Building Development Division Residential Policies and Procedures Plan Review and Permits

Deck Construction Permit Requirement

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Building Official

Effective: June 1, 1996 Revised: August 22, 2019

All decks that are greater than 16½ inches above the finished grade of the ground will require a plan review and building permit.

Decks that are 16½ inches or less above the finished grade are considered equivalent to an on-grade patio, and a building permit is only required if a roof and/or walls are being constructed on the deck or if the deck is supporting a hot tub.

(NOTE: Typically all decks require Zoning Approval. Please contact the Zoning Division

703-792-6830 or zoningcounters@pwcgov.org for more information.)