



**WATER DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: October 17, 2014

TO: Water Supply Advisory Committee

FROM: Toby Goddard

SUBJECT: Follow up to Report on Historic Water Demand Related to Growth

BACKGROUND: At the August 27, 2014 meeting, The Water Supply Advisory Committee received a report about historic water demand related to growth. The question was since raised whether there has been any change in the rate of new accounts being added as of late (faster, slower or no change in 2014)?

DISCUSSION: A billing system report was run October 13, 2014 to assess the number of new connections added to the system so far this year. The total number of accounts added so far is 66. As in past years, the majority of these accounts (55) are single family residential accounts. On an annualized basis, one would expect to see about 80 new accounts for 2014, assuming meters are added uniformly over time. The following table shows the total number of accounts added over the last 10 years:

Year	New Accounts
2005	126
2006	166
2007	125
2008	81
2009	67
2010	69
2011	27
2012	64
2013	32
2014 (part)	66

17b Forecasting Water Demand

For 2014 to date, the number of new connections is twice the amount as were added in 2013, but comparable in rate seen after 2007, when the numbers dropped significantly. It is probably too soon to know, by looking at new connections alone, if there has been any real change in the amount of development occurring in the service area.

Staff also contacted the City Planning Department, which provided a summary of the number of building permits issued, project valuation, and fees charges annually from 2005 through 2013, attached, and for 2014 to date.

The number of building permits issued annually, both residential and commercials has been on the rise since 2009. However, there was no breakdown provided as to the type of permit issued, whether for major remodeling, minor additions, tenant improvement, or new construction. For 2014 to date, the Planning Department so far has issued 1,241 permits, including 958 residential and 283 commercial building permits, a little less than the level from the past two years.

Project valuation and fees charged are both still down from levels seen in the 2007 time frame. For 2014 to date, commercial permit valuation is \$55,692,549 and residential permit valuation is \$32,142,398 for a total of \$87,834,947. This is comparable to the valuation level seen over the past two years, but these figures could change before the year is over.

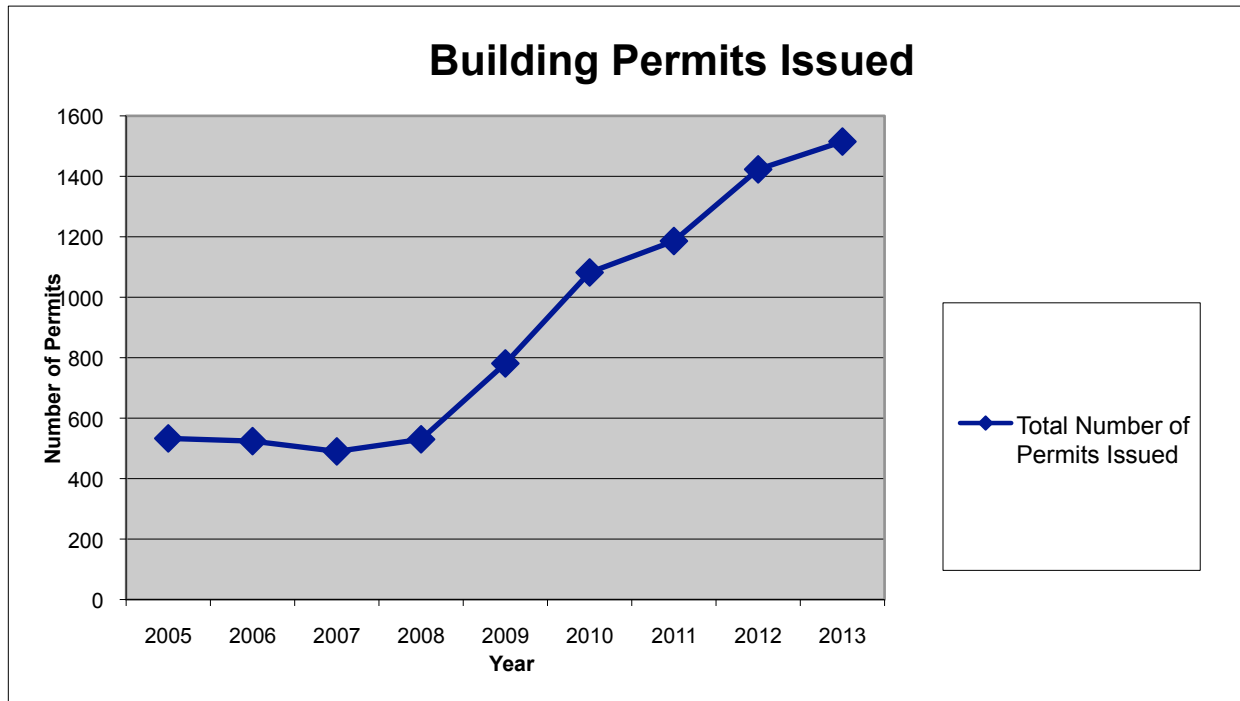
Attachment:

