

BUILDING PERMIT PROCESS

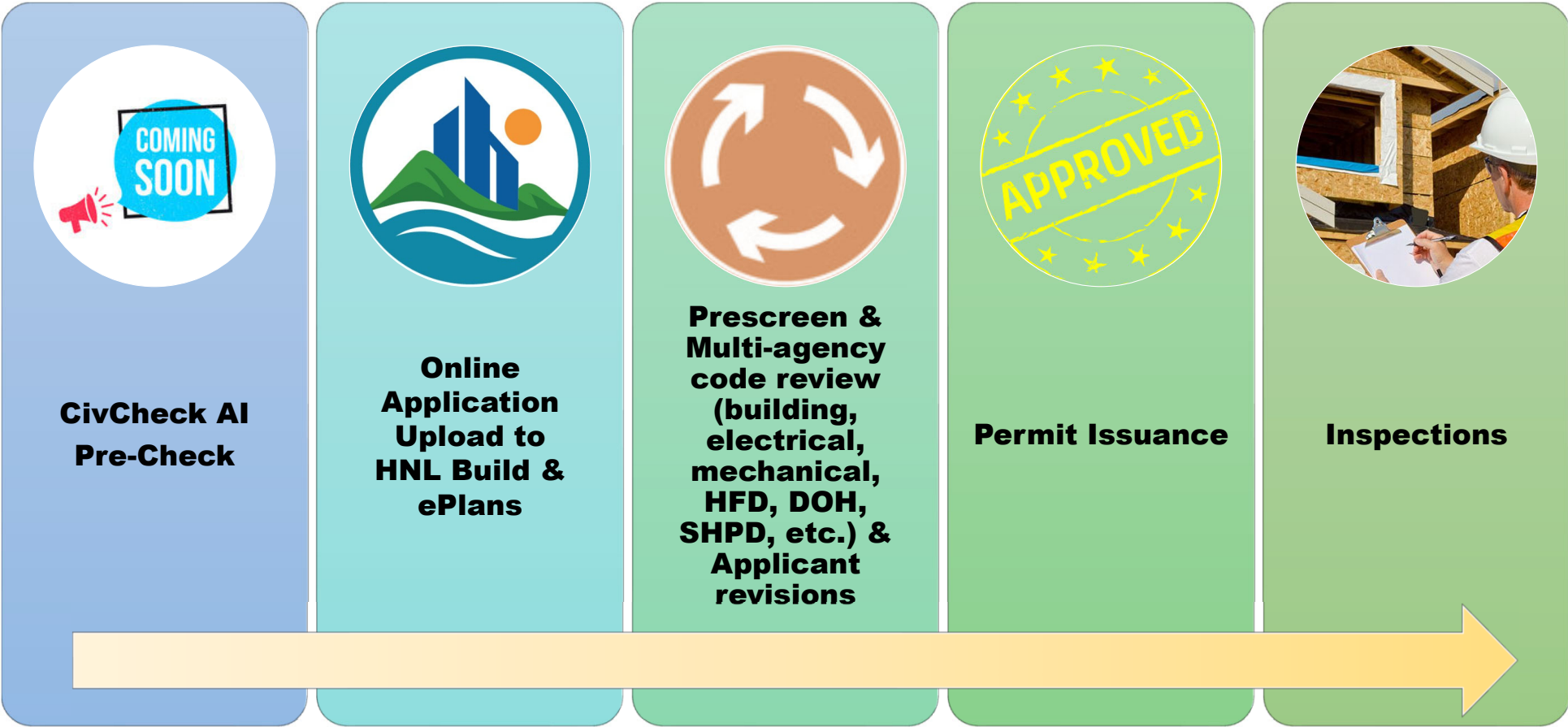
**Department of Planning & Permitting
City & County of Honolulu**



