

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT BUILDING & SAFETY DIVISION

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## Policy for Fees on Home Improvements for Disabled Veterans

The City of Rancho Cordova values the sacrifices our military veterans have made, and continue to make, to safeguard our freedom and civil liberties. As such, the City of Rancho Cordova will waive building permit fees for home improvement projects to the home of a military veteran where a building permit is required. This will apply to most home improvement projects, excluding new construction or change-in-use for improvements being made to accommodate the veteran's "qualified disability" as defined by Health and Safety Code Section 17951.5 (b)

California Health and Safety Code Section 17951.5 (approved by SB 330 and signed by the Governor on September 25, 2017) allows cities and counties to prescribe fees for permits required or authorized pursuant to the State Housing Law.

The approval of SB 330 bill authorizes the local jurisdictions to waive or reduce all building permit fees for improvements to the home of a military veteran with a qualifying disability as long as those improvements are made to accommodate that disability. This does not apply to Development Impact fees, or other fees that may be required.

Examples of projects that may qualify for the waiver may include:

- Bathroom remodels
- Kitchen remodels
- Interior remodels to allow for passage of mobility equipment
- Installation of emergency devices, such as smoke alarms, emergency medical notification equipment, ramps, lifts, etc.

Contact the Building & Safety Division for more information.

## CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE:

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 17951.5 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

17951.5. (a) Notwithstanding Section 17951, each city, county, or city and county may waive or reduce all building permit fees for improvements to the home of a veteran with a qualifying disability that are made to accommodate that disability.

(b) "Qualifying disability" means a disability that is recognized as service connected by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Joseph Cuffe
Building Official

City of Rancho Cordova