forgotten my password](#)
New Users: Register for an Account

Land Use and Environment Group
Departments:
APCD - Air Pollution Control District
AWM - Agriculture Weights and Measures
DEH - Department of Environmental Health
DPW - Department of Public Works
PDS - Planning & Development Services



Step 2: Read and accept the terms and general disclaimer, by clicking the checkbox and clicking **Continue Application**.

Communications via Web Site

Communications made through e-mail and messaging systems shall in no way be deemed to constitute legal notice to the County or any of its agencies, officers, employees, agents, or representatives, with respect to any existing or potential claim or cause of action against the County or any of its agencies, officers, employees, agents, or representatives, where notice to the County is required by any federal, state or local laws, rules or regulations.

☐ I have read and accepted the above terms.

[Continue Application >](#)

Step 3: Click on the **Discretionary Pre-Application** option and select the type of Pre-Application Meeting you are applying for then select **Continue Application**.

Discretionary Pre-Application

☐ Major Pre-Application

- ▶ Building
- ▶ Enforcement
- ▶ Planning
- ▶ Zoning

[Continue Application >](#)

Step 4: In the **Scope Code** section, click on the **Pre-Application Request Type** dropdown menu and select the type of Pre-Application Meeting you are applying for, add all application information, then select **Continue Application**.

Please note: Depending on the type of permit being applied for, different information will be required before you can continue with the application.

SCOPE CODE

Pre-Application Request Type:

--Select--

- General Plan Amendment
- Standard
- Waiver

WAIVER

Major Pre-Application Meetings are mandatory for all projects that will be approved by the Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors. In certain instances where a project may be considered minor and non-controversial a waiver of the mandatory Major Pre-Application Meeting may be approved by Planning & Development Services (PDS). The applicant may submit a waiver request for consideration by selecting "Waiver" in the Pre-Application Request Type menu above. A PDS determination on the waiver will be mailed to the applicant within five days of the waiver submittal request. Please note: Major Pre-Application Meetings are not required for cellular telecommunications facilities.



Step 5: Please review the **Meeting Attendees & Cost Agreement**. Once you have reviewed the agreement, please select **Yes** then click **Continue Application**.

AGREEMENT
Please select "Yes" to indicate your agreement to proceed per the Meeting Attendees and Cost information outlined above.

I agree to the Meeting Attendees and Cost information:
☒ Yes ☐ No

[Continue Application »](#)

Step 6: Indicate if you would like to allow for online trust account deposits. If **Yes**, please indicate all required information. If **No**, no additional information is required. Then click **Continue Application**.

ONLINE TRUST ACCOUNT DEPOSITS

Would you like your user account set up to allow for online trust account deposits?:
☒ Yes ☐ No

Trust Account Access Role Type: *
--Select--

ACA Registered User ID: *

ACA Registered User Email Address: *

Financially Responsible Party Name: *

[Continue Application »](#)

Step 7: Input the **Assessor's Parcel Number (APN)** [xxx-xxx-xx-xx] or **Address** and click **search**. Then click **Continue Application**.

Parcel	Address
<div>*Parcel Number: <input type="text"/></div> <div>Domain: <input type="text"/></div> <div>Search Clear</div>	<div>Street #: <input type="text"/> Street Name: <input type="text"/> Street Type: --Select-- <div>Search Clear</div><div>Continue Application »</div></div>



Step 8: Attach the **Zip File** containing all applicable documents to the application. Select **Add** and in the pop-up window, select **Add** again. From here select the **Zip File** to upload, select **Open**, then select **Continue**. Once the **Zip File** has been successfully attached, select **Save** then **Continue Application**.