**Presented to: the Simplifying Permitting for Enhanced
Economic Development (SPEED) Task Force**

September 11, 2025

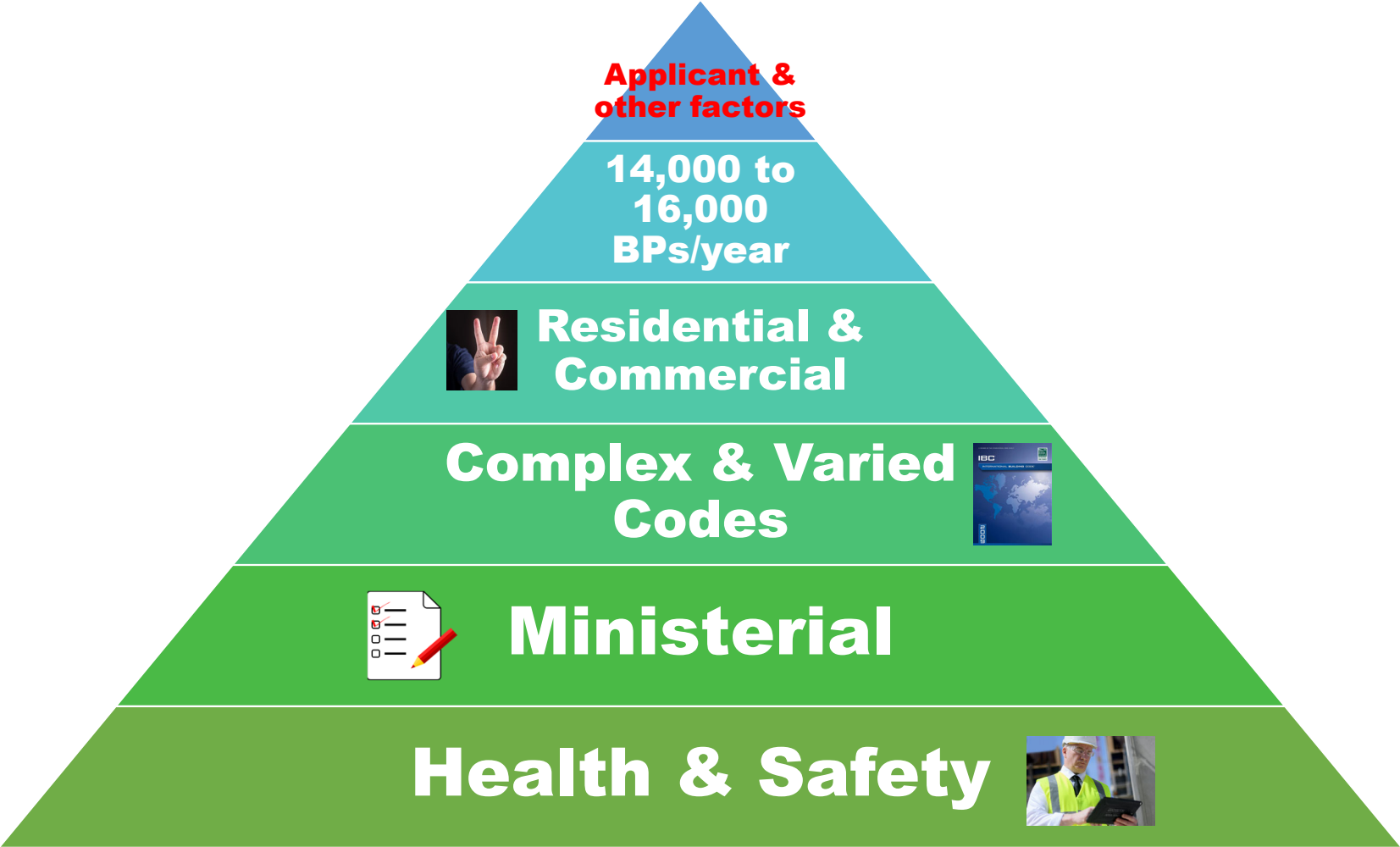
Permit Process Overview



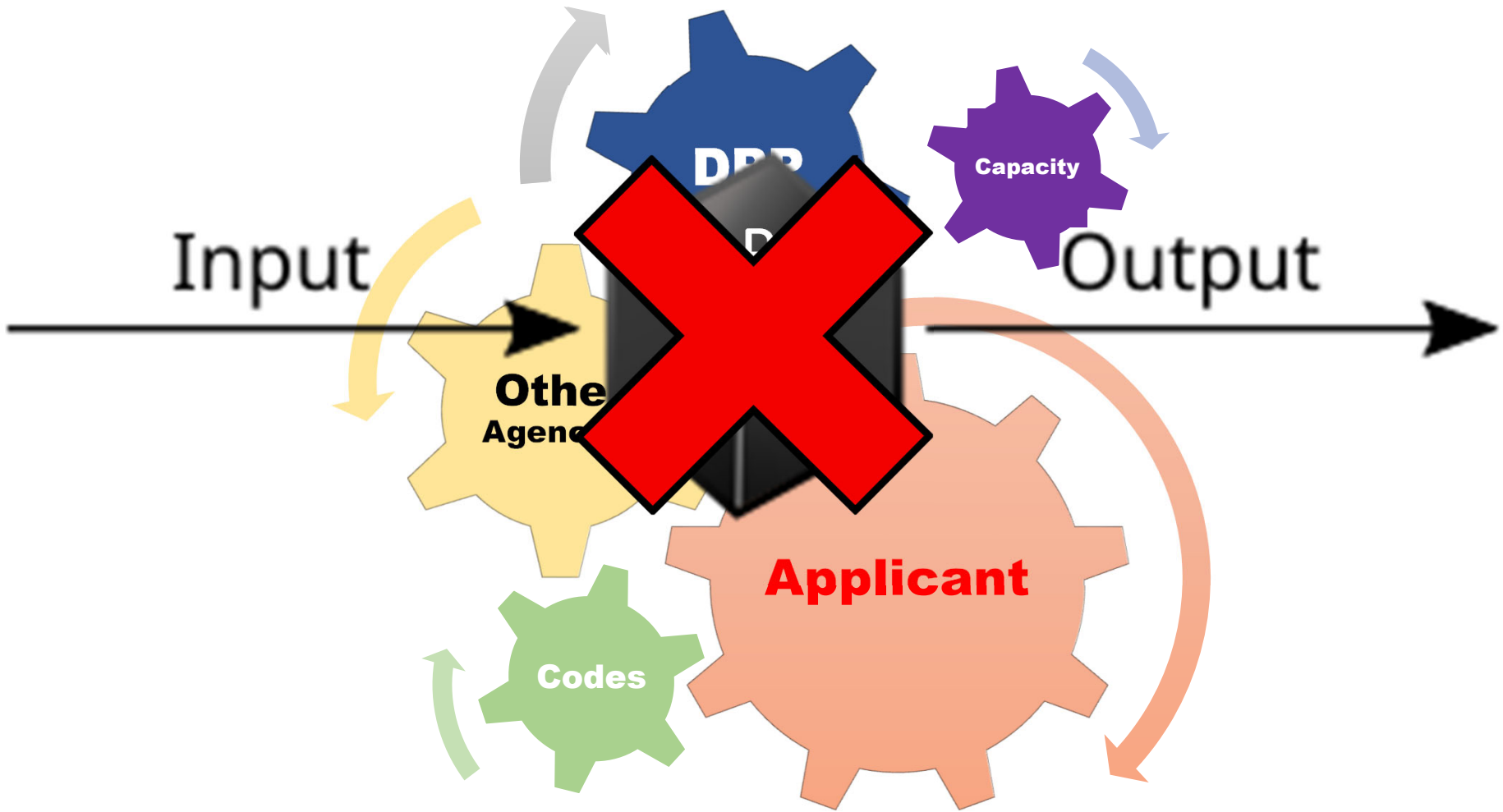
Process Improvements



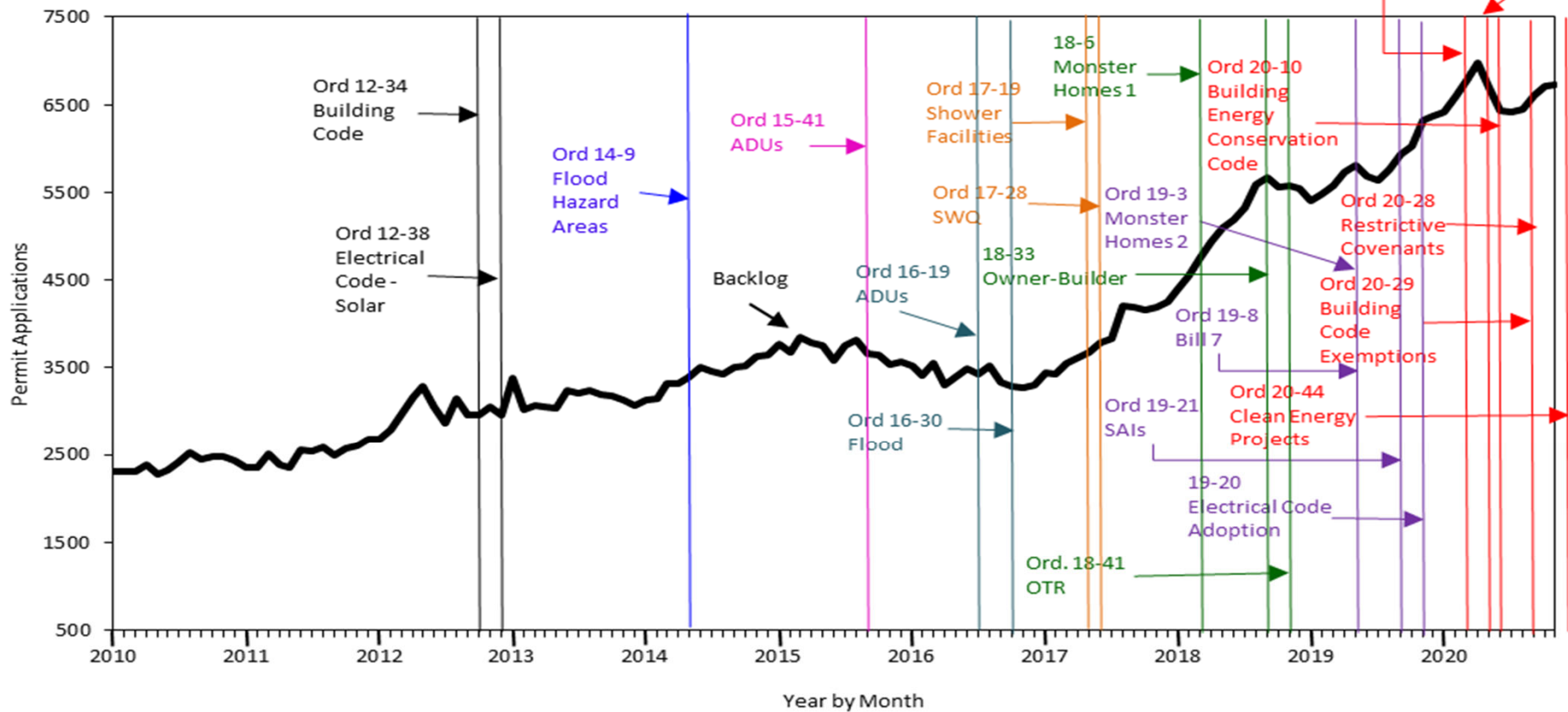
Building Permit Process Basics



Permitting Process Factors



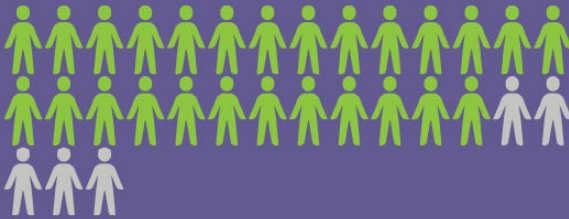
Building Permit Backlog by Month with Ordinances
1/1/2010-11/30/2020



DPP HIRING STATS

Buildings Plans Examiner

31 positions
26 positions filled
4 positions vacant