City of Santa Cruz Planning and Community Development

- Building Permit Trend
- Project Valuation Trend
- Fee Trend

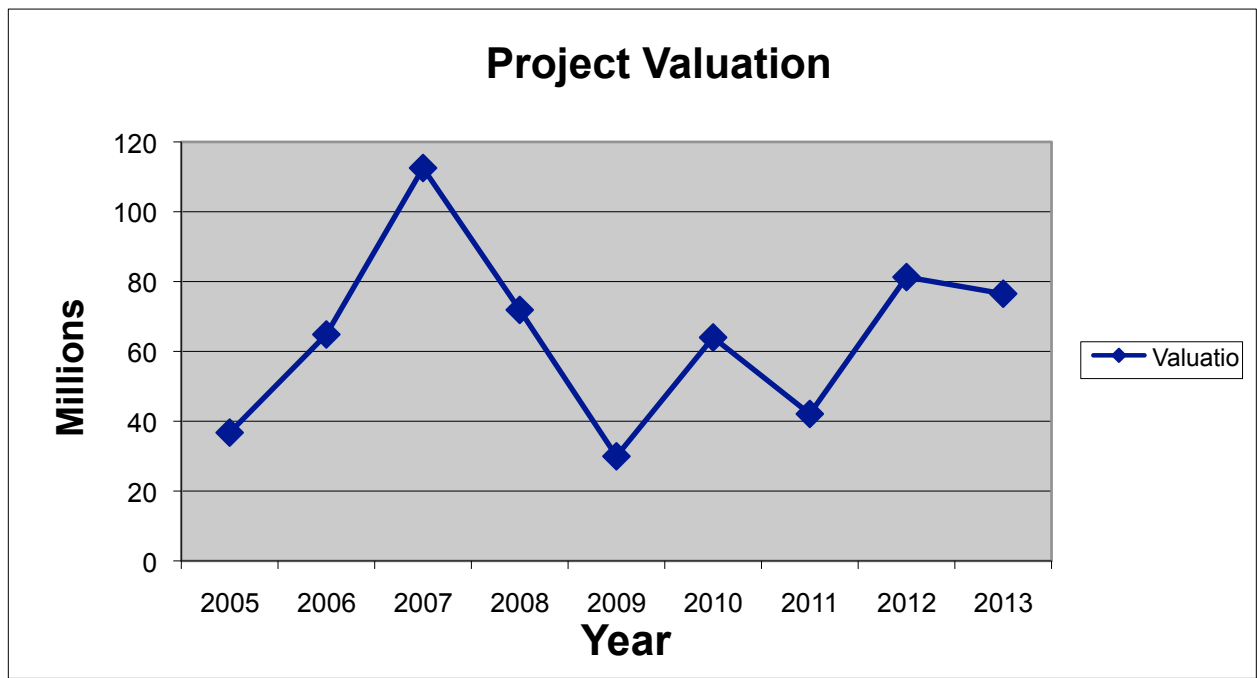
Planning and Community Development- Building Permit Trend

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total Number of Permits Issued	533	524	490	530	781	1,082	1,186	1,423	1,515
Commercial Permits	122	124	121	184	201	260	297	412	439
Residential Permits	411	400	368	346	580	818	886	1,009	1,076
Other	0							2	



Planning and Community Development- Project Valuation Trend

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Valuation	36,737,011	64,850,591	112,534,245	71,881,385	29,954,214	63,999,327	42,094,296	81,294,880	76,520,656



Planning and Community Development- Fee Trend

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Fees Charged \$\$	1,787,639	3,334,978	5,657,349	3,983,121	1,304,710	2,503,539	1,971,539	2,932,186	3,127,356