Please note: All required documents (**Plot Plans**, **PDS-126**, and **PDS-330**) must be saved in **one Zip File** and each document must be titled accurately. All required fillable forms can be found at the following link: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/zoning/ZoningNumeric.html>

1

2

3

4

5

Name	Type	Size	Latest Update	Action
Test.zip	PDS-PLN-Zip File Package	5.08 MB	08/20/2020	Actions ▾

Add

Continue Application »



Step 9: Provide contact information for the following contact types: **Applicant**, **Owner on Application**, and **PDS Point of Contact**. For each contact type, you can **Add New** contacts or **Look Up** existing contacts. To add a new contact, click **Add New** and input all required information. To look up existing contacts, click **Look Up** and select **Citizen Access – Public** from the **Type** dropdown and input at least the first and last name of the contact and select **Look Up**. Select the correct contact and click **Continue**. Verify that all the information is shown correctly and select **Continue Application**.

Please note: If you would like to use the Look Up function, the contact must have an existing ACA account, otherwise the contact information will need to be manually added through the Add New function for each contact type.

1

Applicant ←

Complete all required fields.

Add New **Look Up**

Owner on Application ←

Complete all required fields.

Add New **Look Up**

PDS Point of Contact ←

Complete all required fields.

Add New **Look Up**

Continue Application »

2

Look Up Contact

Type:

Citizen Access - Public

3

Look Up **Clear** **Cancel**

4

Look Up Contact

[Revise Search](#)

Select a contact to attach to this application.
If the contact has multiple addresses, you can select which to use in the next step.

Showing 1-5 of 5

Business Name	Contact Type	Work Phone	Fax	E-mail
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Citizen Access - Public			
<input type="radio"/>	Citizen Access - Public			
<input type="radio"/>	Citizen Access - Public			
<input type="radio"/>	Citizen Access - Public			
<input type="radio"/>	Citizen Access - Public			

Continue [Discard Changes](#)

5

Applicant

Complete all required fields.

✓ **Contact added successfully.**

test test
Organization Name:
Address: test test CA 92009
Primary Phone:
Email:
[Edit](#) [Remove](#)

Owner on Application

Complete all required fields.

Test Test
Organization Name:
Address: 5510 Overland Ave San Diego CA 92123
Primary Phone:
Email:
[Edit](#) [Remove](#)

PDS Point of Contact

Complete all required fields.

Test Test
Organization Name:
Address: 5510 Overland Ave San Diego CA 92123
Primary Phone: 0000000000
Email: test@test.com
[Edit](#) [Remove](#)

Continue Application »



Step 10: Verify that all the information is correct on the **Review** page. If any information is incorrect, select the **Edit** button associated with the section. This will take you to the applicable section and allow you to make any changes/edits you need to make. Follow the associated steps in this guide for the applicable sections. Once all the information has been verified, check the **Certification Agreement** box and click **Continue Application**.

Please note: The date will auto populate when the Certification Agreement is clicked.

SCOPE CODE

Pre-Application Request Type:

Standard

Edit

I certify that I have read and understand the instructions that accompany this application and that the statements made as part of this application are true, complete, and correct and that no material information has been omitted. By checking the box below, I understand and agree that I am electronically signing and filing this application.

☐

By checking this box, I agree to the above certification.

Date:

Continue Application »

Step 11: The application has been submitted and a **Record ID** has been assigned. Please take note of the **Record ID** as this will be the easiest way to identify the project. You will be contacted by PDS staff with an **invoice** and the project will be **assigned to a planner**.

Step 7: Application Acceptance

We have received your record application and will be reviewing the information you submitted. Please write down your Record ID for future reference. We will contact you with further information.

You will need your Record ID to check the status of your application. For Building applications, once you have been notified that your permit has been issued use your Record ID to schedule/check results of inspections.

Your Record ID is PDS2020-MPA-20-xxx

We have received your record application and will be reviewing the information you gave us. Please write down your Record ID for future reference. We will contact you when a decision has been made.

You will need your Record ID to check the status of your application. For Building applications, once you have been notified that your permit has been issued use your Record ID to schedule/check results of inspections., check status, or track other updates.

View Record Details »

For questions please contact PDS staff at (858) 694-2960 or (800) 411-0017.

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