

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

OFFICE OF THE CITY AUDITOR

*Benchmarking comparison of building permits issues
per employee by the City with other cities/counties*

Report #10/11-02

July 20, 2011



CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE

City Auditor's Office

Memorandum

No: 10/11-04

Date: July 20, 2011

To: Lee R. Feldman, City Manager

From: John Herbst, CPA, CGFO
City Auditor

Re: Report 10/11-02: Benchmarking comparison of building permits issued per employee by the City with other cities/counties

Further to your request, my office has undertaken a comparison of the number of building permits issued per employee by the City of Fort Lauderdale with other cities and counties.

To conduct our review, we used the most recent data available from the Florida Benchmarking Consortium. We opted to use the FBC's data because they collect and report it in a uniform manner. Our attempts to contact individual cities yielded inconsistent responses. Although we would prefer more recent data, we believe that 2009 is still a valid measure of the efficiency of building permit activity.

The results of our inquiry are outlined in the attached table and graph. Comparing both the average and median number of plans reviewed per employee suggests either that our staffing levels are too high or that our productivity is too low.

Our work did not constitute an audit under generally accepted governmental auditing standards.

cc: Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler
Vice-Mayor Romney Rogers
Commissioner Bruce G. Roberts
Commissioner Charlotte E. Rodstrom
Commissioner Bobby B. DuBose
Harry Stewart, City Attorney
Jonda Joseph, City Clerk
Stanley Hawthorne, Assistant City Manager
Susanne Torriente, Assistant City Manager