



City of Holyoke

Damian J. Cote
Building Commissioner

Building Department

November 21, 2022

Honorable Mayor and
City Council
536 Dwight Street
Holyoke, MA 01040

Re: Building Department 10-year report

Dear Elected Officials,

We are pleased to submit an overview of the progress the building department has made since 2012. This is a basic overview that only touches on some examples of the positive changes made.

In the last 10 years the department has seen a steady increase in permits granted. This is great news for the city on many levels. It shows that there is investment in the city and that the applicants are more willing to come to the city for this service. While the population has not changed much in 10 years, we have seen an increase by 22% in total permits granted on average.

During the last 10 years, we have managed the budget covering the entire cost of the direct services we provide. In addition, a small amount of surplus money has been provided to the general fund annually to offset shortfalls in the budget elsewhere. This is due to the ease of access to the building department in the permit process. Note that this financial success is more surprising given Holyoke has some of the lowest permit fees in the entire state of Massachusetts.

The success of the building department is due to the contributions of all the staff. We owe a lot of thanks to the hard work of the full time, part time, veteran tax workers, employees of the past and present. I would especially like to thank Kevin Lagimonier, Assistant Building Commissioner and Marie Hogan, Head Clerk as employees that have worked in the department during the 10 years of this report. They have made significant contributions directly and indirectly to the success of the department.

If you have any further questions, feel free to call or email.

Sincerely,


Damian J. Cote
Building Commissioner