



NEWS RELEASE



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Irving's Construction Permitting Hits Record High: \$1 Billion

(IRVING, TEXAS) — The City of Irving announced today that it has issued more than \$1.1 billion in construction permitting this fiscal year, topping last year's record by 34 percent. City staff expects the number to increase by fiscal year end. This comes on the same day news broke that fast-casual restaurant chain, Pei Wei Diner LLC, is moving its corporate headquarters to Irving from Scottsdale, Arizona.

"Investors are pouring into Irving, and the projects they are building range from new hotels to corporate office parks, restaurants to new single family homes," said Irving City Manager Chris Hillman. "Irving is truly a city on the rise."

Pioneer Natural Resources is this year's largest investor at \$213 million for its new corporate office park. That project is currently under construction on Verizon's \$1.5 billion Hidden Ridge development.

The Westin Hotel at the Irving Convention Center ranked second at \$82 million. The upscale hotel will serve the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas and the massive \$180 million Irving Music Factory, Irving's new entertainment district. The Pavilion, the development's 8,000-seat concert hall, will be surrounded by more than 20 restaurant and retail facilities, which are slated to open during the fall and winter.

Medical facilities; warehouses and shell warehouses; large apartment complexes; and additional restaurant and retail also rank in the multimillion-plus range on the Irving permitting list.

Irving leadership attributes much of the city's success to its accelerated process. Speedy permitting translates to additional economic development, lower construction costs, and increased tax revenues, according to a PricewaterhouseCoopers study.

For the last nine years ago, Irving has been completing new commercial plan reviews in less than six days, a much shorter timeframe than industry best practices defined as 90 percent of the permitting reviews completed in 20 to 30 working days or less.

Location and transportation systems also contribute to Irving's development boom.

“We have massive transportation corridors running through and around us, and several of those are part of the Texas Transportation Commissions \$847.6 million upgrade. Investors consider our major highways as well as our next door neighbor, the Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, and they’re knocking down the door to talk to us,” said Scott Connell, Irving economic development director. “Just this year, we have gained huge corporate move ins and expansions, like Atos, Cognizant and QTS. It’s safe to say Irving’s investor interest pipeline is quite full.”

Additionally, Irving’s powerhouse national and international corporations continue to create high-paying jobs that help attract new residents to Irving. The city will add nearly 700 single-family homes to satisfy demand this year, with indications a strong housing trend will continue next year as well.

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About the city of Irving

The [City of Irving](#) is an economic powerhouse in North Texas and is home to the region’s largest office park, where more than 10 percent of Fortune 500 companies are headquartered or have a significant presence. Irving is the 13th largest city in the state with 237,000 residents and the most diverse ZIP code in the country.