

POLICY NUMBER: 26-026

SWIMMING POOL PERMITTING & SAFETY

PURPOSE

To streamline the permit issuance process for swimming pools and spas and to increase public awareness of pool safety.

POLICY

To streamline the permit process, all construction activities directly associated with a new pool or spa shall be included under a single “combination” permit. This permit covers appurtenant equipment such as circulation/booster pumps, blowers, filters, heaters, integral lighting, and control panels specific to the pool or spa operation. It does **not** cover other improvements, including electrical service replacements or sub-panels, yard lighting, patio covers, BBQ islands (built-in outdoor cooking structures), outdoor fire pits, or similar features.

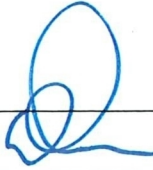
Inspections will follow current standards. Field documentation will be recorded on a single inspection record, and office documentation will be consolidated on one permit form. The combination permit includes a single issuance fee, providing savings equivalent to previously separate electrical and plumbing permits.

A pool safety awareness program has been initiated. Upon approval of the fence and gate inspection, the field inspector shall provide the homeowner with a safety packet, including information and a door-entry alarm, either by personal delivery or in a conspicuous location. This program supports the intent of the Swimming Pool Safety Act, Health and Safety Code, AB 3305, AB 2866, and SB 552 without imposing additional City-mandated regulations.

ANALYSIS

While separate permit documents have worked well, combining permits into a single document reduces processing time for staff and benefits the customer. This efficiency also allows for savings on issuance fees, making this procedural change practical and beneficial.

Lastly, the Building & Safety Division’s pool and spa safety program provides homeowners with pool safety information and a door-entry alarm. This initiative is designed to raise awareness of pool safety in accordance with State law, without imposing unnecessary City regulations. It aims to offer equal or greater protection while avoiding additional challenges.

<p>Approved: David Dent <i>Deputy Director/Chief Building Official</i></p>	<p>Signature: </p>
	<p>Date: 3/4/22</p>