

## Tool 2: Permit & Compliance Overview

Every jurisdiction has its own maze of permits, studies, and approval processes. This tool helps you map out what's required - so you don't lose time or money to missed steps.

## Use this tool to:

- Identify which permits apply to your project based on location, size, and use.
- Estimate timelines and budget for reviews, consultants, and approvals.
- Build a communication plan with city officials and departments.

**Tip:** When in doubt, mark the item as "Maybe" and bring it to your ARC consult. We can help you determine what's required based on your jurisdiction and project type.

If your list includes several "Yes" or "Maybe" answers, you may benefit from upgrading to ARC Start Pro for additional consultation and permit strategy support.

Category	Expanded Question	Required?	Notes
Core Permits	Will you need a building permit for new construction or substantial improvement?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	
	Is a demolition permit required to remove any existing structures?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	
	Will grading or earthwork trigger a separate permit?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	
	Are separate permits needed for water, sewer, or electrical tap connections?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	
	Will a septic permit be required due to lack of sewer?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	
	Is a right-of-way (ROW) permit needed for work in the public road or sidewalk area?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	
	Do you need a driveway access permit from the city, county, or DOT?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	
Zoning & Entitlements	Will your project require a rezoning or zoning map amendment?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	
	Are you pursuing a Planned Unit Development (PUD)?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	
	Is a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) or Special Use Permit (SUP) needed?	[] Yes [] No [] Maybe	



**Category Expanded Question** Required? **Notes** Will you need a variance or administrative [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe adjustment? Is a pre-application meeting required before [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe formal submission? Is a public hearing required (Planning [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe Commission, City Council, etc.)? Will you need approval from an HOA or [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe architectural control committee? Is your site located within a form-based code [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe district or urban overlay zone? Studies & Will a tree survey or arborist report be [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe Reports required? Is a traffic impact study needed based on use [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe or size? Do you need a drainage or stormwater [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe management report? Will you need an erosion control or SWPPP [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe Are geotechnical or soils reports required? [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe Will you need a Phase I Environmental Site [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe Assessment (ESA)? Might a Phase II ESA be triggered based on [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe known site history? Is a noise study or sound attenuation plan [] Yes [] No [] Maybe required? Do you need a lighting or photometric plan? [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe Is a sun-shadow or view impact analysis [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe required? Will a fire access or emergency response plan [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe be needed? Will your project be reviewed by the Health Agency [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe Reviews Department? Is a Fire Marshal review required? [] Yes [] No [] Maybe Is there a Floodplain Administrator or FEMA [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Maybe map that could affect your project?