

A DEZINEWORKS RESOURCE

UNDERSTANDING THE FIRE REBUILD PERMIT PROCESS

A CLEAR PATH FORWARD. A BETTER HOME AHEAD.

Rebuilding after a fire is an emotional and complex journey. Understanding the permit process can help reduce stress, avoid costly delays, and give you the confidence to move forward. This guide outlines the key steps, timelines, and teams involved—so you can rebuild smarter and with purpose.

KNOWN PARAMETERS

Every jurisdiction is different, but most homeowners will need to follow these key requirements when rebuilding:



CLEAR THE SITE

Obtain clearance from hazardous materials inspection and debris removal.



ZONING & SETBACKS

Confirm your property's zoning, setbacks, lot coverage, height limits, and use regulations.



BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE

New homes must meet current building, energy, and fire safety codes – often more stringent than before.



UTILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE

Verify water, sewer/septic, electric, gas, and access meet current standards.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Some areas require environmental review, tree protection, or hillside development permits.



FEES & IMPACTS

Plan for permit fees, impact fees, and possible school or infrastructure assessments.

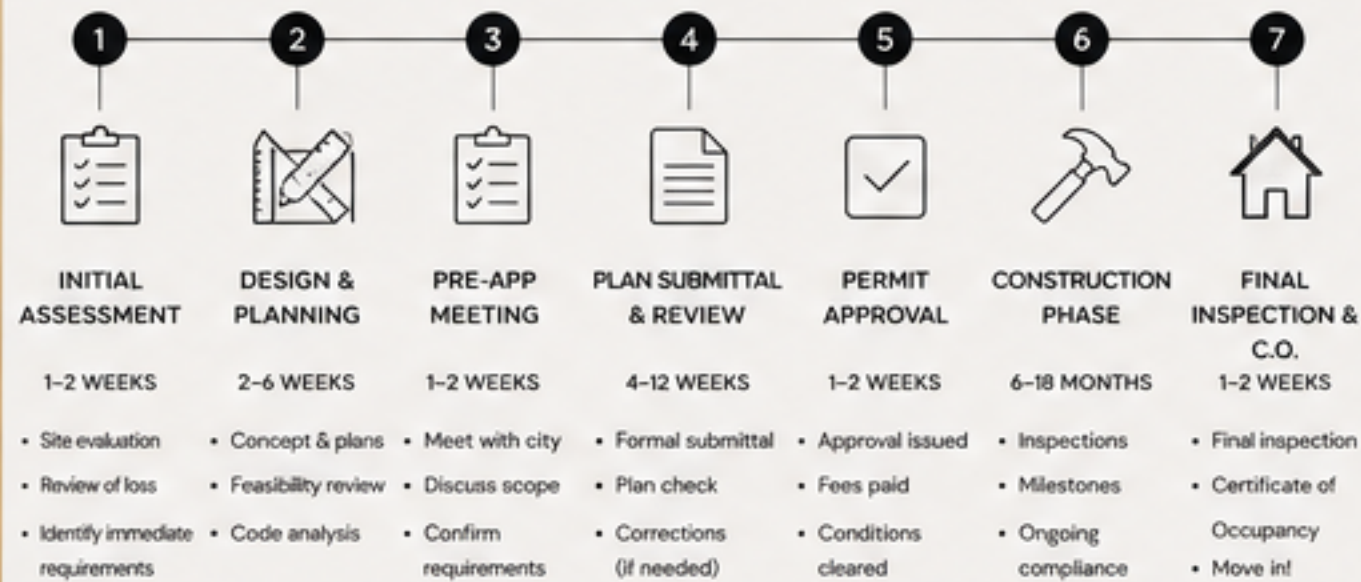


INSURANCE & DOCUMENTATION

Keep thorough records and coordinate with your insurance carrier throughout the process.

THE PERMIT PROCESS TIMELINE

National averages vary by jurisdiction and project scope.



TOTAL APPROXIMATE TIMELINE:

6-12 MONTHS*

*Timelines vary by location, project size, season, and backlog.

FACTORS THAT IMPACT TIMELINE:

- Local permitting backlog
- Complexity of design & site conditions
- Response time to plan check comments
- Weather and wildfire season restrictions

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO RESTART—AND ELEVATE

Rebuilding is more than restoring what was lost—it's an opportunity to create a home that truly fits your lifestyle and future.



IMPROVED SAFETY

Use fire-resistant materials and modern building systems.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Newer systems mean lower utility costs and more comfort.



BETTER DESIGN

Optimize layout, natural light, and indoor-outdoor connection.

LONG-TERM VALUE

Smart choices today protect your investment tomorrow.



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YOUR REBUILD TEAM – EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

A successful rebuild takes the right team working together from start to finish.



HOMEOWNER

You

The decision maker and project leader.



ARCHITECT / DESIGNER

Designs your home and prepares plans.



CIVIL ENGINEER (Site Engineer)

Addresses grading, drainage, and site utilities.



STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Ensures safety, stability, and code compliance.



PERMIT COORDINATOR

Manages submittals, communication, and follow-up.



BUILDER / GC

Constructs your home and manages field operations.



INSPECTORS (City)

Ensure the work meets code at every stage.



TIPS FOR A SMOOTHER JOURNEY



STAY ORGANIZED

Keep all documents, plans, and communications in one place.



COMMUNICATE EARLY & OFTEN

Regular updates prevent surprises and speed up approvals.



BE FLEXIBLE

Allow time for revisions and unexpected delays.



LEAN ON YOUR TEAM

Their experience is your best resource.

