



SAFEbuilt

Case Study:

City of Northglenn, CO

Service Type: Complete Building Department
Population: 37,000+
Previously Serviced: In-house Department

Contact Information: **Jim Hayes, Planning Director**
 Phone: 303-450-8937
 Email: jhayes@northglenn.org

Bill Simmons, City Manager
 Phone: 303-450-8709
 Email: manager@northglenn.org

Faced with increasing budget pressures and a continued decline in building permits, the City of Northglenn, Colorado elected to contract their building department services to SAFEbuilt in October, 2009. After reducing their staff to 3 FTE's, they continued to run at a deficit in the department and needed other options. Because of the nature of building department work (repeatable, relatively short time frame, easy to track and measure), they considered it an excellent candidate for contracting out to a private firm. After reviewing the six proposals submitted, City staff recommended awarding the contract to SAFEbuilt.

City staff cited the following benefits to this approach:

- Cost Savings
- Economies of scale – capacity management risk borne by contractor
- Greater focus for City staff on core activities and projects
- More control over service levels
- Greater access to talent, resources, and experience

The City estimated a first-year savings of over \$119,000. Since implementing our program in Northglenn, SAFEbuilt has helped the City realize these savings while also increasing service levels, providing our permitting software at no cost, and increasing expertise. While SAFEbuilt is not the solution to all of Northglenn's concerns, the building department is one less challenge to overcome.



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Case Study:

City of Troy, MI

Service Type: Complete Building Department
Population: 80,000+
Previously Serviced: In-house Department

Contact Information: **John Szerlag, City Manager**
 Phone: 248-524-3326
 Email: szerlagaj@troymi.gov

Mark Miller, Asst City Manager
 Economic Development Services
 Phone: 248-524-3319
 Email: millermf@troymi.gov

No state in the country has suffered more from the current economic environment than Michigan. Because of the situation there, municipalities in Michigan are also at the forefront of finding creative solutions to their fiscal challenges. The City of Troy is evaluating all of their departments for ways to more efficiently deliver the same high quality services to their residents as they have in years past. This year they issued an RFP for building department services and in June, 2010 selected SAFEbuilt to provide these services going forward.

Troy staff identified the following reasons for the decision:

- An annual savings between \$200,000 and \$480,000 compared to their in-house staff of 15 FTE's
- Contractually enforceable service levels
- The on-demand nature of the services

In the short time we have been providing building department services in Troy, SAFEbuilt has already made strides in improving processes, service levels, and inter-departmental interaction that will provide benefits to the City, contractors, and residents for years to come.

We are also developing a long-range plan for the City that will include:

- Selective use of technology for improved efficiency & service delivery
- Additional on-line and in-house service offerings
- Increased homeowner education and resources
- Improved tracking and reporting of departmental activities



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Case Study:

City of Peachtree City, GA

Service Type: Complete Building Department
Population: 36,000+
Previously Serviced: In-house Department

Contact Information: **Don Haddix, Mayor**
 Phone: 770-487-7657
dhaddix@peachtree-city.org

David Rast, Planning Director
 Phone: 770-487-5713
planner@peachtree-city.org

Peachtree City, Georgia is a planned community approximately 45 minutes southwest of Atlanta. In 2009 the city was forced to take action based on a considerable downturn in building permit activity by eliminating three positions within the building department. In 2010 the city identified the economic downturn as well as the city's near built out status as primary reasons for a continued budget shortfall. Based on this internal review, the city eliminated the remaining four positions in its building department and elected to contract with SAFEbuilt to provide its building department solution.

“Outsourcing building inspections stops the roller coaster hiring of additional inspectors one year and eliminating them the next due to lack of work,” stated Peachtree City Mayor, Don Haddix. “SAFEbuilt provides a stable inspector pool because they work with so many cities.”

Since assuming the building department role in May 2010, SAFEbuilt has worked with city staff to implement new educational materials and a new permitting software system.

The city also quickly took advantage of SAFEbuilt's depth of resources within the company, as additional staff was called upon to help with the plan reviews for a new \$30 million industrial project that will house a 400,000 sq. ft. assembly plant and office space for SANY America. The project received a building permit in June, 2010.



For additional information please contact:
 Scott Martin, Business Development Manager

1-866-977-4111 Ext. 206 Scott.Martin@SAFEbuilt.com www.SAFEbuilt.com