

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION (MCPC)

# Act 247 Review Guidelines

For reviews in accordance with the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Act 247) as amended

*Effective May 1, 2018*

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## Required Fees and Time Limits

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To determine the applicable fee and review time limit for MCPC reviews, reference the appropriate section of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code as follows:

	<b>Act 247 Section</b>	<b>Fee</b>	<b>Time Limit (days)</b>
301.3	Comprehensive Plan Amendments	No	45
304	Public Facilities	No	45
305	Public School Facilities	No	45
408	Official Map	No	45
502	Subdivision and Land Developments	Yes	30
505	Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance Amendments	Yes*	30
609	Zoning Ordinance or Map Amendments	Yes*	30
609.1	Curative Amendments	Yes*	30

***\* Fees will be charged for private petitions (developer/landowner) for zoning ordinance/map amendments, SALDO amendments and curative amendments. (See fee schedule)***

- A time limit may be extended if requested by the applicant or by the municipality. If a municipality requests a time extension, it must be in concurrence with the applicant.
- Whenever applications require more than one type of review or otherwise fall under more than one section of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, the Montgomery County Planning Commission will attempt to complete all reviews within the shortest official time limit. However, MCPC reserves the right to use the maximum permitted time limit if needed.

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## Application Procedure

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1. The applicant submits the plans and a completed Applicant Request for County Review form to the local municipality.
2. The municipality will submit the application to the county via an online 247 Submission Portal. After the county receives and verifies the submission for accuracy, the county will forward a summary of the application and a request for payment to the applicant's representative.
3. The applicant may pay any county fees online via a credit card or electronic check, or they may choose to send a check or money order to the county made payable to the MONTGOMERY COUNTY TREASURER. More specific instructions for both options will be sent with the application summary.

4. The review time limit is intended to begin when MCPC receives the application from the municipality provided applicable fees and any necessary information are promptly returned. Should payment or requested information go unresolved, the county may suspend or postpone the review time limit.
  5. In the event of a returned check, the MCPC review and its corresponding time limit will stop as of the date we receive notification. MCPC will notify the applicant and municipality. The review process will restart on the date MCPC receives the required fee.
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## **Fee Information**

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### **Resubmissions**

The fee schedule and time limits will apply regardless of whether the submitted application is for the review of a tentative sketch, preliminary plan, or final plan. Once the initial fee has been received, MCPC charges a fee for the resubmission of subdivisions and land developments that are essentially the same as the former submission. A flat fee of \$125 is required for all residential subdivisions/land developments. No fee is required for residential subdivisions/land developments of 3 lots/units or less. A flat fee of \$190 is required for the resubmission all non-residential subdivisions/land developments. No fee is required for non-residential subdivisions/land developments of 3 lots or 3,000 square feet or less respectively. A subsequent plan is NOT a resubmission and requires full fee payment if it is more than 5 years after the previous submission, the proposed land use is changed, or the number of dwelling units or square footage has changed by more than 40% from the prior submission.

### **Waiver of Fees**

Fees are waived for an application filed under the name of a governmental subunit of the United States or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including school districts and authorities. This exemption does not apply to private nonprofit organizations except for volunteer fire companies and ambulance squads.

### **Refunds**

If MCPC fails to complete its review within the required time limits, the fee will be returned to the applicant upon request, except in those instances involving an incorrect fee or incomplete application or when MCPC has been granted a time extension for the review.

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## **Informal Reviews and Special Circumstances**

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Meetings with MCPC to discuss applications, either prior to or during the formal review process, are encouraged and free of charge. If the applicant requests the meeting, the local municipality will also be invited. Meetings and informal reviews do not replace the official formal review by MCPC. In addition, if a municipality requests any meetings, court appearances, redesigns, or other special events that are related to the MCPC review, no extra fees will be charged. Similar requests by developers will be charged appropriately in accordance with fees for staff services.