1 position uncreated



Electrical Code Branch

Electrical Engineer

8 positions
3 positions filled
5 positions vacant
1 - SOB 7/1/25



Mechanical Code Branch

Mechanical Engineer

8 positions
4 positions filled
4 positions vacant
1 - Pending approval to make conditional offer



Plans Examining Engineer

1 position
1 position vacant
Pending re-description to BPE VI



Building Branch Code + Plans Examining Section

Plans Examining Engineer

11 positions
6 positions filled
5 positions vacant
This number includes the Chief Plans Examining Eng

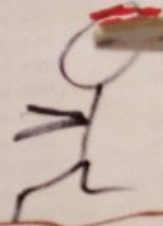


NPDES Plans Examining Section

Civil Engineer

6 positions
6 positions filled
0 positions vacant





Cut to the Chase

Continued Challenges

Applicant

**Codes
Cycles**

**Other
Agencies**

**Capacity: Hiring &
Training**

**Myopic
Legislation**

Inaccurate Narrative

How the Legislature Can Help

**Clarify Engineer
Licensing**

**Extend Code
Cycles**

**Add Capacity to
SHPD / Extend
County Authority**

**Pilot Funding for
Hiring & Retention**

**Be Cognizant of
Misguided
Legislation**

Change the Narrative



Mahalo